

Second Sunday in Advent

December 8, 2024



Pastor's Corner for December 8-14, 2024

Advent-Project (Philippians 1:2-11)

Christmas can feel like an ongoing project. Whenever you start the season, you know it won't end until the final scrap of wrapping paper is picked up, the last piece of pie is eaten, and all those decorations are stowed away in the attic again. And then, it's all over. None of the fanfare and excitement of putting it up is left when it is all taken down. Throughout the whole season, one can feel like they are stuck in a never-ending project.

But the project never really ends. For us, as God's People, we are always in the midst of the Advent-Project. Advent is all about the coming of Christ. Of course, we celebrate the first coming of Christ when the Son of God "was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary", fulfilling God's long-awaited promise first

given to Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:15). Advent is also the season when we prepare for the second coming of Christ when He returns in glory to “judge the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end”, fulfilling God’s long-awaited promise that this is not the end.

But the end of the project is guaranteed for us as God’s people! We are always looking forward to Christ’s second Advent, we are continually Advent people, just as we are always Christmas people, always Lenten people, always Easter people. All of it is part of our identity as God’s People. We are always living amid God’s Advent-Project.

“I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:6)

This is the Advent-Project. It is His work, His goodness, His plan, His ending, His coming. Both the first and second Advent are all a part of God’s Advent-Project, and it’s the Project that He has brought us into. Just like we are brought into His Story, we are also brought into His Project.

What is our role? Engaging with God in His work of saving the world. How do we engage with God in this project? Through the same modes that we have heard time and time again. **We engage through prayer.** Talk with God about those He has given you to serve and love. **We engage through His Word.** Drink deeply from the Story and Project that you are a part of and witness the good work of Christ for you and all people. **We engage through inviting others to Church.** Who has God given you to bring into His presence? You know what the completed project will be at the second Advent, and we want everyone to be a part of God’s Advent-Project!

I am sure that Christ is using you in His Advent-Project, working in you His Good Work until that glorious day of the second Advent we look forward to!

Your actively waiting brother in Christ,
Pastor Zach Sarrault

Worship-Related News (from Pastor Jonathan):

New Worship Volunteers: Starting this Sunday, December 8, we are pleased to welcome a new category of volunteers to our regular services: Medical Emergency Assistants. Thanks to our newly formed "Stewardship of Life and Health Team," we will be identifying RLC members already worshipping with you who are able to offer a little extra care for you should you need help during a medical emergency.

Thanks this Sunday to Lynn Miller (8 AM), Hannah Yllanes (9:30 AM), and Deb Gebbia (11 AM) for being available and serving! Future helpers will be listed in the "Worship Volunteers" section of the worship bulletin. Thanks also to RLC member Dr. Stephen Telloni for facilitating this loving service to our RLC community.

"Soothing" Last Saturdays: The quiet, meditative mood of our evening Taizé services is a beloved worship environment for many in the RLC community. However, our Saturday Taizé service, usually the "last" Saturday of the month, does not come around every month and at times moves from that "last" Saturday slot to another weekend (which is why I put "last" in quotation marks!). Moreover, a number of worshippers at RLC have a sensitivity issue to worshipping with louder music (organ or praise band) and find it physically difficult to worship with us when no other option is provided. For that reason, we have decided to offer worship with a quieter piano-only accompaniment on EVERY last Saturday (Saturdays on weekends containing the last Sunday of the month) to accommodate the need.

If you worship with us on any of these Saturday evenings at 6:00 pm, please come ready to take part either in either a Taizé service or other service with piano -- not organ. Soothing Last Saturdays will begin this month: December 28.

I invite you to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Prayers of the Church

The Season of Advent



The Time is Coming

The Christmas story is tied into the entire Bible story. It was first mentioned in the very beginning, as soon as sin entered the world, God promised that Christmas would come. Christmas is the glorious work of God to fulfill that long-awaited promise, forgive His people, restore His community, and be our present peace for eternity. As we anticipate the awesome celebration, God draws our attention to His original promises, inviting us to see how He delivered on those promises in sending us Jesus. He continues to deliver on His promises to us, again and again, today.

