

# Third Sunday After the Epiphany

January 26, 2025

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*Pastor's Corner for January 26-February 1, 2025*

## **Be with God (Nehemiah 8:1-10)**

If Jesus asked to take you out for lunch, would you take Him up on the offer? I'm willing to bet most of us would! I know it's a silly question, but it can be fun to ponder. Where would you take Him to eat (let's assume He's paying!)? What would you want to talk with Him about? Would you sit and listen or throw every imaginable question His way? Would you take Him to a public place, so everyone could see you with the Savior of the world, or would you chose a quiet little bistro with no distractions? Would you take time planning your outfit or rush out of the house in a frantic hurry of excitement? Would you hesitate, wondering if His invitation was really meant for you?

Someday, we will get to sit around a table and actually, physically, talk with Jesus. And not just Jesus, but talk with all the saints, from Adam and Eve, to Abraham, to Moses, to Mary and Joseph, Peter and Paul, to all the unnamed saints of God that He has written in His Book of Life! Someday, we will be gathered together in the unimaginable beauty of the Kingdom of God and hear untold stories, sing unsung songs, and live in the eternally joyful presence of our loving God. What a glorious day that will be!

So why wait? Why wait to hear the stories? Why wait to sing the songs? Why wait to listen to the Savior of the world? Why wait to be with God?

God wants to be with you now, not just on the Last Day when we are all gathered together in our eternal home. God knows that we need His presence. We need to hear from Him and see Him at work in our lives, so He gives us a way to be with Him. The same way that He has revealed Himself to His people since the beginning. He gives us His Word.

It was that Word that the people of God gathered around to become one people (Nehemiah 8:1). It was the Word of God that is the “joy of the Lord” that strengthens our hearts (Nehemiah 8:10). It is the Word of God that shows us God because the Word is God and God is the Word. There is no other written word that holds such power. Sure, there are other words that move our emotions and gather us with other people, but no other word can stir our souls and show us the God of the universe, the risen Savior of the world. There is no other word that can speak the miracle of forgiveness and life into our hearts. There is no other word that can raise the dead.

Don't wait for eternity to be with God. Pick up your Bible and be with God now. Start anywhere in the Bible. Start at Genesis or Matthew. Read the Psalms or Paul's letters. Read the histories of the Old Testament or the prophets. Start anywhere you are drawn to but simply start. Read the Word, be with God, and see Him work!

Your reading brother in Christ,  
Pastor Zach Sarrault

# Prayers of the Church

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## Stephen Ministry Commissioning

Throughout history, when God has called people to special ministry, members of their community have commissioned them for the important new work they are taking on. Now we invite you to carry on that Biblical tradition by joining us in commissioning those who have answered God's call to our congregation's Stephen Ministry.

Our Stephen Ministers and Leaders completed their training to equip them for their task. We now celebrate them, pray for them, and send them out to minister, asking for God's blessing and the Spirit's wisdom and power.

Join us for the commissioning of Craig White as a Stephen Leader in all services this weekend, **January 25 and 26**, to show our support for this ministry.



[Learn more about Stephen Ministry at RLC.](#)

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## Mites for Missions

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **January 25 and 26**. 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 Sanctuary Altar  
In Memory of Stuart Sanders  
by Sue Sanders**



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 for Altar Flowers!](#)

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## Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

### SUNDAY

#### **Christian Discipleship in an Instant Society**

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am

Fellowship Hall

January 5-February 9

Bob and Barb Shimmel

### MONDAY

#### **Monday Night Women's Bible Study**

***Meant for Good* by Donna Snow**

Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm

Room 151, Family Life Center, and Online via Zoom

January 6-May 19

Jamee Thieme, Sharon Hahne, Dawn Leister

**Men's Weekly Study and Fellowship**

***Nurturing Your Faith: Patient Urgency***

**by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm

Room 240, Family Life Center

January 20-February 17

Tom Gebbia

**TUESDAY**

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship**

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am

Fellowship Hall

Ongoing

Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault, Pastor Alan Shaw

**WEDNESDAY**

**Intentional Parenting**

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm

Room 240, Family Life Center

January 8-February 19

Pastor Zach Sarrault, Erika Hulse

**Men with Kids - *Book of Jonah***

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

Room 247, Family Life Center

January 8-February 19

Group Led, Tom Gebbia

**Grace-ful Women**

***Scandalous Stories: A Sort of Commentary on Parables***

**by Daniel Emery Price and Erick Sorensen**

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

Room 251, Family Life Center

January 8-February 19

Shane Jarvis

**This Is the Church**

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

Room 140, Family Life Center

February 12-March 12

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Look for detailed class offerings at Info Centers in the Narthex and Family Life Center Lobby or [on the website](#).

