



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY 2023

From the Pastor

Living in God’s Kingdom

(Matthew 6:10)

There are interesting differences between living in America and living in a constitutional monarchy, as I discovered after first living in Japan almost 40 years ago. Today, the Emperor of Japan is only a figurehead, performing ceremonial functions. Nevertheless, the impact of the imperial household is still felt by ordinary folks in Japan. Official dates are recorded in reference to the year of the current emperor’s reign. Rather than writing “2023” for the year of today’s date, you would write “Reiwa 4,” since the current emperor ascended the throne on May 1, 2019, and this is the fourth year of his reign. This is the system of dating used on minted coins, driver’s licenses, birth certificates, and anywhere official dates are recorded. I remember how confusing all of this was when Juli and I returned to Japan under a “new” emperor (Akihito) and we had to get used to registering with local government and recording our daughter’s birthday in reference to the new “Heisei” era! But that’s not all. When natural disaster strikes, the emperor is often on hand to comfort victims. Emperor Akihito famously met with the victims of the 2011 earthquake and appeared later on television urging his fellow citizens not to lose hope for the future. So even though the Japanese emperor may, to a certain extent, be a relic of Japan’s distant past, he is also a visual symbol of continuity in the midst of crisis for many ordinary Japanese people.

In July, America gives thanks to God for being founded on a constitution and not on the whims of a royal figure! Yet we do live as people of an important kingdom: the Kingdom of God. In the Lord’s Prayer we pray, “Thy Kingdom come.” God’s kingdom is sometimes said to be “upside down.” It’s the reverse of ordinary, human kingdoms. Jesus wins by serving.



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:
Christmas in July.....Jul 1-30
Holiday.....Jul 4
Ladies Lunch.....Jul 5
Church Council.....Jul 11
Veterans Lunch.....Jul 12
Men’s Fellowship.....Jul 12
Coffeehouse.....Jul 14
HS Mission TripJul 16-21
Erika Hulse Sending.....Jul 23
Blind Ministry.....Jul 28
JP Cima VisitJul 30

Sunday Morning Adult Ed

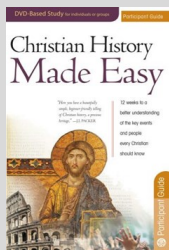
Christian History Made Easy

Yes, we have a summertime Sunday School for adults! Class is held on **Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am from June 11-August 27** in the Fellowship Hall. This 12-week program is titled, *Christian History Made Easy*.

During class, we explore the people, places, and rulers who were notable for the Christian faith over centuries. Starting with the time of Martin Luther, there will be a focus on Protestant Christianity. Scripture will also be featured in each class.

There are two study guides for the class and we ask for a donation of \$10. Led by Mindy Stephani with assistance from Tim Kearby. Make plans to attend the Saturday night service or one on Sunday at 8:00 am or 11:00 am. Come and join us!

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



He triumphs by giving up His life as a sacrifice for sins. God's kingdom is a place where "the last shall be first...and the first, last." In this month of July, we contemplate what it means to live and be at work in God's kingdom with a new sermon series: "Thy Kingdom Come." And we unpack those words of the Lord's Prayer together with Luther: "The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also." As people who live in God's Kingdom and seek to be God's hands and feet at work in the world, I invite you to join the RLC's Human Care Committee as we celebrate Christmas in July. Look for the Christmas trees at RLC!

This month we also recognize how God's kingdom does not stop at the boundaries of nations. The chance to engage the nations of the world with the Gospel of Christ continues in July. We will be commissioning RLC Children and Family Ministry Director Erika Hulse on a short-term mission trip to Poland. We also look forward to welcoming J. P. and Aimee Cima, RLC missionaries serving in Cambodia, at the end of the month. I know their stories will inspire all of us to envision how we can be connected to our partners in ministry around the world and to be blessed in the process. This July, enjoy a safe and blessed July 4th celebration and an amazing month of life in the kingdom of God...by God's grace!

In peace and joy,
Pastor Jonathan



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) 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.

