

# The Transfiguration of Our Lord

March 2, 2025

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*Pastor's Corner for March 2-8, 2025*

## **Mountaintop Experiences (Deuteronomy 34:1-12, Luke 9:28-36)**

Juli and I were in California visiting our son two weeks ago. During that time, we went with him to Joshua Tree National Park... a beautiful desert spot not far from where he lives. It was a perfect day for walking around: sunny and cool. And though our walk in the desert that day took us near the park's namesake, it also gave us some memorable views of the snow-capped Mt. San Geronio. On the way out, we drove to Keys View. No one else wanted to climb to the top look out point, so yours truly, never able to resist getting to the top of anything on a vacation trip (a lighthouse, mountain, you name it) went all the way to the top for my "you-were-there" picture. The view was not disappointing. From there you could see Palm Springs, the Coachella Valley, and all the way to the Santa Rosa mountains stretching off into the distance.

Scrambling over rocks at the top of a mountain puts me in a frame of mind to imagine Moses atop Mt. Sinai, Mt. Nebo... and another mountain with Jesus. Moses would be the tongue-tied prophet through whom God would accomplish amazing things for His people. On Sinai Moses had been God's spokesman, delivering the revelation he received there. Yet even Moses, the one like whom "no prophet has arisen since" (Deut. 34:10) was not perfect. Moses would not be permitted to enter the Land of Promise because he had "broken faith" with God (32:51). Moses would only see the Promised Land from a distance. He would not go in. Nebo would be the place he would die and be buried. It wasn't until the moment of Jesus' transfiguration on the mountain that we find Moses, yet another sinner in need of grace, in the presence of the Son of God. Interesting, isn't it, that it was on this very mountain that Jesus brought Moses into the Promised Land he was only permitted to see from a distance? Only permitted to see from a distance, that is, until the Lord of Glory came along!

God's glory and grace is a hidden glory revealed in the Christ of God who comes down. Down to earth. Down to the darkness of human failure and brokenness. Down into the very places where people believe that God is too good for them. Jesus' downward mobility would take him all the way to the cross and tomb where the light of His glory would shine in the darkness of sin and death. That glory will be with us again this week in a mysterious way as we receive Jesus himself — hidden, yet present — in the Lord's Supper. Jesus' light shines in our darkness.

What can we do but join our prayers together again this weekend as we sing the closing words to the hymn "Beautiful Savior": "Glory and honor... praise, adoration, now and forevermore... be Thine!"?

There's no need to try to climb high to "see" God's glory up close. Jesus comes down to sinners like us, to make it real. As we get ready again for Lent, let's keep our eyes focused on the light of Jesus' Epiphany glory...

Love in Christ,  
Pastor Jonathan

## Prayers of the Church

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Baptized at the Resurrection Lutheran School Chapel service  
on February 26 is

**Sullivan Edwin Livingood**

born January 12, 2015,  
son of Blake Livingood and Jessica Livingood.

*May God's blessing be upon Sullivan Edwin  
as he grows in his baptismal grace.*

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## ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5



**8:45 am in the Sanctuary**

Imposition of Ashes with Resurrection Lutheran School

**7:00 pm in the Sanctuary\***

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

All other Wednesday night activities are cancelled, except for rehearsals for Heavenly Handbells at 6:00 pm and Sanctuary Choir at 8:00 pm.

\*Live Stream

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## **Weekly Bible Study Opportunities**

### **SUNDAY**

#### **The Herod Family**

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am

Fellowship Hall

February 16-March 23

Paul Brandt

### **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

#### **New Men's Weekly Study and Fellowship**

***Bible On Trial: Beyond A Reasonable Doubt***

Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm  
Room 240, Family Life Center  
March 3-24  
Tom Gebbia

Biblical criticism, ancient historical voices, the illumination of archaeology, the testimony of first-century followers of Jesus Christ -- all these come to bear on the examination of the reliability of the Scriptures in *The Bible On Trial: Beyond A Reasonable Doubt*.

