Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024



Pastor's Corner for April 21-27, 2024

The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23:1; John 10:11-18)

As a child my understanding of many things was greatly influenced by what I saw on television. No surprise, then, that my picture of shepherds was formed once by a Warner Brothers cartoon about a sheepdog confronted by Wile E. Coyote! Wile E. always had some elaborate scheme to hustle the sheep out from under the nose of an ever-vigilant sheepdog. The coyote would build tunnels, mail order "fool-proof" devices, endanger life and limb in the single-minded pursuit of his prey. At first, as he hatched these hairbrained schemes, I remember being convinced that the sheepdog couldn't see anything because he had so much hair over his eyes. But always, at the last minute, just when the coyote was about to make his getaway with three or four sheep in tow, the "oblivious" sheepdog was right there! The poor coyote didn't stand a chance! I don't know very much about shepherding real sheep. But my guess is that vigilance and faithfulness to one's charges is important. These are the very qualities Jesus is addressing in our Gospel reading this weekend.

His vigilance and faithfulness in watching over us and even laying down His life for us, His sheep, makes the Good Shepherd OUR Good Shepherd.

Ever heard the expression — or thought to yourself — "I must be the 'black sheep' here"? Maybe you belonged to a group in name but felt like an outsider. Maybe it seemed like hardship was targeting you, and the Good Shepherd, if He was indeed present at all, wasn't paying very close attention. Maybe you know that a past action of yours has brought disgrace to the people you love, and you started to feel as if you would never belong anywhere again. But the truth of the matter regarding the household of God is that we are all "black sheep." No matter how we might look on the outside, none of us deserve to belong to the Good Shepherd. Because of God's mercy and grace, we have been brought into the sheepfold of those who belong to Him. Because of who God is — not because of who we are — we live with all of our most important needs already known and taken care of by the One who loves us with no strings attached!

On this Good Shepherd Sunday each of us will once again say, "The Lord is my shepherd." Isn't that, after all, the best part of Psalm 23? We belong. We are God's special possession. We give thanks for the one-and-only Shepherd who cares for us now and even forevermore.

If You Missed It...

Last weekend was Time and Talent weekend. But if you were unable to submit a Time and Talent survey, we invite you to do so again in services this weekend (April 20 and 21). You can pick up a form when you join us for worship. Or just bring your completed form with you to church. You are invited to place your completed form in the basket in front of the altar during the Offering of Music/Offertory Hymn in all services. Thanks in advance for all you do to serve at and around RLC. We have an awesome God who has richly blessed our congregation with people who have a heart for service.

Easter hope and joy in Christ, Pastor Jonathan

Prayers of the Church



Joyfully Serving Jesus Together in 2024

Many opportunities are available in the ministries of Adult Education, Connections & Fellowship, Care, Children and Family, Leadership, Music, Operational Support, RLC-Affiliated Schools, Service to the Community, Worship Support, and Youth.

For more information, <u>Time and Talent (rlcary.org)</u>.

Click Here to Download a Time and Talent Form

They are also available in the Narthex and Family Life Center.

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

Sunday Morning
Adult Christian Education

Metaphors and the Figurative Language of the Bible

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

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 of classes 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 multi-layered meanings of these metaphors will expand our appreciation of God's revelation and deepen our understanding of His all-embracing 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.







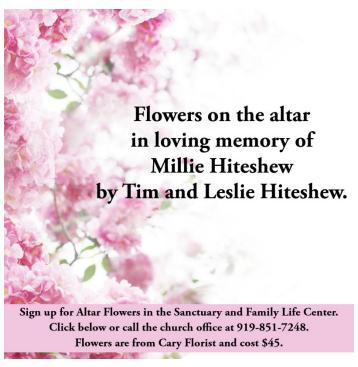
It is with great sadness and in Christian love and hope that we remember our sister in Christ, **Millie Hiteshew**, who was called to rest with Jesus on Saturday, March 16. Our prayers are with her son, Tim Hiteshew, and their family at this time.

Memorial Service for Millie will be held at Resurrection on Saturday, April 20 at 10:00 am.

And it is with continued sadness and in Christian love and hope that we remember that another sister in Christ, **Hope Studt**, was also called to rest with Jesus on Sunday, March 17. Our prayers are with her daughter, Julie Easton, and their family

at this time.

Memorial Service for Hope will be held at Resurrection on Sunday, April 21 at 1:00 pm.



Sign Up: bit.ly/3Jrgu0h

Mites for Missions [SEP]

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **April 20 and 21**. 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!

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday

Metaphors and the Figurative Language of the Bible

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

April 7-May 19

Contact: Larry Cameron

Language is one of the most remarkable gifts that God has given us. This series of classes 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 multi-layered meanings of these metaphors will expand our appreciation of God's revelation and deepen our understanding of His all-embracing love for us.

