



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2025

From the Pastor

In the Beginning

Whether you are involved with a school or are long past those school schedules, when the calendar turns to August you start to think of beginnings. This is the month that Resurrection Lutheran School is back in session, it's the month with all the back-to-school sales and "fall" sports beginning. The weather tells us it's summer, but the motion of day-to-day life tells us a new season is beginning.

What change comes to you when something new begins? Does it bring you excitement or dread? Are you already exhausted or filled with new energy? No matter how you feel, you can't deny that beginnings always bring something new. What will that new thing be for you this August?

God is always working in the newness of beginnings because it is God who creates something new in each beginning. *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."* God is the beginning. In a way, He invented beginnings. It is in the beginning of things, days, seasons, life, schedules, etc. that God is always working. He is always ready to be at work in the beginning of anything and His work is mainly to create something new. What is that new thing?

In the beginning of Jesus' ministry He comes saying, *"the kingdom of God is at hand."* God and His work of creating new things comes with Jesus who brings the beginning of God's kingdom on earth. What does the beginning of God's kingdom look like? It looks like the creation of something new. It looks like healing, community, love, forgiveness, compassion, safety, unity, grace. It looks like all the miraculous works and teachings of Jesus that we read of in the Gospels.



Dates of Interest:

Young Families.....	Aug 3
Ladies Luncheon.....	Aug 6
Coffeehouse.....	Aug 8
VBS Encore.....	Aug 10
RLS First Day.....	Aug 14
Men's Summer.....	Aug 20
Taize.....	Aug 23
Youth Gathering.....	Aug 24
RLP Parent Night.....	Aug 27
Blind Ministry.....	Aug 29

VISIT US ONLINE AT RLCARY.ORG

Gifts & Memorials

For the Love Fund

In Memory of John Healey
Robert and Joyce Hirt



God is working in beginnings, and He is still bringing His kingdom. What are the beginnings for you? It might be big seasons or routine schedules. Where do you see the kingdom of God in your beginnings?

We all live through the routine beginnings of each day. When you begin the day, do you begin the day in what God is creating? God creates His faith in you each and every day and we get to participate with God in His kingdom work of creating faith. When you begin each day with God's Word, you are beginning God's created day with His kingdom mindset, orienting your heart and mind towards what His kingdom looks like. We also begin our week with that same kingdom orientation. We begin in His Church, worshiping together in unity and community. It is in worship that we see God's kingdom working through the action of His Word proclaimed and heard.

When we participate with our Creator God in the habit of beginnings each day and week, He creates in us the work of His kingdom, using us to begin faith in those He puts before us.

Your beginning brother in Christ,
Pastor Zach Sarrault

Christmas in July

Many thanks to all members who contributed to our Christmas in July campaign benefiting [The Green Chair Project](#) and [Families Together](#). Over 300 items were collected at an estimated value of \$1,700. The receiving organizations are so thankful for your generosity!

- Human Care Committee

From Families Together:

A HUGE thank you to Resurrection Lutheran Church for supporting our program in tangible ways this week! Members of Resurrection Lutheran Church included us in their Christmas in July donation drive — gathering sheets, towels, pillows, and more for our families.



LWML Convention Offerings ~ Final Tallys

At the 2025 Lutheran Women in Mission Convention, generous hearts united to support four vital offerings. The first offering raised \$61,056.85 for the 2025-2027 LWML Mission Goal, supporting mission grants that further the spread of the Gospel and service around the world. The second offering collected \$45,934.92 to aid Camp Linn Haven and Mountainside Lutheran Church in Newland, North Carolina, as they recover from over \$2 million in damage caused by Hurricane Helene.

The third offering provided \$35,251.15 to the Grace Point Institute for Relational Help, supporting pastoral care and counseling services for church workers across Nebraska. The fourth offering garnered \$36,866.88 for the Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) in the Oklahoma District, helping fund essential equipment for disaster relief and debris removal. These offerings reflect the LWML's ongoing commitment to mercy, mission, and ministry. [Learn More](#)

July 2025

Following up on the June Voter's Meeting, the Council noted we now have 88 individuals (RLC Voting Members) who have signed the Resurrection Lutheran Church (RLC) Constitution and Bylaws. If you have not had a chance to sign the RLC Constitution and Bylaws and would like to be a voting member, you may drop by the office during the week and sign it. Or you can wait until the next Voter's Meeting that you attend.

