



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2024

From the Pastor

Come, Holy Spirit!

(Galatians 5:22-23)

“Come, Holy Spirit!” Have you ever prayed that prayer before?

Here’s an image for you: while you might have always thought of the Holy Spirit as the wind that moves a windmill or powers a sailboat... how about comparing the Holy Spirit to a parachute? Believe it or not, I recently had the chance to go skydiving. It was exhilarating. It was awesome. It was something I always wanted to do. And there’s this unforgettable moment when the parachute opens. You go from a free fall with the wind rushing by you loud and intense one minute, to the opening of the chute and immediate quiet, the next. As you float gently down you can even survey the landscape around you. I’ve shared with



many of you how I often go to bed with the prayer “Come, Holy Spirit!” at the end of the day. I remind myself how, having received the Holy Spirit by God’s grace, I can give thanks that I have also received God’s comfort, peace, and love for me. The Holy Spirit and the Presence of the resurrected Lord Jesus with me “breaks my

fall” from the turmoil, emotion, and out-of-control energy that can make rest elusive. Or as St. Paul puts it, “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” The Holy Spirit doesn’t just empower me to get going and carry out what I cannot “by my own reason and strength” pull off—though He does, at times, do that. There are also times when the Holy Spirit brings me from a “free fall” to a glide...from my natural inertia to a quiet “stop” when such a transition seems impossible for me. That’s the gift that our crucified, risen, and ascended Savior and Lord brings us. Come, Holy Spirit!



Dates of Interest:

Confirmation Sunday...May 5
RLS STEM/Art Night.....May 7
Following Naomi.....May 9
Coffeeshouse.....May 10
Men’s Breakfast.....May 11
Ascension Sunday.....May 12
Pentecost Sunday.....May 19
Last Sunday School....May 19
RLP End of Year.....May 21-22
Holy Trinity Sunday....May 26
Memorial Day.....May 27
Blind Ministry.....May 31

VISIT US ONLINE AT RLCARY.ORG

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, straight-forward 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 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.

May at RLC is all about the gift of the Holy Spirit sometimes motivating and moving us to action and at other times bringing us the rest and quiet of sins forgiven. Whether it's the Rite of Confirmation for eleven RLC young people of our congregation who say "yes" to the promises others made for them at their baptism...the nuptials of RLC young adults this month who will be saying "yes" to the love of God that they pledge to live out in faithfulness to one another...or even just the ordinary opportunities we all have to say "yes" to bearing fruit in everyday circumstances...it is not just you and I who do it. The Holy Spirit, working through God's Word and Sacraments, powers us up and breaks our fall time and time and time again!

This month, let's not only receive the Holy Spirit together again, but live out the working of the Holy Spirit in us, by God's grace! Come, Holy Spirit!

Peace and joy in Christ,
Pastor Jonathan



Confirmation

Sunday, May 5 ~ 9:30 am Worship

No Sunday School, Adult & Youth
9:30 am Service Live Stream Only

Graduating?

Please contact the church office with high school and college graduate information by May 27. We will highlight our graduates in the June newsletter.

We request the graduate's name, school graduating from, and any future plans. Email susan.moore@rlcary.org or call 919-851-7248, ext. 33.

High School Graduates

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, June 9**. We will be recognizing our high school graduates during the 11:00 am worship service.

Church Council News

April 2024

The report from our Treasurer and Finance Team showed remarkable improvement in giving during the month of March. Even though it was a five-week month, the average weekly giving improved. First let me thank you all. Our tithes help Resurrection Lutheran continue to spread God’s Word to the Nations through its Worship Services, Music, Schools, Bible Studies, Youth Activities, and Mission Work. These final three months of our Fiscal Year are typically months RLC receives less offering income. Even so, God has been so good to us, so please join me and the Council as we prayerfully consider our giving of time, talents, and tithes.

All that we do at RLC, as a part of God’s Mission, requires regular attention to the facilities of our church and schools. Therefore, the Council is overseeing the formation of a Facilities Management Team (FMT), to be led by Randy Bowling. A draft charter was presented to the Council this past month, and it is comprehensive. It includes:

- Church Grounds (e.g. exterior lighting, parking lot, landscape, etc.)
- All RLC Physical Assets (e.g. walls, flooring, plumbing, electrical, security, kitchens, seating, alarms, etc.)
- Large and Small Projects as needed, such as an upgrade to the Fellowship Hall/Kitchen area

The charter also formalizes things to properly plan for things in the budget and prevent overspending.

