# Reformation Day October 29, 2023



Pastor's Corner for October 29-November 4

Freedom! (Romans 3:19-28)

A couple months ago, I attempted to change out a light switch in our kitchen. It seemed like a pretty simple project, and I didn't want to spend the money on an electrician to do a simple job. It sounded simple enough that when I called an electrician to schedule an appointment (just in case!) he told me I should be able to figure it out on my own. He obviously didn't know me! When I went to change out the light switch, I did everything right (or at least I thought I did), only for the lights to still not work. I didn't know how bad I was at electrical work until I actually tried to do it.

Through the law comes knowledge of sin (Romans 3:20b)

That story about me and electrical work is how the Law works. It shows us our sin, it shows us our need for someone else to enter into our lives and fix the mess we have made, to bring forgiveness and new life into our hearts. We are given the Law of God to follow. It is the guide for how we are to live as people of God, but it doesn't earn us our salvation. Fixing the light switch is a good thing to know how to do, but if I can't figure it out, I'm not thrown out of the house. That's where the Gospel comes in!

We are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (Romans 3:24)

God knew that we could not live out His Law perfectly. He knew that it would only show us how bad we are at attempts to follow His commands, so He made a plan (Romans 3:25) to send His Son into the world to give us the free gift of His eternal favor and new life! Instead of throwing us out of His home, He gives us an eternal home, a secure place to live for all time!

Does that do away with the Law? Do we no longer have to follow the will of God? Of course, we do! What has changed is that we no longer do it for the benefit of God, He doesn't need our good works, now we do it for our neighbor, they need our good works. We have been freed from the need to earn favor before God so that we can serve our neighbor. Or, as Rev. Dr. Michael Berg states in his book on Vocation, "Christ must free us from work so that we can work."

That's an interesting thought, isn't it? But that is the message of the Reformation in a nutshell. Christ has freed us from our sins, giving us the free gift of grace, that leads to the free gift of eternal life! You and I did nothing for it! It is all God's free good will towards an undeserving people, and we should want others to freely receive such a good gift. This is where God's work changes our work. We are now free to work for others, pointing them towards the Savior who waits and wants to give them His free eternal love. Your free brother in Christ, Pastor Zach Sarrault

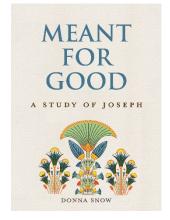
# **Prayers of the Church**

# **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.

This book, published by Concordia Publishing House, is available in church office for \$15. Team led by Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault. Questions? Contact the church office (919-851-7248, <u>office@rlcary.org</u>).



#### Join us for Sunday School 9:30-10:30 am!

Room 132 ~ Pre-Kindergarten Room 135 ~ Kindergarten-1st Grade Room 131 ~ 2nd-3rd Grade Room 133 ~ 4th-5th Grade Room 253 ~ 6th-12th Grade (The Warehouse)

All classes are held in the Family Life Center.



### Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

#### Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Join us in person at church on **Mondays**, **7:00-8:00 pm** in Room 151, Family Life Center, from September 11-Mid-November. There is a Zoom group available at the same time. Contact: Jamee Thieme

An eight-week Bible study, *God's Provision in a Wilderness World* by Lindsay Hausch, 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.

#### Men's Weekly

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

This eight-week study of *The Chosen, Season 3*, runs from October 16-December 4 and led by Ron Bostick. Discover what it means to belong to and be blessed by God. We all have to choose: the wide road that leads to destruction or the narrow path that leads to life. The third season of the groundbreaking television show, *The Chosen*, picks up with how Jesus' followers apply His teaching to their lives.

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

This ongoing study meets **Tuesdays**, **10:30-11:30** am in the Fellowship Hall and is led by Pastors Jonathan and Zach.

God gives His Word to instruct, guide, and bless our lives. The Scripture lessons in worship offer a menu every week to build up the people of God in faith and hope. We will study the lessons for the following Sunday, and as we do, we expect that this Word will enrich and edify our community prayer, faith, and servant life in Christ.

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

Join us for this ongoing book study! There are two identical sessions each week - **Tuesdays, 2:00-3:00 pm** or **Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center. Contacts: Pastor Zach Sarrault, Erika Hulse

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.

