Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 28, 2025



Pastor's Corner for September 28-October 4, 2025

Godliness...with Contentment (1 Timothy 6:6-19)

There is a word in the Bible I admit I used to find off-putting. St. Paul uses the word in question at least 10 times in his first letter to his "son in the faith" Timothy. What was this biblical word that I had to learn to love? It was the word often translated "pious" or "godly." You see, every time I ran across an encouragement to be godly or pious I could not help calling to mind images of people who were trying to be something they were not. In my mind, a "pious" person was someone who was usually trying to act holy so as to make an impression: a scowling but "chancel-prancing" worship leader, say, or a religious person, who was, in the words of Johnny Cash, working so hard to appear "heavenly-minded" they were "no earthly good"! In my mind, it seemed presumptuous to think anyone could truly be called "godly." The call to be a

"faithful" follower of Jesus I could understand. The exhortation to "godliness" or "piety" just did not feel right.

But then, I just happened to discover the combination of "godliness" with "contentment" in our text for today. In the end, this brand of godliness/piety is not interested in an outward display. It is not working hard at just making an impression. It is comfortable in its own skin! What does such godliness look like? There is no one picture of human behavior that sums it up. Let's just say it is the life of a sinner who knows his sins are forgiven. As St. Paul would quote the Old Testament elsewhere, "There is none that is righteous, no not one" (Romans 3:10-12). Yet Paul who calls himself "the chief of sinners" would be gifted by the grace of God to live out the "mystery of godliness" with contentment! A life lived with true heavenly treasure in the heart could not help but live with less need for earthly "treasure" for others to see.

So if you have a similar issue with words like "godly" and "pious," never fear. "Godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world" (1 Tim. 6:6-7). There is only one God... and that God has brought us more blessings than we could ever count, through Christ Jesus! You may not have noticed. But one of those gifts is that, because of Jesus, others will see the imprint of God's grace in you. And that, indeed, is not only "great gain" for each of us. It is treasure worth sharing!

Love in Christ, Pastor Jonathan

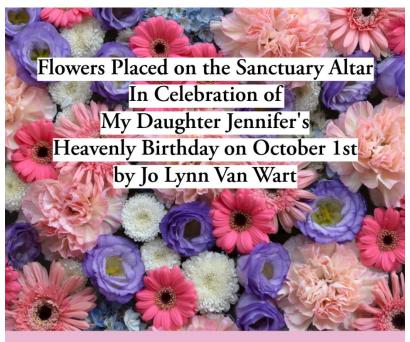
Prayers of the Church



Saturday, September 27

We will use the Taize format of worship for the Saturday, 6:00 pm service.

A darkened setting with candles, singing of short ostinato refrains of Biblical and liturgical phrases, periods of quiet for reflection, the celebration of communion, readings, and sermon.



Sign up for Altar Flowers in the Sanctuary and Family Life Center. Click below or call the church office at 919-851-7248. Flowers are from Cary Florist and cost \$45.

Sign Up for Altar Flowers!

• YOUNG FAMILIES • gathering



Join us on

Sunday, September 28 at 4:00 pm

for fun, food, and fellowship!

We will meet at 106 Novello Way, Holly Springs. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

RSVP to Zak and Audrey Keller or Pastor Zach Sarrault, or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Thank You

Thank you for all the love and care, hugs, prayers and cards during and after the long Alzheimer's journey for Ron and me. My wonderful church family was such a blessing and comfort.

- Carol Mitchell

Employment Opportunity

Resurrection Lutheran Church is seeking a dedicated and organized individual to fill the role of **Church Office Assistant**. This vital position supports the overall operations of our church, ensuring smooth administrative functions, and a welcoming environment for all who interact with our ministries.

This part-time, morning position is 20 hours per week. Responsibilities include general office duties, data entry, and preparation of weekly bulletins using Microsoft Office products.

It is important to be organized, ability to multi-task, possess general computer knowledge, and a willingness to learn. In addition, an important aspect of this church office position is to convey a caring and welcoming attitude.

If interested, contact Pastor Jonathan Blanke at <u>jonathan.blanke@rlcary.org</u> or 919-851-7248, ext. 22.