The case is made that the Scriptures are authentic, dependable, God-inspired and worthy -- not only of our full attention but of our complete faith. In this Men's NetWork Bible study, attorney Craig Parton leads the viewer through relevant points that comprise this important discussion. He asks, "Is this book, the Bible, and its contents-reliable?"

## **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-April 30  
Pastor Zach Sarrault, Erika Hulse

### **Men with Kids - *Facing Disaster Like A Man***

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm  
Room 247, Family Life Center

February 26-March 19  
Group Led, Tom Gebbia

Disasters! Life's catastrophes come in many shapes and sizes, and their unwelcome intrusion leaves us reeling. Grief, profound uncertainty and -- not infrequently -- more questions than can reasonably be answered, rise from its wake. In this devastation, the heart is drawn to look for answers human reason cannot provide. This three-lesson Bible study stresses the importance of relying on God in an age when the specter of disaster is an all-too-familiar occurrence.

### **This Is the Church**

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm  
Room 140, Family Life Center  
February 12-March 19  
Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Look for detailed class offerings [on our website](#).

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




Congratulations to Alex and Hannah Yllanes  
upon the birth of their daughter,  
**Clara Maeve Yllanes,**  
born on February 12, 2025!

Proud grandparents are Garry and Kristi Grabow.

*Our prayers of joy and gratitude are with them  
as they celebrate this blessing!*

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**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  
Proceeds to Youth Gathering Trip

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](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).

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

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## **Men's Retreat and Service Weekend**

March 7-9, 2025

The 2025 Men's Retreat and Service Weekend is **March 7-9** at beautiful Camp Agapé. Pastor Zach is leading this year.

Theme is Equipped to Be Men of God. There will be separate sessions on Equipped for Study, Equipped for Service, Equipped for the Word, and Equipped for Witness.

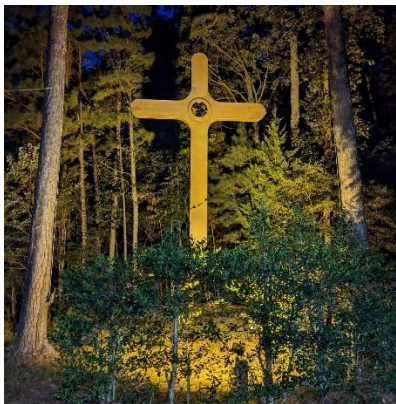
Kick-off is Friday evening, March 7 around 6:00 pm with a Cookout/Potluck Gathering at the Retreat House at Camp Agape.

Weather permitting, most of Saturday morning and afternoon will be spent in

Service tackling projects throughout the camp utilizing multiple skillsets and capabilities.

The Study is woven throughout the impactful weekend with sessions Friday night, Saturday morning, Saturday evening, and Sunday morning. Weather permitting, our study venues will be a combination of inside and out.

Weather permitting, there will be an outdoor Worship Service Sunday morning.



Participants have the option to stay overnight at the Retreat House or commute. Overnight accommodations are optimal at 16 with a max of 24.

As in past years, there is flexibility to support various schedules and commitments. Join us for the entire event (preferred), or for the Saturday service day, or just the Friday night cookout!

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

**\*Please note, there will be no Men's Breakfast on Saturday, March 8. Join us at the retreat!**

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## LCMSU @ NCSU

Friday, March 7

Calling all local LCMS college students! Whether you are studying at UNC, Duke, NCSU, another local college, or just learning from home, you are invited to attend the next gathering of the "Lutheran Pack" of LCMSU @ NCSU.

Our gatherings allow the opportunity for LCMS students to fellowship with other like-minded believers and join together in worship. What better way is there to start your weekend than with friends and being focused on our Lord and Savior?

