

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023



Pastor's Corner for April 16-22

The Easter Story... Parts 1 AND 2 (John 20:19-32)

Once upon a time (before I was a pastor) I had a conversation with a fellow church member about leaders in the church and church leadership in general. "I like our pastor," my conversation partner enthused. "And we have good people on our Council. I appreciate everyone's hard work. But their expectations for us as a congregation are too high, don't you think?" When I admitted I didn't see his point, he elaborated: "Don't they know Christian churches should be like hospitals for hurting people? We are needy. We are hurting. We need leaders who understand

that.” My conversation partner had a point. Didn’t Jesus Himself say, “It is not the HEALTHY who need a doctor, but those who are sick”? But something was missing from this vision of the church. My friend’s impression of how the church should be was only an “Easter Story, Part 1” attitude. It was about checking in to the hospital... not about finding the Healer and sharing the news about Him! I admit I’ve been inclined to stop at Easter, Part 1, myself. I suspect you have, too. But did you notice not only did Jesus seek out His disciples and gather with them... Easter Story Part 1... but Part 2 of that story was He sent them out. That sending was to forgive and retain sins... to promote peace (forgive sins and proclaim the love of God) and to further justice (strive to live in a way that was fair and good, and encourage others to the same). There is a kind of inhaling and exhaling performed by Easter people. Being gathered, being sent. Being gathered, being sent. Thank God we had the opportunity to gather last Easter Sunday. What a day it was! But I’m also grateful for the “Part 2” of the Easter story: we’ve found life and we’re empowered by the risen Lord Jesus to share it with others. There are few things as exciting and rewarding as facilitating another person’s encounter with the Great Physician! As we begin a new sermon series this weekend (“Blessed are the Peacemakers”) let’s all consider again how God is sending us as Easter people to a world wracked with conflict, strife, and despair with a message of hope and reconciliation.

Christ is risen!

First Communion Youth Welcomed to the Lord’s Table Last Maundy Thursday, April 6th

Pictured above at the Wednesday Seder are the most recent RLC youth to complete First Communion. All together there were 14 young people:

Kaitlyn Astudillo

Alex Beyer

Cadence Ciencewicki

Nolan Davis

Dean Dudek

Savannah Duke

Bobby Field

*Matthew Heise
Brendan Johnson
Elam Justice
Fiona Measmer
Aaron Newcomb, Jr.
Sabrina Schwadron
Aven Williams*

Congratulations to everyone! Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Thank You

I'd like to offer up a word of thanksgiving to everyone who helped make our Holy Week and Easter Sunday gatherings a success. Here are just a few of the volunteers who deserve special recognition:

- 4th Grade Helpers/Servers and their families for Wednesday evening's Christian Seder;
- Ushers, Greeters, Altar Guild, Acolytes, Lectors, Worship Assistants, and Slide Techs for all worship services (especially those that helped across multiple services on Easter Sunday);
- Fellowship Committee for preparing/serving food to worshippers on Good Friday and to musicians and worship leaders on Easter Sunday;
- Shuttle drivers on Easter Sunday
- All of our amazing musicians: Sanctuary Choir, Heavenly Handbells, Celebration Singers, Resurrection Brass Ensemble, and Reign!

Thanks to your efforts, we were able to welcome 814 people to RLC in person on Easter Sunday, with several first-time visitors leaving behind contact information for future follow up. I look forward to seeing the Easter joy continue all year long.

Eastertide peace and joy,
Pastor Jonathan

Any Easter flowers that have not been picked up by this weekend will be donated.
Thanks!

Prayers of the Church

Adult Sunday School Class Poetry and Our Christian Faith

Poets have often addressed the key issues of life, such as love, faith, hope, grief, and death. This series of lessons will examine some of the world's greatest poems and will use them as springboards to examine what the Scriptures have to say on the same topics. Included in this study will be poems by Emily Dickinson, William Shakespeare, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Dylan Thomas, T.S. Eliot, and William Butler Yeats.

**Join us on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 am
in the Fellowship Hall from March 5-May 14!**

You will want to bring your Bibles to each class. Copies of the poems will be distributed at each session. Led by Larry Cameron.