Adult Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Morning

Challenging Words of Jesus
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am ~ September 7-October 12
Fellowship Hall
Pastor Zach Sarrault, Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Ever wonder why Jesus tells you to hate your family, make friends by unrighteous wealth, fear God, or that divorce is adultery? We will be specifically looking at these challenging words of Jesus, because even His hard words matter for our relationship with Him and the people He gives us. Jesus doesn't always tell you what you want to hear. But He always tells you what you need to hear, and even the hard words are a gift given to you in love. Our goal will be to understand these hard words in context and see the love of Jesus behind them using Jesus Said What? by Christopher M. Kennedy.

Tuesday Morning

Tuesday Morning Bible Study
Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am ~ September 2-May 19
Fellowship Hall
Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Pastor Zach Sarrault

God gives His Word to instruct, guide, and bless our lives. The Scripture lessons in worship offer a menu every week to build up the people of God in faith and hope. We will study the lessons for the following Sunday, and as we do, we expect that this Word will enrich and edify our community prayer, faith, and servant life in Christ.

Wednesday Evening ~ Supper & Scripture

Christian Parenting

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm ~ September 3-November 19

Room 240, Family Life Center

Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director, and Pastor Zach Sarrault

For Parents, Grandparents, Guardians - All Welcome!

Parenting happens in habits. We make meals, get in cars, answer questions, discipline, and do bedtime. Using the book, *Habits of the Household* by Justin Whitmel Earley, we will see how these ordinary routines are extraordinary opportunities to live out the love of God in profound ways.

The Rock, The Road, and The Rabbi
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm ~ September 3-October 22
Room 151, Family Life Center
Tim Kearby and Mindy Stephani

Have you ever longed to walk where Jesus walked, to understand Scripture the way His first followers did? Join us for an inspiring Bible study based on the book, *The Rock*, *The Road*, *and The Rabbi* by Kathie Lee Gifford — a journey through the Holy Land with fresh insight from Jewish roots and ancient traditions.

James For Men

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm (Fellowship at 6:30 pm) September 3-October 22 Room 247, Family Life Center Tom Gebbia

Progress never comes easily! If you want to see improvement and concrete results, in anything you do, you will need to embrace discomfort. Yet it's the discomfort that prevents men from pressing on toward the goal. The book of James, which was written by the half-brother of Jesus, serves as a call to action for those who are hesitant to push through discomfort.

Women of the Word (WOW)
Everlasting: Peaks, Valleys, and Grace in the Psalms
Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm (Fellowship at 6:45 pm)
September 3-December 10
Fellowship Hall
Jamee Thieme

All women are invited to this discussion-based study using the book, *Everlasting: Peaks, Valleys, and Grace in the Psalms* by Christina Hergenrader.

Anxious. Worthy. Ashamed. Nostalgic. Lonely. Secure. This is just a handful of emotions we observe in the Psalms – and in our day-to-day lives, too. In this women's Bible study, you'll be guided through 25 psalms, digging into their genres, perplex emotions, glimpses of Jesus, and more.

This Is the Church
Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm ~ September 10-October 8
Room 251, Family Life Center
Pastor Jonathan Blanke

We will focus on the basics of what Christians believe and how the Christian faith can be understood in distinction from other world religions.

View the Christian Education Booklet, Fall 2025



Contact Marcia Shaw through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Wednesday Evening Dinners

Join us for dinner on Wednesdays, 5:15-6:00 pm in the Family Life Center Gym!

Dinners are prepared for all ages with a buffet style setup including dessert. There can be a vegetarian option upon request. Excellent opportunity to bond with family and friends, new and old, over a sit-down meal!

All are welcome! Online reservations at <u>rlcary.org</u> requested by 12:00 pm on Monday each week.

Suggested donation of \$7 per person or \$25 per family. Cash, check, or card payable at door. If you plan to attend multiple dinners, you may reserve and pay in advance.



Menu for October

October 1: Swedish Meatballs, Salad, Fruit, and Cake

October 8: Shrimp Scampi, Pasta, Salad, Fruit, and Brownies

October 15: Moe's Taco Bar, Fruit, and Tres Leches Cake

October 22: Bocci's Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Salad, Fruit, and Cherry Cheesecake

October 29: Soup and Chili, Bread, Salad, Fruit, and Pie

Interested in volunteering to help with set up, serving, and cleaning? Sign up today!

