

Third Sunday in Advent

December 15, 2024



Pastor's Corner for December 15-21, 2024

Slow Down **(Philippians 4:4-7)**

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. These are the themes for the four candles on an Advent wreath. Every Sunday of Advent we light a new candle, and you may do the same at your own home. While each candle has a name and purpose, what is the goal of these candles? What are they trying to accomplish in our faith life?

When we hear those four words, Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, they may sound like goals to accomplish during the Christmas season. Depending on the day or store you're in, they might sound like a mockery of the anxiety, loneliness, speed, and busyness of the Christmas season. But we must remember, this is not the Christmas season, this is the Advent season, and there is a difference.

As baptized children of our Father God, we live in a time of expectation. Expecting the celebration of Christ's first Advent and looking forward to His second Advent.

In-between here and there, what are we to do? How do we wait? Somedays, it feels like we are always running around in a Christmas season. Other days we may feel lost and lonely. We try and accomplish the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love that we see light the Advent wreath, but those are not things we accomplish. They are all things that God has accomplished for you.

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love are God's gifts that echo all throughout His Bible Story from start to finish, and in this short passage in Paul's Philippian letter, we can find all four.

"Rejoice in the Lord" not in ourselves, see the Joy of all that God has done for you! **"The Lord is at hand"** as Immanuel, God with us, giving us the Hope that He is with us at this very moment, preparing us for that awesome second Advent! **"The Peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"**. God's Peace is with you. It's not a feeling, it's a fact, a guarantee that we are not required to understand, but simply to live in God's Peace that you have right now. **"Think about these things"** of God's Love for you. The Love of God that brought Christ on that first Advent and the Love of God that will bring Christ back on that glorious second Advent.

The Advent season is meant to slow us down. I know, that seems impossible as I have my own to-do list staring at me on my desk, but remember, it's the Advent season not the Christmas season. In all the things that we work to get done during Christmas, let us remember all the work that Christ has already done for us during Advent.

Your slow brother in Christ,
Pastor Zach Sarrault

Please note, there will be no Sunday School, adult and children, this week.

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 15 ~ 3rd Sunday in Advent

The Messiah at 8:00 am and 9:30 am

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 18 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm

Family Friendly Carol Celebration Outdoors in the Circle Drive

[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.

Christmas Worship Services



December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

3:00 pm

Ideal for Families with Young Children,
Interactive Lessons and 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 Family Life Center

8:00 pm

Candlelight Service with Traditional Christmas Carols
with 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
with Anno Domini Quartet and Gloria Singers



Southeastern District

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

November 20, 2024

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

Dear Members:

On behalf of the Southeastern District LCMS, I want to extend our deepest gratitude for your generous donation to our Disaster Response efforts in the wake of Hurricane Helene. Your 10/10/2024, gift of \$15,000 is a powerful expression of Christ's love and compassion to those who have been affected by this devastating storm.

Your contribution is truly making a difference in bringing hope and comfort to those in great need. Through your generosity, we can assist with immediate needs and be present in the long term to help as needs arise in the weeks ahead.

As we continue our relief efforts, your partnership is invaluable. Please know that your donation not only addresses physical needs but also reflects the Gospel message of love and service to our neighbors. It is through generous hearts like yours that we are able to shine the light of Christ in this challenging time.

Thank you again for standing with us and for being the hands and feet of Jesus in this time of recovery. May the Lord bless you and give you every opportunity to connect people with Jesus so that lives are transformed, and His Kingdom grows.

In His Service,

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Bill Harmon, President
Southeastern District, LCMS

P.S: Please follow the work of the Southeastern District at www.se.lcms.org.

Southeastern District, LCMS is a 501(c)(3) charity (EIN #52-063-5096). No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution.

Connecting People with Jesus

2305 N Parham Rd Suite 200 | Henrico, VA 23229 | 703.971.9371 | se.lcms.org

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

SUNDAY

No Different Ages, One Christ

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

October 27-December 22

Ian Glenn

(No Class December 15)

MONDAY

Last Monday Night Women's Bible Study

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

Off-Site Gathering This Week!

Jamee Thieme, Sharon Hahne, Dawn Leister

Last Men's Weekly Study and Fellowship

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

October 21-December 16

Potluck and Gift Exchange This Week! (6:30 pm start)

Tom Gebbia

TUESDAY

Last Tuesday Morning Bible Study

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

Ongoing

Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault

WEDNESDAY

Last Men with Kids - The Book of Jonah

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

October 30-December 18

Tom Gebbia

Last 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 the church office at office@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248.

Mites for Missions

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **December 14 and 15**. 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!

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
Sonshine 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

The Next Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults for 2025

Friday, January 10

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, 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: bit.ly/3VAAtWWO



The next Coffeehouse is **Friday, January 10 from 7:00-8:30 pm** in the Family Life Center Gym. Live entertainment by *The Back Porch String Band* and light refreshments served.