More good news on the Mission front – RLC is now formalizing all of our Mission Activities with a Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team (CCMET). This team includes Paul Brandt, Susan Brandt, David Birner, Ron Bostick, Erika Hulse, and Juli Blanke. Pastor Jonathan Blanke will be invited to attend meetings in an ex-officio capacity. The CCMET also presented a draft charter to the Council last month, and it is being finalized in the coming weeks. One of the most helpful functions in the Charter of the CCMET is to have more formal communications with the missionaries we support so RLC can better understand their needs and provide more meaningful support.

The Council is also starting to discuss the Music Ministry future at RLC as Bob Unger transitions to part time support toward the end of 2024. The really good news here, is Bob wants to continue as our Lead Organist and continue to support the music ministry as in the past. To make this a reality, others will be called on to help fill in some of the activities Bob has faithfully done for RLC (in the background).

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



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

Nurturing Your Faith: Patient Urgency

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 28

Leaders: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault

*No class on May 21.

Ministry Partner

Prison Alliance

The Lord is their shepherd; they shall not want.

Because of the generosity of Resurrection people, inmates will come to know Him as their shepherd.

On April 20-21, Ann Johnson shared information about Prison Alliance and their goal of providing 20,000 Bibles to the hands of inmates in U.S. prisons by June 30 at the cost of only \$5. They currently serve 8,000 Bible students behind bars and the number one request is to have a Bible.

[\(Click here for the video from the Temple Talk\)](#)

We can now update the total to \$1,275 donated for Bibles to go to prison inmates! That buys 255 Bibles! Praise the Lord and the people of Resurrection Lutheran Church.

For anyone still wishing to make a monetary donation, please use the envelopes already stamped and addressed to Prison Alliance at the information centers. Also if you have gently-used Bibles to give, the bin under the coat rack in the hallway by the church mailboxes is available anytime.

Prison Alliance volunteers respond to a variety of letters received from inmates all over the country. Most of them fall into three categories: requesting to be enrolled in Bible studies, requesting a certain book or Bible, and/or asking for prayer. Each volunteer letter writer receives templates to help them construct a response back. If you are interested in working with this prison ministry, [click here for more information](#).

Many thanks for making this drive such a success!



Prison Alliance
MAKING DISCIPLES WORLDWIDE

Harrison Hulse

Our very own Harrison Hulse was the first *Uncommon Graduate* selected by Concordia University-Wisconsin (CUW). This is a series of stories highlighting a few of Concordia's uncommon graduates. Faculty and staff submit candidates for consideration. Stories are posted leading up to commencement on Saturday, May 4. [View more uncommon graduates here.](#)

The uncommon theologian who has developed faithfully in mind, body, and spirit

Harrison Hulse ('24) has grown from a shy, uncertain freshman into a confident, accomplished scholar and respected spiritual leader.

It's freshman move-in day on the CUW campus: August, 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic is in full swing as freshman Harrison Hulse sets foot on the bluff for the very first time; the pandemic made it impossible for him to visit before he enrolled.

Harrison, who had traveled from Apex, North Carolina (a suburb of Raleigh), to begin his Concordia journey, would be the first to admit CUW hadn't been his first choice. The U.S. Naval Academy, Duke, and UNC Chapel Hill were all higher on his list. But for different reasons, none of those schools worked out.

What did work out was an amazing four years as an outstanding student—and student leader—at CUW.

Harrison goes on to speak to the loss of his father, Randy, RLC's former Praise Worship Leader, and about the support of his mother, Erika, Children and Family Ministry Director and their influence on his career path.



[Click here to continue reading this article.](#)

"It seemed like God had closed off every other door to open up this [door to Concordia]. He said, 'This is where you're going to go and just wait and see all the wonderful things that I can do here, through you and for you.'