Last year, we had a generous donation for the new Kneelers in the Sanctuary. There was money left over from this donation, and so far we have been able to purchase new banners and begin the process of re-plating our Sanctuary Communion Ware.

The End-Of-Year Financial Report indicated RLC ended the year in the black. It was also noted that as of the end of June (2025), the balance on the RLC mortgage was \$494,183. Based on the current payment schedule and interest rate, we should have the mortgage paid off in ~43 months.

Exteriors around the campus are now being pressure washed, and this includes the Columbarium. It was further noted that the Columbarium is now about 75% full so the Council is considering expansion of this capacity. Fortunately, the funds from previous niche sales should be adequate for such a project.

The Council has been taking a fresh look at the RLC Computing and Internet capabilities. This has involved member volunteers (Aaron Newcomb and Andrew Jannings) as well as another non-member volunteer. All of these individuals bring a wealth of knowledge and experience that can help RLC get caught up technologically and make the use and storage of electronic materials more manageable. If you have IT experience and would also like to help, please call Mike Haertling.

The July RLC Council approved two new Policies. The first is a Direct Financial Appeals Policy that gives better clarity on how non-RLC (and non-LCMS) groups can request support. This policy is now available in the RCB site. The second policy is for Non-Profit Use of our facilities. This Policy provides the basic requirements for use of our facilities by other religious non-profits for worship. This policy is also now available in RCB.

Finally, the Council approved a "first-step" toward the Ministry Expansion Campaign Pastor discussed during the June Voter's Meeting. This first step will allow the Council to approach the Walsh Company for cost options, a formal proposal and sample contract. The Council reviewed three "consulting companies" and Walsh was the preferred partner based on cost and capabilities. Walsh has successfully helped many LCMS churches in the past with these types of campaigns.

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	Jason Jennings, Council Member (813) 440-9112
Mike Heffner, Secretary (469) 644-2049	
Tom Bolling, Council Member (847) 922-9555	Ex Officio: Margaret Hyatt, Operations Director (919) 851-7248
Linda Mangino, Council Member (919) 538-0104	Ex Officio: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Sr. Pastor (301) 997-6687



Outreach Service to the Community

Habitat for Humanity

As a faithful, financial supporter over many years, Habitat Wake is extending a special opportunity to our congregation to sign a door in honor of Habitat Wake's 40th Anniversary and the passing of Habitat's greatest volunteer, President Jimmy Carter. President Carter was a person of deep faith whose decades of service and dedication to Habitat have inspired generations of affordable housing advocates.

Help us celebrate his legacy by decorating this door with Messages of inspiration and gratitude.

About 20 local church congregations are participating in this project. These doors will be featured at several events throughout Habitat Wake's 40th year, showcasing our community's collective dedication to building homes, communities, and hope in Wake and Johnston Counties. They will then be installed in a Habitat home.



One Flew Out of the Cuckoo's Nest

In the summer of 2020, my daughter left for college and a couple years later my son did his junior year of high school overseas in Spain. My wife and I found ourselves as empty nesters at least 2-years before we thought we would. We were confident in how we raised them both and knew they would flourish despite having their own missteps and struggles we all experience when we leave home. Empty nesting is a significant life transition many parents experience when their children leave home for college, work, or other pursuits. This period can evoke a mix of emotions, ranging from relief and newfound freedom to sadness and longing for their presence at home. While we enjoyed the freedom, we also had our moments: 18-years of ensuring they finished their homework, practiced the piano, made it to gymnastics and cheerleading and soccer and church, all that was changing in a big way. Nothing was going to be the same again.



Empty nesting isn't only about parents whose kids leave high school for the next adventure. It can be a challenging and emotional experience for those who have lost a loved one as well. The absence of daily interactions and the bustling energy of a full house can lead to feelings of loneliness and emptiness. Parents may find themselves longing for the sounds of laughter (or sibling rivalries) that once filled their home. The loss of a spouse or loved one can intensify these emotions, leaving individuals feeling alone as they navigate the complexities of grief and solitude.

