



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2023

*From the Pastor*

### Not Seeing is Believing

Poor Thomas. Because of one simple mistake, written down by John, the beloved disciple, in the eternal words of the Bible, Thomas is now forever labeled as “Doubting Thomas.” Out of all the nicknames that Bible characters have, this one could very well be the worst. The focus in the name is all on Thomas’ inability to believe in the resurrection, but that is where all of us begin. All of us are little “Doubting Thomas” without the Spirit to guide us in the resurrection promise. We should look to Thomas with joy, knowing that there is hope in the face of our doubts.

Maybe we should thank Thomas for his doubt. Because of his doubt, Jesus spoke words directly to us, words that John took time to include in his account of Jesus’ ministry, because he would not just leave us doubting, there had to be hope. Jesus was thinking of you when He said, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29). You and I have never seen Jesus with our own eyes. We have not put our fingers in the nail marks and our hands in His side. We have not hugged our Savior in the joy of the resurrection. We have not talked with Him and walked with Him as Thomas had before and after the resurrection, yet we have believed, and Jesus calls you “blessed.”

That is the incredible work of Jesus. Nowhere else in all of creation can we honestly say, “not seeing is believing” the opposite is true. See is believing! Even though we can “see” everything because of modern technology, there are times that we are caused to doubt even if the pictures we see come from reliable sources. We want to experience the real thing. To see it with our own eyes so that we have proof that it actually happened. But Jesus changes that. In the resurrection, Jesus has changed everything.

### Worship Schedule

#### Saturday

6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

#### Sunday

8:00 am in the Sanctuary\*

9:30 am in the Sanctuary

11:00 am

Praise Worship  
in the Family Life Center\*

\*Live Stream

### Dates of Interest:

Ignite (MS).....May 7  
The Coffeehouse.....May 12  
Mother’s Day..... May 14  
RLS Spring Fine Arts..... May 16  
Men’s Breakfast.....May 20  
Welcome to RLC..... May 20  
Glow Night (8th)..... May 21  
K.I.C.K.S. Event.....May 24  
Blind Ministry.....May 26  
Memorial Day..... May 29  
RLS 8th Grade Grad.....May 31

VISIT US ONLINE AT [RLCARY.ORG](http://RLCARY.ORG)

# Sunday Morning Adult Ed

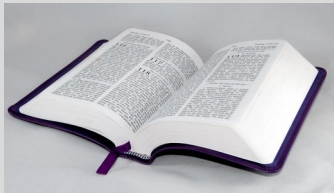
## Poetry and Our Christian Faith

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 Scriptures have to say on 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, March 5-  
May 14!**

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

Questions? Contact the church office (919-851-7248 or [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).



Because of Jesus' words, we are confident in the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:17). Not because we have seen it but because Jesus said so in the words of Scripture. In these words, handed down throughout the millennia and put in your hands today, we get to see Christ. In not seeing, we believe and in believing the Word of God we then see Jesus. When we pick up the Bible, we are putting our fingers in the nail marks of Jesus' hands and putting our hands in His side. When we read God's Word, we hear God speaking to us. In the reading is the seeing.

In the Word of God, Jesus makes both statements eternally true. "Seeing is believing" because in Scripture we see God's work, we feel His love, and we receive what He wants us to have. "Not seeing is believing" because "faith is the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Faith is all about not seeing, we believe in what we do not see. If we could see it, then it wouldn't truly be faith. Not seeing is believing in the glorious day to come when we do see Jesus face-to-face and cry out with Confessing Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

So, as we travel into the summer, take time to "see" Jesus and read His Word. Take time to "not see" Jesus and be reminded of the power of the resurrection. Not seeing is believing, but we see what God calls us to see through His Word.

Your brother in Christ,  
Pastor Zach Sarrault

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## 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 (919-851-7248, [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)) for assistance.

*We encourage you to find areas of interest that best suit  
your natural gifts, and join us as we reach out  
with the love of Christ, by grace, through faith, for service.*

