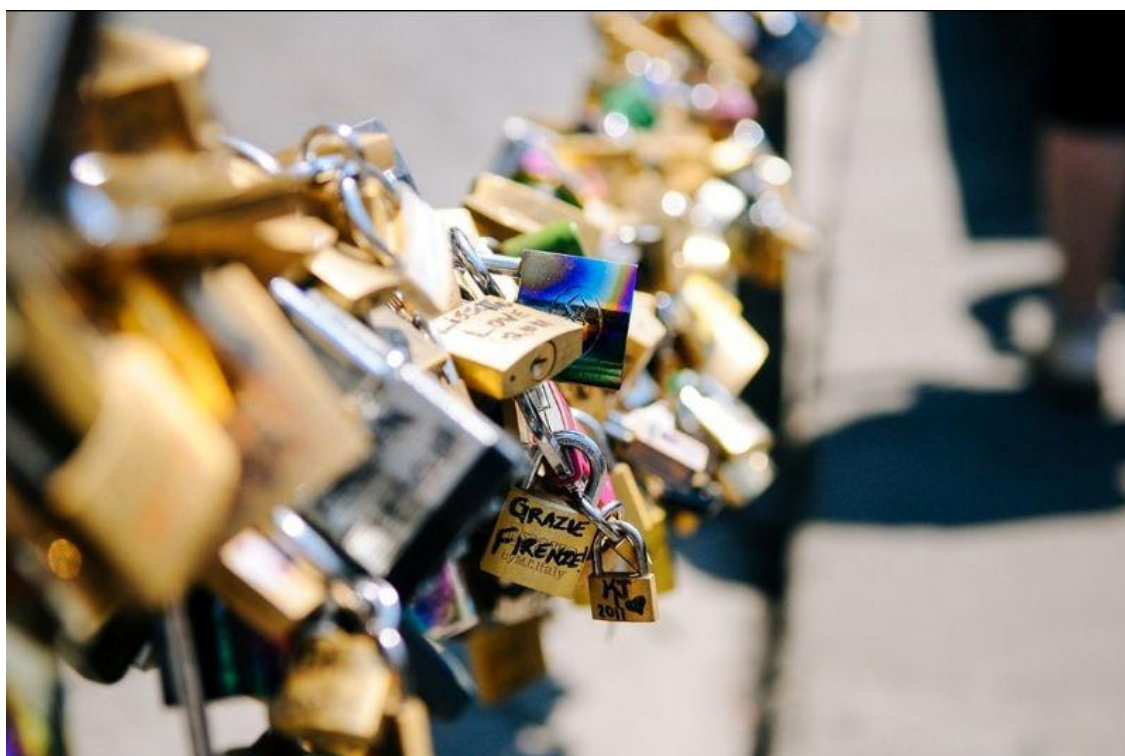


Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 2, 2025



Pastor's Corner for February 2-8, 2025

Love Beyond Measure (1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13)

This weekend it just so happens that our appointed Epistle is from St. Paul's famous love chapter: 1 Corinthians 13. It isn't St. Valentine's Day (yet). Still, a focus on the only place we can find love beyond measure is appropriate as we look at the miracle of God's love for sinners and consider its significance for us throughout this season of Epiphany.

Remember O. Henry's story *The Gift of the Magi*? Jim and Della have two possessions that are of the utmost value to each of them: Jim's gold watch, handed

down by his grandfather, and Della's beautiful, flowing hair. At Christmas, Della sells her hair to buy a gold watch fob for her husband, while Jim sells his watch to purchase hair accessories for his wife. Each receives a gift that is no longer useable. But in the end, both Jim and Della realize that the love they share is bigger than the gifts they have exchanged. To use the verbiage from a credit card commercial popular not so long ago: "Watch chain and luxury hair combs, \$50.00. True love? Priceless!" The image of this couple from Henry's story is so memorable because the gift each person gives is so sacrificial. What a beautiful image of God's love for us! Yet there is a tidiness to the story that makes it seem unreal. Jim and Della accidentally give gifts that are of equal value. When you and I try to put such a parable of love into practice in the real world we realize how woefully unequal our love is, compared to God's love for us in Christ. Our love is meted out in portions: "I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine." "I'll forgive you if you forgive me first."

