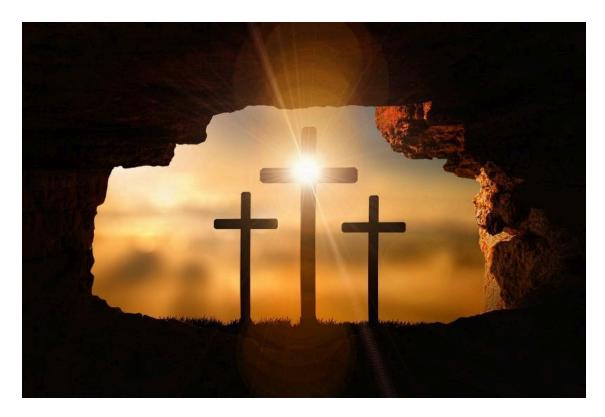
# Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 17, 2023



Pastor's Corner for September 17-23

The Goodness of God (Genesis 50:20)

In the back of my Bible, I've written about a dozen devotional questions that I got from a pastor a few years ago. They help direct my thoughts after I've read my Bible when I don't know where to go next. Some are easy and some are hard. One of the most uncomfortable and difficult questions is this; how might my life change if I believe/live that? I'd rather ask the easy questions; what confuses me? what do I agree with? what is God doing? These are easier because there's no action required, but sometimes the hard questions are the ones we need. A verse that recently brought that question to mind comes at the end of Genesis when Joseph is speaking to his backstabbing, jealous brothers, saying, "you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good" (Gen. 50:20). How might my life change if I believe/live that?

Amid evil, great or small, it can be awfully hard to believe that God can use it for good. Looking back, we can see the truth of it, but to live it on a day-to-day basis can be hard. Honestly, I would rather not believe/live that while I'm walking through evil. I would rather be angry at the evil, let loose my frustration and scream at the sky. I'd rather heap up my own level of evil and start a fight than recognize that God is actually at work there, but when we take a moment, stepping back to see what God is doing, we can see something amazing about who God is. It is in those moments, living amid evil (whether self-inflicted or brought on by outside sources), that we really see who God is.

Thinking on this verse, and what it is like to live it, I'm reminded of a self-inflicted evil from 7th grade. I had just failed my first ever test. Failing a test wasn't an option in our house and I was terrified to tell my parents. Luckily for me, the teacher always offered retakes, so I figured I could get away with quietly retaking the test, passing this time and my parents would never know the difference. Long story short, it took a couple weeks to complete the retake, and, of course, my parents found out that I had lied to them. I was horrified! What would they do with this evil that I had created, this lie I had dug myself into for over a month! Surely, they would kick me out of the house, force me into hard labor, starve me, I won't see the light of day for a year! I expected the worst, but they didn't do any of that. They forgave me and still loved me. Sure, they were disappointed and there was a punishment, but it didn't change their love for me as their son.

God used the evil for good. Even though I was a bad son and lied to my parents, God used evil to show that my parents would still love me, no matter how many tests I failed (and there may have been a couple more later...). God uses evil for good. He doesn't always take away the evil in our lives, but He will use it to show us who He is. He is the God of unending, unfading, enduring love and grace, no matter what we do. Our God is the One who has used the evil of the cross for the good of salvation available to all people. That is the greatest evil for good! Your failing, yet forgiven, brother in Christ, Pastor Zach Sarrault

#### **Outdoor Worship at Ritter Park!**

As the weather begins to cool, we look forward to worshiping in God's creation at Ritter Park on October 1 for the 11:00 service! The worship schedule will change slightly on October 1, we will not have a 9:30 service or Adult Christian Ed. classes during the 9:30 hour, though Sunday School for the younger kids will be held at Ritter Park during the 9:30 hour. We invite everyone to pack a picnic and hang out when the service is finished, games will be provided for everyone to enjoy. The change in worship scenery is a great opportunity to invite a friend to join you in worship!