Any questions can be directed to the church office at [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org) or 919-851-7248.

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## Supper & Scripture Wednesday Evening Activities Schedule

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

**5:15-6:00 pm**  
Dinner, Gym

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

**6:00-7:00 pm**  
Kidz Live, RM 151  
Middle School Youth, Warehouse  
*Intentional Parenting*, RM 240

**6:30-7:30 pm** Adult Christian Ed  
*Men with Kids*, RM 247  
*Grace-ful Women*, RM 251

**6:30-7:30 pm**  
Heavenly Handbells, Sanctuary

**7:00-8:00 pm**  
First Communion, RM 244  
Confirmation, RM 240

**7:30-8:45 pm**  
Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary

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## Wednesday Evening Dinner

Join us for Wednesday evening dinners on **Wednesdays, 5:15-6:00 pm** in the Family Life Center Gym. All are welcome!

January 29

Jersey Mike's, Chips, Fruit, and Cookies

Suggested donation of \$7 per person or \$25 maximum per family. Cash, check, or card payable at door. Please RSVP through [rlcary.org](http://rlcary.org) or to the church office by Monday Noon.

We all have busy schedules and being able to have a family sit down dinner is always a blessing. Please join us!



Questions? Contact Kim Simpson through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).

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## Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry  
for the Visually Impaired meets

**Friday, January 31**

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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### The Next Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, February 14

We thank all our volunteers who help us to have wonderful Coffeehouses! We couldn't do it without our faithful volunteers. Please come be a volunteer! 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/3VAatWW0](https://bit.ly/3VAatWW0)

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday, February 14** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center gym.

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

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## News from the Human Care Committee

- Many thanks to the congregation for their generous donations to the **Advent Offerings**. A little over \$2,500 was collected. This amount was rounded up with discretionary funds to \$3,000 to be equally divided between Camp Linn Haven and Orphan Grain Train.
- Our **Christmas Store** collection of toys was a huge success! Over 300 toys were collected and delivered to United Church in Apex (formerly New Horizons) for distribution to families in need. This is a yearly project for us and them. Visit their [website](#) for more information and/or to volunteer for next year with the distribution day.
- **Are you looking for ways to volunteer in your community?** Our church membership represents many areas of Wake County. The following groups need volunteers to help alleviate food insecurity, aid in financial crisis situations, and provide heat to low-income families.
- **CARY: Dorcas Ministries** provides financial and food assistance, job and career training, community resources and more to Cary residents. Volunteers are needed in the thrift shop and in the food pantry. Learn more at [dorcascnc.org](http://dorcascnc.org).
- **APEX: Western Wake Crisis Ministry (WWCM)** has merged with Dorcas Ministries to become a stronger advocate for those who are in financial, food and/or housing crisis. This organization provides assistance to the residents of Apex, Holly Springs, Fuquay Varina, Friendship, and New Hill. There is a collection bin under the coat rack to collect food donations for their food pantry at RLC. For more information, [wwcm.org](http://wwcm.org).

NOTE: **WWCM does not accept donations of household items or clothes**, therefore, we do not accept those items in the RLC collection bin.

- **RALEIGH: Inter-Faith Food Shuttle's** mission statement reads, "To feed our neighbors, teach self-sufficiency and grow healthy foods by cultivating

innovative approaches to end hunger.” Volunteers are needed in their pantry and gardens, and to deliver food. This group administers the BackPack Buddies program which sends food home with food insecure school children on the weekends. Read more at [foodshuttle.org](http://foodshuttle.org).

