The Day of Pentecost

May 19, 2024



Pastor's Corner for May 19-25, 2024

We Can Breathe Again (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

Ever had the wind knocked out of you? It happened to me once. I was playing softball with my older brother and his friends when someone hit a line drive right to my gut before I could catch it. My body started spasming trying to somehow reset its breathing mechanism so life could enter it again. The whole experience didn't last long. Someone on the field who had seen this scenario before stood over me, loosening my belt and pulling my arms over my head to see if that might fix the problem. It took a minute or two, but I was breathing again. For a few scary minutes, my lungs didn't work the way they were supposed to. With lungs full of air came the assurance that I was going to make it. I was able to function, after all. I was going to be OK.

Ezekiel was a prophet with an unenviable task. He was to be God's spokesman to the people of Israel after change and defeat had knocked the air out of their lungs. Israel had been defeated by the Babylonians. Their king was taken prisoner. Their temple was destroyed. They were like discarded bones on a valley floor. There seemed to be no hope. But God wasn't done with these dead, dry bones! Ezekiel was told to preach first to the dead dry bones and then to the four winds, that breath might enter them. Once these bones were enlivened with breath, Ezekiel was told to preach to them again and tell them that their hope was not lost... that the endings they'd experienced were not the End... that God would put His Spirit on them, and they would live! THEY had given up on God, but God had not given up on them. God wasn't done with them yet. It reminds me of Jesus, risen from the dead, appearing to his befuddled and terrified apostles, breathing on them and saying "receive the Holy Spirit" as a kind of glorious re-creation: an echo of what His Father had done for Adam in the Garden of Eden. The disciples were witnesses that Jesus lives! God wasn't done with them yet. They could "breathe" again. They could embrace hope, again.

Wherever you find yourself today... whatever circumstances seem poised to overwhelm your hope and joy and maybe even cause you to give up on God's promises, Pentecost is a reminder that God isn't done with you yet. Take heart that the risen Christ has given us the only Breath of Life that matters: an everlasting hope of sins forgiven! Yes, we can breathe again! We can live... again.

In the undying hope that Pentecost gives, Pastor Jonathan

Prayers of the Church

Mites for Missions

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **May 18 and 19**. 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!

Last Class!

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.





Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

<u>Sunday</u>

Last Class! 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.

<u>Monday</u>

Last Class!

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.

Last Class!

Men's Weekly *Nurturing Your Faith: Patient Urgency* Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm in Room 240, Family Life Center Ongoing - Contact: Tom Gebbia

Current study is *Nurturing Your Faith: Patient Urgency* by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When we share Jesus with others, we're eager-urgent even-to speak the Good News. However, we do understand the need for patience in how others receive the Gospel in their lives. In *Nurturing Your Faith: Patient Urgency*, we will learn via Mark's Gospel about a map, a means, and a model for having healthy spiritual conversations with others.

<u>Tuesday</u>

No 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.

There will be no class on May 21 with the last class on May 28.

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

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 <u>office@rlcary.org</u> or 919-851-7248.

Operation Inasmuch

On April 27, 115 volunteers provided numerous acts of service for our church members, community, and beyond. Volunteers put in ~675 service hours providing service for the homeless, cancer patients, food insecure, youth with disabilities, supporting vulnerable women using their gifts to create beautiful crafts to provide income, providing cards of love and encouragement to our RLC family, friends, missionaries, military personnel, and so much more!

For those that participated, THANK YOU and we pray you were blessed by your

service and the fellowship of your brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you were not able to join us, we hope to see you next year!



• YOUNG FAMILIES • gathering



Join us for food and fun to hang out this Memorial Day weekend!

Sunday, May 26 at 4:00 pm

At the Sarrault Home 7529 Faith Haven Court, Willow Spring

RSVP to Pastor Zach or Kelsey Sarrault

Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry for the Visually Impaired meets

Friday, May 31

5:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Contact Annette Langefeld-Kennedy to learn more and for volunteer needs or the church office (919-851-7248, <u>office@rlcary.org</u>).

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Build Day ~ Saturday, June 1 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 17year-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. Register today! We need many volunteers for the build.



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.

This short, but impactful event is held over a 2-day period. 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, visit aorhope.org/regional.

The Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, June 14

We thank all our volunteers who help us to have wonderful Coffeehouses! And thank you to Travis Taylor's band, *Nick Farmer's Big Band*. They were great!

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: <u>https://bit.ly/3kqoHGN</u>

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday**, **June 14** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center gym. We will have *Old Play* play for us!

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



Graduating?

Please contact the church office with high school and college graduate information <u>by May 27</u>. We will highlight our graduates in the June newsletter. We request the graduate's name, school graduating from, and any future plans. Email <u>susan.moore@rlcary.org</u> or call 919-851-7248, ext. 33.