# **Prayers of the Church**





Baptized on Sunday, September 17 at 9:30 am

### **Robert Miller Gerdes**

born May 26, 2023, son of Karl Miller Gerdes and Melody Lynne Gerdes. Godparent is Robin Hester.

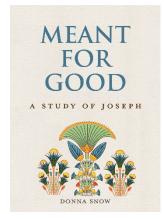
May God's blessing be upon Robert Miller as he grows in his baptismal grace.

# **Sunday Adult Christian Education**

Join us on **Sunday mornings**, **9:30-10:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall from September 10-November 12!

#### Meant for Good: A Study of Joseph

A devotional journey through the life of Joseph, Genesis 30-50.



Everyone remembers Joseph from Sunday School days! But how often have you stopped to think about Joseph's life as a kind of "spiritual boot camp" that parallels your own? As author Donna Snow writes, "The amazing truth about God's spiritual boot camp (basically, our whole life) is that He never leaves us. Ever. ... In Joseph, we see Christlike qualities and parallels to apply to our Christian walk. We can choose to become victims of our circumstances, or we can trust God to bring beauty from ashes every single time. Joseph's biography occupies more space in Genesis than those of Adam, Noah, Abraham, or even Joseph's own father, Jacob. Even though that should be reason enough to study Joseph's incredible journey, he also experiences family conflict and unfair treatment, which many of us can relate to today. ... Perhaps you and I can relate to waterless pits and unfairness in our lives. By the end of the story, God uses Joseph to provide invaluable insights regarding how to live out wise, bold journeys of faith in our everyday Christian walk."

This study is accompanied by an optional daily devotion throughout the week that builds on the conversations we have on Sundays. If you're looking for an opportunity to be immersed in God's Word and enjoy conversation on important topics with your faith family at Resurrection, now is your chance!

This book is published by Concordia Publishing House and written by Donna Snow. 10 books have been purchased for \$15/book. You may either buy your book at church or purchase your own from the CPH website for \$17/each (not including shipping). Caution: This study is different from the book of a similar title authored by Megan Marshman on Amazon.

Team led by Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault. Questions? Contact the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).



Baptized on Sunday, September 17 at 11:00 am

# **Brielle Evelyn Linko**

born September 14, 2022, daughter of Timothy David Linko and Kimberly Brooke Linko. Godparents are Michael Wilkens and Alex Linko.

May God's blessing be upon Brielle Evelyn as she grows in her baptismal grace.

# Mites for Missions

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **September 16 and 17**. Please place your gifts in the large purple Mite Box in the Narthex near Sanctuary Worship. Gifts can also be made by check, payable to RLC, and mailed directly to Donna Krupcale, % Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518. The large Mite Box is always available at the Welcome table in the Narthex for gifts anytime during the month.



Thank you for supporting the mission grants of Lutheran Women in Mission!



It is with great sadness and in Christian love and hope that we announce that our brother in Christ, **Jim Bowen**, was called to rest with Jesus on August 27.

### A Celebration of Life in Christ will be held at Resurrection on Wednesday, September 20 at 10:30 am.

Our prayers are with his son, Jim, and grandchildren, Grace and Ross, at this time.

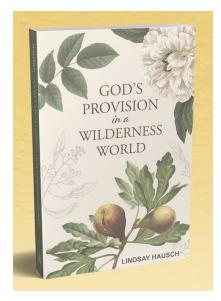
# Monday Night Women's Bible Study

September 11-October 30

God's Provision in a Wilderness World by Lindsay Hausch

Join us in person at church on **Mondays**, **7:00-8:00 pm** in Room 151, Family Life Center. We will also have a Zoom group available at the same time on Monday evenings.

An eight-week Bible study, *God's Provision in a Wilderness World* explores sections of the Book of Exodus and applies them to the here and now, for readers on their own journey through their own wilderness. Readers are left with the message that despite life circumstances, despite the readers' own wildernesses that are out of their control and difficult, God will deliver them from their wilderness.



