



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2024

From the Pastor

From Death to Life

(Ephesians 2:1-10)

You may have heard the popular tale regarding the origin of the word eureka, often used to convey the sense of “I’ve found it.” It has to do with a really clever Ancient Greek scientist observing the displacement of water in his bathtub when he got into it...an observation that led him to calculate the volume of even irregularly shaped objects. He was so excited he immediately jumped out of his bath and ran out into the street naked, shouting “I’ve found it!” (“Eureka!”). I did not find the secret of any mystery concerning the mysteries of science or mathematics. And thankfully for all concerned my Eureka moment didn’t involve streaking in the Lochmere Parkside neighborhood! If I’m honest, I am a little embarrassed that my Eureka moment was so long in coming. It has to do with crosses I see all the time at Resurrection but never stopped for very long to ponder. Did you ever notice that the crosses you see all over our campus have the same shape? They are all ordinary crosses ending in four points or “arrows.”



A little time online led to the discovery that this particular kind of cross is what is called a “Passion Cross”. It is a Passion Cross because the four points on the top, bottom, and sides

of the cross represent the “Passion” or suffering and death of Jesus. These four “arrows” signify the three nails and one spear that pierced our Lord and brought about His sacrificial death on a cross for our sins



Dates of Interest:

- VBS Meeting.....Mar 3
- No RLS, RLP.....Mar 5
- Coffeehouse.....Mar 8
- Men’s Breakfast.....Mar 9
- Adult Games.....Mar 10
- Easter Egg Hunt.....Mar 17
- Usher Training.....Mar 19
- Moms Night Out.....Mar 21
- Blind Ministry.....Mar 22
- Palm Sunday.....Mar 24
- 5th Grade Seder.....Mar 27
- Maundy Thursday.....Mar 28
- Good Friday.....Mar 29
- Easter.....Mar 31

Sunday Morning Adult Ed

**Life Lived
under the Cross of Jesus**

**Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am
Fellowship Hall
February 18-March 24**

Led by Pastors Jonathan and Zach and using resources by Concordia Publishing House (*Spirituality of the Cross* by Gene Edward Veith, Jr. and *Lutheran Spirituality: Cross* by Hollger Sontag), we will look at the issue of Christian spirituality, especially as it is understood in the Lutheran tradition.

Each session will offer meaningful interaction with God's Word and what Scriptures have to say on topics like vocation, the hiddenness of God, the means of grace (and presence of God), etc. Ever heard of folks who claim to be "spiritual, but not religious"? This class is for people of faith who identify with the "religious" life of worship and spiritual disciplines, yet long to connect more meaningfully both to ancient church and the contemporary need to experience Christ authentically." Materials provided.



and the sins of the world. But if you look around at RLC you'll also see that the top of the cross is often under another arrow—a roof or other architectural feature—pointed upward. That reminds me that the Passion of our Lord is directly connected with His resurrection and ascension! Jesus would suffer many things, be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed. But on the third day, he would rise again! His rising demonstrates His victory over sin, death, and the devil. And that is the world-changing reality we get to remember and celebrate in the month of March this year. It underlies the name of our congregation: "RESURRECTION Lutheran Church."

Jesus has crossed over from death to life. As people who, by the grace of God, are found in Him, we have done the same! St. Paul writes: "You were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked....But God, being rich in mercy...made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us" (2:1-7). Whether it is our Lenten focus on 40 days in the wilderness with Jesus, our special services during Holy Week, RLC kids' Easter Extravaganza, or our church's self-identity as people who are "saved by grace, through faith, for service" every day of the year (2:8-10), we have ample opportunity this month to celebrate that were it not for Jesus though we are people who would be dead in our sins. His Easter victory is our victory, too! By the grace of God, we have passed over from death to life. What difference will that gift of life make in your life—and the lives of those you meet—this year? I can't wait to answer that question together with all of you.

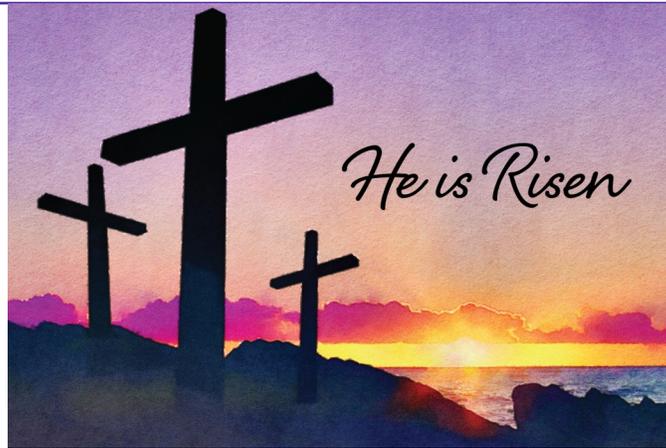
Easter joy!
Pastor Jonathan

Lenten Midweek Worship



Join us on Wednesdays, 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary!

