

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2024

From the Pastor

He is Risen!

I love spring! The colors, warmth, flowers, sunshine, ice cream, gardens, and so much more are reasons why I love this season so much! After the cold months of staring at my gardens, wondering what will come back, what was able to survive the cold, I am always joyfully surprised at what bursts through the ground come springtime! Every year I am amazed at how these plants that look dead can be alive with color season after season. But maybe I should not be surprised at such an expected work. After all, this is the way the world works according to God's design, since sin entered the world God has worked this pattern into His creation of bringing the dead to life.

Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:4-5, "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved."

This is the pattern that God works for those who are saved. The dead are made alive. We were those that were dead in our sins. Just like the plants, lying dead in the dirt through the winter months awaiting the sun of spring, we lay dead in our sin awaiting the light of the risen Son to shine in our hearts. The work of Christ for us is that which makes us alive, uniting us with Christ. Just as the sun of spring awakens dead plants and they come together to produce a beautiful garden, so the Son of God awakens dead people in order that they may come together, united with Christ, producing God's beautiful Church!

This is God's sole purpose, bringing the dead to life, forgiving sinners. Because of Christ's resurrection, we know that we live with Him for all eternity, it will never end! We live now in the never-ending abundance of God's grace that leads us to the fullness of an Eternal Home that God

isen indeed!

Dates of Interest:

Ladies Lunch	Apr 3
Interactive Tea	Apr 6
Council Meeting	Apr 9
Veterans Lunch	Apr 10
Following Naomi	Apr 11
Coffeehouse	Apr 12
Time and Talent	Apr 14
Men's Retreat	.Apr 19-21
Last WNW	Apr 24
Blind Ministry	Apr 26
Operation Inasmu	chApr 27
Taize Worship	Apr 27

Sunday Morning Adult Ed

Metaphors and the Figurative Language of the Bible

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am Fellowship Hall April 7-May 19

Language is one of the most remarkable gifts that God has given us. The Bible makes extensive use of both literal and figurative language. If God is revealing only truth to us, why did He not speak simply in plain, straightforward language?

This series will identify many of the prominent metaphors found in Scripture and demonstrate the benefits that figurative language offers compared to more basic wording. Understanding the structure and the multilayered meanings of these metaphors will expand our appreciation of God's revelation and deepen our understanding of His allembracing love for us.

In the process, we will compare and contrast how the Bible's use of metaphors compares and contrasts with their function in poetry and in everyday speech.

Led by Larry Cameron. Handouts will be distributed at the start of each session; no other books are required. is preparing for us. That is our Easter Promise, that is the guarantee (Ephesians 1:13-14) of God's work for us. There is no greater joy than knowing that this free gift of God is ours and no one can take it away from us!

We expect the spring flowers to bloom. Do you expect God to keep giving life to those dead in their sin? Be on the lookout this month, with springlike expectancy, for the Easter things that God will be doing.

Your forgiven brother in Christ, Pastor Zach Sarrault

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Outreach Service to the Community

Operation Inasmuch

Saturday, April 27 from 8:00 am-12:00 pm

During this annual event, we gather to provide numerous acts of service for our church, community, and country. We begin with breakfast, cooked by the Men's Ministry, in the Family Life Center at 8:00 am, and most activities will be completed by noon.

There will be many opportunities available for <u>all ages</u> to participate. Nursery care provided. Some of the activities will be at RLC and others off-site.

This year's activities include Habitat for Humanity, RLC landscaping, Project Linus, card making, quilting, sewing and knitting, Miracle League, Designed for Joy, and much more.

Registration is open!

You may use the link below, click through our website (<u>rlcary.org</u>), or use the paper forms available in the Narthex and Family Life Center.

Sign Up: signup.com/go/BiHgQLo

Questions? Contact Jan Boyer or the church office (<u>office@rlcary.org</u>, 919-851-7248).



Spiritual Milestones

First Communion

The fifth graders of our congregation attended First Communion instruction earlier this year. Classes were led by Tyler Timm on Wednesday evenings in January and February.