#### **New Christ and Culture**

Join us for a study of *Christ and Culture* on **Wednesdays**, **6:30-8:00 pm** from October 25-December 13 in the Fellowship Hall. Contact: Pastor Jonathan Blanke

This 7-week guided conversation on the relationship between Christ and Culture, introduced by Dr. Jon Diefenthaler, former LCMS Southeastern District President and Concordia Seminary scholar, of H. Richard Niebuhr and his classic book. We will discuss: How has the Christian church understood the relationship between Christ and culture historically? How do we understand that relationship today? What does all of this mean as we strive to live out the Gospel of Christ and serve our God who is King of both the "secular" realm as well as the realm of the Church? We will probe these questions using the context of current events.

#### Men with Kids

Join us for a study of *The Book of Romans*: *Part 2* on **Wednesdays**, **6:30 pm** in Room 247, Family Life Center. Contact: Tom Gebbia

The Book of Romans is considered by many to be one of the most important books ever written on the Christian faith. Writing to Christians, the apostle Paul defines the gospel, explores its depths, and discusses its significance and implications for the Christian life.

<u>Christian education information, including detailed class descriptions, can be found</u> <u>here.</u>

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

# Wednesday Night Workshop Schedule

5:00-6:00 pm Dinner, FLC Gym

5:00-5:30 pm Jubilee Bells, Sanctuary

5:30-6:00 pm Rainbow Choir, Sanctuary Sonshine Singers, Choir Room

6:00-7:00 pm K.I.C.K.S., FLC Gym Kidz Live, RM 151, FLC Ignite, The Warehouse Mama Bear Apologetics, RM 240 6:30-7:30 pm Heavenly Handbells, Sanctuary

6:30-8:00 pm Adult Christian Ed Christ and Culture, Fellowship Hall Men with Kids (Romans), RM 247

7:00-8:15 pm Confirmation, RM 240, FLC

7:30-8:45 pm Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary

### Wednesday Night Dinners

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!

### Wednesday Night Dinner 5:00-6:00 pm in the Family Life Center Gym

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 here.

# Interested in volunteering to help with set up, serving, and cleaning? <u>Sign up here.</u>

If there are any individuals or groups that would like to contribute to preparing a WNW dinner, we would love to have you!

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

# **Christ and Culture**

This Wednesday Night Workshop Adult Christian Ed study meets in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30-8:00 pm, October 25-December 13.

A 7-week guided conversation on the relationship between Christ and Culture, introduced by Dr. Jon Diefenthaler, former LCMS Southeastern District President and Concordia Seminary scholar, of H. Richard Niebuhr and his classic book.

We will discuss: How has the Christian church understood the relationship between Christ and culture historically? How do we understand that relationship today? What does all of this mean as we strive to live out the Gospel of Christ and serve our God who is King of both the "secular" realm as well as the realm of the Church? We will probe these questions using the context of current events.

Led by Dr. Jon Diefenthaler and Pastor Jonathan Blanke. Materials will be provided; however participants are encouraged to read *Christ and Culture* by H. Richard Niebuhr. Two copies can be borrowed from the RLC Library in Room 151, Family Life Center.



Ladies Fellowship Luncheon We've moved!

Join us Wednesday, November 1 at 11:30 am IHOP Cary, 1301 Kildare Farm Rd

RSVP to Mindy Stephani through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, <u>office@rlcary.org</u>).



# Saturday, November 4

We will use the Taize format of worship for the Saturday, 6:00 pm service.

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.

**Stephen Ministry** 

Want to know more about Stephen Ministry? Know someone that could benefit from having a confidential listening partner? Stephen Ministers are a great resource. And we're looking for others to join our team.

Information Sessions: November 5 between services

on the sidewalk and outside the Family Life Center.

Contact Pastor Alan for more information at <u>alan.shaw@rlcary.org</u>.



# Our Last 2023 Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, November 10

We thank all our volunteers who helped us to have a wonderful Coffeehouse in October! We couldn't do it without our faithful volunteers. Please come be a volunteer! Our special needs guests love to attend 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**, **November 10** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center gym. We will have *Rooted* play for us!

A huge thank you to Kathy Rasmussen! She is completing her 22nd year and began this ministry 22 years at RLC. We can't thank you enough, Kathy, and our honored guests thank you, too!

Questions: Contact Brenda Peterson through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).





Fall is typically a time that churches focus on topics related to Christian stewardship... and November is a month we give thanks to God for the rich abundance we receive from His hand. I invite you to reflect on these topics and consider where God is leading you to give in 2024 by filling out and returning your "pledge" in preparation for our upcoming **Stewardship Weekend**, **November 11-12**.