- Harrison Hulse ('24)

Harrison is graduating Summa Cum Laude with a double major in applied theology and theological languages, as well as a minor in philosophy. He'll be heading to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in the fall, after which he plans to become a parish pastor, at least for a while. He'll be accompanied by his new bride, Sarah Wallace ('23). The couple met as freshmen, started dating during their sophomore year, and plan to be married in June of this year.

Congratulations, Harrison, on all your accomplishments!



Gifts & Memorials

For Gifts and Memorials

In Memory of Hope Studt
Kay Tharp
Bruce and Annette Kennedy
Waste Zero, Inc.

For the Love Fund

In Honor of
Their Grandchildren and
Delaney's Birthday
Bill and Fran Xenakis



Outreach Service to the Community

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Helping Children in Need Sleep Better

All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads. Across the country, too many boys and girls go without a bed—or even a pillow—to sleep on. These children end up sleeping on couches, blankets, and even floors. This can affect their happiness and health.

That's where Sleep in Heavenly Peace comes in. We are volunteers who are dedicated to building, assembling, and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) provides the bed, mattress, and bedding to each child. Bedlessness is a real problem in the US with 2-3% of the population sleeping without beds.

A volunteer crew delivered to a family of three little girls that had all been sleeping on the same (broken) twin size bed. That same night, a bed was delivered to a 17-year-old that had never had a bed of his own.

SHP provides all the tools and expertise that allow people with little or no experience to build all the components for a solid, wood bunk bed. It is always a fun-filled half day that ends with branding the beds. Fellowship is wonderful and the ability to solve a problem for others leaves everyone feeling a bit better about the world!

RLC will be sponsoring a **Sleep in Heavenly Peace Build Day on Saturday, June 1 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm** in the church parking lot. Save the date! We need many volunteers for the build.

Sign Up Now: <https://x.gldn.io/e/jmexMVPI3Gb>

If a child needs a bed,
we want to make sure
they get one.

**NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!®**

MILESTONE

**SLEEP IN HEAVENLY
PEACE DELIVERS
200,000 BEDS TO
CHILDREN IN NEED**

SHP
SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE



Educational Opportunity

Ambassadors of Reconciliation

Ambassadors of Reconciliation (AoR) is hosting a local in-person event (Regional Reception) for the Eastern Region. AoR is committed to help Christians and their churches live lifestyles of reconciliation by the power of the Gospel through the “ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself...and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, making his appeal through us.” (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

We believe that God has called each person to live reconciled lives with everyone around them – with their spouse, family, co-workers, fellow church members, other believers – to the glory of God. What does it look like to live a lifestyle of reconciliation? What if I disagree with someone? What if I have been wronged? What if I just don’t understand someone else? What if someone is unnecessarily offended by my words? What does the Bible really teach about forgiveness? Does “sorry” really cover it? What if I have been hurt by the church or by other Christians? What’s wrong with just ignoring the people in my life who I don’t get along with? These questions influence our daily lives and our everyday relationships. What am I called to and what is just unrealistic? We hope to shed light on these important questions together.

This short but impactful event is held over a 24-hour period over 2 days. It promotes a time of fellowship with like-minded people, an opportunity to network and growing together over meals, main sessions and casual conversations. Longer workshops cover a variety of topics and help to answer some of the most relevant questions about relationships.

Come join us on **June 7-8** at Resurrection and walk away improving your own personal relationships for the unity of the Body and the testimony of Christ. For tickets, schedule, and more details: aorhope.org/regional.

You are invited to

Eastern Regional Event

June 7-8, 2024

Resurrection Lutheran Church
100 W. Lochmere Drive
Cary, NC 27518

Workshop Options Include:

- How to Apply Micah 6:8 in Christian Conciliation
- Conflict Resolution vs. Reconciliation
- Relentless Forgiveness
- And More!

Keynote Speaker: Bryce Thomas

Come for Fellowship.
Come for Equipping.
Come for Networking.
Come for Encouragement.
Come for Fun.
Come for the Gospel.
Come for the Sake of Peace.
Come.



Happy Anniversary!