During Holy Week, the youth and their families enjoyed a Seder Meal on Wednesday, March 27 in Fellowship Hall. Led by Barry Needle with Laura Needle and Pastor Jonathan Blanke.

Many thanks to Tyler, Barry, Laura, and Pastor Jonathan for their guidance, and to Erika Hulse and her helpers for making the evening so special!



On Maundy Thursday, March 28 during the 7:00 pm Worship, the youth welcomed their First Communion.

Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Braeden Bishop Emerson Breiler Emma Dargan Carter Riccitiello Will Schmidt Molly Timm Owen Touch Benjamin Zadow



Adult Christian Education

Bible Study Opportunities

Monday

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Measured by Grace: How God Defines Success by Sharla Fritz 7:00-8:00 pm in Room 151, Family Life Center, and Online via Zoom, January 8-May 20 Leaders: Jamee Thieme, Sharon Hahne, Dawn Leister

Men's Weekly Study and Fellowship

Christian History Made Easy 7:00-8:15 pm in Room 240, Family Life Center, January 8-May 20 Leaders: Tom Gebbia

Tuesday

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship

Scripture Lessons in Worship 10:30-11:30 am in Fellowship Hall, January 2-May 21 Leaders: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault

Wednesday

Men With Kids

6:30-7:45 pm in Room 247, Family Life Center, January 3-April 24 Leader: Tom Gebbia

The Bible: Where It Comes from and Why It Matters

6:30-8:00 pm in Fellowship Hall, February 21-April 24 Facilitated by Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Ian Glenn, with Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Kloha, Chief Curatorial Officer, Museum of the Bible

Small Groups

Adult Game Night

Adult Game Night April 14, 5:00-9:30 pm

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

Join us on the 2nd Sunday of the month from 5:00-9:30 pm for Adult Game Night in Room 240 of the Family Life Center!

We will bring a variety of games, but feel free to bring your favorite. Snacks and food are welcome, too!

For more information or to sign up, contact Sandy Wuori or Ben Wuori through RCB or the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org.

Church Council News

March 2024

During the March Council Meeting, the Treasurer reported that unless giving increases, our rate of expenses will soon drive us into a debt for the 2024 Fiscal Year. The council is now gathering information for the formation of the FY 2025 budget. Some difficult decisions may need to be made that could impact our staff and facilities. The Council is now also considering a formal strategy for developing greater awareness of our calling to be stewards of all of God's Gifts to us. This effort will bring the reality of our present circumstances to the attention of all of our members.

The Building Maintenance issues mentioned last month remain, and more have been identified (both shortterm and long-term issues). The really good news this month is, during our March Council Meeting, a few dedicated members (Randy Bowling, Tim Hiteshew, John Laskey, Pete Brady, and Laura Fussell) petitioned the Council to start up a Facilities Management Team to address these and many other issues that have needed care and attention for the past several years. They have developed a strategy that addresses everything from technology to security to maintenance. The Facilities Management Team will finalize a charter for Council approval in the coming weeks.

As mentioned last month, Time and Talent Worksheets will be distributed in April this year. The Council continues to recognize the need for more participation in the many missions and activities Resurrection has to offer. It appears the same few people are doing more and more, while fewer people are offering to help. Please prayerfully consider how you can help when filling out the Time and Talent Worksheet in April. You should never feel you are "taking away the job someone else is doing."

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
Lori Jannings, Vice President (919) 523-6619	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	Linda Mangino, Council Member (919) 538-0104
Tom Bolling, Council Member (847) 922-9555	Ex Officio: Margaret Hyatt, Operations Director (919) 851-7248
	Ex Officio: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Sr. Pastor (301) 997-6687

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 or the church office for more information:

Saturday, 6:00 pm - Lori Jannings Sunday, 9:30 am - Dara Linn Sunday, 8:00 am - Brenda Peterson Sunday, 11:00 am - Suzi Heffner

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.

Gifts & Memorials

For Gifts and Memorials In Memory of Lucas Kube Ruth Gross



Men's Ministry

Men's Retreat & Service Day

The Annual Men's Retreat & Service Day is **April 19-21** at Camp Agape. All men invited!