This is where Stephen Ministry can help. Stephen Ministry offers compassionate care and support during this transitional period. Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who provide one-on-one, confidential support to those facing various life challenges, including empty nesting. They offer a listening ear, emotional encouragement, and practical assistance, helping individuals process their feelings and find healthy ways to cope. Whether it's discussing the joys of newfound freedom or sharing the pain of missing loved ones, Stephen Ministers help individuals explore new activities, set goals, and find meaning in this new phase of life.

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 and ask about how to make a referral to a Stephen Minister.



Stewardship of Life and Health Team

August News

Stay Hydrated This Summer!

As the temperatures rise, so does your body's need for water — whether you're doing yardwork, attending outdoor worship, or joining a group workout. Proper hydration supports energy, focus, and overall health for all activity levels.

Hydration Tips for Everyone:

- **Low activity:** Start your day with a full glass of water, and aim to sip steadily throughout.
- **Moderate activity:** Bring a refillable bottle and drink before, during, and after movement.
- **High activity (workouts, yard work, etc.):** Replenish with water and consider adding electrolytes, especially if you're sweating heavily.
- **All levels:** Watch for signs of dehydration — fatigue, dizziness, dry mouth — and respond early.



Stay safe, stay cool, and keep moving!

The Stewardship of Life & Health Group

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

LCMSU @ NCSU

After a break for the summer, LCMSU @ NCSU is gearing up for a new semester of meetings. LCMSU @ NCSU is the local chapter of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod college outreach program, LCMSU (lcms.org/how-we-serve/national/campus-ministry).

We meet twice each month for fellowship and worship. We understand that “College is tough, you need Jesus.” LCMSU @ NCSU provides the opportunity to join with fellow LCMS college students to support each other and provide a church connection. It is open to any college age student who is attending NC State, Duke, UNC, or another local or online college.

The “Lutheran Pack” will resume their meetings on **Friday, August 22** from 7:00-8:30 pm at the NC State Study Center (201 Brooks Avenue, Raleigh). We will start with a time of fellowship filled with games and snacks before closing the night with Evening Prayer and Holy Communion lead by Pastor Alan Shaw from Resurrection Lutheran Church.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining us, please reach out to Jonathan Madler, Pastor Alan Shaw, or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).



Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team

Mission Minute

The Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team (CCMET) met in July for an Annual Review meeting. The team revisited the mission and vision of the committee. With reflection and prayer, the team tweaked the engagement opportunities to best meet the goals of the committee.

The team is eager to equip the Resurrection Lutheran Church community to engage in these opportunities. Be on the lookout for ways to engage in the coming months.

If you are interested in serving on the Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team or serving in one or more of the available opportunities, please reach out to Erika Hulse at ccmet@rlcary.org.

Team Mission

The mission of the Cross-Cultural Engagement Mission Team is to engage the Resurrection Lutheran Church community as participants in cross cultural missions.

Team Vision

RLC is known for its commitment to the Great Commission for international and local cross-cultural missions so that, across the RLC community, engagement in cross-cultural missions is part of RLC DNA.

Engagement Opportunities

Led by the Spirit, the CCMET engages the RLC community in cross-cultural missions to:

- a. Pray for God's mission world-wide and encourage missionaries and mission organizations.
- b. Volunteer locally, volunteer internationally.
- c. Give financial gifts to support cross-cultural missions.

Men's Ministry

Summer Gatherings

While the weekly studies have been on break, the monthly summer fellowship gatherings have been enjoyed. We have met in Cary, Apex, and Fuquay Varina.

Our next event will be **Wednesday, August 20** from 6:30-8:30 pm at Player's Retreat in Raleigh. All men welcome!

Note, our monthly breakfasts will start back up in **September**, typically the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Mark your calendars! Our 2026 Men's Retreat and Service Event will be at Camp Agapé on **March 13-15, 2026**. Contact Tom Gebbia at mens-ministry@rlcary.org.

Happy Anniversary!

