



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2024

From the Pastor

When God Has a Better Idea

(2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

There's a dozen or so Bible verses that every pastor knows speak readily to folks who need to hear the promises of God amid life's wilderness experiences. One of those Bible verses that we often have ready to cite by chapter and verse is 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. In response to St. Paul's request that God alleviate some specific form of suffering he was enduring at that time—a mysterious "thorn in the flesh," as he calls it—God basically says "No": "My grace is sufficient for you," God says. "For my power is made perfect in weakness" (12:9).

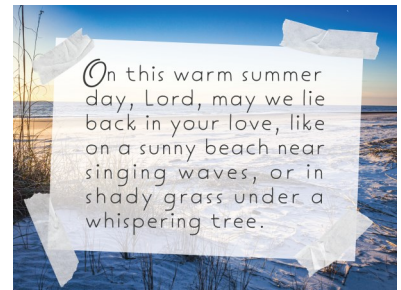
With June at RLC begins a new series on 2 Corinthians entitled, "God's Strength...Our Weakness." It's an important focus. In the Scriptures we don't ever get a picture of God banishing hardship from the faith journey. Instead, we consistently see our need and God's sufficient grace side-by-side. Whether our "thorn in the flesh" happens to be related to physical health, our desire for gratitude, our yearning for

greater faith, courage, or something else, the Scriptures repeatedly teach us to look away from our lack and wait on God's "better idea." That includes the call to put aside our own need to be in control and learn to better lean on God and one another.



It's a life lesson that can be excruciatingly difficult to learn. I can confidently attest to that myself! But God's grace is, somehow, always sufficient. Always.

Activities at Resurrection in the month of June offer many ways to invite God's sufficient strength into our own—or our world's—weakness. I'd like to invite everyone at RLC to consider taking part in the fellowship



Dates of Interest:

- Sleep in Heavenly.....Jun 1
- Youth Glow Night.....Jun 2
- RLS Graduation.....Jun 4
- Amb. Reconciliation...Jun 7-8
- HS Grads, 11 am.....Jun 9
- Voter's Meeting.....Jun 9
- Coffeehouse.....Jun 14
- Vacation Bible Schl.Jun24-28
- Blind Ministry.....Jun 28
- Taize Worship.....Jun 29
- Stephen Ministry.....Jun 30

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

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.*



and workshops offered at the “Ambassadors of Reconciliation” (AoR) event June 7-8. You can get an idea of what Christian peacemaking looks like... and try your hand at peacemaking yourself through the various workshops offered. The wisdom gained from organizations like AoR can be truly life-changing for families and even organizations, like churches. If you’re able to do so, please join us.

Finally, I wanted to alert you to another important effort for strategic focus at RLC in 2024-2025: Giving thanks for the gifts God continues to give. Here is a value I’ve asked RLC leadership to add to our “Mission, Vision and Values” statement that you’ll be hearing more about in the months ahead: “Living with Gratitude: We believe that having been richly and abundantly blessed by God, we are called as a church to be good stewards of what God has entrusted to us for His mission.” I hope and pray that a focus on the outpouring of God’s provision will encourage us all not only to take stock of the manifold blessings we have been gifted by God (our health, the natural resources of our world, our resources, our relationships, our responsibilities, and so much more) but to give thanks to God each day and find blessing in “living generously.” That is more than a slogan. It is what the God who always offers His sufficient grace in our weakness empowers us to do.

Just remember: No matter our needs for today, no matter how God may answer the prayers and yearnings of our hearts, together with St. Paul we too can say as people who are in Christ Jesus, “When I am weak...then I am strong.”

To the One who is always sufficient for our needs be all glory and praise! Now and forever.

Peace and joy in Christ,
Pastor Jonathan

Sign up for Altar Flowers in the Sanctuary or Family Life Center!

Flowers are from Cary Florist
and cost \$45.

Contact the church office
(919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org)
or click the link below.