We will kick off on Friday, April 19 at 6:00 pm with a cookout/potluck. Bring a side or treat to share and your favorite beverage.

Saturday is combined with Study and Service. Bring your hiking boots and gloves. We are installing trail signs, splitting wood, and driving Gators.

More details to follow.

Questions? Contact Tom Gebbia at <u>mens-ministry@rlcary.org</u> or church office (919-851-7248, <u>office@rlcary.org</u>).



Missionary News

J.P. and Aimee Cima, Cambodia

Greetings from Phnom Penh in Jesus' name, friends at Resurrection in Cary!

On behalf of our entire family, I'd like to thank you for your ongoing prayers and financial support of our family as we serve God's mission in Cambodia. Even in our 17th year of missionary service, we feel privileged to play a small part in the big work that God is doing in this part of the world. But that would not be possible without the countless people who send us by their prayers and support. THANK YOU for being a part of our team!

Things have been wonderfully busy for us. We just hosted a team from Los Gatos, California, which included joining ministry in Phnom Penh and leading a VBS in three different locations (including singing, crafts, and sports).

Meanwhile, J.P. remains busy leading the local church's youth group and also traveling throughout Cambodia teaching Luther's Small Catechism, most recently in the remote province of Ratanakiri. Aimee has also been traveling to Ratanakiri as she partners with CWEF to implement health education. This kind of word and deed ministry is what we love to do!

By God's grace, the kids are all happy and healthy. Isaac turned 7 in February while Celeste turned 17 in early March. Bella, 14, just finished a great season of basketball at school. Celeste is just starting soccer. Recently, if you ask Isaac what he wants to be when he grows up, he says he wants to be a missionary and an engineer. Not sure which one will win out, or maybe he needs to find an engineering ministry?

Through your prayers and support, you are a part of everything we do! We are so very grateful for your partnership as we seek to be salt and light for Jesus in the Kingdom of Cambodia. God bless and keep you this Lenten season as we all journey to the cross...and beyond.

In Christ, J.P., Aimee, Celeste, Bella, and Isaac

Ministry Partner

CLI Prison Alliance

Exciting News and New Opportunities!



- Recently along with two other local non-profit organizations Christian Alliance presented in front of 260 Christian business owners at a SHARK TANK, asking for \$75,000 to make videos of the five lessons in their Who Is God Bible studies that prison inmates will be able to access on digital tablets. Generous donations from audience members met that goal! Next they need \$400,000 to complete the remaining 85 videos of their Christian Leadership and Disciples of Christ studies. CLI Prison Alliance currently serves 8,000 Bible students behind bars and believes they could reach 1,000,000 more who have tablets.
- Their annual Bible campaign will last until June 30. The #1 request of prisoners and chaplains is for Bibles. The goal is to purchase and ship 20,000 Bibles to facilities across the U.S. Every \$5 donated sends a Bible to a prisoner. Also you can put gently used Bibles in the collection box under the coat rack.
- Non-profits depend entirely on both public and private donations to exist. As an individual you can support the ministry by joining the Monthly Alliance to pledge \$12, \$25, or any amount larger or smaller. It will make an eternal difference in the life of a prisoner.

Information on all ways to help the ministry grow can be found on the counter in the Narthex, table outside the doors to the Family Life Center, or the church office. Donation envelopes can be mailed directly to CLI Prison Alliance with an indication that Resurrection is your home church.

Happy Anniversary!

April 3 Adam & Michele Brake 20 years

April 4 Scott & Angela Ferguson 15 years

April 8 Keith & Yvonne Braswell 68 years

April 10 Russell & Danielle Altieri 25 years

> April 19 Jeff & Rachel Dargan 15 years

Andrew & Willow Socha 10 years

April 21 George & Chris Johanson 45 years

Sign up for Altar Flowers in the Sanctuary or Family Life Center! Flowers are from Cary Florist and cost \$45.