August 2

Bob and MaryAnn Unger
45 years

August 3

David and Gaye Ingram
45 years

August 4

Cleveland and Kim Simpson
35 years

August 12

Dave and Sharon Edeal
30 years

Ed and Carolyn Yerha
30 years

August 18

Pete and Vicki Brady
51 years

August 21

Terry and Sandy Brummeyer
54 years

August 24

Garland and Ann Johnson
67 years

August 29

Robert and Sally Cotton
66 years

Ron and Carol Mitchell
61 years

August 31

John and Michelle Wood
40 years

Free Evening Seminar

TRIANGLE FAITH.ORG

Sunday, August 10, 2025

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Revealing Jesus: Christ's Fulfillment of the Old Testament

Jesus' words are saturated with the Old Testament. He speaks of Himself and His work as the fulfillment of everything promised by Moses and the prophets. Everything! From Genesis to Malachi, every word drips with Jesus. Let's take a look at how Jesus uses the Old Testament to make His person and work known. We'll examine specific Old Testament texts to understand them in their original context and then see how Christ fulfills them. Not only will our appreciation of the Old Testament grow, but we will have a deepened insight into what the New Testament teaches us of Christ.

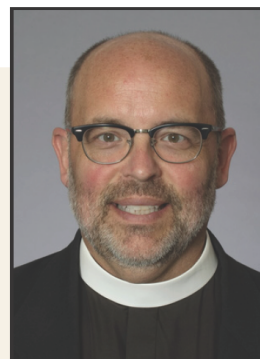
- Walking with Jesus to Emmaus: Christ's Self-Reference to the Old Testament
- Reading the Old Testament on Its Own Terms
- How the New Testament Reads the Old Testament

Workshop Location

Hosted by: Jordan Lutheran Church

Location: 309 Holleman St., Apex, NC

TriangleFaith.org is a cooperative effort of congregations in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod that seeks to bring the message of forgiveness to the greater Raleigh Triangle community.



Dr. Kevin Golden
Associate Professor of
Exegetical Theology

Dr. Kevin Golden is associate professor of Exegetical Theology, dean of Theological Research and Publication, and director of Resident Field Education at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He joined the faculty in 2021.

Golden's research experience includes Hosea, biblical usage of the divine name, Genesis 6-9, Jonah, the Book of the Twelve (Minor Prophets) and biblical intertextuality.

He is the author of *Blessed Be His Name: Revealing the Sacred Names of God* (Concordia Publishing House, 2021), *God's Own Son Is Born A Child* (Concordia Publishing House, 2019) and *LifeLight: Minor Prophets* (Concordia Publishing House, 2009). He contributed to the festschrift, *The Mercy of God in the Cross of Christ: Essays on Mercy in Honor of Glenn Merritt* (LCMS, 2016).



**Concordia
Seminary**
ST. LOUIS

Vacation Bible School



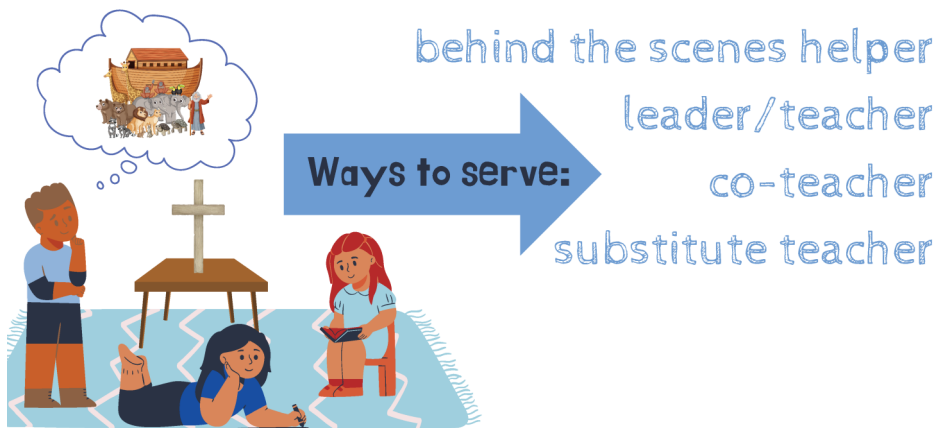
Encore VBS

VBS at Resurrection Lutheran Church

was so much FUN we are having an ENCORE!!