CLI Prison Alliance

Does CLI Prison Alliance do more than provide Christian books and Bibles to inmates? Yes, definitely! They provide free responsive-based Bible studies that disciple and equip inmates to become disciple-makers. The "Who Is God?" series invites prisoners to begin a relationship with Christ. The "Christian Leadership" and "Disciples of Christ" courses help them mature in their faith. Chaplains identify those who want to enroll, inmates study and write their responses, and they return them to CLI. More than 200 Bible study ministers review the lessons at home, give feedback, and write encouraging remarks. They send the lessons back to inmates in an envelope provided by CLI. Last year 29,067 made decisions for Christ.

Can I become a Bible study minister? Please do! There are four at Resurrection who do this: Marina de Moura Torres, Kathy Rihani, Charlotte Beyer, and Ann Johnson. Stop at the table in the Narthex before and after services the next two weekends to ask questions and learn how you can make an eternal difference in the life of a prisoner. If you speak a foreign language, we encourage you to volunteer. Both men and women find great rewards from being Bible study ministers.

Are there other ways to volunteer at Christian Library International Prison Alliance? Certainly! Sign up for Operation Inasmuch and come with the group going on the church bus to the CLI office on Saturday, April 29. Or go online at cli.world.



Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

- **Monday Night Women's Bible Study**
Join us for *Heroes of Faith*, based on Hebrews 11, **Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm** from April 17-May 22.

Hebrews 11 gives us a list of role models: ordinary people who trusted God in radical ways. This eight-session LifeGuide® Bible Study by Douglas Connelly on the heroes of faith will encourage you and help deepen your own trust in our great God who still keeps all his promises, so that you might live out your faith in radical ways today. For more information, contact Jamee Thieme through RCB.

- **Men's Ministry Weekly Study and Fellowship**
Meet on **Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center.
- **Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship**
We study the coming Sunday Scripture lessons from **10:30-11:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault.
- **Men With Kids**
Meet on **Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm** in Room 247, Family Life Center. We will follow the Confirmation schedule.
- **Wednesday Night Adult Christian Ed**
Christianity: The First 3 Centuries From Christ to Constantine
How could a tiny sect ever conquer the world? This video-based class has teachings from Dr. Paul Maier, a retired Professor of Ancient History from Western Michigan University. Each class will have a video led by Dr. Maier, and then time for questions and answers. Topics include Our Sources of Information, Jesus of Nazareth: What else do we know?, Apostles and Emperors, Persecutions and Bishops, Defenders of the Faith, Martyrs for the Faith, Torments of the 3rd Century, The Great Deliverance.

Last class will meet **Wednesday, April 19 from 6:30-7:45 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Led by Mindy Stephani.

Bagel Bunch

The Bagel Bunch meets for an hour of fellowship and conversation to tell stories, share concerns, and joke around. All men are welcome, come when you can. For spring/summer, the group will move outdoors at Java Jive, across from RLC, on **Tuesdays, 7:30 am**. Questions? Contact Lyle Malotky or the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).

Game Night 2

Looking for a night of fun and fellowship?

Like to play board/card games?

Join us on **Sunday, April 23** from 5:00-8:30 pm for Adult Game Night 2 in Room 240, Family Life Center! We'll bring a variety of games, but feel free to bring your favorite.

We will have a simple potluck. Bring something to share and join us!

Contact Sandy Wuori or Ben Wuori through RCB or the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org.

Donations Needed

One of the service teams for RLC's Operation InAsMuch will be packing school supplies for **Lutheran World Relief** on Saturday, April 29.

Items needed:

- rulers with centimeters on one side and inches on the other (plastic or wood)

- pencil sharpeners, small hand-held
- blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- packages of black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)

Barrels for the supplies will be available in the Narthex and the FLC Lobby. Supplies are needed by Sunday, April 23.



For questions, please contact Jamee Thieme through RCB or the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).



Saturday, April 29

8:00 am-12:00 pm

During this annual event, we provide numerous acts of service for our church, community, and country. We begin with breakfast in the Family Life Center at 8:00 am, and most activities will be completed by noon.

There will be many opportunities available for all ages to participate. Nursery care will be provided. Some of the activities will be at RLC and others off site.

This year, some activities include Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran World Relief care packages, card making, quilting and sewing, and much more. You will find the full listing at the link below or on the paper forms.