If you are attending service in person, please bring your pledge card with you or fill out extra copies made available when you worship that day.

To submit your pledge online, please complete the form here.

There is no need to include your name... this is a pledge that is between you and your loving Savior, alone.



**Christmas Poinsettia Orders** 

Help decorate the church for Christmas, order a poinsettia!

Pick up an order form at the Information Tables in the Narthex and Family Life Center lobby. Cost is \$15 per plant with a choice of red or white flowers. <u>Orders</u> <u>are due by November 12</u>.

Place your completed order form and check made payable to RLC in the office mailbox of Linda Merrill or mail to 100 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary NC 27518.

You may take home a plant after the 10:00 am worship service on Christmas Day. Plants not claimed by January 7 will be donated.

# Kids Against Hunger

Saturday, November 18 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm Family Life Center Gym

Want to have fun and help kids who are hungry? All families are invited to join in a food packaging event. The mission of Kids Against Hunger is to feed families around the world who are hungry. How does it work?

Participants make an assembly line on two sides of a 10-foot table. Using a funnel between the first four people, each of the four will add a scoop of their ingredient (rice, beans, spices, etc.), then pass the bag to the next person in the assembly line for sealing and labeling of the bag. Finally, bags are packed in cardboard boxes for shipping. All supplies are provided!

Parents and children of all ages are invited to participate.

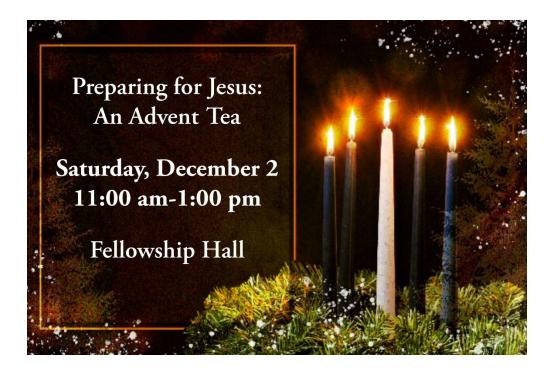
- Children, age 7 and older with their parent or responsible adult, may help bag the food in an assembly line that ends with a sealed bag of dry food.
- Children younger than 7 years old will decorate the boxes that hold the bags of packaged food. There will be adult supervision for this age group of children.

Sign Up: <u>https://bit.ly/45OhGDw</u> Or you may pick up a paper form from the Info Tables.



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

# **Resurrection Women's Ministries**



For Women of RLC and Their Guests,

Join your fellow sisters-in-Christ for a time of fellowship, encouragement, and faith building as we prepare our hearts and minds for this upcoming Advent season.

Tickets are \$10 each (any excess funds will go towards LWML Mites for Missions) with support from Thrivent Financial. Please bring your own teacup or mug.

To RSVP, complete the form found in your church mailbox or at the Information Tables and place it in Donna Krupcale's mailbox with cash or check payable to RLC (memo - RLW Advent Tea) **by Sunday, November 19**.

Interested in volunteering? There are opportunities for set up on Friday, and food prep and kitchen duties on Saturday. Sign Up: <u>https://bit.ly/46yC2lw</u>

### **Christmas Carol Celebration**



Christmas Carol Celebration – accompanied by an orchestra and including the singing of familiar carols, including Silent Night, Angels We Have Heard on High, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Joy to the World, O Come All Ye Faithful, special music, and narrative; will be presented at the 8:00 and 9:30 am Worship Services on **Sunday, December 10**.

All youth and adults are encouraged to participate in this exciting preparation for Christmas. Rehearsals for Christmas Carol Celebration are scheduled for **Wednesdays**, **7:30-8:00 pm**. A choral "dress" rehearsal is scheduled for Saturday, December 9, 1:00 pm.

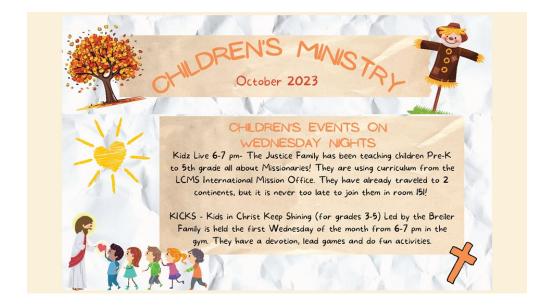
If you are interested in participating, please contact Bob Unger at the church office and/or be present at one of the rehearsals. It is okay if you are not able to attend all the rehearsals, we would rather you attend as your schedule allows, than to exclude yourself from participating in this wonderful opportunity.