[Sign Up Online Here!](#)

Church Council News

May 2024

In May, the Council spent most of its time preparing for the Voter's Meeting coming up in June. The budget is the main topic and as we are closing out our Fiscal Year (FY - which ends on 30 June 2024), we are looking at "last-minute" expenses (some planned and some unplanned) such as tree removal, gym floor repairs, water heater failure (and subsequent damage), labor for window replacement earlier in the year, and maintenance contracts. Most committees and budget recipients have done a nice job of "tightening their belts" to keep the budget within reach this year. The Council is also looking to implement a reserve fund to ensure positive cash-on-hand for the many expenses we face. Please plan to attend the Voter's Meeting in the Family Life Center at 12:30 pm on Sunday, June 9th to find out more.

Keeping this update short, but one more item; a few members, including your RLC Council President, have expressed a need for cushions at the Communion Rails. A small team is being formed by the Council to address this as soon as possible.

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

Voter's Meeting Sunday, June 9

The next Resurrection Lutheran Church Voter's Meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 9 at 12:30 pm** in the Family Life Center.

The main topic for this meeting is approval of next year's budget (1 July 2024 thru 30 June 2025) for the Church, School, and Preschool.

We will also have several updates including introductions from the newly formed Facilities Management Team and Cross-Cultural Missions Engagement Team.



Spiritual Milestones

Confirmation



<u>Name</u>	<u>Baptismal Birthday</u>	<u>Confirmation Verse</u>
Callie Beyer	October 10, 2010	Joshua 1:9
Chase Blackburn	October 13, 2008	Psalm 25:5
Molly Brooks	June 1, 2009	Proverbs 12:28
Brady Collins	August 1, 2010	Isaiah 41:10
Jay Davis	September 20, 2009	1 Timothy 4:12
Rees Dudek	October 25, 2009	Joshua 1:9
Payton Duke	September 26, 2010	Psalm 27:1
Wyatt Hostetter	August 22, 2010	John 3:16
Angel Martin-Contreras	July 19, 2014	John 15:9
Lauren Orso	September 4, 2010	Ecclesiastes 3:1
Joshua Piontek	October 11, 2009	Joshua 1:7
Jonah Robison	September 13, 2009	Luke 15:7

The Confirmands and their families enjoyed an evening together at the Confirmation Banquet on May 1 in the Fellowship Hall. ([Click Here to View the Slideshow](#))

Confirmation Sunday was celebrated on May 5, 2024 during the [9:30 am worship service](#).

Congratulations to Our Confirmands!

From Pastor Alan

Remembering God's Promises at Baptism

Dawson Berry was baptized as an early teenager and his faith journey over the years led him to better understand the significance of Word and Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins. He didn't know the exact date of his baptism and did not really celebrate the promise God made to him on an annual basis. With a little research, we were able to help find his baptismal record and the church gave him a tangible reminder (candle) marked with the date of his baptism (May 27) so he knew when to celebrate again.

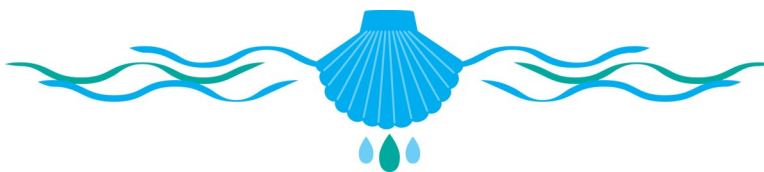
That was about a month ago and it didn't seem like enough for someone celebrating his baptismal anniversary for the first time in many years and so Dawson and I made plans to meet at the church on May 27th and do something together. What a great experience it was for me to share that moment with Dawson. We went into the sanctuary, said a prayer thanking God for the gift of baptism, the washing away of our sins and marking us as children of God. We read aloud one of Dawson's favorite Bible verses, which fit very nicely into the occasion:



[Jesus said,] "For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:40). We lit the candle, said the Lord's Prayer, watched the candle burn down a little more and went to lunch. Nothing fancy, but what an experience.