Our next meeting is on **Friday, March 7** from 7:00-8:30 pm at Resurrection Lutheran Church. Please note the change in locations for this one meeting. We will begin with fellowship which includes games, food, and drink, before we conclude with Evening Prayer and Holy Communion in the Sanctuary. Pastor Shaw will be providing the message and pastoral services.



If you have questions, know someone who would be interested, or want to attend, please let Pastor Shaw know by emailing him at [alan.shaw@rlcary.org](mailto:alan.shaw@rlcary.org).

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### 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.

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## Wednesday Evening Dinner

Join us for Wednesday evening dinners during Lent on **Wednesdays, 5:00-5:45 pm** in the Family Life Center Gym. All are welcome!

### March Menus:

March 5 - No Dinner, Ash Wednesday

March 12 - Soup and Chili Potluck, Bread, Salad, Fruit, and Cookies

March 19 - Ham and Scalloped Potatoes, Salad, Fruit, and Cake

March 26 - Quiche, Salad, Fruit, and Cinnamon Rolls

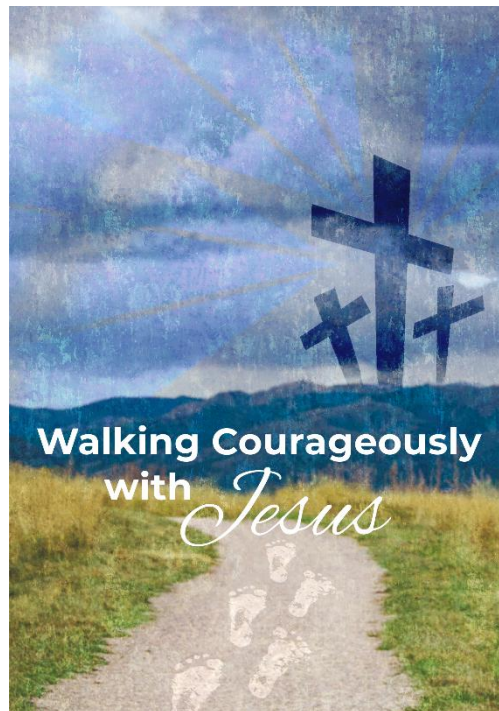
Suggested donation of \$7 per person or \$25 maximum per family. Cash, check, or card payable at door. Please RSVP through [rlcary.org](http://rlcary.org) or to the church office by Monday Noon.

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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***It takes courage to fully approach Lent.  
Jesus, help me walk in your steps.***

Join us  
in the Family Life Center for  
Interactive Lenten Worship Services!

**Wednesdays, 6:00 pm  
March 12-April 9**

Families are encouraged to attend.  
Dinner is available starting at 5:00 pm. [Sign up online.](#)

Check next week's announcements for adjusted schedule  
during Wednesdays in Lent.

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## The Next Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, March 14

We thank all our volunteers who help us to have wonderful Coffeehouses! We couldn't do it without you. Please come be a volunteer! Our special needs guests love to attend these events, and we need lots of volunteers to make them feel special and loved. We thank God for this ministry among us!

We need Setter Uppers at 5:30 pm (both food and room), Servers at 6:30 pm, and Cleaner Uppers at 8:30 pm. Sign Up: [bit.ly/3VAtWWO](https://bit.ly/3VAtWWO)

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday, March 14** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center gym. *Bona Fide Brass* will play for us - thank you, Jim Linn!