[Click Here to Sign Up!](#)

You may also sign up using a form located at the information tables. Questions? Contact Jan Boyer or the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).

THANK YOU!

Marty and Mindy Stephani wish to extend a heart-felt “thank you” to everyone within the hearing of this announcement. From all the people who visited him at Wake Med where all 4 surgeries were conducted, to those who visited him at the hospital and at Rex Rehab in Apex, to those who brought him various snacks including spicy peanuts, homemade chocolate chip cookies, fruitcake, and cheeseburgers to those who came and were with him waiting for physical therapy to be over, to Tim Hiteshew’s construction team who came and brought materials and constructed the other half of the ramp so that he could be pushed inside the house on the wheelchair and walker to the MANY people who phoned their greetings to the many people who visited him in person, to those who continue to send “get well” and greeting cards, to the men who have picked him up for Monday night men’s study, Bagel Bunch, Saturday morning men’s breakfast to those who brought homemade vegetable beef soup WE THANK YOU.

It’s been wonderful to be at the receiving end of your love and support. To thank you INDIVIDUALLY would have been very difficult so we hope that this message of thankfulness will find all of you. He still is getting physical therapy and nurse visits at home. The most recent doctor visits (surgeon/orthopedist and GP) have told us that he is healing very well. He is very anxious to be able to drive his truck once more and ride his lawn mower in a couple weeks! Thank you! We love you all.

RLC Worship Servants

There is a need for volunteers to help out in all of our worship services. If you have

ever watched an usher, worship assistant, or lay reader and thought “I could do that”, we would love to have you! Reach out to the following for more information:

- Saturday, 6:00 pm - Lori Jannings
- Sunday, 8:00 am - Brenda Peterson
- Sunday, 9:30 am - Dara Linn
- Sunday, 11:00 am - Suzi Heffner

You may also contact the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org for assistance.

**Children's
Ministry News**

Easter Eggstravaganza Fun!

**Children's Sunday
School**

Thank you
youth
for your
service!

We look forward to
welcoming your child(ren)
to class Sundays from 9:30-10:30.
There will be no class April 9th (Easter)
and April 30 (Confirmation). Contact
erika.hulse@rlcary.org for more info!

K.I.C.K.S (Kids In Christ Keep Shining)

K.I.C.K.S. provides fun and fellowship for kids in 3rd-5th grade.

Our next event is on **Wednesday, April 19** from 6:30-7:30 pm
in the Family Life Center Gym.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)
Monday, June 26 - Friday, June 30
9:00 am-12:00 pm



Shine a light on Jesus' love!

Let's launch on a cosmic quest where we'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Stellar rockets us on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith building fun.

We welcome all children ages 4 through rising 5th grade to join us for this amazing week in God's Word. It will be filled with games, crafts, music, and most importantly, Jesus' learning that'll last for light years to come.

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)

Cost: Early Bird Price from March 15-May 31, \$5 per child or \$15 max per family
June 1-June 26, \$10 per child or \$30 max per family

Cash or check accepted, payable to Resurrection Lutheran Church. Mail or drop off to Church Office, 100 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary NC 27518.

Student Ministry

Middle School and High School

Happy Easter! I hope you all enjoyed a very blessed Resurrection Day! There is a lot going on and resuming this week.

- **Sunday, April 16**
9:30 am - Connection Cafe (Sunday School for Middle and High School)
1:30-3:00 pm - Ignite Middle School Youth Group
- **Wednesday, April 19**
Only one more **Warehouse Wednesday** from 6:00-6:30 pm!
- **Wednesday, April 26**
Confirmation Banquet and Rehearsal, 6:00 pm
Fellowship Hall
- **Saturday, April 29**
Church-wide service day called Operation InAsMuch. It's a great opportunity to participate in service projects around the church or within the community that is intergenerational.
- **Sunday, April 30**
Confirmation Sunday, 9:30 am, Sanctuary