December 8 ~ 2nd Sunday in Advent

Sanctuary Services - Saturday 6:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am*, 9:30 am

Praise Worship - Sunday 11:00 am* in the Family Life Center

December 11 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm*

Holden Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary

[Full Listing of Advent and Christmas Worship Services](#)

Services marked with an asterisk (*) will be live streamed [online](#)
[@ResurrectionLutheranCary](#).

Reaching Out with the Love of Christ to All People through Advent Offerings

Each Season of Advent, RLC designates ministries to support in reaching out with Christ's love to all people. This year, the following organizations were chosen:

Camp Linn Haven

Camp Linn Haven is located in Avery County, North Carolina. Its mission is to provide a wholesome, safe Christian vacation setting for persons of all ages and abilities, offer opportunities to combine the camping experience with worship and devotional activities, and to encourage fellowship through the many and varied recreational activities offered by the camp. Hurricane Helene caused significant damage to the camp facilities. Visit camplinnhaven.org for more information and the many pictures documenting the damage.

Orphan Grain Train

Orphan Grain Train is a Christian volunteer network that ships donated food, clothing, medical, and other needed items to people in 71 different countries including the United States. This group worked with Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Asheville to distribute needed items for people affected by Hurricane Helene. The aid provided included 29,000 pounds of purchased food, generators, heaters, a 5,300-gallon water tanker truck to help with the water shortage and many other disaster relief items. Visit their website at ogt.org for more information regarding their hurricane relief work in North Carolina.

Please use Advent Offering envelopes or indicate 'Advent Offerings' on memo of checks.

Voter's Meeting

Sunday, December 8

12:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Main Topic is the
Election of Council Members for 2025

Childcare Provided

The three candidates are listed below:



MIKE HAERTLING

Mike and his wife Trudy have been members of Resurrection since 2018. Both are active in the church, helping during Saturday Evening Service or 8:00 am Service, Coffeehouse, Wednesday Evening Suppers, and other special events. Mike retired from Los Alamos National Laboratory after 36 years of service in Nuclear Weapons engineering and physics, but continues to consult part time with the Department of Energy out of Washington DC.

Mike is completing his fourth year on the RLC Council (completing 2nd year as President) and is interested in serving for another term. He wants to continue working on charters, the Resurrection Lutheran Church Governance Document, and

communications both within the Resurrection Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool community and externally with our sister LCMS churches in the Raleigh area. Mike's main goal continues to be serving the Lord and helping ensure the church continues to teach God's Word in its truth and purity as presented in the Holy Scripture and the Confessions of our church – despite the fast-changing world around us.



JASON JENNINGS

Jason and his wife, Martha, have been members of Resurrection since 2022. They have two sons, Jackson (7) and Max (5). Max is in kindergarten at Resurrection Lutheran School. Jason is thrilled with the way Resurrection teaches ways to incorporate a Christ-centered focus in the family. That's why you can often spot Jason attending the 11:00 am Sunday worship service, adult Christian Education on Sundays and Wednesdays, Wednesday morning Chapel at RLS, many young family gatherings, or playing for the church softball team. Martha also helps teach children's Sunday School for kindergarten and first grade.

Jason was born in Raleigh, grew up in Cary right across the street from RLC, and previously served on the worship team and audio/visual team for the now closed New Haven Baptist Church and Freedom River Church in Raleigh. Jason currently works for the North Carolina Community Foundation and has experience working for local television stations, including more than 12 years at WRAL. He is also active on his son's Cub Scouts leadership committee and is often helping coach his sons' sports teams.



CHARLES MILLER

I have been married to Stacy Miller for 23 years, moved to North Carolina in 2007 where we have raised our family. We joined RLC 12 years ago because the teachings and morals of this church are well aligned with our own beliefs. We are especially thankful that our children could be raised in the close-knit and caring environment which this congregation has provided. My two children, Nora (20) and James (18), both attended Resurrection Lutheran Preschool and School.

I have served on the RLC Council for the past 2 years. Additionally, I have enjoyed being one of the cooks for the monthly men's breakfast and serving as usher at the 8:00 am service. I would like to continue my service on the council, especially to further develop and maintain the culture which attracted our family to RLC.