I think it's possible to take occasions like the anniversary of a baptism for granted. I know I sometimes do. But even if we take it for granted, God doesn't take His promises to you and me for granted, and He never forgets them. Paul asks us, *"Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his (Romans 6:3-5).*

That's no small promise. And that (to me) means that it's no insignificant anniversary to remember. We wait for the day to be united with Christ in a resurrection like His because of God's promise in baptism and because God's promise to raise us to eternal life. It was a day I was thankful to share with Dawson and I hope all of you look back on your day of baptism and remember God's promise to you. (Photo and story shared with permission.)



Outreach to the Community

Operation Inasmuch

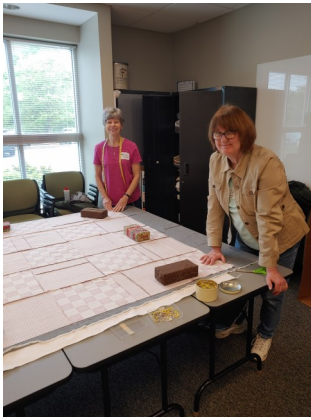
During our church-wide day of service through Operation Inasmuch, 115 volunteers provided numerous acts of service to our church members, community and beyond. Volunteers put in close to 675 service hours providing service for the homeless, cancer patients, food insecure, supporting vulnerable women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

Volunteers participated in 10 service projects, including sorting and organizing the food pantry at Western Wake Crisis Ministry (we donated 840 lbs. of food!), knitting hats for preemies at Wake Med, making quilts for Sleep In Heavenly peace and Lutheran World Relief, Project Linus making blankets for kids with cancer, playing baseball with Miracle League youth, building for Habitat for Humanity, maintenance and landscaping the RLC campus, sending cards of encouragement to our RLC family, missionaries, and service personnel and much more!

Special thanks to Thrivent Financial who provided \$1,750 for our Action Teams to buy materials and supplies for our day of service.

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!





Gifts & Memorials

For Gifts and Memorials

In Memory of Tom Farr

William & Dorothy Andrews

In Honor of Derica Justice
for Mother's Day

Larry & Debbie Adams

For the Kibler Education Endowment

In Memory of Hope Studt

Jamee Thieme

For the Love Fund

In Memory of Hope Studt
and Millie Hiteshow

Robert & Joyce Hirt



Christian Peacemaking

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

Keynote Speaker: Bryce Thomas

Eastern Regional Event

June 7-8, 2024

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

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.

Workshop Options Include:

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



Congratulations!

Resurrection Lutheran School, 8th Grade



Lauren Noelle Blanchard	Athens Drive High School
Sophia Grace Brandon	Middle Creek High School
Hayes Moseley Chisholm	Holly Springs High School
Brady David Erickson	Cary High School
Lindley Claire Giles	Athens Drive High School
Daniel Austin Hanna	Athens Drive High School
Penelope Susan Hayes	Cary High School
Isabel Campbell Kohler	Longleaf School of the Arts
Alexander James Munro	Cardinal Gibbons High School
Haley Lynn Rankin	Cardinal Gibbons High School
Jackson Connor Sessoms	Middle Creek High School
Isabella Claire Tankard	Grace Christian School
Zoe Kingsley Trainor	Grace Christian School
Graham Jackson Wall	Middle Creek High School
Ellery Jane White	Homeschool

High School Graduates

Nicholas Altieri	Holly Springs High School, to NC State University, Poole College of Management
Cassidy Brake	Longleaf School of the Arts, to High Point University Double Major in Elementary Education and English
Blake Burgiss	Middle Creek High School, to Sewanee: The University of the South, Studying Neuroscience
Samuel Huddle	Apex Friendship High School, to Appalachian State Univ.
Aiden Kerns	Apex Friendship High School, to Cape Fear College Focus in Business Economics
Garrett Kuo	Apex Friendship High School, to Purdue University Studying Mechanical Engineering
Anna Smith	Holly Springs High School, to William Peace University Will Play Volleyball, Study Criminal Justice, Forensics
Marta Striplin	Green Level High School, to NC State School of Design, Studying Industrial Design
Travis Taylor	Cary High School, Plans Include IT and Music

College Graduates

Michele Brake	East Carolina University, Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Post-Masters Certificate
Harrison Hulse	Concordia University - Mequon, to Concordia Seminary - St. Louis
Spencer Hulse	University of North Carolina - Charlotte
Annalisa Striplin	UNC Asheville, B.S. Atmospheric Sciences, to Disney College Program

May God continue to bless each of you as you start this next chapter!