## April 2023

- Pastor Blanke reported this year's total Easter Attendance (4/9/23) was 814. This is up from last year's total of 710.
- The RLS Principal Call Update – the next School Board Meeting will be 20 April and a recommendation for the Council and Congregation will be made shortly thereafter.
- DCE Call Update – the field of available candidates is very limited so the Call Committee is now considering part-time hires from within the congregation to compliment the current staff (Jenny Piontek and office staff). Pastor Blanke will help the Council develop a complete Roles and Responsibilities matrix to better understand the needs and expectations.
- The Council continues to address the feedback received from the Pulse Survey. To date, the Council has addressed at least five of the biggest concerns; specifically, more feedback from the Council, more intercessory prayers, increased budget for and attention to fellowship time, increased recruitment and training for volunteers, and better communication of opportunities for parents (such as nursery availability).
- The Council has agreed to use memorial funds to purchase ESV Bibles for the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Family Life Center and Room 151. Current translations will still be available in the Fellowship Hall and Room 151.
- The Council is collecting your comments and feedback on the ProPresenter Video Board now being used in the Sanctuary during worship. Please give us your feedback.
- Security at the School was addressed (following recent school shootings nationwide). The Acting Principal, Bob Unger completed a security walkaround with a Cary Police Officer to get ideas on how to make our overall facility more secure for all.
- The Council is actively putting together a new Budget for the Voters to approve in June. Almost all input has been received by the Treasurer. The Council will approve a draft 2023-2024 Budget in the May Council Meeting for submittal to the Voters. This budget will include continued support for Together In Missions which funds our partners in three different countries.
- The Voter's Assembly will be held on Sunday, 11 June 2023, beginning at 12:30 pm in the Family Life Center. This meeting will be available online for viewing and chat only.

Your Council members are listed below and are willing to take questions and suggestions.

<b>Mike Haertling, President (505) 690-9929</b>	<b>Mark Dirks, Council Member (919) 345-5348</b>
<b>Erika Hulse, Vice-President (678) 849-3233</b>	<b>Charles Miller, Council Member (919) 534-5649</b>
<b>Mike Hahne, Treasurer (919) 749-7666</b>	<b>Aaron Newcomb, Council Member (919) 645-8005</b>
<b>Mike Heffner, Secretary (469) 644-2049</b>	
<b>Barry Needle, Council Member (919) 345-5088</b>	<b>Ex Officio: Margaret Hyatt, Operations Director (919) 851-7248</b>
<b>Lori Jannings, Council Member (919) 523-6619</b>	<b>Ex Officio: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Sr. Pastor (301) 997-6687</b>

## *Spiritual Milestones*

### **First Communion**



#### **First Communicants 2023**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Baptismal Birthday</u></b>
Kaitlyn Rose Astudillo	March 11, 2012
Alexandra Eunice Beyer	June 10, 2012
Cadence Alaina Ciencewicki	December 9, 2012
Nolan James Davis	January 15, 2012
Dean Abram Dudek	July 1, 2012
Savannah Catherine Duke	November 18, 2012
Robert Stephen Field	April 8, 2012
Matthew Walter Heise	June 3, 2012
Brendan Cole Johnson	April 15, 2012
Elam Michael Justice	August 19, 2012
Fiona Grace Measmer	July 29, 2012
Aaron Ray Newcomb, Jr.	November 18, 2012
Sabrina Nicole Schwadron	December 31, 2022
Aven Thompson Williams	November 18, 2012

***Welcome to the Lord's Table!***



## Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

### Monday Evening

#### **Monday Night Women's Bible Study ~ *Heroes of Faith***

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. Contact Jamee Thieme through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).

#### **Men's Ministry Weekly Study and Fellowship**

Meet on **Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center. We will continue through May 22, then on break for the summer. Contact [mens-ministry@rlcary.org](mailto:mens-ministry@rlcary.org).

### Tuesday Morning

#### **Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship**

We study the coming Sunday Scripture lessons from **10:30-11:30 am** in Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault. God gives His Word to instruct, guide, and bless our lives. Scripture lessons in worship offer a menu every week to build up the people of God in faith and hope.

### Wednesday Evening

#### **Men With Kids**

This group is on break for the summer and will start back after Labor Day.

#### **\*Men's V Pizza Event**

All men are invited to join us on **Wednesday, May 3 at 6:30 pm** for a fellowship event at V Pizza, 1389 Kildaire Farm Road, Cary.

We hope to have monthly evening fellowship events and continue Men's Breakfast through the summer. Contact Tom Gebbia at [mens-ministry@rlcary.org](mailto:mens-ministry@rlcary.org).

## MEN'S BREAKFAST



Saturday, May 20  
at 8:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

Come gather for fellowship, food, and message.  
All men welcome.

Contact Tom Gebbia or [mens-ministry@rlcary.org](mailto:mens-ministry@rlcary.org).

## *Men's Ministry*

# **Men's Retreat & Service Event**

**Annual Men's Retreat and Service Day  
April 14-16 at Camp Agape**



Plan to join us next year!  
Contact Tom Gebbia at [mens-ministry@rlcary.org](mailto:mens-ministry@rlcary.org).



## Outreach Service to the Community

### Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Coalition

From Rebecca Hix, Director of Faith Relations, "You guys are rock stars! The Lutheran house looks great! Because of the weather, we need to add one more Saturday onto your build schedule."