Books are available through christianbook.com, cph.org, or Amazon. Amazon also has the book available in the Kindle store.

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

Men's Weekly Nurturing Your Faith: Identity September 11-October 2 (Initial Study)

Join us for the Men's Weekly on **Mondays**, **7:00-8:15 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center, for fellowship and study.



Our identity as forgiven children of God is explored in Nurturing Your Faith: Identity. This four-part Video Bible study is hosted by Rev. Dr. John Nunes. He examines how as Christians – forgiven for Jesus' sake – we are reconciled to God. Reborn to fellowship and active community, we are inspired to praise God for His great love.

Questions? Contact Tom Gebbia at <u>mens-ministry@rlcary.org</u>.

# Wednesday Night Workshop

Start with a delightful dinner, then stay for a variety of activities, including adult Christian ed classes, confirmation, youth events, and music ministry rehearsals. The schedule is as follows:

5:00-6:00 pm Dinner in Family Life Center Gym (<u>Click to RSVP</u>)

**5:00-5:30 pm** Jubilee Bells (2nd-6th Grade) in Sanctuary

#### 5:30-6:00 pm

Rainbow Choir (4 years-1st Grade) in Sanctuary Sonshine Singers (2nd-6th Grade) in Choir Room

#### 6:00-7:00 pm

Kidz Live (Kindergarten-5th Grade) in Room 151, Family Life Center Ignite, Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th Grade) in The Warehouse *Mama Bear Apologetics* in Room 240, Family Life Center

**6:30-7:30 pm** Heavenly Handbells in Sanctuary

#### 6:30-8:00 pm

Adult Christian Education Classes: Anxious for Nothing, Finding Calm in a Chaotic World in Fellowship Hall Grace-full Women in Room 251, Family Life Center Men with Kids, Fatherhood with Joel Biermann, in Room 247, Family Life Center

#### 7:00-8:15 pm

Confirmation in Room 240, Family Life Center

#### 7:30-8:45 pm

Sanctuary Choir in Sanctuary

Christian education information, including class descriptions, can be found here.

<u>Click here to download the Christian Education Fall 2023, Block 1 Sheet.</u> Paper copies are available at the Information Centers in the Narthex and Family Life Center Lobby.

Any questions can be directed to the church office at <u>office@rlcary.org</u> or 919-851-7248.

# Wednesday Night Dinners

We are thrilled to announce the return of Wednesday Night Dinners from 5:00-6:00 pm in the Family Life Center Gym!

Our dinners are thoughtfully prepared, catering to all ages with a kid friendly, buffet-style setup. We will have a fantastic vegetarian option available upon request. Plus, a delectable dessert to satisfy your sweet tooth. An excellent opportunity to bond with family and friends over a sit-down meal!

Menu:

<u>September 20</u> Danny's Barbecue - Pulled Pork, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Hushpuppies, Fruit Salad, Cookies

<u>September 27</u> Taco Bar, Fruit Tray, Brownies

#### All are welcome!

Suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$20 per family. Cash, check, or card payable at door.

Please register for current week by Sunday evening at 7:00 pm here.

#### Interested in volunteering to help with set up, serving, and cleaning?

Sign up here.

We also welcome individuals or groups who would like to contribute to preparing the food.

Questions? Contact Kim Simpson through RCB or the church office (919-851-

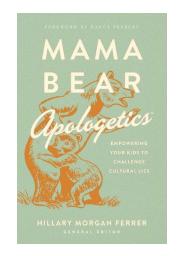
7248, office@rlcary.org). We look forward to seeing you there!

### Mama Bear Apologetics... Also for Papa Bears

Join us for this ongoing book study!

We will offer two identical sessions each week: **Tuesdays, 2:00-3:00 pm**<sup>\*</sup> or **Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center. \*Please note change of location for Tuesday.