Throughout Lent, we will be focusing on Journeying from Our Idols of 'Performancism' to the Grace of Our God.



Holy Week Observances and Easter Sunday Celebration

Palm Sunday | March 23 & 24

6:00 pm - Worship with Holy Communion on Saturday

8:00 am*, 9:30 am - Sanctuary Festival Worship with Holy Communion on Sunday
Led by Sanctuary Choir, Heavenly Handbells, and Resurrection Brass Ensemble

11:00 am* - Praise & Worship with Holy Communion on Sunday
Led by *Reign!* in the Family Life Center

Maundy Thursday | March 28

4:00 pm - Worship with Holy Communion

7:00 pm* - Worship with Holy Communion
(First Communion for 5th Grade Students)

Good Friday | March 29

12:00 pm - Worship (Preceded and Followed by a Soup and Salad Lunch)
Musical Offerings by Cantus Christe Quartet

7:00 pm* - Tenebrae Service featuring the *St. John Passion* by John Ferguson
Led by Sanctuary Choir

Easter Sunday | March 31

6:30 am - Sunrise Service Begins in Prayer Garden, Processes to Sanctuary
Led by Celebration Singers

8:00 am*, 9:30 am, 11:00 am
Sanctuary Easter Festival Worship with Holy Communion
Led by Sanctuary Choir, Heavenly Handbells, and Resurrection Brass Ensemble

11:00 am* - Praise & Worship with Holy Communion
Led by *Reign!* in the Family Life Center

*Live Stream Services

Connect through our YouTube channel [@ResurrectionLutheranCary](#)

Adult Christian Education

Bible Study Opportunities

Monday

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Measured by Grace: How God Defines Success by Sharla Fritz

7:00-8:00 pm in Room 151, Family Life Center, and Online via Zoom, January 8-May 20

Leaders: Jamee Thieme, Sharon Hahne, Dawn Leister

Men's Weekly Study and Fellowship

Christian History Made Easy

7:00-8:15 pm in Room 240, Family Life Center, January 8-May 20

Leaders: Tom Gebbia

Tuesday

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship

Scripture Lessons in Worship

10:30-11:30 am in Fellowship Hall, January 2-May 21

Leaders: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault

Wednesday

Men With Kids

6:30-7:45 pm in Room 247, Family Life Center, January 3-April 24

Leader: Tom Gebbia

The Bible: Where It Comes from and Why It Matters

6:30-8:00 pm in Fellowship Hall, February 21-April 24

Facilitated by Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Ian Glenn,

with Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Kloha, Chief Curatorial Officer, Museum of the Bible

Adult Christian Education

Mission and Ministry Presentation

Leaving Behind a Faith Legacy

Sunday, March 10 from 9:30-10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

"Stewardship" is used in various ways, but have you ever considered how Christian stewardship extends to the legacy of faith we leave behind for others, once we are no longer living here below?

Pastor Jonathan will team up with RLC Member and Wealth Manager Scott Ferguson to discuss topics like how to write an obituary, plan for a funeral/memorial service, balancing the wishes of the deceased with needs of those who survive him/her, what to consider when thinking through memorial gifts to specific individuals and institutions, and so many more.

This is an answer to repeated requests from church members on guidance for these questions. We invite you to save the date and bring your questions!

Pastor Alan's

Season of Reflection

*"For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face.
Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known"
1 Corinthians 13:12*

My wife just returned home from 90 days in Europe working with the US government. As many of you know, it was supposed to be a 2-year "gig",



but paperwork problems and other factors resulted in an opportunity for her to come home early. We each have our share of military deployments and so long-term separations are nothing new to us; however, each one of them always presented an opportunity to reflect. One of my reflections can be summed up as we talked about

entering that stage of life when we really appreciate the time we have together as kids start to make their way out of the house.

Each long-term separation is a change in your daily life. Routines are thrown off track and a new one begins to take shape. We recognize that emotions are OK to experience: 'sad' that they had to leave; 'angry' that you now need to pick up their part of the routine; 'resentful' of other couples that seem to enjoy what you now see as a hole in your own life. Rumors of early returns can bring a sense of 'hope' that quickly shifts to 'disappointment' when they don't return early. And through it all, life continues. The sun sets... the sun rises... and you do it all over again.