**Meet in the gym on August 10 at 11 am for worship
and songs. After meet on the playground for
popsicles and give-aways !**

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed



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

Save the Date!

Join us on **Sunday, August 24** at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall
for a Mission and Ministry Presentation
by the attendees of the LCMS Youth Gathering 2025 in New Orleans!

Come hear the youth share their amazing experience.

LCMS Youth Gathering 2025 New Orleans Recap

Thank you so much for your continued prayers from the beginning to the end of our amazing experience at the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering. The theme was ENDURE. Enduring with joy through our challenges and successes. We endured both! We had an amazing experience, met amazing people from all over the world, and had the opportunity to really dive deep into the scriptures, sessions, and relationships within our own group. Here are some of the highlights:

- 13 kids and 6 adults departed RDU on Friday, July 18 at 3:00 am - so thankful for the AA employee that helped all of us get checked in quickly.
- A large storm that dissipated the closer we got to the Gathering and even a rainbow right to the Superdome on the day we opened events.
- 3 packed days of Bible study and topical sessions (probably 3-4 hours a day), the interactive floors to explore and participate in faith building activities and the game zone. We spent from 9:30 am-5:00 pm each day in the Convention Center exploring.
- After dinner, a quick reset and swipe of fresh deodorant, we walked with 20,000 of our new friends to the Superdome (a little over a mile for us). Playing songs, singing and dancing the whole way, warming up for Praise and Worship from 8:00-10:30 pm (or later) each night. We saw FLAME and Rend Collective in concert!
- A group showed up to protest the Gathering, which did not feel good. However, what we saw was a wall of orange (our wonderful YAV's-young adult volunteers) and New Orleans police officers cheering the youth into the Convention Center. God's love won the day!
- We toured St. Louis Cathedral and Jackson Square, walked the Riverwalk, went to Cafe Du Monde and tried the beignets, toured the Mardi Gras Museum and Historic Oaks Mansion (thank you SED), and went to the WWII museum. Some in the group tried alligator sausage, while others preferred to hold the baby alligator that came to visit.

A great trip, a great experience, and we are so thankful for your support and prayers!

~ Ms. Jenny



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





Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org

919-851-7270

office@rlpcary.org



Community Care Event

Wednesday, August 27
5:00-9:00 pm

Come join the community for food and fun and a portion of sales will be donated to **Resurrection Lutheran Preschool**.

Place a mobile order and select "Support Community Care Event" when prompted.



WAVERLY PLACE

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Volleyball begins on **Wednesday, August 6**.

The PSO is hosting a **Uniform and Spirit Wear Sale** on **Tuesday, August 12** from 12:00-2:00 pm and **Wednesday, August 13** from 12:00-2:00 pm, 5:00-8:00 pm in Room 151.

This year, we're updating our traditional Meet the Teacher and Back to School Night events. We invite all parents to join us for **Parent Orientation Night** on **Wednesday, August 13** at 6:00 pm.

This is a parent-only event, and we ask that at least one parent from each family attend. During the evening, you'll receive important information in both large-group sessions and smaller classroom meetings with your child's teacher. You are welcome to bring your student's school supplies.

Then on **Thursday, August 14**, we will kick off the school year with a half-day. School doors will open at 8:15 am and dismissal will begin at 11:30 am. Make sure you pick up your carline number on Wednesday night for dismissal. Students will meet their teachers and spend the morning in their classrooms getting to know routines and expectations for a successful start to the year!

First full day of school on **Friday, August 15**.

Cross Country begins on **Monday, August 18**.

Our 6th-8th grade students will travel to the North Carolina mountains again this year for our Fall Retreat at Camp Linn Haven from **August 25-28**.



Resurrection Lutheran School

Robin Hester
Principal

rlscary.org

919-851-7271

contact@rlscary.org



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/channel/UCResurrectionLutheranCary)

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

Christopher Reed, SMP Vicar

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
- Through [Online Giving](#)
- Download the Vanco Mobile app to transfer funds from your account

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA



facebook.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary



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