Call or email the church office at 919-851-7248, <u>office@rlcary.org</u> or click the link below.

Sign Up Online Here!

Children and Family Ministry

April News



Moms Together

Moms, you are invited to join other moms for daytime get togethers to socialize, share tips, make new friends, and work on crafts/projects. Childcare available for small fee. We also meet for evening activities occasionally.

Upcoming Events: April 15 - Moms Morning, 9:30 am, Fellowship Hall | April 21 - Moms Afternoon Out at ZincHouse

Sign Up: <u>bit.ly/3ZVhyB8</u>



Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director, at erika.hulse@rlcary.org.

Middle School and High School

Youth Ministry News



Breakaway High School Youth:

I need pictures! Every year, I put together a slideshow of our seniors. What I would love is to have 4 or 5 (at least) pics of your graduates.

Baby pics or younger pics are always much appreciated by all who view the video!

A season for everything...

Spring has sprung. With the changing of a season, it is easy to notice all of the changes. Our calendars are packed with activities and the end of the school year looms. In the Youth World, it is a race to the end of the school year for us as well, equally packed with special activities and so many new things on the horizon.

One of those things is to prepare to wish our Breakaway High School Graduates well and send them off with God's blessings on their next adventure. June 9 will be a big day of recognizing and making those final connections with our Seniors. This year, I am looking forward to trying something new. Soon-to-be grads AND their families will be invited for a small group reception for a time of reflection, prayer, and fellowship as we share in the memories created and what it means to take those next steps in faith. As we hear in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not evil, to give you a future and a hope." So, we hope ALL of our High School Seniors and their families can be a part of the activities and blessings. Mark your busy calendars now!

Sunday, June 9

11:00 am	Blessing and Recognition of Graduates During Worship Service
5:30 pm	Seniors and Families Gather for Small Reception
6:30 pm	Seniors Celebrated in Breakaway Youth Group

Service Event: Operation Inasmuch Saturday, April 27

This is a church-wide day of service. There will be many opportunities for youth to get involved and serve. It is a great day!

Questions regarding our middle school and high school youth activities can be directed to Jenny Piontek, Youth Ministry Director, at <u>jenny.pointek@rlcary.org</u> or 919-851-7248, ext. 24.



Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Diane Hooper, Director rlpcary.org 919-851-7270 office@rlpcary.org



Our program offers opportunities and experiences that will enrich, expand, and develop a child's everincreasing accumulation of knowledge in a loving Christian atmosphere.

Enroll NOW for 2024-25

at Resurrection Lutheran **PRESCHOOL**

Classes for children 2-years-old thru 5-years-old Our program provides a balance of social and academic opportunities by means of 'learning through play' in a loving Christian atmosphere.

> Class openings are also available for the 2023-24 preschool year.

Register for Summer Camps!

Open to 3-year-olds to Rising Kindergarteners. Children in our 2's classes currently can attend. All ages must be toilet trained.

> June 3-6 ~ 9:15 am-12:30 pm June 10-13 ~ 9:15 am-12:30 pm June 17-20 ~9:15 am-12:30 pm

Neighbors, friends, and family welcome!



Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director, at erika.hulse@rlcary.org.

STEM NEWS

What is NCTIES? NCTIES is a membership association for educators and educator leaders engaged in advancing excellence in learning and teaching through the effective use of technology. On March 7, students along with a group of RLS teachers headed to the NC Convention Center where they learned, presented, and discovered new technologies to enhance the educational environment. For more information, <u>ncties.org</u>.



SUMMER CAMPS

All camps are open to the community!







Resurrection Lutheran School

Robin Hester Principal

Rosie Creasy Director of Admissions/ School Growth

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

One Heart, One Mind

Make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

Philippians 2:2 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.



WORSHIP

Join us for worship!

Saturday, 6:00 pm Sunday, 8:00 am*, 9:30 am, and Praise 11:00 am*

*Live Stream Services

Connect through our YouTube channel @ResurrectionLutheranCary

or through our website at rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship



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 during 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 <u>susan.moore@rlcary.org</u>.

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518