

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023



Pastor's Corner for April 30-May 6

What's In a Name? (John 14:1-14)

Jesus' famous words to His disciples on the night before His betrayal ("I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life") are a familiar promise often heard at funerals. As we hear those words again this Sunday, I'm reminded of the special significance celebrating Jesus as "the Way" has for all of us, especially in this Easter season.

During my years in Japan, I discovered that many people I encountered were familiar with the notion of a particular mode of life described by that word "way." "Shinto" (神道), literally meaning "way of the gods," refers to a host of practices associated with Japanese folk religion. "Bushido" (武士道), or "way of the warrior," designates a life path followed by samurai warriors who were supposed to put

loyalty, respect, courage, and personal honor first. How interesting when set alongside the history of early Christian church! Christians did not call themselves “Christian” (see Acts 11:26) or even “followers of Christ” (those who do so are scolded by Paul in 1 Corinthians!). Rather, they made known their identity as people of “the Way” (Acts 9:2, 19:9, etc.). What’s in a name? Notice, the name chosen was not people of “a way” or “the way of [something or someone].” It was simply, “the Way.” I love that, don’t you? I mean, first off, there’s something intriguing about a name like that that leaves a person wanting to know more! But “the Way” not only calls to mind the original song of the prophet Isaiah quoted by John the Baptist at the inauguration of Jesus’ ministry (Mk 1:3). It echoes the words of Jesus who promised, “I go to prepare a place for you,” and when His disciples express confusion about WHERE that meant Jesus was headed, He simply said, “I AM THE WAY, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The world will judge us by our actions, it is true. There is far more to the life of the Way than mere head knowledge or good intentions alone. Yet that is where the One who is the Way the Truth and the Life comes in. Jesus went away to the cross to prepare a place of fellowship with a holy and merciful God for sinners like you and me. In life, ours is not a list of do’s and don’ts to follow. Ours is not a code of ethics to either uphold with honor or live in shame over failing to fulfill. Ours instead, is a journey of fellowship with the One who went where we could not to win Life for us. How can our actions and behavior NOT reflect the wonder of that gift!

Christ is risen! What’s in a name? Because the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life lives in us and is with us, we are people of the Way, empowered to love and serve. What greater privilege can there be?

Thank You

I would like to offer heartfelt thanks to the many RLC members (and RLS students!) who took the time to send me get-well cards and keep me in their prayers in the period after my recent surgery. The good news is that by the grace of God my surgery on April 14 went well, my surgeon said that the status of the implantation two weeks after surgery is “excellent,” and I have permission to return to my regular schedule! Though I have not yet been able to take advantage of the new

internal hardware (and thus my present ability to hear is no better than before the surgery), all systems are “go” for activation of the internal device on May 11. I am excited for the future and give thanks to God for my dear wife’s care for the last two weeks, the surgeon and all the folks at UNC Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, and everyone at RLC (especially Pastor Zach) who filled in for me. Thanks be to God!

RLC’s Newest Confirmands Recognized This Weekend

This Sunday April 30th, at the 9:30 service, RLC’s newest confirmands will be recognized and celebrated at RLC! Because this is such an important service...

- There will be no Sunday School or Adult Bible class this weekend and
- Instead of the usual two worship livestreams at 8 and 11 we will have one worship livestream at 9:30 AM.

We congratulate these young people and their families and give thanks to God for His gift of the Holy Spirit who enables each of us to grow and bear fruit.

In-Person Offering Submissions

At RLC, we are so grateful for the offerings and tithes offered up to God from RLC friends and family, week after week! For several weeks now, we’ve been asking that worshippers desiring to submit an offering in person do so before the service begins, in the offering plates/baskets positioned just inside the door (main sanctuary) or outside the door (Family Life Center) of our worship spaces. That’s because last weekend we started presenting these offerings at the altar in our worship services as a reminder that all we have is a gift from God’s hand. It is our hope and prayer that once we have adequate coverage for ushers, we might eventually resume traditional offering collections before the Prayer of the Church in all services. In the meantime, we invite everyone submitting in-person offerings to do so before the service begins. If you forget, or arrive late, you are, of course, free to leave your offering in the offering plates/baskets that remain at the entrance to the sanctuary or Family Life Center. Thank you for all you do as stewards of God’s good gifts.

Eastertide peace and joy,
Pastor Jonathan

Prayers of the Church



TAIZE Service Saturday, April 29

We will use the format of worship known as TAIZE for Saturday's evening service at 6:00 pm.

A darkened setting with candles, singing of short ostinato refrains of Biblical and liturgical phrases, periods of quiet for reflection, the celebration of communion, readings, and sermon.



Confirmation Sunday

Congratulations to Our Confirmands!