June 2023

- Our DCE (Director of Christian Education) Call Committee, led by RLC member Dan Shaltanis, labored faithfully last year and early into 2023 to create a list of candidates for our congregation to consider for a divine call. The DCE was to be a full-time position tasked with serving RLC children and their families. However, when it became apparent that the candidates for consideration were unavailable to serve at RLC for a variety of their own personal reasons, we realized that God was leading us in a different direction. No longer pursuing a called DCE position, RLC leadership chose instead to pursue an internal hire for an expanded role of the Children and Family Ministry (CFM) Director. Starting in mid-July, our current CFM Director, Erika Hulse, will be moving into this expanded role. We are grateful for Erika's leadership in overseeing and organizing events and Sunday School activities for RLC children and their families last year. Her many years of experience as a teacher and love for God and God's children make her a valuable addition to the Resurrection ministry team as we seek to reach out to the families of RLC and our community, pointing them to the love of Christ.
- An unplanned expense came up recently - \$3,000 for freon replacement in one of the HVAC systems in the Family Life Center. It is likely this HVAC is reaching end of life and may soon need to be replaced.
- The new ESV Bibles arrived and have been placed in the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and Family Life Center.
- Resurrection Lutheran School requested permission from the Council to install concrete pads under the canopies for picnic tables. This is to prevent erosion and bringing the "clay mess" into buildings. The Council agreed this would be a good thing for them to do.
- Much of the June Council meeting was preparing for the Budget Presentation to the Voters. Though in the past, the annual income very closely matched the budget money spent, it is not clear this trend will continue. The Council trusts the Lord will provide and we, the congregation will all recognize our need to support the general fund which pays for missions, our staff, and our aging facilities.
- Since taking on additional responsibilities as a staff member for Resurrection Lutheran, Erika has resigned her position as Council member and Vice President. The Council thanks Erika for her dedication and service on the Council. The Council has the responsibility to fill Erika's position and will do so by the July Council Meeting.

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

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

Christmas in July



Christmas in July is coming again for 2023! The Christmas trees are located in the Narthex of the Sanctuary and the Lobby of the Family Life Center from **July 1-30**.

Each tree has numerous ornament “tags”. Take a tag and return it to the tree with the requested item next time you are at church. No need to wrap them!

This year, our gifts will benefit Green Chair Project and Families Together. These two organizations work to house homeless families in Wake County.

The **Green Chair Project** reuses essential furnishings donated by our community to help neighbors in need facing the challenges of homelessness, crisis, or disaster. Lives change when families and individuals are nurtured and sustained in well-equipped homes. (thegreenchair.org)

Through direct support and advocacy, **Families Together** assist families with children as they transition from homelessness to sustainable housing and stable homes. They believe every family deserves a home, and children should never have to wonder where they're going to sleep at night. (familiestogethernc.org)

The Green Chair Project has asked for Healthy Home Bundles which consist of:

- Small Trash Can or Bucket or Laundry Basket
- One Roll of Toilet Paper
- One Roll of Paper Towels
- Dish Soap
- Pack of Sponges
- Antibacterial Spray or Wipes
- Glass Cleaner Spray

Place all the items in the can, bucket, or laundry basket and return to the Christmas tree. (The tree tag will have this list on it.)

For more information about the Human Care Committee, contact Jan Boyer or Dara Linn.

Children and Family Ministry

Vacation Bible School

Thank you to the 170+ children for launching on an out-of-this-world adventure with us as we went on a cosmic quest to shine Jesus' light to the world. It was a blast!



Gifts & Memorials

For the Love Fund

In Memory of Fuad Rihani

Devin Hilldale

In Memory of Joanne Mucha

Bill and Fran Xenakis



Outreach Service to the Community

Habitat for Humanity

Hello, Lutheran Coalition!

We have had some great publicity out at the [Old Poole Place](#) neighborhood. [Check out this link](#) to the latest story from CBS-17. Thanks to your hard work, you helped to make the neighborhood look so fabulous!

Below is a picture from mid-June of the Lutheran coalition house. I wanted to give you an update on your progress. We had a construction meeting and things are progressing nicely. We are working on interior trim work and touch-up. Plus, we got water out to the site and are waiting our turn to get the water meter and line connected. After that happens, we can get the landscaping done.



Another Lutheran workday has been scheduled for **August 12**. If you are free that day, please sign up on our Volunteer Hub. While it will be the dogdays of summer, we could really use the help as we move into the last stages of finishing up what we've started, before we start our fall builds.

And speaking of Fall Builds, we are planning on calling ya'll together again for another build in the fall. That means that we will do an organizational meeting in August. So, stay tuned!

Thanks be to God for all that you have done, and all that you will do!

Peace,
Rebecca Hix, Director of Faith Relations
Habitat for Humanity of Wake County

[Click here to view all the pictures from this build.](#)



Small Groups

Adult Game Night

Looking for a night of fun and fellowship? Like to play board/card games?

Join us for Adult Game Nights on **Sundays, July 9 and August 13!**

When: 2nd Sunday from 5:00-9:30 pm

Where: Room 240, Family Life Center

Questions? Contact Sandy Wuori or Ben Wuori through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Celebration

Happy Birthday, Millie!

Millie Hiteshew joined Resurrection in 2006 after relocating to Glenaire from Chesapeake, Virginia. She loved singing in the choir for many years.



In the last couple of years, she's not been able to get to church but she does appreciate all those who have stayed in touch and also having communion brought to her.