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

SUNDAY

Different Ages, One Christ

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am - Fellowship Hall

October 27-December 22

Ian Glenn

(No Class December 15)

MONDAY

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm - Room 151, Family Life Center & Zoom

Advent Studies - December 2-9

Jamee Thieme, Sharon Hahne, Dawn Leister

***Still Going!* Men's Weekly Study and Fellowship**

Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm - Room 240, Family Life Center

October 21-December 16

****Last Meeting will be Potluck and Gift Exchange at 6:30 pm***

Tom Gebbia

TUESDAY

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am - Fellowship Hall

Ongoing

Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault

WEDNESDAY

Men with Kids - The Book of Jonah

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm - Room 247, Family Life Center

October 30-December 18

Tom Gebbia

Grace-ful Women

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm - Room 251, Family Life Center

Ragged - October 30-December 18

Pastor Jonathan and Juli Blanke

Christian education information, including class descriptions, [can be found here](#).

Any questions can be directed to church office (office@rlcary.org 919-851-7248).

• **YOUNG FAMILIES** •
gathering



Join us on **Sunday, December 8** at 4:00 pm
for Food, Fun, and White Elephant Gift Exchange!
(1 gift for kids and 1 gift for adults)

We will meet at the Justice home (3816 Olde Waverly Way, Fuquay-Varina).

Please use this link to RSVP and what you will bring:
[Justice White Elephant Gift December RLC Gathering](#)

Questions? Contact Ian and Derica Justice or Pastor Zach Sarrault

Adult Game Night
Sunday, December 8



For more information or to sign up, contact Sandy Wuori or Ben Wuori through RCB or the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org.

Emmaus Way Walking Group

Come join the Emmaus Way Walking Group on **Wednesdays!**

Meet in the Java Jive parking lot at 9:00 am for walking
or come for fellowship at 9:30 am in Java Jive.

Java Jive is located across Kildaire Farm Road from RLC.
(2425 Kildaire Farm Road, Suite 403)

Contact: Lyle Malotky

Supper & Scripture Wednesday Evening Activities Advent Schedule

5:00-5:30 pm
Jubilee Bells, Sanctuary

(No Dinners in December)

5:30-6:00 pm
Rainbow Choir, Sanctuary
Sunshine Singers, Choir Room

6:00-6:45 pm
Advent Worship, Sanctuary

7:00-8:00 pm Adult Christian Ed
Men with Kids, Room 247
Grace-ful Women, Room 251

7:00-8:00 pm
Confirmation, Room 240

7:00-8:00 pm
Heavenly Handbells, Sanctuary

8:00-9:15 pm
Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary



YOUNG ADULT
(AGES 19-31)
CHRISTMAS
POTLUCK

BRING A SIDE
or
DESSERT
TO SHARE

13 DECEMBER
6 PM
at
THE HULSES

CONTACT SPENCER HULSE
THROUGH RCB



MEN'S BREAKFAST



Saturday,
December 14
8:00 am
Fellowship Hall

Come gather for fellowship, food, and message.
All men welcome.

Contact Tom Gebbia through RCB, mens-ministry@rlcary.org,
or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Christmas Worship Services

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

- 3:00 pm** For Families with Young Children, Interactive Lessons & Carol Singing
- 4:30 pm** Traditional Christmas Carol Family Worship
Special Pre-Service Musical Offerings by Students
- 6:00 pm** Candlelight Service with Contemporary Settings of Traditional Carols
and Holy Communion in the Family Life Center
- 8:00 pm** Candlelight Service with Traditional Christmas Carols
Brass Ensemble, Sanctuary Choir, Heavenly Handbells (*live stream)
- 10:00 pm** Candlelight Service with Traditional Christmas Carols
and Holy Communion