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





## RLC Spring 2025 Workday

Saturday, March 15 8:00 am-Noon



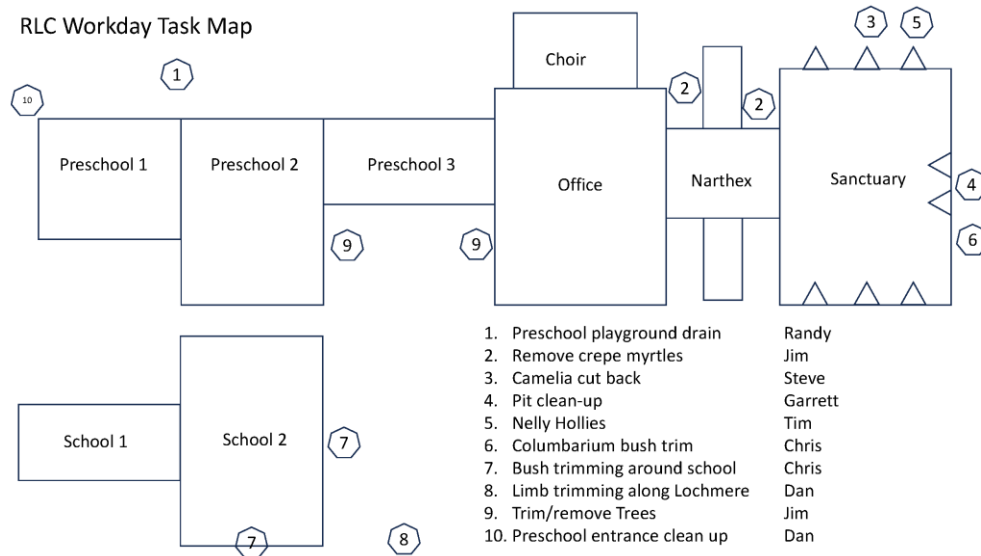
All are invited and many hands make light work.

**Tasks:** landscaping spruce-up

**Please bring:**

- battery or gas hedge trimmers, fuel
- loppers, limb saws, pole saws
- rakes, tarps, wheelbarrows, step ladders
- debris trailers

RLC Workday Task Map



Contact Randy Bowling through RCB, or the church office (919-851-7248, [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).

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• YOUNG FAMILIES •  
*gathering*



Join us for fun outside and in the woods!  
Bring your hiking boots.

**Saturday, March 15 at 4:00 pm**

at Home of Doug and Tara Tommas  
(8801 Mandale Road, Graham NC 27253)

Please bring a dish to pass. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided.

RSVP to Doug and Tara Tommas, or Pastor Zach Sarrault.

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**Easter Flowers**

Due March 16

Time to order Easter flowers to be used in the Easter services!

Choose from 6" Lily (\$15), 6" Hydrangea (\$20), and 8" Azalea (\$25). Orders are due by Sunday, March 16.

Forms available in the Narthex and Family Life Center. You may also email [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org) or call 919-851-7248 with your order. Payment can follow.

Make checks payable to RLC and place in Linda Merrill/Office mailbox. Plants are from Williams Plant Farm. You may pick up your plants to take home after the last Easter service on Sunday, April 20.

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## **Men's Softball**

Attention Men: Spring is just around the corner. Time to grab your glove and cleats and join your fellow church members in representing RLC in the Town of Cary's Men's Open League.

Games will be played Tuesday and Thursday nights late March through June. Practices will start the second or third weekend of March. All sign-ups must be made by March 23.

If you are interested in joining us for some exercise, fun, and fellowship, please see Adam Brake or send an email to [mens-softball@rlcary.org](mailto:mens-softball@rlcary.org).

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## **RLS Student Eyeglass Drive**

Helping Others See Clearly

Resurrection Lutheran School students, Charlie (6th grade) and Stella (5th grade) Altenbach, are making a difference by collecting eyeglasses for the visually impaired. Their efforts will help provide those in need with the gift of clearer vision, improving daily life and learning opportunities.

If you have any eyeglasses to donate, consider contributing to their collection. Every pair makes a meaningful impact, bringing hope and clarity to someone in need.

# Eyeglass Donation!

**An estimated 120 million people are visually impaired because they do not have the resources for corrective eyeglasses. A lack of corrective eyeglasses denies children and adults opportunities for education, employment and better quality of life.**

- Please donate eyeglasses in one of the donation boxes located at the school's front office, next to the gym doors or the Chapel vestibule.
- Broken, old, sun and prescription/nonprescription eyeglasses accepted!
- 100% of your donations will be used for a charitable cause!