Training to Become a Stephen Minister

Sundays, 2:00-4:00 pm in Room 151, Family Life Center

February 25-June 30

Contacts: Pastor Alan Shaw, Jan Boyer, Sue Campau

Stephen Ministry is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations that use the Stephen Series system. Congregations equip and

empower lay caregivers, Stephen Ministers, to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

Monday

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Measured by Grace: How God Defines Success by Sharla Fritz Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm in Room 151, Family Life Center

Ongoing - Contact: Jamee Thieme

In the Bible, you'll find no lack of sinfulness, shortcomings, rejections, and broken people. People like Joseph, Rahab, David, Jeremiah, John the Baptist, The Samaritan Woman, Peter, and Paul. We see them as people God transformed, turning their lack into faithfulness for His good. Study these eight biblical figures to see that God does the same for you.

Men's Weekly

Christian History Made Easy

Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm in Room 240, Family Life Center

Ongoing - Contact: Tom Gebbia

Current study is *Christian History Made Easy* by Timothy Paul Jones. This book summarizes the most important events in Christian history from the time of Jesus to today in 12 chapters, presenting key events and people every Christian should know.

Tuesday

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

Ongoing - Contacts: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault

We will look at the appointed readings from each week that are used in the weekend sermons.

Wednesday

Last The Bible: Where It Comes from and Why It Matters

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

February 21-April 24

Contacts: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Ian Glenn

We all know that the Bible is at the center of what we believe, teach, and confess about God. Yet how many of us have learned how the Bible came to be over time? What role did God play in the formation of the entire Bible that was put together from its individual books? What are some of the differences between modern translations of the Bible? How "accurate" is the Bible we have today? How were the books of the Bible recognized as authoritative... and by whom? These are just some of the questions we will address as we read specific Bible verses and marvel at the gift of God's inspired Word to us today...the same Word spoken over God's people over the course of millennia!

Last Men with Kids

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 pm in Room 247, Family Life Center Ongoing - Contact: Tom Gebbia

This group is designed to bring men in a similar season with similar life experiences and goals together. Currently studying Romans.

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

To download the Christian Education Winter 2024, Block 2 Sheet, <u>click here</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 office@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248.



Congratulations to Mike and Carolyn St. Laurent upon the birth of their son!

Micah Daniel St. Laurent was born on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

Proud grandparents are Mike and Roberta Danilowicz.

Our prayers of joy and gratitude are with them as they celebrate this blessing!

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

Kidz Live, Room 151, FLC Ignite, The Warehouse

6:30-7:30 pm

Heavenly Handbells, Sanctuary

6:30-8:00 pm Adult Christian Ed

The Bible, Fellowship Hall Men with Kids, Room 247, FLC

7:00-8:15 pm

Confirmation, Room 240, FLC

7:30-8:45 pm

Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary

Last Wednesday Night Dinner!

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 by Sunday evening here.

Menu for April 24:

Burgers and Dogs, Mac and Cheese, Chips, Salad, Fruit, and Cookies

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).

Food and Fellowship for the Blind

We enjoyed another evening last month of beautiful music, devotion and prayer, fellowship and delicious food with our blind and visually impaired guests.

As always, we thank our amazing volunteers, but also would like to recognize Enrigo's Italian Bistro right here in Waverly Place. They donated our meal, and it was just so tasty!

We thank them for their generosity! When you feel like eating real good Italian food, please think of supporting them!

Our next gathering will be on **Friday**, **April 26**. If you feel drawn to join our group of volunteers or just to "check it out", please contact Annette Langefeld-Kennedy or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

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 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, 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 (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).



Saturday, April 27

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.

The Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, May 10

We thank all our volunteers who help us to have wonderful Coffeehouses! We couldn't do it without our faithful volunteers. Please come be a volunteer. Our special needs guests love to attend these events and we need lots of volunteers to make them feel special and loved. We thank God for this ministry among us! 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: bit.ly/3kqoHGN

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday**, **May 10** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center gym. We will have *Nick's Brass Band* play for us (a band from Travis Taylor)!

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

RLC Worship Servants and Training

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 (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248) for assistance.



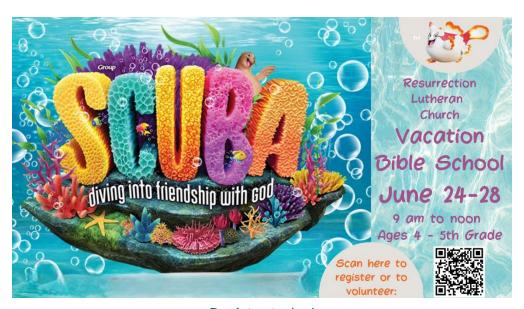
Moms Together

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 is available for a small fee. We also meet for evening activities occasionally.



For dates and to sign up: https://bit.ly/3ZVhyB8



Register today!

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

Youth Ministry

Middle School and High School

Here's what is going on...

- Connection Cafe (Sunday School for Middle and High School)
 Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am
- Middle School: Ignite Youth Group Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm



• **High School:** Breakaway Youth Group Sundays, 6:30-8:00 pm



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

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Now Enrolling for the 2024-25 preschool year!