May 1

Brad & Lindsey Verburgt
20 years

May 6

John & Jodi Kopala
35 years

May 8

Leo & Char Magiera
59 years

May 10

Steve & Sandy Carpenter
55 years

May 11

Clinton & Patricia Peterson
56 years

May 12

John & Carole Shaeffer
40 years

May 15

Mike & Mackenzie Sottini
25 years

May 18

Don & Bernice Sonstroem
61 years

May 20

Robin & Susan Harrell
35 years

May 28

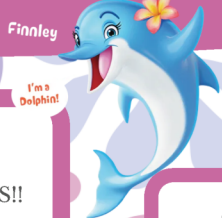
Greg & Lisa Card
35 years

Tom & Deb Gebbia
35 years

May 29

Matt & Sarah Williams
25 years

Children and Family Ministry May News



Sunday School

Children's Sunday School continues each Sunday in FLC classrooms.

There will be no Sunday School on May 5 due to Confirmation in 9:30 am worship service. The last Children's Sunday School class will be May 19.

Thank you to all of the amazing teachers who spent many hours and put their heart into teaching our youngest members about the love of Jesus!!

Leah Robison
Cristina Fuller
Eydee Persson
Sandy Wuori
Christa Newcomb
Lauren Patton
Angela York
Kelly Zadow



VBS Volunteers

We are so excited about VBS!!

We currently have 60 children registered. Thank you to all of the youth and adults who have already signed up to help us make it a great success.

If you would like to volunteer, please use link below.

We will host 2 identical VBS Volunteer training meetings. You may choose one to attend.

Thursday, May 30 at 7 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

-OR-


Sunday, June 2 at 12 noon
in the Family Life Center room
240 at the top of the stairs.



Moms Together

Moms Night Out
Thursday, May 23
6:00 pm

Sign up here:



Questions? Contact Erika at erika.hulse@rlcary.org



Vacation Bible School - vbspro.events/p/events/2541ab

Moms Together - bit.ly/3ZVhyB8



Leading Chapel!

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

Middle School and High School

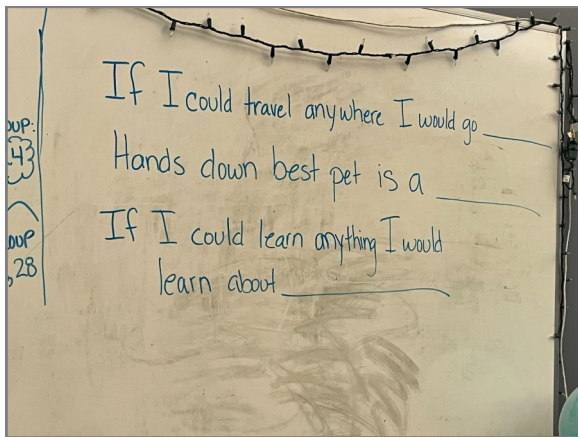
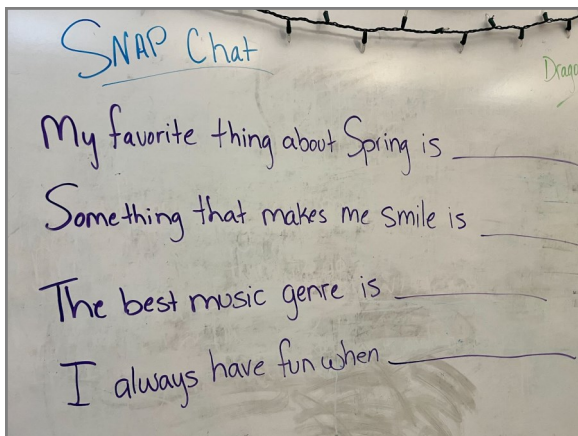
Youth Ministry News

“Snap Chat”

Nope, I am not talking about that app that those young folks like. Throughout the month of April, we opened each of our youth groups with a Snap Chat session. The idea being to quickly answer 3 to 4 questions (answers in a snap) and hopefully spark conversation, connection, and continue building the relationships we have built all year long.

It’s amazing what we can learn from each other in a snap, a quick conversation. A tidbit that can firm our foundation, our connection to another brother or sister in faith. Now imagine we do this with our relationship with God. Each day a tidbit just for him. In the lives of youth, this is how to create a faith that is the foundation, the rock of their existence.

I am excited that they now look forward to the crazy questions that might appear on the board. Questions like: If you were a color, what color would you be? Or I will argue with anyone about _____. I am still hearing about my answer from the beginning of April that I will argue with anyone that cats are better than dogs. Who knew in a snap a multitude of chatter and connection could be created!