# **RLC Worship Servants**

There is always a need for more volunteers to assist in all of our worship services. Please consider being a greeter or usher, a worship assistant or lay reader, a slide tech or live stream team member. Feel free to reach out directly 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.



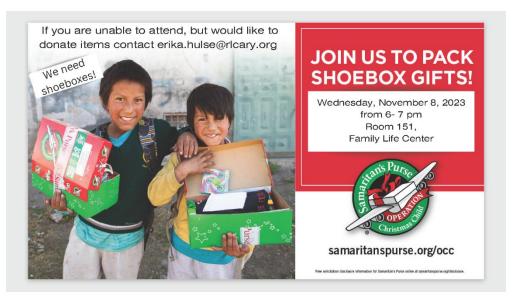
### **Children and Family Ministry**

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



Moms. you are invited to join other moms for a get together to socialize, share tips. make new friends & work on crafts/projects. Childcare will be available for a small fee. If you have any questions, contact Erika Hulse at erika.hulse@rlcary.org

Click here for dates and to sign up: https://bit.ly/3ZVhyB8



This event is open to all ages!

### 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. We keep Christ at the center while having fun in our faith!

Here's what's coming up:

- Connection Cafe, 9:30-10:30 am (Sunday School)
   We have officially jumped into the stories of the New Testament. Very exciting! No Sunday School on November 5.
- Sunday, October 29 TRUNK OR TREAT!
   1:45-4:45 pm Great way to get service hours and tons of fun! Our youth theme is the WILD WEST. We need your help!
- Ignite (Middle School Youth Group) Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm Short devotion time and games, open to all Confirmation students and youth (6th-8th grade).
- Breakaway (High School Youth Group) Sundays, 6:30-8:00 pm Devotion time, games, team building, and fun. No Breakaway on October 29.

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

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**



Fifth graders lead, learn and serve our school community.

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, October 21
   6:00 pm 35
- Sunday, October 22
  8:00 am 78; 9:30 am 115; 11:00 am 122

#### Total In-Person Worship: 350

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

Sunday, October 22
8:00 am - 114; 11:00 am - 70

#### Total Online Views: 184 views

#### **General Fund Giving and Spending - September 2023**

	Current Month	Year to Date
General Receipts	\$ 105,368.52	\$ 303,542.38
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 107,463.82</u>	<u>\$ 341,338.30</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ -2,095.30	\$ -37,795.92

This Week's Offerings: \$21,348.19 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 finance@rlcary.org.

Church Calendar



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

#### Prayers of the Church – October 29, 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, Carol Stano

#### For Expectant Moms

Katie Wozniak, Carolyn St. Laurent

#### Those Prayed for on October 22, 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
- Joseph McKinney, Continuing Recovery from Heart Transplant (Pediatric)
- Ashleigh, Recovery
- College Students Home on Fall Breaks Jason
- \*Bob Bruce, Home from Hospital
- \*Brendan Nigg, Good Test Results

#### 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
- \*Eve Sommers, Continued Recovery

- \*Greta Nelson
- Paul Wozniak, Recovery
- Julie Wozniak, Recovery
- \*Mindy Stephani
- Mike, Recovery from Surgery, Brother of \*Fran Xenakis
- Betty, Recovery
- Martha Hostnick, Sister of \*Charlotte Raines
- Carol, Chemo Treatments
- \*Bob Bruce, Recovery
- Patricia Wellington, Chemo Treatments
- \*Jan Boyer, Recovery
- Emily, 7-year-old with Cancer
- Brian, Alice, Charlie, Karl, Fred, Carol, Marian, James, Fred, Marina, Joan, Pat, Stuart, Noreen, Sylvia, Lou, Anita, Olive, Jim, Teresa, Ken, Don, Beverly, Tami, Virginia, Corey

#### 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, Morocco, Libya, Afghanistan, and All Affected by Natural Disasters
- People of Israel and the People of Gaza
- 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
- \*Ginny and \*Ed Koren
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles and Families in Turmoil
- Those Seeking Jobs and Career Changes
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- \*Eve Sommers, Adjustment to New Living Situation
- \*Mike Persson, Study, Preparation, and Testing for a New Job
- Nystrom Family
- Jackson in Israel

#### 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 Schools 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 10/27/23