The Lutheran Coalition brings 11 Lutheran churches together to strengthen relationships while serving families in need of affordable housing. In 2023, we are building in our newest neighborhood, Old Poole Place in Southeast Raleigh.

Upcoming RLC Build Day is **May 13**, 15 volunteers (ages 16+).

Additional Lutheran Build Day is **May 20**, 10 volunteers (ages 16+).

Please note that they hold two slots on Thursday and Friday each week for Lutherans, if you are available during the week.

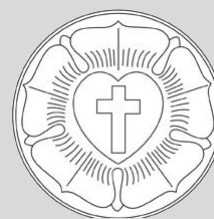
Please use this link to sign up:

<http://vhub.at/lutheranbuild>

## Gifts & Memorials

### For the Love Fund

In Honor of  
Christian and Delany Xenakis  
Bill and Fran Xenakis





# SUMMER STOCK-UP!

*Food Drive: April 24 - June 9*



**This summer when school is out, no child should go without.**

More than 6,200 children in our service area participate in free or reduced lunch programs at school. You can help ensure those children won't go hungry during summer time. Individuals, churches, businesses, clubs can all contribute to place food on the children's table.

**Most Needed Items for the WWCM Food Pantry:** Canned Fruit, Canned Meat, Cereal, Crackers, Cream Soups or Stews, Laundry Detergent (Pods), Pasta and Sauce, Peanut Butter

**(919) 362-0657 | [PANTRY@WWCM.ORG](mailto:PANTRY@WWCM.ORG) | [WWCM.ORG](http://WWCM.ORG)**

**Western Wake Crisis Ministry • 1600 Olive Chapel Rd. • Suite 408 • Apex, NC 27502**

## Student Ministry

### Youth Mission Trip Raffle

Thanks to the generosity of one of our church families, they have donated a brand new XBOX X with extra controller and a brand new PS5 with extra controller to the Youth Mission team to raise money for our upcoming mission trips this summer. Our Middle School will be traveling to the Blue Ridge Mountains, NC in June and the High School will be traveling to Savannah, GA. It costs \$400 per youth for these trips. The church absorbs some, some families diligently use RAISE RIGHT (Scrip) and can raise funds through that program, the youth budget supports some of the cost, and then the rest falls to the families. This is our opportunity to help raise money to support the mission work that the youth will be doing this summer.

We truly appreciate the support of this church and know that we can't do it without you! *So how many tickets would you like?*

Raffle tickets are \$5 each and the drawing will be held on June 4.

Contact Ms. Jenny for tickets.

[jenny.piontek@rlcary.org](mailto:jenny.piontek@rlcary.org)



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## Upcoming Concert

### Triangle Wind Ensemble

**Sunday, May 28 at 7:00 pm — Koka Booth Amphitheatre, Cary**

John Williams has been called America's greatest living composer. Best known for his film scores, he has also composed music for the concert hall, TV, The Olympics, and presidential inaugurations. This exciting program of popular and dynamic works will also include a patriotic tribute in recognition of Memorial Day weekend. Evan Feldman, Conductor. [Click here to buy tickets!](#)





# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## May Newsletter

### Sunday School

Children's Sunday School is held in Resurrection Lutheran School classrooms  
Sundays 9:30-10:30

**May 7** -Lesson Food from Heaven

**May 14** - Mother's Day - Lesson Waterworks

**May 21** -Last Sunday School - Celebration with attendance awards



Children's Church

### Upcoming Events

#### KICKS

Kids in Christ Keep Shining  
Grades 3-5

Our May event will be May 24th from 6:30-7:30 in the Family Life Center Gym.



KICKS April Event Sportsmanship

### Questions?

Interested in learning more about Children's Ministry at RLC?

Contact Erika Hulse at [erika.hulse@rlcary.org](mailto:erika.hulse@rlcary.org)

## Happy Anniversary!

**May 1**

Mike and Pam Allen  
30 years

**May 6**

Steve and Esther Robinson  
45 years

**May 8**

Leo and Char Magiera  
58 years

**May 11**

Clinton and Patricia Peterson  
55 years

**May 17**

Paul and Judy Schmidt  
20 years

**May 18**

Don and Bernice Sonstroem  
60 years

**May 24**

Eric and Jennifer Peacock  
20 years

**May 28**

Barry and Laura Needle  
45 years

Stuart and Linda Shaw  
35 years

Machiel and Magda Van Dyk  
35 years

**May 31**

Dave and Jenny Beyer  
20 years

### Camp Agape

## ACE Education

Let's send our congratulations to ACE Education on their 25th Anniversary! Since 1998, ACE Ed has served 128,000 students and adults learning and growing through this program. That's a lot of water scorpions, survival shelters, and soil samples . . . just to name a few!