Happy Anniversary!

June 6
Anthony and Ashley Johnson 15 years
Darrell and Anita Moore 65 years
Kurt and Misty Rayfield 15 years
June 7
John and Sandy Eckstein 66 years
June 8
Rich and Cheryl Roth 50 years
June 12
John and Linda Cook 50 years
June 13
Jim and Thelma Rhodes 60 years
June 15
Bill and Eileen Douglas 61 years
June 16
Dave and Karen Noreen 45 years
June 18
Tim and Sonja Striplin 30 years
June 24
David and Cynthia Saacks 35 years
June 25
Robert and Marie Bruce 63 years
June 26
Fred and Page 64 years
June 29
Roy and Linda Rhoden 61 years

Children's Ministry News June

Vacation Bible School

Thank you to all the volunteers that volunteered to serve and the donations given! We are excited to see all the great things God has planned for VBS 2024 at Resurrection Lutheran Church.

Family Resources

The LCMS website has family resources available. There are monthly devotion calendars & dinner conversation cards.

Check them out!
[Family Ministry - The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod \(lcms.org\)](#)



Volunteers Needed



The Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team is seeking volunteers to help with 2 small projects. The first is a small woodworking project that would require minimal time. The second is a basic sewing project. Please contact Erika to help!

Vacation Bible School
June 24-28 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Ages 4 - 5th Grade
[Register today!](#)

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

Meet the KICKS Leaders

The Breiler Family

Kids in Christ Keep Shining
for 3rd-5th graders



Dave,
Kim,
Emmy,
Lily & Riley

Favorite thing to do: go on trips
Church service: 11:00 am
Favorite song: we love a Christmas playlist
Favorite thing to do on the weekend: sleep in!
Favorite sports teams: Any Michigan team, FSU, & NCSU
How long have we been members of RLC: 7 years
Favorite thing to do at church: greeting at church & family service projects

Middle School and High School

Youth Ministry News

Thank you doesn't cover it... In order to have the amazing, fun, fantastic events, experiences, Sunday School, and youth groups, we have to have adult leaders. While our crew is small, it is mighty and faith filled!

I am so grateful for the AMAZING people that have stepped up to serve with the Middle School and High School Youth this year.

Middle School Youth Group:

Christa Newcomb, Erin Hostetter, and Jenny Beyer

High School Youth Group:

Dave and Leah Robison, Cyndy Vagle, Diane Hooper, Erika Hulse, Gina Alladin, Lea Webb

Sunday School:

Dave Robison



I am so grateful to these amazing individuals who have really had a positive impact in our youth programs. Studies show youth need 5 trusted adults in their lives (outside of their family) to continue on in their faith when they leave for college. God is doing amazing work with the adult leaders and youth right here at RLC. We always have room for more people to come on board and make an impact in our youth programs. I would love to have TOO many adults next year. Pray about it and let's talk this summer!

Christa Newcomb - Fearless Leader

Christa was present at a lot more middle school youth groups than not! She always came with a great attitude to serve and make connections with the youth. She was also not afraid to play the games. Even Dragontails where she would fight to the bitter end with her partner to not have her tail snatched away.

Dave Robison - New Favorite Teacher

Dave came into our Middle/High School Sunday School class later in the year when I could find no one else to help teach. He was quickly dubbed the "Favorite Sunday School Teacher." He offered a wealth of knowledge and really listened to the youth while being willing to say I don't know that answer, but I will find out. And he always did.



We could not do Youth stuff without all of these individuals. They are precious! Thank you!

Contact 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.

At the end of this school year, **Miss Pat retired after 22 years** of fun at RLP! Wishing her all the best in this next stage of life, but we sure will miss her.