Learn how to raise kids who think critically, love Biblically, and stand firm against the cultural tide. This book study will equip you to teach your kids how to affirm Biblical beliefs about what is true and what is false. Through transparent life stories and clear, practical applications —including prayer strategies— these Mama Bears offer you tools to train yourself, so you can turn around and train your kids.

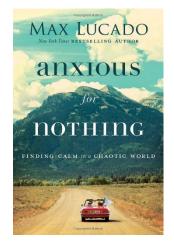


Please purchase the *Mama Bear Apologetics* book. You will want to attend if you have your own children or grandchildren, want to have children one day, or interact with children on a regular basis - anyone that has an intentional relationship with kids is encouraged to join us. Led by Pastor Zach Sarrault and Erika Hulse.

# Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World September 6-October 18

This 7-week study will be based on Max Lucado's Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World. This program is based on Philippians Chapter 4 and provides people with a roadmap for overcoming anxiety and finding lasting peace. While anxiety is a part of life, it doesn't have to dominate our lives. We will explore the biblical prescription for anxiety, which is celebrating God's goodness, asking for His help, leaving your concerns with Him, and meditating on good things.

Led by Mindy Stephani and Tim Kearby. Participant guides will be available for a suggested donation of \$8 each.



Come and discover a life of calm and develop tools for combating the onslaught of worry in this chaotic age in which we live. Join us on **Wednesdays**, 6:30-7:45 pm, in the Fellowship Hall during Wednesday Night Workshop!

### Grace-full Women

September 6-October 18

*Grace-full Women* is a course meant to reassure us each week of all that Christ has done, is doing, and will do for us. Studying the Law and Gospel, as seen through the Scriptures, reveals both our dependence on Grace, as well as His promises, and brings us this blessed assurance.

The format of each session will be to watch and discuss selections from the 1517.org video series "Law & Gospel Devotional." Some of these selections are entitled: "Why the Law Cannot Save," "The Cross Alone is Our Theology," "What Can Separate You From the Love of God," and "Psalm 23 - The Means by Which God Takes Care of His Sheep."

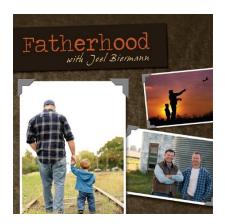
Led by Shane Jarvis. No additional materials or preparation are needed. Simply come ready to receive the Good News and depart full of Grace on **Wednesdays**, **6:30-7:45 pm**, in Room 251, Family Life Center.



### Men with Kids

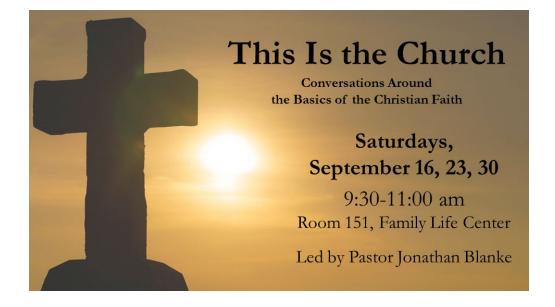
September 6-September 27 (Initial Study)

Men with Kids is held on **Wednesdays at 6:30 pm** in Room 247, Family Life Center, starting off with a study of *Fatherhood with Joel Biermann*.



Fatherhood is more than providing half the genetic material at conception; it's being there for the long haul. In *Fatherhood with Joel Biermann*, the Concordia Seminary professor and dad relates how being a father is a demanding pursuit with a heavenly goal-raising kids who know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Few things in life can be more intimidating that taking on the role of fatherhood. Whether it's a planned event or one of life's little surprises it demands our full attention and a commitment to put our all into it. This Men's NetWork Bible study addresses the challenges in being loving and Christ-like fathers to our families, especially in a society that frequently portrays dads as buffoons and ill-equipped to care for themselves, much less their kids.

Questions? Contact Tom Gebbia at mens-ministry@rlcary.org.