Thanks to Mir and ACE Ed for teaching us and others the importance of caring for God's creation!

Agapé Center for Environmental Education

[agapecenterforee.org](http://agapecenterforee.org)





**Resurrection Lutheran  
Preschool**

Diane Hooper, Director

[rlpcary.org](http://rlpcary.org)

919-851-7270

[office@rlpcary.org](mailto:office@rlpcary.org)



**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!**

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

**Volunteers Needed!**

**Contact**

[kelseysarrault@rlscary.org](mailto:kelseysarrault@rlscary.org)



**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.

## ENHANCEMENTS

Resurrection Lutheran School continues to look for ways to enhance your child's academic experience. Athletics, Clubs, Clinics, Competitions, Workshops, and Community Outreach are just a few of the ways we enrich and energize our students. As we plan for the fall, we are looking for volunteers to lead afterschool clubs. MathCounts, Lego Robotics, Odyssey of the Minds, Chess, Golf Club, and Run Club are just a few ideas but we are open to it all. If you have a passion that you would like to share, please contact Rosie Creasy ([admissions@rlscary.org](mailto:admissions@rlscary.org)) to discuss. Thank you for your willingness to consider!

## SUMMER CAMPS

- ◇ **Summer Cheer Camp** (rising 3rd-6th) - June 5-8, 9:00 am-12:00 pm\*
- ◇ **Shore Fun Beach Camp** (rising 1st-2nd) - June 12-15, 9:00 am-12:00 pm\*
- ◇ **STEM/Coding Camp** (rising 3rd-6th) - June 5-8, 1:00-4:00 pm and  
June 19-22, 1:00-4:00 pm
- ◇ **Theater Camp** (rising 5th-8th) - June 19-23, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
- ◇ **Shore Fun Beach Camp** (rising 1st-2nd) - June 19-22, 9:00 am-12:00 pm\*
- ◇ **Summer Dance Camp** (rising 3rd-6th) - July 10-13, 9:00 am-12:00 pm\*

\*optional early drop off

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<b>May 1-5</b>	Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
<b>May 5</b>	Early Release, 11:30 am RLS' Got Talent Show, 6:00-8:00 pm
<b>May 10</b>	Open House for 2023/2024 Enrollment, 10:00 am
<b>May 16</b>	Fine Arts Program, 6:30 pm
<b>May 19</b>	Middle School Drama, 9:00 am
<b>May 29</b>	No School, Memorial Day
<b>May 30</b>	5th Grade Promotion, 12:00 pm
<b>May 31</b>	Kindergarten Graduation, 11:00 am 8th Grade Graduation, 6:30 pm

### Looking Ahead...

<b>June 1</b>	Field Day (K-8) Early Release, 1:00 pm
<b>June 2</b>	Ending Chapel, 10:00 am Last Day of School - Happy Summer!

*Mission: Resurrection Lutheran School is committed to educating generations of children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Because of this commitment, we will provide a Lutheran educational experience that is Christ-centered, as well as academically focused for children in junior kindergarten through eighth grade.*



### Resurrection Lutheran School

Robert Unger  
Interim Principal

Rosie Creasy  
Director of Admissions/  
School Growth

[rlscary.org](http://rlscary.org)  
919-851-7271  
[contact@rlscary.org](mailto:contact@rlscary.org)

### Soaring to New Heights

Those who hope in the Lord  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

(Isaiah 40:31 NIV)







# stayCONNECTED

## LIVE STREAM

**Join us online for worship live  
Sundays at 8:00 am and 11:00 am!**

Connect through our YouTube channel at  
[youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC](https://youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC)

or through our website at  
[rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship](https://rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship).

### **Missed the live service?**

Watch the worship services  
on our YouTube channel at any time.



## LEARN MORE

[rlcary.org](https://rlcary.org) | [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org) | 919-851-7248

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Zachery Sarrault, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Alan Shaw, Assistant Pastor

## GIVING

We appreciate your contributions to our congregation.  
Here are the different ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate as you exit the worship service
- Mail to 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518
- Online through our church website at [rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving](https://rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving)
- Download the Vanco Mobile app to transfer funds from your account

Questions? Contact [finance@rlcary.org](mailto:finance@rlcary.org).

## SOCIAL MEDIA



[facebook.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary](https://facebook.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary)



[instagram.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary](https://instagram.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary)



[youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC](https://youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC)

Newsletter deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.  
Please send submissions to [susan.moore@rlcary.org](mailto:susan.moore@rlcary.org).

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518