We offer classes for children, 2-years-old through 5-years-old.

Our program provides a balance of social and academic opportunities by means of 'learning through play' in a loving Christian atmosphere.

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

June 24-28 ~ RLC VBS

Neighbors, friends, and family welcome!

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

Resurrection Lutheran School



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

Latest Lion's Tale

Responding to the Baltimore Bridge Collapse

On Tuesday, March 26, 2024, a cargo vessel collided with a support column of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore MD causing it to collapse. Almost 32,000 cars per day traveled the 1.6 miles of this bridge which was part of the 695 Beltway.

We pray for God's mercy and comfort to surround the families of those who were on the bridge. It is a time of deep grief for each of them.

There are response efforts taking place in several different ways. If you are moved to assist, you may help with the items needed or contribute to the SED (online or via postal system). All funds received will go to assist Baltimore Bridge Recovery.



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

This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

Attendance and Giving

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, April 13

6:00 pm - 37

Sunday, April 14

8:00 am - 89

9:30 am - 88

11:00 am - 117

Total In-Person Worship:

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, April 14

8:00 am - 107

11:00 am - 58

Total Online Views: 165 views

General Fund Giving and Spending - March 2024

	Current Month	Year to Date
General Receipts	\$ 141,106.18	\$ 1,068,790.28
Total Disbursements	\$ 122,726.75	\$ 1,055,930.16
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ 18,379.43	\$ 12,860.12

This Week's Offerings: \$27,267.86

Average Weekly Giving for 2023/24: \$26,719.75

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

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 – April 21, 2024

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 Kuo, *Geoffrey Wiggins, 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, Jimmy Ketner, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Sue, Kathy, Pamm Haley, Bob, Michael Murphy, *Greta Nelson, *Marina de Moura Torres, Paul Wozniak, Carol Stano, Ames, Doug Gill, Emily

For Expectant Moms

Hannah Peterson, Analissa Vasquez, Sara Phillips, Ally Brown

Those Prayed for on April 14, 2024

Thanking God Today

- Our RLC Family
- Family Celebrations and Time Together, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Weddings, Births, Baptisms
- Our Many Blessings
- Safe Travels
- Caring Organizations Serving Our Local Communities

For Healing

- *Kim Goss
- All Those Exposed to COVID, with COVID, and Recovering from COVID
- Blind Ministry Guests Maria Barker, Sheila McNair, Linda Jones, Desiree, Jeff Barker
- *Greta Nelson
- Paul Wozniak, Recovery
- Patricia Wellington, Chemo Treatments
- Jan Bloom, At Home
- Pastor William Otto, Cancer Treatment and Surgery
- Bruce, Brother of *Ralph Klevenow

- *Pam Dickson
- *Stephanie Ford
- Jimmy, Cancer Treatment
- Emily, Cancer Treatment
- Imma, Restoration
- Betty, Memory Issues
- *Vern Ebert
- *Bill Xenakis
- *Mindy Stephani, Therapy at Home
- *Laurel Yost, Recovery
- Doug Gill, Recovery from Surgery and Cancer Treatment
- *Helen Campbell
- Sue Sanders, Recovery
- Joan Gresens, Mother of *Phil Gresens
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of *Jen Kirby
- Beth Cook, Recovery
- Avery Stevenson, Recovery
- MaKenzie, Recovery
- *Yvette Crawley, Recovery
- Talia, Granddaughter of *David and *Lois Birner
- Gene, Lois, John, Riva, Danny, David, Sue, Carolyn, John, Tonet, Imma, Doug, Alice, Paul, Patricia, Jean, Pam, Betty, Eve, Beth, Clinton, Noreen, Shelby, Patty, John, Dick, Ken, Harold, Tom, Taylor, Susan, Mary, Joe, Corey, Dave, Lynne

For Comfort

- Friends and Family of Millie Hiteshew, Mother of *Tim Hiteshew
- Friends and Family of Hope Studt, Mother of *Julie Easton
- Friends and Family of Marvin Thompson, Neighbor of *Alan Sullivan

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, Taiwan, and All Affected by Natural Disasters
- People of Israel and the People of Gaza, Peace in the Middle East
- 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, Care Decisions
- *Ginny and *Ed Koren
- Sue Sanders and the *Boyer Family
- *Eve Sommers, Continued Recovery
- *Meredith A.
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles and Families in Turmoil
- Those Seeking Jobs and Career Changes, Especially Those Who've Been Downsized

- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- Baby Adian (Terminal Cancer) and His Family
- Richard and Rosemary Staley, and *Brenda Peterson's Family
- Discernment and Peace for Sara
- Safe Travel in Asia for Mike Heffner

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
- Pastor Jon Richter, Serving St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Norlina NC
- Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools Staff
- Area Pastors and Schools Staff
- Our Stephen Ministers

For Our Missionaries

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

 Click here for the Trump's Newsletter!

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 4/19/24