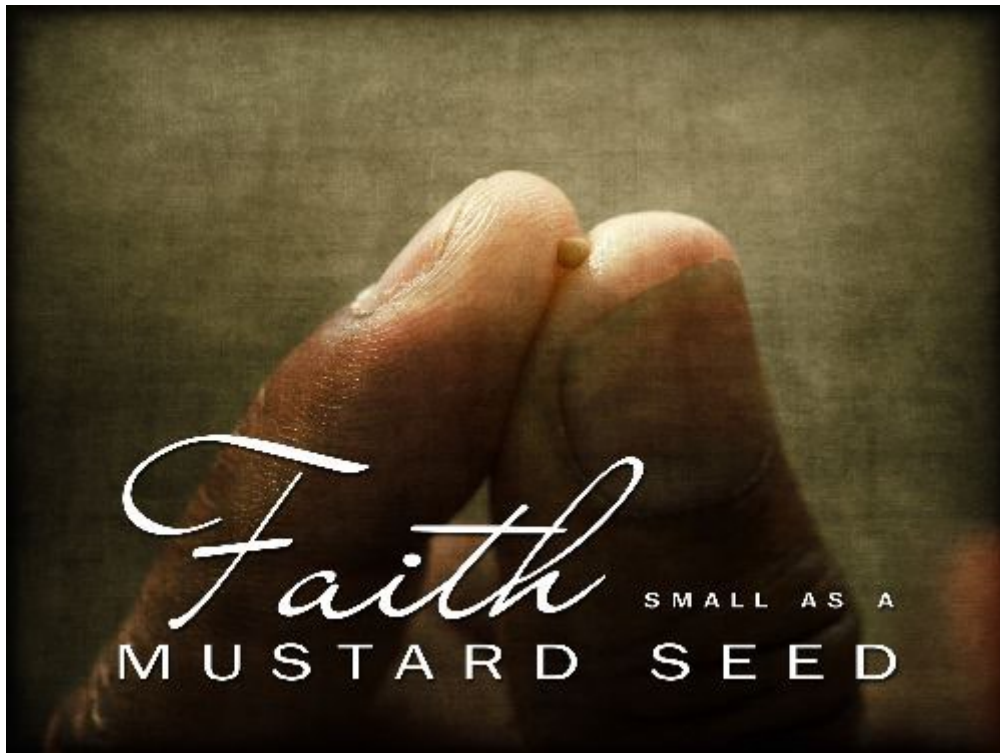


## Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 16, 2024

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*Pastor's Corner for June 16-22, 2024*

### **Our Gardener God (Mark 4:26-34)**

Our family loves gardening and what I love most is the surprise of it. You put something so small into the ground and then with care and patience and more than a little bit of love from our Creator God, it grows into something incredible. It might be a beautiful flower that brings some color into the yard throughout the summertime, or it might be a yummy fruit or vegetable to bring color to the dining room table. The garden is where the Sarrault's learn together, fail together, and grow together as a family. It's a lot of fun. It's also a great picture of God's church.

Jesus Himself says the kingdom of God “is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground is the smallest of all the seeds of the earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade” (vv. 31-32). That’s a perfect illustration for the kingdom of God! The kingdom of God, eternal life, has been planted in our hearts right now and we will see it grow into something huge and beautiful on the Last day. As we wait for that Last Day, the kingdom of God can look like a little mustard seed.

When you plant a seed in the garden, nothing looks weaker. Every time I take a little seed, push it just a quarter inch deep into the ground, sweep a handful of dirt over it and sprinkle it with water, I can’t help but wonder how this little seed will grow to be something beautiful. Yet it does because that’s what it’s supposed to do. It’s the same thing with the church. God continually plants seeds, seeds of His kingdom, and then they grow against all odds. No matter what Satan tries to do to tear up the kingdom of God it will endure, because it is God’s kingdom, His church, and it is promised to be eternal.

What I love most about this picture of the kingdom of God as a seed is who the gardener is. God is the Gardener and the picture we are shown doesn’t flatter Him much as a gardener. In fact, we see Him throwing seeds willy-nilly all over the place. Any gardener knows that’s not a very efficient way to garden, but that’s how God gardens. All over His creation He throws the seeds of His kingdom and that’s work you and I are called to. We are called to garden in the same way God does, throwing seeds willy-nilly and trusting that our Gardener God will do the hard work of causing those seeds to grow.