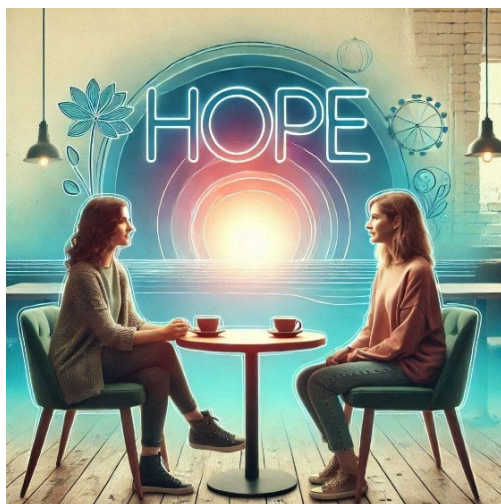
- **WAKE COUNTY: Warmth for Wake** is administered by Wake County Health and Human Services. Volunteers are needed to cut, split and deliver wood every other Saturday morning from October through March. Volunteers must be at least 15 years old. This program also accepts donations of new or lightly used space heaters, as well as financial donations. More info found on their [website](#).
- **WAKE COUNTY: Duke Energy Share the Light Fund** is administered by Duke Energy and accepts financial donations. Customers can apply directly on their [website](#) for assistance.

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## “We Want You” RLC Stephen Ministry Leaders

January’s Stephen Ministry theme is a recruiting message. We are looking for people who have a desire to help people and be a part of our “ministry of presence.” If you would like to join the Resurrection Stephen Ministry team, keep reading. If you’re not sure, keep reading. If you’re pretty sure you this isn’t for you, keep reading anyway.

Every two years, RLC hosts a training class for new Stephen Ministers. This is our “off year”, but it’s never too early to be thinking about if this is something you’d like to do, so let’s take a “peek behind the curtain” and see what this is all about.



I'll be honest, the training program is very time intensive. You will invest about 2-hours of a Sunday afternoon for about 20-weeks (depending on the start date and surrounding holidays). I remember when I started on a cold January afternoon thinking, "it's going to be after Easter and a warm spring day before I finish this." Yep... it sure was, but it was some of the best training I've received on how to listen to others, how to provide Christ-centered emotional and spiritual care and how to be a part of the caring community to serve others in need. People who have completed the training also say how it's improved their relationships with family members or co-workers as they apply listening and empathy to their everyday lives.



Your service as a Stephen Minister is also directly assisting the pastors at RLC. It is impossible for the pastors to visit and care for all the members of the church. They

rely on other members of the congregation, like our Stephen Ministers, to care and visit people in need. Stephen Ministry is a great example of how the different parts of the body work together, centered on Christ as the head, to love and serve one another. We do not train you to be professional grief counselors or therapists, but we will equip you to support people during challenging times in life. Are you up to the challenge? Click the email link below and let us know to keep you in mind for our next class.

To learn more about Stephen Ministry at RLC, [click here](#). If you or someone you know who could use a listening partner, consider emailing the Stephen Leader team at [stephenministry@rlcary.org](mailto:stephenministry@rlcary.org) and ask about how to make a referral to a Stephen Minister.

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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 at 919-851-7248 or [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org) for assistance.

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# Children & Family Ministry News January 2025

See you at Sunday School!  
9:30-10:30 am



## MOMS TOGETHER TEA & COOKIE DECORATING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26  
FROM 3-5 PM  
AT MAGGIE SHEROUSE'S  
HOME  
PLEASE RSVP HERE.



Sign Up: [bit.ly/3W7rUx5](https://bit.ly/3W7rUx5)



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

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## Youth Ministry

Middle School and High School

### Sunday, January 26:

Sunday School, 9:30-10:30 am in The Warehouse (Room 253)

Youth Gathering Meeting, 4:00-5:00 pm

High School Youth Group, 5:00-6:30 pm



**NEW ORLEANS**  
**SOUP-ER BOWL**  
**FUNDRAISER**

*Raffles,  
 Trivia,  
 Food,  
 Fun*

**SUNDAY**  
**9th**  
 February  
 12:30pm

**FREE WILL OFFERING**  
 COME SUPPORT OUR YOUTH  
 GATHERING GROUP  
**Soups, Bread and baked goods**  
 RLC FAMILY LIFE CENTER

**MORE INFORMATION**

JENNY PIONTEK  
 jenny.piontek@rlcary.org

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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## National Lutheran Schools Week

January 26-February 1

*Theme: Endure from Hebrews 12:1-3*

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our



faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.



# Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

## Enrollment for 2025-26 at Resurrection Lutheran **PRESCHOOL**

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

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



**3-year-olds  
to Rising kindergarteners**  
*(children currently in our 2's classes can come!)*  
**(ALL Ages MUST be toilet-trained)**

**June 2 - 5** (9:15-12:30)

**June 9 - 12** (9:15-12:30)

**June 16 - 19** (9:15-12:30)

**RLChurch VBS June 23-27**

**Neighbors, friends, & family welcome!**



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

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Resurrection Lutheran School

## 2025 Knoxville Knockout Champions!



[rlscary.org](http://rlscary.org) | 919-851-7271 | [contact@rlscary.org](mailto: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](https://youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC)  
or through our website at  
[rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship](http://rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship).

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## This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

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### Weekly Attendance

#### In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, January 18

6:00 pm - 77

Sunday, January 19

8:00 am - 83

9:30 am - 126

11:00 am - 110

**Total In-Person Worship: 396**

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

Sunday, January 19

8:00 am - 103

11:00 am - 57

**Total Online Views: 160 views**

## Financial Update - Fiscal 2024/25

### December 2024

Budgeted Giving to Date: \$775,750.00

Actual Giving to Date: \$756,704.00

**Current Over/(Under) Giving: \$(19,046.00)**

Budgeted Expenses to Date: \$725,000.00

Actual Expenses to Date: \$706,431.00

**Current Under/(Over) Spend: \$18,569.00**

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 – January 26, 2025

*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**

\*Janet Lucien, \*Hannah Yllanes, \*Kelsey Sarrault, \*Lauren Unger

#### **Those Prayed for on January 19, 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

#### **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
- \*Pam Dickson
- \*Stephanie Ford
- Betty, Memory Issues
- \*Vern Ebert

- \*Mindy Stephani, Recovery and Therapy
- Doug Gill, Ongoing Cancer Treatment
- \*Helen Campbell
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of \*Jen Kirby
- \*Alison Whatley
- \*Sally Cotton
- \*Yvette Crawley
- Christie, Cancer Treatment
- Steve Cottle, Healing
- Brian, Recovery
- Marge Gallagher, Healing
- Marion Cecconi, Mother of \*Lecia Roberts
- \*Thelma Rhodes, Recovery
- Ingrid, Recovery
- Martha, Sister of \*Charlotte Raines
- Pastor Tich Luu
- Gene, Lois, Jackie, Roz, Knox, Rob, Darrell, Jessica, Cathy, Tim, Justin, Red, Brian, Keith, Keving, Mark, Carlton, Carol, Anna, Anne, Skylar, Patty, Harold, Ingrid, Laurie, Chris, Etta, Alan, Paul, Alfonzo, Lauri Anne, Lynne, Roy, Karen, Lorraine, Curt, Ken, Uncle Rich, Lin, Eric, Mike, Jack, Sandy, Alfred, Bill, Joe, Debbie, Carrie, Virginia, Michelle, Dave, Lori, Rose, Nicole, Patricia, Howard, Justine

### **For Comfort**

- Friends and Family of Gloria Farr, Mother of \*Jenny Kvantas
- Friends and Family of Mark Raines, Son of \*Charlotte Raines
- Friends and Family of LaVerne Kulich, Mother of \*Carole Shaeffer
- Friends and Family of \*June Buckler, Mother of \*Diane Breznik
- Friends and Family of Douglas and Rosalind Crumlish, Friends of \*Alan Sullivan
- Victims of the California Fires, and Their Families
- Friends and Family of Bruce Klevenow, Brother of \*Ralph Klevenow

### **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 and People of Gaza, Peace in the Middle East
- People of Syria
- Those Affected by the Fires in California
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Safe Travels, Especially for College Students Returning
- 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
- \*Ron and \*Carol Mitchell
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles and Families in Turmoil
- Those Seeking Jobs and Career Changes
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- Wayne and Dorothy Conners, and Their Family

**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.*