Maybe you read that and thought about times in your life or the lives of other family and friends. It might not be a spouse on long-term travel, but rather disruptions like a divorce, long-term health issues, the death of a loved one or significant financial changes. Anything that disrupts your routine for an extended time brings opportunities for reflection. We think about what we would do differently if given the opportunity or what we now appreciate or must accept as part of a new way of life. Taking time to reflect is an important part of how we move forward and can help shape future interactions as we learn from past experiences. One of those reflection opportunities is right now.

During Lent, we reflect on our own sinful condition as we move forward to Good Friday and Easter Sunday: Christ's actions on the cross and His resurrection from the dead for our sake. We reflect on bad habits we would like to give up and/or good habits we choose to add over the next 40 days. As we reflect, we also share in the hope of what is to come. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Corinthians that there will come a day when we see clearly, when we know Jesus face to face, and reflections are no longer needed because we "know fully".

For now, we use the opportunity to reflect and learn. I appreciated my time of reflection over the past three months and I pray that your journey through Lent does the same for you... without having to send a loved one off to Europe.

May God bless you over this season of reflection and lead us all to the celebration of Easter victory.

Happy Anniversary!

March 5

Ed and Ginny Koren
59 years

March 27

Ron and Carol Bostick
53 years

Nelson and Rebecca Kuo
25 years

Outreach to the Community

Lenten Offerings

Offerings received during the Lenten Midweek Worship Services this year will go to support the following:

Triangle Family Services

Since 1937, Triangle Family Services has served as a place for sustainable solutions helping families facing a crisis. They provide solutions to provide safety and security to local families and enabling our community to thrive. Their focus is on four core program areas: Family Safety, Financial Stability, Mental Health, and Homeless Engagement/Housing Stabilization. (tfsnc.org)

Inter-Faith Food Shuttle

Since 1989, Inter-Faith Food Shuttle (IFS) has recovered and distributed over a million pounds of food per year and has taught skills for self-sufficiency including culinary job skills, shopping and cooking healthy on a budget, and how to grow food. They service seven area counties, including Wake County, and their programs support low-income families living in 'food deserts' and without the income to purchase healthy meals. They partner with food providers, houses of worship, and community housing to distribute access free food at mobile markets where needy families live. IFS was started by two women, a Christian and a Jew, who wanted to recover and distribute food that would otherwise end up in landfills. (foodshuttle.org)

Lutheran Braille Workers

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) provides God's word – the Bible and other Christian materials) to people who are blind or visually impaired, completely free of charge, in quality formatted Braille and specialized large print, and in multiple languages. LBW started in 1943 in response to a shortage of Braille Bibles for blind pastors in Germany and now provides materials throughout the world. (lbwloveworks.org)

Please place your offerings in the specially marked offering envelopes or denote "Lenten Offerings" on your payment. Thank you for your generosity in supporting these important charities and ministries!

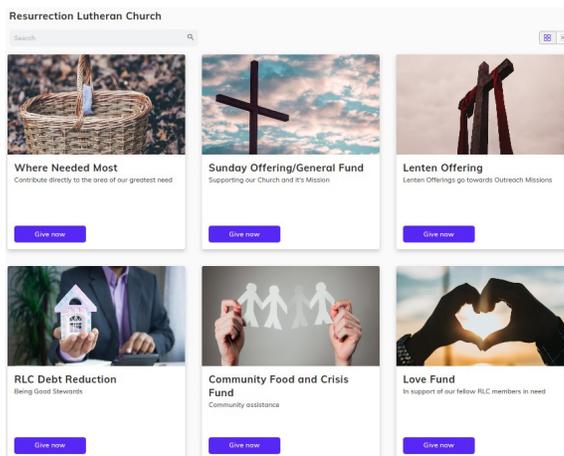
Treasurer and Finance Update

New Online Giving Site

Resurrection is pleased to announce our [new and improved online giving page!](#) Vanco, our eGiving provider, has updated their online giving platform to make it easier than ever to make one-time gifts or set up recurring donations to our church.

The new page is live on our site and [available on our website](#). Nothing about our online giving has changed, except the look of the page. You can adjust existing donations, set up new gifts, and update personal information from the new Vanco Online.

We are thrilled about our online giving page's new look. Please stop by the church office or call us at 919-851-7248, if you have questions or need assistance. You can also email treasurer@rlcary.org or finance@rlcary.org.



