# Ninth Sunday After Pentecost July 21, 2024



Pastor's Corner for July 21-27, 2024

# The Eternal Community (Ephesians 2:11-22)

Have you ever noticed the bumper stickers on cars? Maybe you have some on your own vehicle. The intent of bumper stickers may be up in the air, but I always see them as a way to show unity. They are symbols of things, people, places, etc. that you belong to. If you look at my car you will know immediately that I enjoy fishing, I have a connection to Michigan, and I graduated from Concordia University Ann Arbor. Every once in a while, I'll have someone stop me in the parking lot to talk about the Michigan bumper sticker, but one time I actually had a fellow Concordia graduate recognize my bumper sticker! That was a fun moment of community that

only a bumper sticker could bring.

What bumper stickers do you have? In a way, they do form a sense of community, even if it is a little far-fetched. After all, that is what we are looking for isn't it? To one degree or another, every person on earth is searching for community. It is how God created humanity. We are created for community.

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." (Genesis 2:18)

God knew that Adam needed another (namely a wife) to complete His community-driven creation. Community was the finishing touch on God's perfect creation! Which is probably why it is the number one thing the devil continually attacks. It is scary dichotomy that the one thing all creation yearns for, community, is the number one thing on the devil's hit list. We see this at work all the time. We see a breakdown in the community of family and friends. We see the division of community in our nation at large and in the politics discussed on social media or in the dining room. We see community come to blows on differing opinions of everything from tv shows to sports teams to candy to the cars that hold the bumper stickers. The places that we find community are the battle ground for the devil. He will use everything in his power to tear apart the places that we love so dearly.

BUT NOW in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. (Eph. 2:13)

BUT we are a part of a different community, an eternal community. God still desires His creation to be a part of the never-ending community. That was His desire in the beginning with Adam and Eve and that is still His desire now. God has accomplished that desire by sending His Son to die on the cross and rise from the grave, defeating all the devil's vain attempts at severing us from our community God.

In His death and resurrection, Christ did more than bring us peace with the Father (though that is incredible enough!). Paul continues, "For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of

hostility" (v.14). The community that flows from Christ, flows into the church. Though we may be scattered through towns, states, and countries throughout the world, we are united by the eternal blood of Christ. In the end, there will be no "bumper-sticker community" but only the eternal community that you and I are joyously a part of!

Your eternal brother in Christ, Pastor Zach Sarrault

## **Prayers of the Church**



Christmas in July is here! The Christmas trees are located in the Narthex of the Sanctuary and the Lobby of the Family Life Center from July 1-31.

Each tree has numerous ornament "tags". Take a tag and return it to the tree with the requested item next time you are at church. No need to wrap them!

This year, our gifts will benefit Green Chair Project (<u>thegreenchair.org</u>), Families Together (<u>familiestogethernc.org</u>), and Safe Families for Children (<u>raleigh.safe-families.org</u>).

## Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry for the Visually Impaired meets

## Friday, July 26

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).

# YOUNG FAMILIESgathering



All families with kids (5th grade and younger) are invited to a Young Families Gathering for food and fun!

Sunday, July 28 at 4:00 pm at the home of Elliot and Holly Canupp 1404 Leanne Ct., Raleigh

RSVP to Pastor Zach, Elliot and Holly Canupp, or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

# The Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, August 9

We thank all our volunteers who help us to have wonderful Coffeehouses! We couldn't do it without our faithful volunteers. Please join us! 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: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/3kqoHGN">bit.ly/3kqoHGN</a>

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday, August 9** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center gym. We will have A *Touch of Brass* play for us!

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



Lutheran Women in Mission 6th Biennial Convention

September 20-21, 2024 Resurrection Lutheran Church



Theme: Be Still and Know

## Save the Date!

For convention details, <u>LWML Carolinas District</u>.

Contact Carol Bostick through RCB 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.



## **Children and Family Ministry**



SCUBA Vacation Bible School was a splash-tastic adventure! With 160 kids served by 65 volunteers, we dove right into a friendship with God and oceans of fun. Filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences, like God sightings where we helped kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life.

## Check out our video!

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

## **Youth Ministry**

Middle School and High School





Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director <a href="mailto:jenny.piontek@rlcary.org">jenny.piontek@rlcary.org</a> or 919-851-7248, ext. 24.

## **Resurrection Lutheran Preschool**

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool (RLP) is looking for caring, dependable individuals who enjoy working with young children. Enthusiasm, patience, and a love of working with and teaching 2-year-old to young 5-year-old children is important, as well as being part of the team of the RLP Staff.

Although a degree in early education would be ideal, experience with children is considered. Our program is half day and works well with elementary/high school families' schedules.

If interested or you know someone that may be interested, contact Diane Hooper at <u>director@rlpcary.org</u> or 919-851-7270. Resumes may be sent to this email address.



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

## **Resurrection Lutheran School**



Enrollment is open!

If you'd like to learn more about Resurrection Lutheran School, give us a call or visit us online today!

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

**Latest Lion's Tale** 



For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at <a href="youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC">youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC</a>
or through our website at <a href="rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship">rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship</a>.

## This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

## **Weekly Attendance**

## **In-Person Worship Attendance**

Saturday, July 13 6:00 pm - 48

Sunday, July 14 8:00 am - 55 9:30 am - 133 11:00 am - 98

**Total In-Person Worship: 334** 

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

Sunday, July 14 8:00 am - 100 11:00 am - 25

**Total Online Views: 125 views** 

## **Church Calendar**



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

<u>rlcary.org</u>

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

### Prayers of the Church – July 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, \*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, Ames, Doug Gill, Emily, \*Alison Whatley, Joe Huley

#### **For Expectant Moms**

Jessica, Taylor Stephani

#### Those Prayed for on July 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
- RLC Generous Response to "Close the Gap" Appeal
- Lisa's Wedding
- Good Test Results
- Lyn, Successful Surgery

#### **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, 8-year-old, 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
- \*Alison Whatley
- \*Dianna Spirovich, Comfort and Peace Awaiting Surgery
- \*Sally Cotton
- Alice, Sister of \*Keith Leister
- \*Cleveland Simpson, Recovery
- \*Steve Robinson, Recovery
- Dave B.
- Lynn, Recovery from Surgery
- Cheryl, Pat, Gil, Dick, Sandy, Patricia, Emily, Kathleen, Noreen, Sylvia, Shelby, Jimmy, Ken, Juan's Dad, Cathy, Pam, Rich, Justin, Red, Brian, Kevin, Keith, Mark, Sam, Tim, David, Carlton, Carol, Anna, Anne, Skylar, Patty, Terrie, Bob, Dave, Scott, Steve, Mary, Marty, Eric, Connie, Doug

#### **For Comfort**

- Friends and Family of Connie Knuth, Wife of RLC's Former Pastor, Jim Knuth
- Friends and Family of Carol Stano, Especially Husband Rev. Lester Stano and Daughter Laurie Snyder, Friend of \*Jamee Thieme
- Friends and Family of \*Ed Fuge, Especially His Daughters

#### 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
- Safe Travels
- 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
- Sara, Upcoming Move, Peace and Comfort
- Our Country
- All Affected by Tropical Storm Beryl, Power Outages, Flooding, Property Damage
- Jessica, Homeless

## 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, and Ellen
- 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 7/19/24