Here's another image: Ever heard of the Pont de Arts bridge in Paris? In the past, a tradition consisted of couples attaching a padlock to that bridge, maybe even writing both their initials on it... and then throwing the keys to the padlock in the river below as a sign that their love was eternal, never to be undone. Jesus' death and resurrection is God's padlock... proof that the gift of immeasurable love has been made once-and-for-all for you and me. We always have the freedom to turn away and walk away from Him. But His faithfulness to all who seek His mercy is never in doubt. It is "locked in."

St. Paul doesn't limit the love in his famous love chapter to the love of God, but it is clear that an un-balanced, immeasurable love is at the heart of the love he describes. He begins his famous love chapter in chapter 13 with these important words in 12:31: "Let me show you a way 'beyond measuring'...!" Even as unlovable people who have received the prodigal, unconditional, immeasurable love of God through Jesus, God is at work among us to carry out the same... in our families and even into our wider community. Let's look to the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, as He leads us to live out that love in some small measure in the weeks ahead. And a very Happy Valentine's Day, too!

Overseas Mission Effort Involvement Opportunities

Recently, I've been contacted by three of you about ways that our congregation

can get behind and support your own or your organization's efforts on behalf of the Gospel of Christ internationally.



Moya Shaw will be travelling to the Dominican Republic this spring. She writes, "On this trip, I'll have the unique opportunity to provide hands-on dental care to underserved communities while sharing the Gospel and the hope of Christ with those we serve. My faith is at the heart of everything I do, and this mission trip beautifully combines my passion for dentistry with my desire to serve God and others." If you would like to discover more about how you can support Moya's work, you can [reach out to her through email](#).



Life for Uganda (an organization with roots in our own congregation) is partnering with the Lutheran Church Uganda. Current goal is to build a school in the remote Amudat region of Uganda on the same property as the Amudat Lutheran Church. First phase (preschool, grades 1 and 2) started, but additional funding is needed to complete Phase 1 and to begin Phase 2. And the Amudat parishioners have committed to feed and house the contractors who must be imported into the area. If you would like to find out more about how you can help bring the Gospel of Jesus to the children and families of this area, speak to Life for Uganda advocate at RLC, Ron Bostick, or email info@lifeforuganda.org.



Ilea Kuo will be travelling with fellow students from the church she is attending at Louisiana State University this summer to a country in Southeast Asia. Their goal is to “form connections and friendships with the students there and share the good news of the Gospel with them. Most of these students have never even interacted with a Christian, let alone heard the gospel.” Her involvement allows others living in the place where she will serve to make connections to follow up and build on the relationships she and others on her team initiate. To hear more and see how you can support Ilea, I invite you to [reach out to her through email](#).

What joy to be at a church where the mission of God to the nations is an active part of what our members do! Please consider reaching out to Moya, Ron, or Ilea to find out more. And as any of them will tell you... even if you can't give at this time, your prayers on behalf of the work they and their organizations are doing are always welcome.

Friends of RLC Seeking Entry-Level Position with a Raleigh Employer

We have an opportunity to be of service to a young, disadvantaged family looking to begin employment immediately. Any job opportunity for unskilled labor would be appreciated: janitorial, manual labor, etc. which would allow them to continue in their current location and not face eviction. If you would like to find out more, please reach out. Daisy Morris is the point of contact.

Grateful, together with all of you, to be called “by grace, through faith, for service”....

Pastor Jonathan

Prayers of the Church



It is with great sadness and in Christian love and hope that we announce that our brother in Christ, **Darrell Moore**, was called to rest with Jesus on January 27, 2025.

Visitation with the family will be Friday, February 7 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Brown-Wynne Funeral Home, 200 Southeast Maynard Road, Cary. Here at RLC, a Celebration of Life in Christ to be held on Saturday, February 8 at 12:30 pm. Rite of Committal service will follow at 3:00 pm in Raleigh Memorial Park, Raleigh.