February 2024

During the February Council Meeting, Pastor Blanke presented to the Council a draft charter for mission engagement. Paul and Susan Brandt (who became members on 25 February) have agreed to facilitate the new Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team. Desiring to be faithful to Jesus' Great Commission to "Go and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:18), this team, by the grace of God, will assist RLC in bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ across boundaries of language and culture, both in our community and abroad.

Building maintenance issues continue to be a challenge.

- During a recent major rain event, the gutters outside Room 117 overflowed causing a leak in the room (This area has not been a problem in the past.). This leak was quickly cleaned up, but we now realize these gutters were not designed large enough to handle the flow of water that is possible. The Council is requesting price quotes for gutters, installation and gutter guards. The cost is estimated to be about \$10,000.
- The Council is looking at replacing at least 4 sets of windows in Rooms 115 (nursery), 123, 130 and 131. These windows all have wooden frames which make them subject to decay and leaks. Also, the cranks no longer work, making these windows not usable for emergency egress.
- The parking lot was last updated (cracks filled and seal-coated) in 2015. This and other asphalt issues will need to be addressed in next year's budget.

Time and talent worksheets will be distributed in April this year (usually happens in January). We are exploring ways to improve these forms and encourage more participation in the many missions and activities Resurrection has to offer. The Council also requested QR codes be used more regularly to direct people to the Vanco Giving Site.

Finally, we started our initial discussion about planning the Resurrection 50th Anniversary which will take place in 2028. It has been suggested we spend time looking at the (and building a better) archive of information and pictures in preparation for this momentous occasion. If you are interested in helping, please contact any one of your Church Council.

Your Council members are listed below and are willing to take questions and suggestions.

Mike Haertling, President (505) 690-9929	Mark Dirks, Council Member (919) 345-5348
Lori Jannings, Vice President (919) 523-6619	Charles Miller, Council Member (919) 534-5649
Mike Hahne, Treasurer (919) 749-7666	Aaron Newcomb, Council Member (919) 645-8005
Mike Heffner, Secretary (469) 644-2049	Linda Mangino, Council Member (919) 538-0104
Tom Bolling, Council Member (847) 922-9555	Ex Officio: Margaret Hyatt, Operations Director (919) 851-7248
	Ex Officio: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Sr. Pastor (301) 997-6687



Shrove Tuesday

Appreciation

A big thank you to all the amazing volunteers, especially the youth and staff who turned Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper into a flipping fantastic night of fun, fellowship, and pancakes!

We filled up nearly 100 hungry bellies and stacked up a remarkable \$736 to support Camp Agape.

With 25 lbs. of pancake mix, 40 lbs. of ham, and 35 lbs. of sausage, we turned the heat up in the kitchen.

Can't wait to see you all again next year for more laughs, fellowship, and delectable food!



The Piecemakers

Quilting Open House

Interested in Learning About Quilting? Come join us for National Quilt Day on **Saturday, March 16** from 10:00 am-12:00 pm in Room 151, Family Life Center!



Learn how to use a sewing machine, how to put color together, how we put quilts together, and how we enjoy our faithful fellowship together.

Questions? Contact Linda Merrill in the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

RLC Worship Servants

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 or the church office for more information:

Saturday, 6:00 pm - Lori Jannings
Sunday, 9:30 am - Dara Linn

Sunday, 8:00 am - Brenda Peterson
Sunday, 11:00 am - Suzi Heffner

March News



Moms, you are invited to join other moms for daytime get togethers to socialize, share tips, make new friends, and work on crafts/projects. Childcare available for small fee. We also meet for evening activities occasionally.

For dates and to sign up: <https://bit.ly/3ZVhyB8>

March 8 - KICKS (grades 3-5) -Fellowship Hall - 6-7:30 pm

March 17 - Easter Eggstravaganza * Magic Show -Gym- 3 pm

March 31 - No Children's Sunday School * Happy Easter!

April 6 - Mother Daughter Interactive Tea -Fellowship Hall- 11:30 am

HE IS RISEN

EASTER Blessings

Jesus

Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director, at erika.hulse@rlcary.org.

Middle School and High School

Youth Ministry News

Laser Tag and Lock In Success!

Thank you so much to Nathan at Mission Games! Nathan is a local youth pastor that on the side runs Mission Games. His company provides a fun experience while encouraging a kingdom building environment. He gives back 10% to ministries and missions and believes in spreading the joy of Christ.

We are so grateful for Nathan's mission and providing an amazing experience for our RLC Youth. It is a ton of fun when we try something new and we had 32 youth participate (16 high schoolers stayed all night). New games, new faces and a lot of fun in faith!