Avery, Morgan, Michelle, Cole, William, Katy, Luke, Lyla, Jaxon,
Johanna, Addison, Alec, Lucas, Nicole, Sebastian, R-Jay

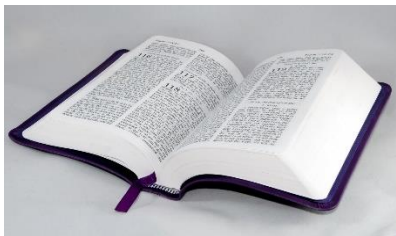
***No Sunday School this week
for Youth and Adult!***

**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.



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).

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**

Our Wednesday night group is on break for the summer and will start back after Labor Day.

Hope you join us for a **Men's V Pizza Event on Wednesday, May 3** at 6:30 pm. V Pizza is located at 1389 Kildaire Farm Rd., Cary. All men are invited.

Celebration of Life for Pam Phipps Brown

The family of Pam Phipps is gathering to celebrate her life and honor her memory on **Saturday, May 7** at 1:00 pm in the Ritter Park picnic area, Cary. Pam has touched many lives as a mother, wife, daughter, sister, and friend. Her legacy is the difference she made. Pam's spirit is memorialized in the many hours spent with her daughter, Izzy Brown, at Ritter Park.

RLS families, RLC members, and the 8th grade graduating class of 2023 are cordially invited to join Pam's family for a service led by Resurrection Lutheran Church. Coming together in good food, love, and play is a tribute to Pam's life. Please join us with joy and peace knowing that our sister in Christ is now in the loving arms of her heavenly Father. We would love to hear your memories.

The Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults Friday, May 12

We thank all our volunteers who helped us to have a wonderful Coffeehouse in April! We couldn't do it without our faithful volunteers. Please come be a volunteer. Our special needs guests love to come and we need lots of volunteers to make them feel special and loved! We need Setter Uppers at **5:30 pm** (both food and room), Servers at 6:30 pm, and Cleaner Uppers at 8:30 pm.

The next Coffeehouse is Friday, May 12 from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center Gym. We will have the *Every Voice Choir* entertain us, as well as Don Helmey! The *Every Voice Choir* is made up of many of our honored guests.

Sign Up: <https://bit.ly/3kqoHGN>

Questions? Contact Brenda Peterson or the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org.



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!



Thank you youth for your service!



Children's Sunday School

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!



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 (exact change) 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

Here's what is coming up...

- **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

ATTENTION!
Middle School
and High School
Youth

See you
again
Sunday,
May 7th!

**NO
CONNECTION
CAFE
this week!**

There will be no High School or Middle School Sunday School due to the celebration of Confirmation in the 9:30 service.

BREAKAWAY
High School Youth Ministry 

Schedule for Sunday, April 30th

**NO Connection Cafe
Youth Group
6:30-8:00pm**



Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director
jenny.piontek@rlcary.org

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool



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**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!

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

Resurrection Lutheran School

Wanted

People Who Cherish Christian Education

Resurrection Lutheran School is looking for you. This summer, two school board positions will become open and we are looking for replacements. If you have any interest, please contact John Heilman, Bill Xenakis, or the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org.



RSVP Today!
evite.me/JF4VNEDXDw

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

Latest Lion's Tale



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 30, 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 23, 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
- 8th Grade Confirmation Students Presenting Their Faith Statements
- Operation InAsMuch and Prayers for Lots of Participation!
- Angela's Birthday

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

- Shannon, Friend of *Katy Johnson
- *Eve Sommers
- *Ed Altieri, Recovery from Surgery
- *Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Recovery from Surgery
- *Denise Johnson
- Randi, Patti, Alex, Chanel, Lindsay, Eve, Glenn, Tim, Justin, Red, Brian, Timmy, Kevin, Keith, Mark, Carlton, Carol, Anna, Anne, Skylar, Roy, Alice, Paul, Stuart, Brenda, Margaret, Julian, Lois, Ken, Donald, Harold, Debbie, Dana, Terry, Judy, Wayne, Shannon, Eric, Karen, Mara, Sue, Marty

For Comfort

- Family and Friends of Roseanne Candiello, Niece of *Eve Sommers
- Family and Friends of Brent Noyes, Friend of *Linda Crandall

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- People of Ukraine, And All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- Persecuted Christians
- Uganda Lutheran Church
- Residents of Turkey and Syria, Recovery From Earthquakes
- 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
- Reflection On Our Faith Journeys
- Victims of Gun Violence
- Yurach Family Loss of Mother

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

- Pastor Jonathan and Juli, Associate Pastor Zach 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 4/27/23

Attendance and Giving – April 30, 2023

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, April 22

6:00 pm - 56

Sunday, April 23

8:00 am - 79; 9:30 am - 152; 11:00 am - 134

Total In-Person Worship: 421

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, April 23

8:00 am - 92; 11:00 am - 31

Total Online Views: 123 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

This Week's Offerings: \$19,468.61

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 enter 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 4/27/23