### **Mission and Ministry Presentation**



Please note, there will be no Adult Christian Ed class held on this day. Plan to attend this exciting presentation!

# **Music Ministry**

Resurrection Lutheran Church's Music Ministry includes people of all ages, and all levels of musical ability and background. Together we give glory to God and serve as a blessing and inspiration to others through the use of our God-given talents in musical offerings. This year is full of exciting, inspirational festivals, and musical events.

### Click here for full listing of the Music Ministry opportunities.

We are looking forward to the 2023-24 season! If you wish to participate in the Music Ministry at Resurrection or have any questions regarding the various opportunities, please contact Bob Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry, at <u>robert.unger@rlcary.org</u> or 919-851-7248 ext. 25.

**Blind Ministry** 

# Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry for the Visually Impaired meets

**Friday, September 29** 5:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Consider joining us for our next event! Reach out to Annette Langefeld-Kennedy through RCB or the church office (<u>office@rlcary.org</u>, 919-851-7248) with questions or to volunteer.

### Blessing of the Quilts and Silent Auction

Blessing of the Quilts will be at all services during the weekend of **October 7/8**. We will also have our Silent Auction, which will include a variety of handmade items. Mark your calendar!

### The Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults Friday, October 13

We thank all our volunteers who helped us to have a wonderful Coffeehouse in September! We couldn't do it without our faithful volunteers. Please come be a volunteer! Our special needs guests love to come to these events, 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. Sign Up: <u>https://bit.ly/3kqoHGN</u>

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday**, **October 13** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center Gym. We will have A *Touch of Brass* perform for us - I hear we will be polkaing!

Contact Brenda Peterson through RCB or the church office (<u>office@rlcary.org</u>, 919-851-7248) with questions or to volunteer.



# Lutheran Witness Subscription

It is time to renew (or start) your Lutheran Witness subscription. This church magazine has timely, informative articles about the faith life of fellow Missouri Synod Lutherans.

The cost is \$20.50 annually. Make checks payable to RLC and either use the designated offering envelope or note "Lutheran Witness" in memo.

<u>Deadline is October 22</u>. New members to RLC receive a one-year free subscription for the church.

# **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 (<u>office@rlcary.org</u>, 919-851-7248) for assistance.

### **Children and Family Ministry**



### Sunday School Registration: https://forms.gle/7zY9ExYU4vf98N3Z7



Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director <u>erika.hulse@rlcary.org</u>

# Youth Ministry

Middle School and High School

RLC Youth Ministry focuses on relationships; building a relationship with God first, each other, our church, and our community.

Colossians 1:17, "And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

We are a community that keeps Christ at the center while having fun in our faith! God has so many great things in store for the youth at RLC. Let's get started!

- Health and Participation Forms
- Follow the Youth on Instagram @youthatrlc



We meet in The Warehouse (Room 253), Family Life Center.

I am looking forward to a great year and walking on this journey of faith with your youth! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director jenny.piontek@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248, ext. 24

### **Resurrection Lutheran Preschool**



rlpcary.org | 919-851-7270 | office@rlpcary.org

**Resurrection Lutheran School** 



rlscary.org | 919-851-7271 | contact@rlscary.org

# Latest Lion's Tale



# **Online Worship Bulletins**

For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at <u>youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC</u> or through our website at <u>rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship</u>.

**Visual Faith** 

### Attendance and Giving

#### In-Person Worship Attendance

- Saturday, September 9
  6:00 pm 35
- Sunday, September 10
  8:00 am 105; 9:30 am 172; 11:00 am 93

Total In-Person Worship: 405

#### Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, September 10
8:00 am - 82; 11:00 am - 27

**Total Online Views: 109 views** 

**General Fund Giving and Spending - August 2023** 

	Current Month	Year to Date
General Receipts	\$ 95,778.00	\$ 198,173.86
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 117,919.75</u>	<u>\$ 233,874.48</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ -13,558.87	\$ -35,700.62

This Week's Offerings: \$19,483.48 Average Weekly Giving for 2023/24: \$22,019.31 Average Weekly Giving Budgeted for 2023/24: \$27,761.30

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 during the worship service

- Mail to Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary, NC 27518
- Online Giving through <u>rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving</u>
- Download the Vanco Mobile app, search for Resurrection Lutheran Church, transfer funds from your checking or savings account to RLC

Questions? Contact <u>finance@rlcary.org</u>.

Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518 rlcary.org 919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

#### Prayers of the Church – September 17, 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, Paul Batt, Peter and Esther Kuo, \*Geoffrey Wiggins, Marc and Elizabeth Langefeld's Baby Adoption, Caitlyn, Mark Zimmerman, Justus Nicolai, Alex Fernandez, \*Cheri Spitz

#### **Ongoing Cancer Treatments**

\*Mike Allen, Anne Price, Angie Price, Alison Zieglmeier, Carol Diliberto, Jackie, Kathy Siemon, Scott Brinkley, \*Bill Xenakis, Linda, Jimmy Ketner, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Sue, Kathy, Pamm Haley, Judy Dean, Bob, Michael Murphy, Greta Nelson, Marina de Moura Torres, Paul Wozniak

#### For Expectant Moms

Katie Wozniak, Brittany Young

#### Those Prayed for on September 10, 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
- Resurrection Lutheran School Prayer Partners
- A New Job
- Those Who Serve Our Church

#### For Healing

- \*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
- \*Cheri Spitz
- \*Eve Sommers, Recovery/Restoration
- \*Marina de Moura Torres, Recovery
- \*Greta Nelson

- Shannon, Friend of \*Katy Johnson
- Julie Wozniak, Recovery
- \*Ginny Koren
- \*Mindy Stephani, Recovery
- Joseph McKinney, Recovering from Heart Transplant (Pediatric), Returned home on August 25
- Patricia Wellington
- Diane F., Healing and Recovery from Surgery
- Caira, Recovery
- Joy, Jennifer, James, Alice, Carl, Marina, Mike, Stuart, Paul, Cecil, Julie, Kevin, Kandi, Kay, Shirley, Pat, Talley, Paul, Julian, Noreen, Joann, Shelby, Anita, Harold, Ken, Donald, Eric, Mara, Connie, Karen, Marti, Sue, Lynne, Dave, Sue, Garrett

#### For Comfort

- Friends and Family of \*Jim Bowen, Especially Son \*Jim, Grandchildren \*Ross and \*Grace
- Friends and Family of Mary Ann Wozniak, Niece of \*Jan and Paul Wozniak
- Friends and Family of Wilma Amundson, Mother of \*Meredith Amundson

#### For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- Persecuted Christians
- Uganda Lutheran Church
- People of Ukraine, and All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- People of Maui and Those Affected by the Fires and Deaths of Loved Ones
- People Affected by Hurricanes, Storms, Flooding
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Annie Ruth Ford, Mother of \*Dennis Ford
- \*Eric and \*Jill Hammergren
- \*Jan and Paul Wozniak
- Jan and Rich Bloom
- Stuart and Sue Sanders, and the \*Boyer Family
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles and Families in Turmoil
- Those Seeking Jobs and Career Changes
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- All Students Beginning a New Year of Learning
- Family Transitions, Especially College Students and Their Families
- Morocco Earthquake Victims
- Grandson Jackson Going to Morocco
- Remembering the Victims and Survivors of 9/11

#### 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
- Area Pastors and School Staff
- Our Stephen Ministers

#### For Our Missionaries

- \*Mark and \*Megan Mantey, Kenya <u>Click here for the Mantey's Newsletter!</u>
- JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia <u>Click here for the Cima Family Newsletter!</u>
- Shauen and Krista Trump, Kenya
   <u>Click here for the Trump's Newsletter!</u>

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 9/15/23