December 25 ~ Christmas Day

- 10:00 am** Celebration of Holy Communion with Christmas Carols

ALL IS
calm
ALL IS
bright



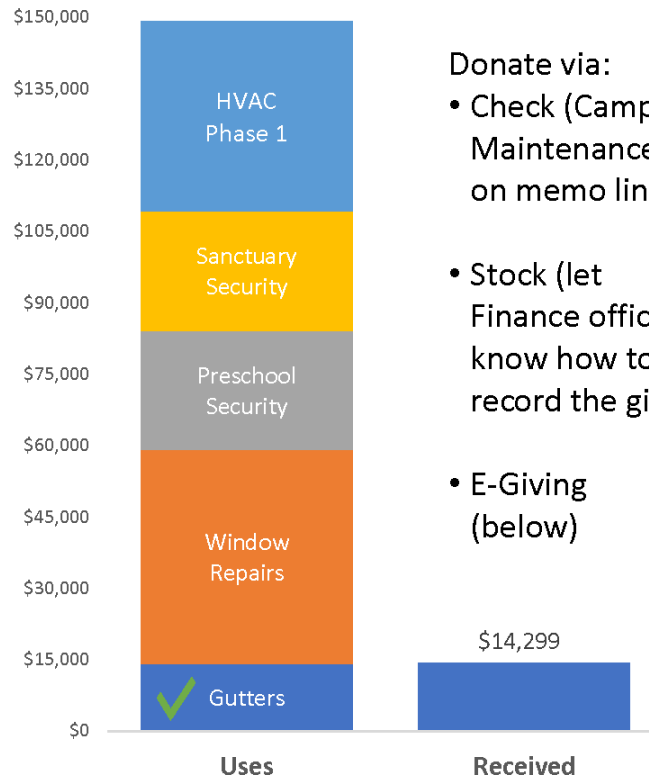
Campus Maintenance Initiative

Thank you to the RLC family. We've raised over \$14,000 so far in our efforts to fund the needed repairs and improvement to our facility. The first item has been checked off. A new gutter system will be installed December 3-4.

Please continue to prayerfully consider and support the CMI. Our initial project list now totals nearly \$150K (window replacements, security enhancements, HVAC replacement).



Campus Maintenance Initiative Status Monitor – Nov 2024



Donate via:

- Check (Campus Maintenance on memo line)
- Stock (let Finance office know how to record the gift)
- E-Giving (below)

We invite you to make your offering through our online giving site!



Campus Maintenance Initiative
Gutters, Windows, and HVAC fund

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

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 News
December 2024**

Upcoming Events:
December 6 - Parents Night Out 5:30-9 pm
December 8 - Bible Buddy Adoption Check In -Room 151 9:30- noon
December 8 - Young Family Gathering at the Justice Family Home 4 pm
December 15 and 29 - No Children's Sunday School
December 24 - Christmas Eve Family Service 3 pm
January 5 - Children's Sunday School resumes 9:30-10:30
**January 8 - Kidz Live and Intentional Parenting resume
6-7 pm FLC**

A colorful illustration of a nativity scene. In the center is a wooden manger with a yellow roof, containing baby Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes, Mary, and Joseph. To the left is a brown cow and a white sheep. To the right are three wise men on camels, a donkey, and a sheep. The background is a blue sky with a full moon and falling snow.



Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director,
at erika.hulse@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248, ext. 62.

Youth Ministry

Middle School and High School

I am beyond grateful for the amazing youth that presented at our Hanging of the Greens service and helped out with the decorating the weekend before. The leadership and poise demonstrated is so exciting to see what is yet to come in their faith walks.

We have our last Sunday School for the holiday season this Sunday, December 8 from 9:30-10:30 am. We will have some fun with the Christmas story and donuts.

We have two big events for our last High School Youth Groups of the year. Check your email for details.

Friendsgiving - Sunday, December 8 from 5:00-6:30 pm

Christmas Party & Gift Exchange - Sunday, December 15 from 5:00-7:00 pm

Middle School:

We will resume Wednesday Youth Group on January 8 from 6:00-7:00 pm.

High School:

We will meet again in the New Year on Sunday, January 5 from 5:00-6:30 pm.

Have a wonderfully blessed Christmas season!





Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director
jenny.piontek@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248, ext. 24.

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Enrollment for 2025-26

at Resurrection Lutheran
PRESCHOOL

*Registration forms will be emailed
after Thanksgiving*

+ Classes for children 2-years-old
thru 5-years-old **+**

*Our program provides a balance of
academic and social opportunities by
'learning through play'
in a loving Christian atmosphere.*

Class openings are currently available for the
2024-25 preschool year.