Millie will be 95 on July 31 and her family would like to invite anyone who knows her to drop-in for a quick birthday greeting event at Glenaire (main entrance at 4000 Glenaire Circle) anytime between 4:00 and 5:00 pm on **Friday, July 28**.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

40th Biennial Convention

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML), also known as Lutheran Women in Mission, welcomed over 3,500 people to their 40th biennial convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on June 22–25 under the theme "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations." Convention theme was based on Psalm 33:12-13.

2023–2025 Mission Goal and Mission Grants

The Lutheran Women in Mission voting body adopted a \$2,350,000 mission goal for the 2023-2025 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 31 mission grants, as women and men respond in prayer and mite offerings during the next two years. [Click here for the list](#) of Mission Grant Recipients.

Happy Anniversary!

July 2

Kyle and Lauren Patton
5 years

July 8

Blaise and Cheryl Falkowski
45 years

July 16

Darrell and Cyndi Moore
40 years

July 22

John and Deanna Leuenberger
62 years

Paul and Barbara Niffenegger
51 years

July 29

Jack and Darlene Bartels
56 years

July 30

Jack and Sue Gallagher
35 years

Ralph and Carol Klevenow
63 years

Gerald and Patsy Padden
35 years

Ways to Serve

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed

We would love to have you join our team!

There are many ways to serve in Children's Ministry. We are in need of teachers, teacher helpers, substitute teachers and behind the scenes helpers. Our Children's Ministry Director, Erika Hulse, is available to discuss ways you can help and make an impact in the lives of our youngest members.



Contact: Erika Hulse

erika.hulse@rlcary.org



**Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool**

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org

919-851-7270

office@rlpcary.org



Enrolling NOW for 2023-24

+ Classes for children 2-years to 5-years-old +

- * Co-Teaching Teams develop a 'learning through play' environment
- * Developmentally age-appropriate, hands-on, child-centered experiences
- * Balance of social/academic opportunities
- * Experienced, nurturing, dedicated Staff
- * Average of over 10 years staffing stability
- * Weekly Chapel & Music/Movement for all ages
- * Weekly Science for 4's & T-K
- * Partnership with families to provide a top-quality program
- * A loving Christian atmosphere

**Drive-Up Drop-Off/Pick-Up
(for ALL ages)**

To **ENROLL** or schedule a Tour,
office@rlpcary.org or **919.851.7270**

Around
\$23
for a 3-4
hour day
of preschool

WELCOME

Special welcome to both our brand new students and families and those who are returning! We are looking forward to partnering with you to provide a warm, safe, nurturing, Christ-centered, academically rich educational environment that challenges your child to be the best version of themselves. We're going to have a fantastic year as we lead with faith, learn with joy, and live with purpose!

Visit rlscary.org/parents to find the 2023-2024 Supply List and Summer Reading Assignment.

TUITION REMINDER

Tuition begins on July 15. If you have opted for a monthly payment plan, your first payment will be drafted on July 15. If you have opted to pay your balance in full, you should have received an invoice by now with payment instructions. If you have not received your invoice, contact Deb Mahan at finance@rlscary.org.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Before Care Worker

Monday-Friday, 7:15-8:15 am, \$25/daily rate

After Care Worker

Monday-Thursday, 3:00-5:00 pm, \$50/daily rate

Don't want to work the entire week? No problem. We can work with your schedule. Parents, your student would receive FREE before and after care, if you are working. Contact Deb Mahan at finance@rlscary.org.

PARENT SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

The PSO is excited about the 2023-2024 school year. Planning for all the fun and eventful activities has begun, but we need YOU to make them all happen. Please consider joining the PSO and volunteer your time, talent, interests, and strengths with us! Help us enrich our school and build community through our Parent School Organization. If you are interested in finding out more or would like to volunteer, contact PSO@rlscary.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| August 8-11 | Uniform Sale |
| August 19 & 20 | Blessing of Learners (RLC blesses students as new school year begins at all four worship services.) |
| August 21 | Meet the Teacher JK-5th grade (10:00 am-12:00 pm) 6th grade (10:00-11:00 am) 7th/8th grade (11:00 am-12:00 pm) |
| August 22 | First Day of School, Early Release at 11:30 am |
| August 28 | Before and After School Care Begins |
| August 29 | Back to School Night — Parent Meeting |



Resurrection Lutheran School

Robin Hester
Principal

Rosie Creasy
Director of Admissions/
School Growth

rlscary.org
919-851-7271
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)

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.



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

or through our website at
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 | 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 enter worship
- Mail to 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518
- Online through our church website at rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving
- Download the Vanco Mobile app to transfer funds from your account

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA



facebook.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary



instagram.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary



youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.
Please send submissions to susan.moore@rlcary.org.

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518