*Thank you, Charlie and Stella, for your kindness and leadership in serving others!*

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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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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

**Service Event:**

Tuesday, March 4 from 5:00-7:30 pm

Serving at the **Shrove Pancake Supper** - join us for this super fun servant event!

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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## Resurrection Lutheran Preschool



SHAKE SHACK®

# DONATION DAY

**Tuesday, March 4th**  
**11AM-10PM**

Mention Donation Day at the register  
or use promo code **DONATE**  
on the Shack App, web, or kiosk at checkout and  
we'll donate **25%** of your total meal purchase to



WAVERLY PLACE  
310 Colonades Way | Cary, NC 27518

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

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## Resurrection Lutheran School



**rlscary.org**  
Junior Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> Grade

[rlscary.org](http://rlscary.org) | 919-851-7271 | [contact@rlscary.org](mailto:contact@rlscary.org)

**Latest Lion's Tale**

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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](https://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, February 22  
6:00 pm - 53

Sunday, February 23  
8:00 am - 93

9:30 am - 186  
11:00 am - 142

**Total In-Person Worship: 474**

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

Sunday, February 23  
8:00 am - 120  
11:00 am - 46

**Total Online Views: 166**

### **Financial Update - Fiscal 2024/25**

#### **January 2025**

Budgeted Giving to Date: \$888,125.00  
Actual Giving to Date: \$834,081.00  
**Current Over/(Under) Giving: \$(54,044.00)**

Budgeted Expenses to Date: \$845,833.33  
Actual Expenses to Date: \$818,783.00  
**Current Under/(Over) Spend: \$27,050.33**

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 – March 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, \*Kelsey Sarrault, \*Lauren Unger, \*Erika Lonseth

#### **Those Prayed for on February 23, 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
- Negative Test Results/MRI
- Fun Snow Days!

#### **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
- Steve Cottle, Recovery
- Bryon, Recovery
- Marion Cecconi, Mother of \*Lecia Roberts
- \*Thelma Rhodes, Recovery
- Ingrid, Rehab
- Martha, Sister of \*Charlotte Raines
- Carrie Heilman, Cancer Treatment, Daughter-In-Law of \*John and \*Virginia Heilman
- Chris, Cancer Treatment, Sister of \*Susan Brandt
- \*Paul Brandt's Father in Rehab with Multiple Issues
- Clare Roberts, Cancer Treatment, Mother of \*Michelle Wood
- Roger Loosen, Cancer Treatment
- John and Judy Haraminac
- Sarah, Karl, Linda, Ricky, Jean, Dale, Graydon, Sam, Jessica, Cathy, Tim, Justin, Red, Brian, Kevin, Mark, Keith, Carlton, Carol, Anna, Anne, Patty, Skylar, Pope Francis, Baby Bill, Jazmine, Paul, Alice, Doug, Richard, Rosemary, Kevin, Mary, Joe, Fran, Ingrid, Marvin, Alice, Christie, Patty, Shelby, Joan, Warren, Noreen, Ken, Harold, Debbie, Dave, Nicole, Patricia, Howard, Carrie, Virginia, Dalene, Shim, Laurel

#### **For Comfort**

- Family and Friends of Lynn Smith Helms, Sister of \*Paul Smith
- Family and Friends of Kitty Jamison, Husband Ron

#### **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
- 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

- \*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, and Federal Workers
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- Wayne and Dorothy Conners, and Their Family
- \*Jim and \*Thelma Rhodes
- \*Anita Moore and 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
- Chris Reed, SMP Training and Vicarage
- 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
- \*Moya Shaw, Dominican Republic Mission Trip
- \*Ilea Kuo, Southeast Asia Mission Trip

#### **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.*