**IGNITE
MS YOUTH MINISTRY**

April Schedule

Connection Cafe @ 9:30am
April 2, 16, 23 only

**Warehouse
Wednesdays
The LAST 2!
April 12 & 19
6:00pm**

**YOUTH
GROUP
April 16
1:30 - 3:00**

**BREAKAWAY
HS YOUTH MINISTRY**

April Schedule

CONNECTION CAFE @ 9:30AM
APRIL 2, 16, 23 ONLY

YOUTH GROUP
6:30PM - 8:00PM
APRIL 2, 16, 23, 30

Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director

jenny.piontek@rlcary.org



**Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool**

**3-year-olds
to rising kindergarteners**
(children currently in our 2's classes are eligible)
(ALL Ages **MUST** be toilet-trained)

June 5 - 8 (9:15-12:30)
June 12 - 15 (9:15-12:30)
June 19 - 22 (9:15-12:30)

Neighbors, friends, & family welcome!
EMAIL FOR BROCHURE & REGISTRATION FORMS!

Mark Your Calendars!

email- **office@rlpcary.org**
call- **919-851-7270**

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool | 919-851-7270 | rlpcary.org

Resurrection Lutheran School

Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A Waverly Place

Tuesday, April 18 from 5:00-7:00 pm

RLS will receive a portion of all DRIVE-THRU MOBILE ORDERS between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Please make sure to place your order in the app and go through the drive-thru to pick it up.

The dining room is open, so feel free to park and come inside to eat and enjoy some fellowship with your classmates!

Resurrection Lutheran School | 919-851-7271 | rlscary.org

Latest Lion's Tale



At Camp Agapé, we believe that every child deserves an unforgettable summer filled with growth, friendship, and adventure. Our faith-based summer camp, located in beautiful Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina, is perfect for your child to create lifelong memories while strengthening their faith and values. [Click here for more information!](#)

WORSHIP SERVICES

Traditional Worship in Sanctuary	Praise Worship in Family Life Center
Saturday, 6:00 pm	Sunday, *11:00 am
Sunday, *8:00 & 9:30 am	

**Services Live Streamed to YouTube*

Online Worship Bulletins

For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at

youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC

or through our website at

rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

Attendance and Giving

Visual Faith

Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

rlcary.org

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

Prayers of the Church – April 16, 2023

*Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.
Hebrews 4:16*

We lift the following prayer requests this week:

Ongoing Prayers

*Diane Cuper, *Eve Sommers, *Anne Altieri, *Charlotte Raines, *Eric Hammergren, *Anita Moore, *John Shaeffer, *Vern Ebert, *Aaron, Marcus, *Malcolm, *Sandy Nigg, Henry Otten, Michael Flannery, *Helen Campbell, *Lena Licciardi, Paul Batt, Peter and Esther Kuo, *Geoffrey Wiggins, Marc & Elizabeth Langefeld's Baby Adoption, Caitlyn, Mark Zimmerman, Justus Nicolai, Alex Fernandez, *Cheri Spitz

Ongoing Cancer Treatments

*Mike Allen, Anne Price, *Gary Ferro, Angie Price, Alison Zieglmeier, Carol Diliberto, Jackie, Linda H., Kathy Siemon, Scott Brinkley, *Bill Xenakis, Linda, Jimmy Ketner, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Sue, Kathy, Glenn Wagner, Pamm Haley, Judy Dean, Bob, Michael Murphy

For Expectant Moms

Brianne Kibler, *Janet Lucien

Those Prayed for on April 9, 2023

Thanking God Today

- Our RLC Family
- Family Celebrations and Time Together, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Weddings, Baptisms
- Our Many Blessings
- Safe Travels
- Caring Organizations Within Our Local Communities
- RLC Blind Ministry Helpers and Guests
- For Our Pastors and Music Ministry, Upcoming Holy Week, and All Pastors During Holy Week
- 8th Grade Confirmation Students Presenting Their Faith Statements
- Operation InAsMuch and Prayers for Lots of Participation!
- New Granddaughter, Merritt Ryan Bowling, Parents Matthew and Lauren Bowling, Grandparents *Randy and *Janet Bowling
- Brendan, Great Cancer Results

For Healing

- *Becky Berger
- *Kim Goss
- All Those Exposed to COVID, with COVID, and Recovering from COVID