[Mission Games](http://missiongamesnc.com) | [Play Boldly](#) | [Mobile Laser Tag Near Me \(missiongamesnc.com\)](#)



A huge shout out to Leah Robison and Dave Robison for being my right hand during the Lock In! They braved a long night and I am so thankful for the blessing of them for our Middle School and High School Group.

Also a huge shout out to Garrett Nigg who joined us and helped us with the Laser Tag portion of our evening. The kids absolutely loved having Garrett onsite for some fun and enjoyed ambushing him.

God's love is amazing and evident in the youth, their friends, the adults who served and the community of support right here on the RLC Campus. What a blessing!

Questions regarding our middle school and high school youth activities can be directed to Jenny Piontek, Youth Ministry Director, at jenny.piontek@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248, ext. 24.

Hop on over for our

EASTER

Eggstravaganza

March 17

at 3:00 pm

Games

Illusionist Tony Thomas

Egg Hunt

Resurrection Lutheran Church

Family Life Center

100 Lochmere Drive West

Cary, NC

Sign up here:





Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org

919-851-7270

office@rlpcary.org



Our program offers opportunities and experiences that will enrich, expand, and develop a child's ever-increasing accumulation of knowledge in a loving Christian atmosphere.

Enroll NOW for 2024-25 at Resurrection Lutheran **PRESCHOOL**

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

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

Class openings are also available for the 2023-24 preschool year.

Preschool Punchlines

4-year-old girl talking to her mom,

"We had fun in Science today!
We did an 'fermiment' (experiment) with popcorn!"



SUMMERCAMP

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

June 3 – 6 (9:15-12:30)
June 10 – 13 (9:15-12:30)
June 17 – 20 (9:15-12:30)

RLChurch VBS June 24-28

Neighbors, friends, & family welcome!
Brochures and Registration forms coming soon.

Mark Your Calendars!

STEM NEWS

We are so proud of our 6th grade students as they are putting the finishing touches on their amazing Student Showcase presentations for NCTies (North Carolina Technology in Education) that will be held next week, March 7 and 8. Ms. Lee has planned and led them through this process and we know they will make RLS proud!

We are also fortunate to have a group of teachers and Ms. Hester, our proud Principal, attending this year's NCTies conference as well.

Thank you to our school board for all of your support as we bring back awesome ideas and lessons to share with our teachers and students!

SINGING IN SERVICE

RLS Choir (Grades 1-5) and RLS Middle School Chorus (Grades 6-8) will be singing Sunday, March 10 at the 11:00 am Praise Worship service.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- March 4-8** National Lutheran Schools Week
- March 5** No School - Voting Day
- March 7-8** NCTies Conference
- March 15** RLS Talent Show
- March 22** National Junior Honor Society Induction
Early Release, 11:30 am
- March 25-April 1** Easter Break

Looking ahead...

- April 5** PSO Spring Fling Fundraiser at the Matthews House



Resurrection Lutheran School

Robin Hester
Principal

Rosie Creasy
Director of Admissions/
School Growth

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

One Heart, One Mind

Make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

Philippians 2:2 NIV

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS week 2024
"connected"

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>CONNECTED TO FRIENDS:</p> <p>TWINNING IS WINNING!</p>	<p>VOTERS DAY</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>CONNECTED TO THE FUTURE:</p> <p>"WHEN I GROW UP, I'LL BE..."</p>	<p>CONNECTED TO THE WORLD:</p> <p>FAVORITE BOOK/MOVIE CHARACTER</p>	<p>CONNECTED TO OUR SCHOOL:</p> <p>SPIRIT DAY!</p>

Mission:
Resurrection Lutheran School is committed to educating generations of children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Because of this commitment, we will provide a Lutheran educational experience that is Christ-centered, as well as academically focused for children in junior kindergarten through eighth grade.

stayCONNECTED

WORSHIP

Join us for worship!

Saturday, 6:00 pm

Sunday, 8:00 am*, 9:30 am, and Praise 11:00 am*

*Live Stream Services

Connect through our YouTube channel

[@ResurrectionLutheranCary](https://www.youtube.com/@ResurrectionLutheranCary)

or through our website at

rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship



LEARN MORE

rlcary.org | office@rlcary.org | 919-851-7248

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke, Senior Pastor

Rev. Zachery Sarrault, Associate Pastor

Rev. Alan Shaw, Assistant Pastor

GIVING

We appreciate your contributions to our congregation. Here are the different ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate during worship
- Mail to 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518
- Online through our church website at rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving
- Download the Vanco Mobile app to transfer funds from your account

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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instagram.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary



youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.

Please send submissions to susan.moore@rlcary.org.

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518