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

Resurrection Lutheran School



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

Latest Lion's Tale

WORSHIP SERVICES

Traditional Worship
in Sanctuary

Saturday, 6:00 pm
Sunday, *8:00 & 9:30 am

Praise Worship
in Family Life Center

Sunday, *11:00 am

**Services Live Streamed to YouTube*

For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at
youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC
or through our website at
rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

Weekly Attendance

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, November 30

6:00 pm - 36

Sunday, December 1

8:00 am - 89

9:30 am - 135

11:00 am - 106

Wednesday, December 4

6:00 pm - 106

Total In-Person Worship: 472

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, December 1

8:00 am - 118

11:00 am - 41

Total Online Views: 159 views

Financial Update - Fiscal 2024/25

October 2024

Budgeted Giving to Date: \$449,500.00

Actual Giving to Date: \$441,818.37

Current Over/(Under) Giving: \$(7,681.63)

Budgeted Expenses to Date: \$483,333.33

Actual Expenses to Date: \$473,060.12

Current Under/(Over) Spend: \$10,273.21

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

rlcary.org

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

Prayers of the Church – December 8, 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, *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, 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

Taylor Stephani, *Hannah Yllanes

Those Prayed for on December 1, 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
- Mark and Megan Mantey's Relocation to Maine and Their New Journey of Service
- Birth of Lucas Timothy Clarke, Parents *Alex and *Melanie Clarke
- Family Togetherness

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
- Pastor William Otto, Cancer Treatment and Surgery
- Bruce, Brother of *Ralph Klevenow

- *Pam Dickson
- *Stephanie Ford
- Betty, Memory Issues
- *Vern Ebert
- *Mindy Stephani, Continued Recovery
- Doug Gill, Ongoing Cancer Treatment
- *Helen Campbell
- Joan Gresens, Mother of *Phil Gresens
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of *Jen Kirby
- *Alison Whatley
- *Sally Cotton
- *Yvette Crawley, Recovery
- Christie, Cancer Treatment
- Fred Litten, Recovery
- Debbie, Sister of *Lynne Hoffman
- *Lynne Hoffman
- Steve Cottle, Healing
- Cathy, Jessica, Alan, Tim, Justin, Red, Brian, Kevin, Keith, Mark, Timmy, Carlton, Carol, Anna, Anne, Skylar, Patty, Gene and Lois, Doug, Paul, Alice, Lynne, Roy, Bryon, Pam, Yvette, Imma, Steve, Mindy, Ken, Harold, Matthew, Kelly, Mark, Connie, Patty, Nancy, Steve, Reggie, Louise, Bill, Jack, Sandy

For Comfort

- Friends and Family of Dan Wolf, Cousin of *Jamee Thieme
- Friends and Family of Pastor John Misenheimer
- Family of Luke Spencer, Infant

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- Persecuted Christians
- People Around the World Affected by Natural Disasters, Especially People of Western NC, SC, GA, TN, and FL
- Families of Those Missing and Lost in Western NC
- Mountainside Lutheran Church and Camp Linn Haven
- Safety and Thanksgiving for People Helping with Recovery Efforts
- People of Ukraine, and All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- People of Israel, People of Gaza, and People of Lebanon, 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 and Discernment for Doctors
- *Ginny and *Ed Koren
- *Meredith A.
- *Fran Xenakis
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles and Families in Turmoil

- Those Seeking Jobs and Career Changes
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- Immanuel Lutheran Church, Altamont IL and Their Call Process
- Mark, Son of *Charlotte Raines, and Their Family
- Wayne and Dorothy Conners, and Their Family
- College Students and Finals
- Difficult Time of Year for Many
- Jordan, Struggling with Being Bullied
- Fortitude During Exams
- My Mother Mary, Strength and Grace
- My Immediate Family Guidance and Answers

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
- Our Ministry of Presence

For Ongoing Mission and Outreach Efforts

- Missionaries to the Dominican Republic, Stan and Dana Stigdon
- RLC's The Coffeehouse
- RLC's Blind Ministry
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- Safe Families for Children
- Families Together/PLM
- Camp Agape Ministries
- Read-a-Book at Reedy Creek Elementary School and Our RLC Volunteers

For Our Missionaries

- 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.*