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 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 NEWS

Our pilot first year of working toward becoming a North Carolina STEM School of Distinction is winding down. Thank you again to all who attended our STEM/Art Night a few weeks ago. You helped make it a big success! We look forward to more STEM events next year. Also, a reminder that Summer STEM Camp is in a few weeks. It will be held on June 17-20 from 1:00-4:00 pm in our Makerspace. We are ready to create and collaborate with our theme this year — superheroes!

FROM THE PSO

In closing out the school year, we want to thank all the parents, teachers, and volunteers for their hard work. With the community's fundraising and volunteer efforts, we had a year filled with new and traditional events: Fall Hootenanny and Chili Cook-off, Spring Fling, Book Fair, Cultural Arts Programs, Talent Show, and the end-of-year Field Day. This year's PSO activities strengthened the already strong fabric of our school community, and we are beyond grateful for all your support and partnership throughout the year. A special thanks to the Executive Committee and all committee chairs and volunteers for making this year a memorable one! You each made a significant contribution to our year's success, making 2023-2024 a fun and enjoyable year.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- June 4** Kindergarten Graduation, 11:00 am
(No School for 8th Grade)
8th Grade Graduation, 6:30 pm
- June 5** Field Day, Junior Kindergarten-5th Grade
Sky Zone, 6th & 7th Grades
11:00 am Dismissal
- June 6** Last Day of School, 11:00 am Dismissal



Resurrection Lutheran School

Robin Hester
Principal

Rosie Creasy
Director of Admissions/
School Growth

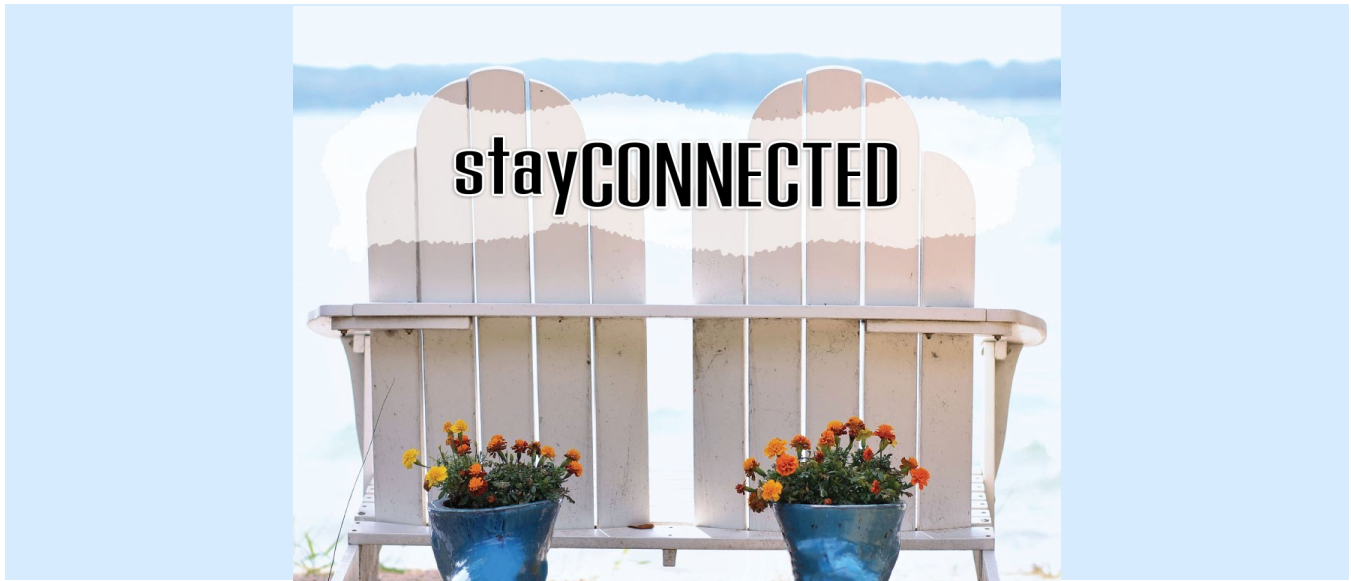
rlscary.org
919-851-7271
contact@rlscary.org

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



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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