Looking ahead:
June 2nd - Glow Night (6th Grade & High School)
June 9th - Grad Night (High School)

RIC YOUTH MAY SCHEDULE

That's a wrap Middle School!
Wednesday nights are done but I hope to see you in the Fall!

**Sunday School
May 12, 19 (ONLY)**

John 4:14,15
"but whoever drinks of the water I give him will never be thirsty again. The Water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

**High School
Youth Group**

May 5
6:30 - 8:00pm
with pizza

We will not meet on May 12 or 26.
Note time change for water day!

Water Day

May 19th
3:00 - 4:30 Middle School
5:00 - 6:30 High School

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



**Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool**

Diane Hooper, Director

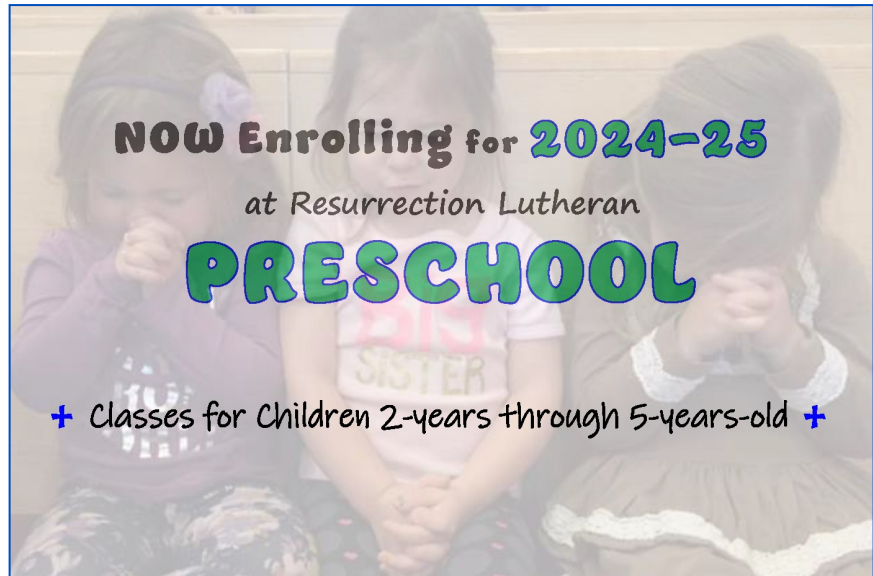
rlpcary.org

919-851-7270

office@rlpcary.org



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



NOW Enrolling for 2024-25

at Resurrection Lutheran

PRESCHOOL

+ Classes for Children 2-years through 5-years-old +

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!

Group

diving into friendship with god

vbspro.events/p/events/2541ab

Resurrection Lutheran Church
Vacation Bible School
June 24-28
9 am to noon
Ages 4 - 5th Grade

Scan here to register or to volunteer:

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

STEM/ART NIGHT

Tuesday, May 7 is our STEM and ART Night, starting at 6:00 pm. Join us for an incredible evening, including making ice cream sundaes, and visiting our STEM activities and ART displays. All grades, Junior Kindergarten-8th Grade, will be showcasing their class's STEM activity and artwork will be displayed.

8TH GRADE PLAY

The eighth graders will showcase their talents and celebrate the end of their educational journey at RLS by performing *15 Reasons Not To Be In A Play*. This comedy will be performed on **Tuesday, May 21** at 6:30 pm. So bring your family and friends to watch the Class of 2024 perform this enjoyable play!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- May 3** Early Release, 11:30 am (Teacher Work Afternoon)
- May 7** STEM/ART Event, 6:00 pm
- May 20-22** MAP Testing
- May 21** 8th Grade Drama Production
- May 23** EOC Math 1 (8th Grade)
- May 27** No School, Memorial Day
- May 28-30** 8th Grade Trip, Williamsburg

Looking Ahead...

- June 4** Kindergarten Graduation, 11:00 am
8th Grade Graduation, 6:30 pm
- June 5** Field Day
- June 6** Last Day of School, 11:00 am Dismissal



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](https://www.youtube.com/@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 susan.moore@rlcary.org.

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518