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



Moms Together

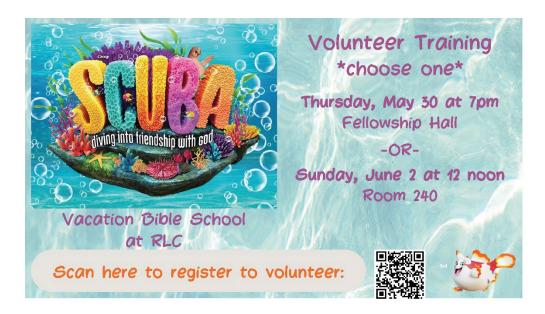
Moms, you are invited to join other moms for daytime get togethers to socialize, share tips, make new friends, and work on crafts/projects. Childcare is available for a small fee. We also meet for evening activities occasionally.



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

Vacation Bible School June 24-28 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Ages 4 - 5th Grade <u>Register today!</u>



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

Youth Ministry

Middle School and High School



Let's talk about our Staycation Mission we will be doing the week of Vacation Bible School. Whether you can come for one day or the whole week, we want you to serve with us!

STAYCATION MISSION TRIP June 24-28

8:00 am-12:30 pm ~ Serve at VBS 12:30-1:30 pm ~ Lunch and Devotion 1:30-4:30 pm ~ Serve in the Community (a different spot each afternoon)5:00 pm ~ Dinner Together, Games/Activity7:00 pm ~ Home to Shower and Sleep

Cost is \$5 per day (to help with food costs)

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

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. $$\operatorname{Psalm}147{:}4$$



Latest Lion's Tale



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>.

This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

Attendance and Giving

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, May 11 6:00 pm - 50

Sunday, May 12 8:00 am - 91 9:30 am - 138 11:00 am - 146

Total In-Person Worship: 425

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, May 12 8:00 am - 91 11:00 am - 25

Total Online Views: 116 views

General Fund Giving and Spending - April 2024

	Current Month	Ye	ar to Date
General Receipts	\$ 100,569.79	\$ 1	,169,366.06
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 120,659.70</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>	, <u>176,589.86</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ -20,089.91	\$	-7,223.80

This Week's Offerings: \$26,824.80 Average Weekly Giving for 2023/24: \$27,194.55 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 <u>finance@rlcary.org</u>.

Church Calendar



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

Prayers of the Church – May 19, 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

Sara Phillips, Jessica, Taylor Stephani

Those Prayed for on May 12, 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
- Birth of Ellis William Brown, Parents Will and Ally Brown, Grandparents *Bob and *Diane Hoffmeister
- Birth of Ryan James Pocock, Parents Hannah Peterson and Tom Pocock, Grandparents *Grant and *Brenda Peterson
- Our College Graduates and Their Families
- Our RLC Confirmands and Their Families
- Cyndi's Birthday
- For All Moms
- Happy 56th Anniversary for Clint and Patty Peterson
- Grandchildren

For Healing

- *Kim Goss
- All Those Exposed to COVID, with COVID, and Recovering from COVID
- Blind Ministry Guests Maria and Jeff Barker, Sheila McNair, Linda Jones, Melissa Tucker, Judy Dean, Ruby Franklin, Miriam Delgado, Betty Oglesby, Helen Rice-Lyles, Nancy Waggoner
- *Greta Nelson
- Patricia Wellington, Radiation Treatments
- *Bill Xenakis
- Pastor William Otto, Cancer Treatment and Surgery
- Bruce, Brother of *Ralph Klevenow
- *Pam Dickson
- *Stephanie Ford
- Jimmy, Cancer Treatment
- Emily, Cancer Treatment
- Imma, At Home
- Betty, Memory Issues
- *Vern Ebert
- *Mindy Stephani, Therapy
- Doug Gill, Cancer Treatment
- *Helen Campbell
- Joan Gresens, Mother of *Phil Gresens
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of *Jen Kirby
- *Brenda Peterson, Recovery
- *Cheri Spitz
- *Bob Bruce
- *Alison Whatley
- Eve, John, Riva, Danny, Brian, Karl, Linda, Ricky, Joseph, Gene, Lois, Trina, Sharon, Doug, Imma, Jan, Helena, Patricia, Lynne, Alice, Paul, Anne, Melissa, Matthew, Hannah, Amy, Jill, Noreen, Kathy, Shelby, Julian, Harold, Ken, Mark, Dave, Corey, Joe, Steve, Mara, Eric, Connie

For Comfort

- Friends and Family of Margaret Hulse, Grandmother of *Harrison and *Spencer Hulse
- Friends and Family of Lois Durr
- Friends and Family of MaryAnn, Friend of *Carole Klevenow
- Friends and Family of Naomi Takeuchi

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- Persecuted Christians
- People Around the World Affected by Natural Disasters
- People of Ukraine, and All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- 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 and Adjustment to Transitions
- *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
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- Baby Adian (Terminal Cancer) and His Family
- Sara, Discernment about Possible Move
- For Those Whose Mothers Have Gone to Heaven

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 <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 5/17/24