So happy gardening this week! Throw seeds of faith everywhere you go and pray to the Gardener to water and shine upon the seeds that are sown.

Your gardening brother in Christ,  
Pastor Zach Sarrault

## Prayers of the Church

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# I ♥ MY CHURCH

Join Us as We Close the Gap for Our General Fund

Dear church family,

As we approach the end of our fiscal year, we want to express our gratitude for your faithful support and commitment to our church community. Your generosity has allowed us to carry out vital ministries, serve our congregation, and impact lives both within our walls and beyond.

However, like any family, we face financial realities. Our budget projections are based on faith and careful planning, but sometimes unexpected circumstances arise. With three weeks to go, we still find ourselves with a gap of \$83,978 between our budgeted income and the actual funds received.

While the response to the need to date so far has been encouraging, we still invite anyone who has not had a chance to do so to prayerfully consider joining us in bridging this gap. Your special gift between now and June 30 will make a significant difference as we strive to meet our financial obligations and continue our mission.

How can you participate?

Pray: Seek God's guidance on how much you can give. Remember that it's not about the amount but the heart behind it.

Give: You can contribute online through [our secure giving platform here](#) or drop your gift in the offering box during our services.

Spread the Word: Share this opportunity with fellow church members, friends, and family who may also want to be part of this effort.

Celebrate Together: Let's celebrate God's faithfulness as we close this fiscal year strong, knowing that our collective sacrifice will bear fruit in the lives of those we serve.

This General Fund appeal continues this weekend (June 16) and will go through the end of our 2023-2024 fiscal year, June 30. We continue to update the income received week-by-week in the worship bulletin, so that you can mark the progress.

Thank you for being part of our church family. Your generosity fuels our ministry, and together, we can make a lasting impact. If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to me ([jonathan.blanke@rlcary.org](mailto:jonathan.blanke@rlcary.org)) or RLC Treasurer Mike Hahne ([treasurer@rlcary.org](mailto:treasurer@rlcary.org)).

Peace and joy in Christ,  
Pastor Jonathan Blanke

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It is with great sadness and in Christian love and hope that we announce that our sister in Christ, **Eve Sommers**, was called to rest with Jesus on Saturday, May 18.

A Celebration of Life in Christ service will be held at Resurrection on **Saturday, June 15 at 11:00 am**, followed by the Committal of Eva Ann and James Nicholas Sommers, with a reception to follow.

Our prayers are with her daughter, Janice Sommers, and son-in-law, Mike Koury, and their family at this time.

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### Mites for Missions

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **June 15 and 16**. 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!*

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**Flowers on the altar  
in honor of the  
2nd Wedding Anniversary of  
Dave Durkop and Lyn Francisco**

Sign up for Altar Flowers in the Sanctuary and Family Life Center.  
Click below or call the church office at 919-851-7248.  
Flowers are from Cary Florist and cost \$45.

[Sign Up Online Here!](#)

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Resurrection Lutheran Church Youth Group

# FOOD DRIVE


**JUNE 2024**

We will be collecting  
until June 25th!



The RLC Youth Group will be collecting nonperishable food items to help Western Wake Crisis Ministry restock their shelves during the week of their Staycation Mission Trip. We want to make this a community event and involve RLP campers, VBS families, our RLC family and of course our Youth Families! Help us stock those shelves!

## **DROP-OFF LOCATION**

 **Resurrection Lutheran Church/Preschool**  
100 W. Lochmere Dr. Cary, NC 27518

**For More Information :**

Contact Ms. Jenny

[jenny.piontek@rlcary.org](mailto:jenny.piontek@rlcary.org)

## Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry for  
the Visually Impaired meets

**Friday, June 28**

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, [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).

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### 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](mailto:office@rlcary.org), 919-851-7248) for assistance.

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[Family Ministry - The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod \(lcms.org\)](http://FamilyMinistry-TheLutheranChurch-MissouriSynod(lcms.org))

### Vacation Bible School

June 24-28 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Ages 4 - 5th Grade

[Register today!](#)



Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director  
[erika.hulse@rlcary.org](mailto:erika.hulse@rlcary.org).