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

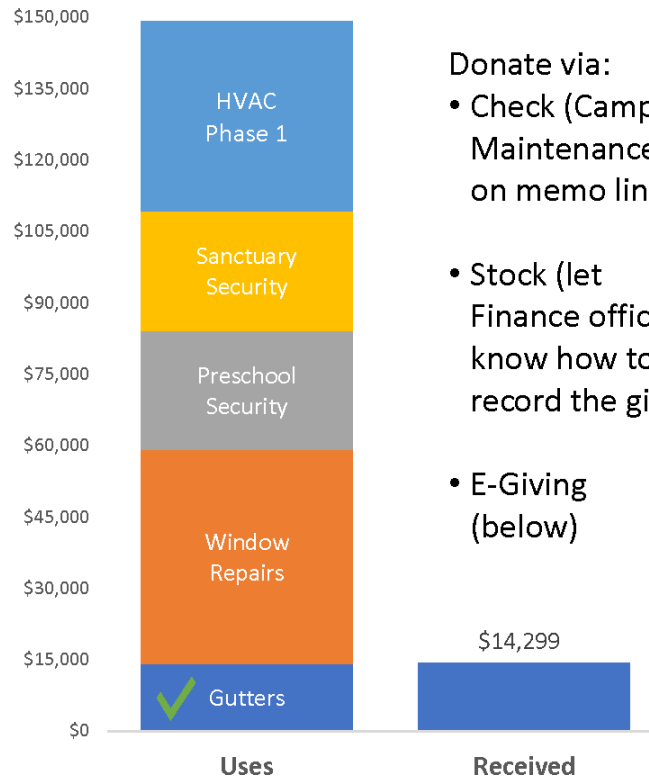
Campus Maintenance Initiative

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 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**



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

We have one last event for our High School Youth Group.

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 +

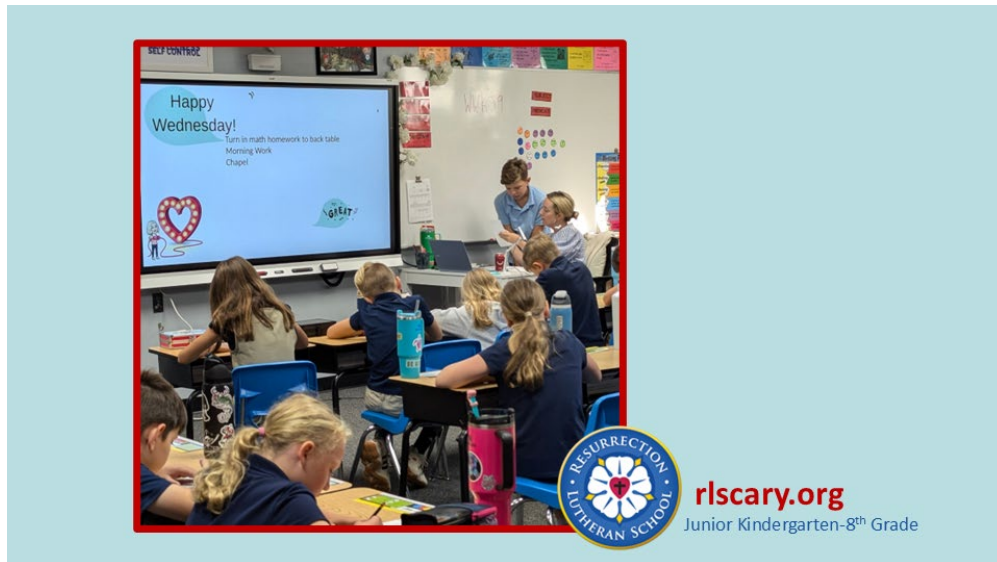
*Our program provides a balance of
academic and social opportunities by
'learning through play'
in a loving Christian atmosphere.*

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	Praise Worship in Family Life Center
Saturday, 6:00 pm	Sunday, *11:00 am
Sunday, *8:00 & 9:30 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, December 7

6:00 pm - 49

Sunday, December 8

8:00 am - 105

9:30 am - 141

11:00 am - 106

Wednesday, December 11

6:00 pm - 75

Total In-Person Worship: 476

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, December 8

8:00 am - 107

11:00 am - 43

Wednesday, December 11
6:00 pm - 34

Total Online Views: 184 views

Financial Update - Fiscal 2024/25

November 2024

Budgeted Giving to Date: \$561,875.00
Actual Giving to Date: \$552,976.12
Current Over/(Under) Giving: \$(8,898.88)

Budgeted Expenses to Date: \$604,166.67
Actual Expenses to Date: \$582,851.53
Current Under/(Over) Spend: \$21,315.14

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 15, 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 8, 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 Lucas Timothy Clarke, Parents *Alex and *Melanie Clarke
- Generosity of Our RLC Family for the Christmas Store Collection!
- Ladies Luncheon on December 4
- Sara's 90th Baptismal Birthday
- Vern and Dorothy Ebert's 72nd Anniversary
- Young Adults Who Continue Their Faith Journey by Coming to Worship

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
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of *Jen Kirby
- *Alison Whatley
- *Sally Cotton
- *Yvette Crawley, Recovery
- Christie, Cancer Treatment
- Debbie, Sister of *Lynne Hoffman
- *Lynne Hoffman
- Steve Cottle, Healing
- Brian, Recovery
- Kimberly, Mindy, Gene and Lois, Keith, Tim, Justin, Red, Brian, Kevin, Keith, Mark, Carlton, Carol, Anne, Anna, Skylar, Patty, Jazmine, Doug, Paul, Alice, Emma, Marg, Bryon, Pam, Yvette, Lynne, Roy, Bud, Kelly, Pastor Ron Trumball, Kathy, Noreen, Sylvia, Joann, Marie, Olivia, Ken, Harold, Kelly, Debbie, Joe, Marge, Dave, Jack, Sandy, Amanda, Reggie, Louis, Henry, Bill, Shim

For Comfort

- Friends and Family of Pastor John Misenheimer
- Friends and Family of Nick and Taylor, Loss of Premature Baby
- Friends and Family of Joan Gresens, Mother of *Phil Gresens

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, End of Academic Semester and Finals
- Comfort For All Who Find This Season to Be a Difficult Time
- Young People with Mental Health Concerns, Struggles
- People with Alzheimer's
- No Snow Melt Flooding Please
- Career Choices

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
- Orphan Grain Train

For Our Missionaries

- JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia
[Click here for the Cima Family Newsletter!](#)
- Shauen and Krista Trump, Kenya

*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.*