Our prayers are with his wife Anita, and their family during this time.

In lieu of flowers, the Moore family would like donations to be sent to the Resurrection Lutheran Church building fund.

Prayer Cards

Visual Faith® Ministry has provided prayer cards by the prayer sheets in the

Narthex and the Family Life Center.

We invite you to take a few cards home and add prayer notes for your family and friends for whom you are praying.

As you pray for those concerns, color the card, and then send it to the person with a note that says, "You've been in my prayers this week."

If you have questions, please contact Jamee Thieme through RCB.

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 or 919-851-7248.



Supper & Scripture Wednesday Evening Activities Schedule

5:00-5:30 pm Jubilee Bells, Sanctuary	6:30-7:30 pm Adult Christian Ed <i>Men with Kids</i> , RM 247 <i>Grace-ful Women</i> , RM 251
5:15-6:00 pm Dinner, Gym	6:30-7:30 pm Heavenly Handbells, Sanctuary
5:30-6:00 pm Rainbow Choir, Sanctuary Sonshine Singers, Choir Room	7:00-8:00 pm First Communion, RM 244 Confirmation, RM 240
6:00-7:00 pm Kidz Live, RM 151 Middle School Youth, Warehouse <i>Intentional Parenting</i> , RM 240	7:30-8:45 pm Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary

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!

February 5

Swedish Meatballs with Egg Noodles, Salad, Fruit, and Cake

February 12

Momma Mia's Pizza, Salad, Fruit, and Brownies

February 19

Quiche, Salad, Fruit, and Cinnamon Rolls

February 26

Bocci's Lasagna and Pasta Marinara, Garlic Bread, Salad, Fruit, and Cherry Cheesecake

Suggested donation of \$7 per person or \$25 maximum per family. Cash, check, or card payable at door. Please RSVP through 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).

MEN'S BREAKFAST



**Saturday,
February 8
8:00 am
Fellowship Hall**

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

Contact Tom Gebbia through RCB or mens-ministry@rlcary.org.



Welcome Brunch for Newcomers

**Saturday, February 8
10:00-11:30 am
Fellowship Hall**

RSVP to Pastor Zach - zach.sarrault@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248

Come Support Our Youth

Sunday, February 9

Have fun in fellowship, test your New Orleans and Superbowl trivia, hear from the youth attending the Youth Gathering trip what they are looking forward to, and enjoy some yummy food! We will be serving some traditional New Orleans food as well.

No need to bring any food. Soups, breads and baked goods will be available. Youth will be accepting a Free Will Donation to help with expenses for their summer trip. (Participant cost is \$1,860.)

We will also have \$1 raffle tickets for prizes, including a Ninja Grill, (2) Tailgate Buckets filled with goodies, and a Kid Bucket.



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

NO NEED TO BRING ANYTHING!



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

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/3VAtWWO

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).



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Join us for the Best All You Can Eat Pancake Supper, Pancake Races, and Fellowship on **Tuesday, March 4** from 5:30-7:00 pm in the Family Life Center Gym!

Free Will Offering with proceeds to the youth attending the Youth Gathering this summer.

We need many hands to make this a success! [Please sign up to help.](#)

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

Men's Retreat and Service Weekend

March 7-9, 2025

Mark your calendars for this fun and impactful event!
Friday, March 7 at 6:00 pm - Sunday Morning, March 9
Camp Agape

Theme: Equipped To Be Men of God
Study Leader will be Pastor Zach Sarrault.

Reach out to Tom Gebbia through RCB or mens-ministry@rlcary.org
to express interest, ask questions, provide input, or volunteer to help.

Save the Date!



RLC Spring 2025 Workday

Saturday, March 15 from 8:00 am-Noon



All are invited; many hands make light work.

Tasks: exterior landscaping spruce-up, others

Please bring:

- electric or gas hedge trimmers; string trimmers
- loppers, limb saws, pole saws
- rakes, tarps, wheelbarrows, step ladder
- debris trailers

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 at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org for assistance.