- Blind Ministry Guests - Maria Barker, Judy Dean, Sheila McNair, Linda Jones, Desiree, James
- *Brendan Nigg
- *Marty Stephani, Recovery
- Roger Robbins; Jerry Crueger; Bruce Klevenow, Brother of *Ralph Klevenow
- *Vern Ebert
- *Cheri Spitz, Recovery
- Wendy Wood, Recovery
- Shannon, Friend of *Katy Johnson
- *Eve Sommers
- *Jim Sanvi, Father of *Katie Riccitello
- Maclean Hueske, Niece of *Diane Hoffmeister
- Wendy, Cousin of *Diane Hoffmeister
- Russ Catania, Recovery from Surgery
- *Ed Altieri, Upcoming Surgery
- *Pastor Jonathan, Upcoming Surgery on April 14
- *Denise Johnson
- Wayne, Randi, Bill, Martha, Edgar, Paul, May Ann, Sue, Kristin, Brendan, Marty, Ken, Donald, Harold, Paul

For Comfort

- Family and Friends of Peter Cassimatis, Father of *Nick Cassimatis
- Family and Friends of Beverly Kunitsky, Aunt of *Dawn Leister
- Family and Friends of Mary Herion, Mother of *Carol Buckner
- Family and Friends of Cheryl Schlage, Mother of *Danielle Altieri
- Family of Friends of Ray Anderson, Uncle of *Eric Heise
- Family of Micah Jax Jahnke, Newborn Son of Nathan and Faith Jahnke
- Family and Friends of Kathy Leahy, Mother of *Jeff Leahy

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- People of Ukraine, And All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- Persecuted Christians
- Uganda Lutheran Church
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Call Committees for Resurrection Lutheran School Principal and DCE
- *Randi and Barry Munns
- Annie Ruth Ford, *Dennis Ford's Mother
- *Eric and *Jill Hammergren
- *Jan and Paul Wozniak
- Jan and Rich Bloom
- Stuart and Sue Sanders, and the *Boyer Family
- Linda H., In Hospice Care
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles
- Janice, Daughter of *Eve Sommers
- Those Seeking Jobs
- Roseann, In Hospice
- Reflection on Our Faith Journeys

- Victims of Gun Violence
- Malcolm for a Job

For the Lord's Wisdom, Guidance, Strength for the Health and Well-Being of the People They Serve

- Pastor Jonathan and Juli, Associate Pastor Zack and Kelsey, Assistant Pastor Alan and Faith, and Their Families
- Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools Staff
- *Bob Unger and Robin Hester's Leadership of RLS During This Interim Period
- Area Pastors and School Staff
- Our Stephen Ministers

For Our Missionaries

- *Mark and *Megan Mantey, Uganda
[Click here for the Mantey's Newsletter!](#)
- JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia
[Click here for the Cima Family Newsletter!](#)
- Shauen and Krista Trump, Kenya
[Click here for the Trump's Newsletter!](#)

*Lord Jesus, thank You for Your abiding Presence and saving grace. All is in Your Hands.
We trust You are working all things according to Your good plan and purposes,
and with that trust and confidence, we release these prayers to You. In Your Holy Name, Amen.*

***RLC Members**

Updated 4/14/23

Attendance and Giving – April 16, 2023

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, April 8

No 6:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 9

6:30 am - 42; 8:00 am - 205; 9:30 am - 357; 11:00 am (Sanctuary) - 102;

11:00 am (Family Life Center) - 108

Total In-Person Worship: 814

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Easter Sunday, April 9

8:00 am - 175; 11:00 am - 76

Total Online Views: 251 views

General Fund Giving and Spending - March 2023

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Receipts	\$ 91,385.92	\$ 962,570.07
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 112,168.78</u>	<u>\$ 983,183.70</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ -20,782.86	\$ -20,613.63

Last Week and This Week's Offerings: \$59,046.74

Average Weekly Giving for 2022/23: \$24,681.28

Average Weekly Giving Budgeted for 2022/23: \$26,908.65

We are grateful for all who are able to maintain financial contributions to our congregation!

There are four ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate as you exit the in-person worship service
- Mail to Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary, NC 27518
- Online Giving through our church website at rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving
- Download the Vanco Mobile app, search for Resurrection Lutheran Church, transfer funds from your checking or savings account to RLC

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

Updated 4/14/23