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## **Youth Ministry**

Middle School and High School

I feel so blessed to work with these amazing youth and see how God is working in them and through them, to see the growth in faith and serve alongside them. Have a wonderful summer!

### **Staycation Mission Trip June 24- 28**

Are you signed up?

We will serve at Vacation Bible School in the morning and then out in the community in the afternoon. Be a part of the fun and service!  
(\$5/day or \$25/total) Sign up with Ms. Jenny.

Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director  
[jenny.piontek@rlcary.org](mailto:jenny.piontek@rlcary.org) or 919-851-7248, ext. 24.

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## **Resurrection Lutheran Preschool**

### **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.

### **Last Summer Camp!**

Open to 3-year-olds to Rising Kindergarteners. Children in our 2's classes currently

can attend. All ages must be toilet trained.

June 17-20, 9:15 am-12:30 pm

June 24-28 ~ RLC VBS

Neighbors, friends, and family welcome!

[rlpcary.org](http://rlpcary.org) | 919-851-7270 | [office@rlpcary.org](mailto:office@rlpcary.org)

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## Resurrection Lutheran School



[rlscary.org](http://rlscary.org) | 919-851-7271 | [contact@rlscary.org](mailto:contact@rlscary.org)

Latest Lion's Tale

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For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at  
[youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC](https://youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC)  
or through our website at  
[rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship](https://rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship).

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## This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

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### Attendance and Giving

#### In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, June 8  
6:00 pm - 45

Sunday, June 9  
8:00 am - 75

9:30 am - 102  
11:00 am - 132

**Total In-Person Worship: 354**

### **Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel**

Sunday, June 9  
8:00 am - 94  
11:00 am - 28

**Total Online Views: 122 views**

### **Financial Update**

Budget for 2023-2024: \$1,443,588  
Giving to Date with 3 weeks Remaining: \$1,359,610  
Budgeted Giving to Date at 49 weeks: \$1,360,304  
Current Deficit Year to Date: \$694.00

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 [rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving](http://rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving)
- Download the Vanco Mobile app, Search for Resurrection Lutheran Church

Questions? Contact [finance@rlcary.org](mailto:finance@rlcary.org).

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# Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

[rlcary.org](http://rlcary.org)

919-851-7248 | [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)

## Prayers of the Church – June 16, 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, \*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, \*Alison Whatley

#### For Expectant Moms

Jessica, Taylor Stephani

#### Those Prayed for on June 9, 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 Sterling Wallace Phillips, Parents Sara and James, Neice of \*Dawn's Leister
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace Event, 25 Beds Built and Quilts Made
- Resurrection Lutheran School 8th Grade Graduation
- Resurrection Lutheran School's School Year
- Blind Ministry Dinner
- Rebecca's 19th Birthday
- Judy
- Retirement

## **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
- \*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 Recovering
- Betty, Memory Issues
- \*Vern Ebert
- \*Mindy Stephani, Recovery
- Doug Gill, Cancer Treatment
- \*Helen Campbell
- Joan Gresens, Mother of \*Phil Gresens
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of \*Jen Kirby
- \*Cheri Spitz
- \*Bob Bruce
- \*Alison Whatley
- Jack Simpson, Recovery and His Wife and Doctors (Parents of \*Cleveland Simpson)
- Danny, John, Riva, Renee, Tim, Justin, Red, Brian, Timmy, Kevin, Keith, Mark, Carlton, Carol, Anna, Anne, Skylar, Patty, Clare, Lynn, Sydney, Doug, Imma, Paul, Baby Sterling, Patricia, Lynne, Eric, Mara, Connie, Brenda, Joe, Corey, Dave

## **For Comfort**

- Friends and Family of \*Eve Sommers, Especially Her Daughter, Janice Sommers and Son-In-Law Mike Koury

## **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, Adjust to Transitions and Discernment for Doctors
- \*Ginny and \*Ed Koren
- \*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, Upcoming Move
- Final Weeks of School for Resurrection Lutheran School
- Lutheran Higher Education, Especially Concordia Ann Arbor and Wisconsin

**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.*