Children's Ministry News February

Nursery - The Nursery is staffed by screened volunteers Sunday mornings during 9:30 Worship for your Birth - 3 year old child(ren). It is available for family use whenever needed.

Sunday School - Pre-K to 5th graders are welcomed Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 for Bible, games, crafts and fun!

Kidz Live - Wednesday Nights from 6:00- 7:00 in the Family Life Center (Room 151 and the gym) for Pre-K to 5th graders.

Questions? erika.hulse@rlcary.org

Important Dates:

No Sunday School February 16

Mother Daughter Interactive Tea - March 1 at 11:30 am

Easter Eggstravaganza - April 13 at 3 pm

Mother Daughter

INTERACTIVE TEA PARTY

March 1

11:30



Sign up
here:



Sign Up: bit.ly/3PIEYoL

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

Greetings, Youth Families! It is hard to believe we are already launching into February. I am very proud of our middle school youth who have welcomed our 5th grade students that will join us in the Fall as new 6th graders and youth group members. This is such a great opportunity for them to share Christ's community with the next group and be leaders in the faith. They did a fabulous job!

Sunday, February 2:

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

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

Wednesday, February 5:

Middle School Youth Group, 6:00-7:00 pm

Sunday, February 9:

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

No High School Youth Group, 5:00-6:30 pm - Enjoy the game!

SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY, 12:30 pm in the Gym. Come support our team that will be going to NOLA this July for the Youth Gathering!

Looking ahead...

No Sunday School on **Sunday, February 16**. There will be High School Youth Group.

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

+ 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.

office@rlpcary.org
919.851.7270



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

Resurrection Lutheran School

Day 1 of National Lutheran Schools Week
100th Day of School



Day 2 of National Lutheran Schools Week
Wacky Tacky & Walking in Faith!



rlscary.org

Junior Kindergarten- 8th Grade

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, January 25

6:00 pm - 65

Sunday, January 26

8:00 am - 95

9:30 am - 133

11:00 am - 120

Total In-Person Worship: 413

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, January 26

8:00 am - 102

11:00 am - 34

Total Online Views: 136 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.

Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

rlcary.org

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

Prayers of the Church – February 2, 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 26, 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
- Laurel Yost's Birthday
- Faith Shaw's Birthday

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, 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
- Marion Cecconi, Mother of *Lecia Roberts
- *Thelma Rhodes, Recovery
- Ingrid, Recovery
- Martha, Sister of *Charlotte Raines
- Pastor Tich Luu, and Wife Michelle
- Kari Heilman, Daughter-In-Law of *John and *Virginia Heilman, Cancer Treatment
- Chris and David, Sister and Brother-In-Law of *Susan Brandt, Cancer Treatments
- Clare Roberts, Mother of *Michelle Woods, Cancer Treatment
- John and Judy Haraminac
- Sarah, Kay, Fran, Roz, Jackie, Sandy, Jessica, Cathy, Alan, Etta, Chris, Marvin, Lynne, Roy, Darryl, Paul, Dorothy, Wayne, Alfonso, Barbara, Joe, Jackie, Pam, Bryon, Roger, Jan, Richard, Steve, Ingrid, Carol, Karen, Gene, Lois, Ken, Harold, Debbie, Dave, Nicole, Howard, Patricia, Justin

For Comfort

- Friends and Family of Bruce Klevenow, Brother of *Ralph Klevenow
- Friends and Family of Esther Martin, Mother of *Esther Robinson
- Friends and Family of Hilda Messner, Mother of *Dorothy Connors
- Friends and Family of Melissa Tucker, From Our Blind Ministry
- Friends and Family of Jeff Cretcher, Cousin of *Lynelle Omwake
- Friends and Family of *Darrell Moore, Husband of *Anita Moore

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
- Alicia, Rehab
- Steve, Upcoming Surgery
- Children Who Have Abandoned Their Faith

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.*

***RLC Members**

Updated 1/31/25