Questions? Contact Kim Simpson through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org). We look forward to seeing you!

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Helping Children in Need Sleep Better

All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads. Across the country, too many boys and girls go without a bed - or even a pillow - to sleep on. These children end up sleeping on couches, blankets, and even floors. This

can affect their happiness and health.

That's where Sleep in Heavenly Peace comes in. We are volunteers who are dedicated to building, assembling, and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) provides the bed, mattress, and bedding to each child. Bedlessness is a real problem in the US with 2-3% of the population sleeping without beds.

A volunteer crew delivered to a family of three little girls that had all been sleeping on the same (broken) twin size bed. That same night, a bed was delivered to a 17-year-old that had never had a bed of his own.

SHP provides all the tools and expertise that allow people with little or no experience to build all the components for a solid, wood bunk bed. It is always a fun-filled half day that ends with branding the beds. Fellowship is wonderful and the ability to solve a problem for others leaves everyone feeling a bit better about the world!

RLC will be sponsoring a **Sleep in Heavenly Peace Build Day on Saturday**, **October 4** from 9:00 am-12:00 pm in the church parking lot. **We need many volunteers for the build**.

Sign Up Now!

x.gldn.io/e/ITrRZIq7ERb





Contact Sandy Douglas through RCB or church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Praying the Themes of the Lord's Prayer

On **Saturday**, **October 4** from 8:30 am-12:00 pm, Jordan Lutheran Church in Apex will host a seminar on "Praying the Themes of the Lord's Prayer". Pastor Larry Eckart will lead this seminar.

Using the Lord's Prayer as the foundation, this seminar will teach that <u>meditation</u> – <u>on the themes of the Lord's Prayer</u> – allows the Holy Spirit to turn our focus from the chaos of the world to the peace and presence of the Lord.

Jordan is located at 309 Holleman Street, Apex. Please email Pastor Larry at larryeckart54@gmail.com, if you plan to attend.

The Next Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, October 10

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 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/3VAtWW0

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday**, **October 10** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center Gym. *Ricky Tew* will be playing for us.

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



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.

Blessing of the Quilts

Lutheran World Relief quilt and kit makers are celebrating 80 years of ministry! In honor of this milestone, The Piecemakers, RLC's quilting group, is holding a Quilt Show with *your* special or vintage quilts as a part of the Blessing of the Quilts Weekend, **October 11 and 12**.

If you would like to show a quilt during this event, please drop it off in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, October 11 between 10:00 am and 12:00 pm. Please join us to view these artistic and unique pieces of tradition!

If you have questions, please contact Linda Merrill through RCB, or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).



Contact Tom Gebbia at mens-ministry@rlcary.org.

Discover Resurrection

Saturday, October 11 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

For new members, to help you learn about our church life and how you can serve alongside us as a member of the RLC family! Childcare Provided.

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



Games
Fall Snack Station
Inflatable Obstacle Course

Trunk or Treating (bring a bag!)



SIGN UP:



Sign Up: bit.ly/4pBsTT6

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

Crutches for Africa

Crutches for Africa is a US based 502c3 organization that is looking to fill and ship a large sea container.

This Fall, several local organizations are coming together to support a special need - mobility equipment for those in need in Africa. Mobility equipment, such as crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, scooters, canes, leg and knee braces, air casts, rollators, and baby jogging strollers, are basically nonexistent in Africa. The lack of this type of equipment makes it more difficult for people to get basic things, like food and water.

If you have items such as these, please contact RLC member Bob Shimmel and he will make arrangements to pick them up. Bob can be contacted through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).



Greater Area CROP Walk

November 2, 2025

CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk fundraising events held in cities and towns across the United States, created to support the global mission

of <u>Church World Service</u>, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. After a CROP Hunger Walk ends, 25% of the funds raised is returned to the host community to support local hunger fighting efforts.



RLC had been active with this organization prior to the pandemic. The younger youth would staff a water station, and teens would walk and raise money to donate to the organization. If you have been active with this organization in the past and/or would like to get involved now, we are looking for a Team Leader to organize our involvement. Please contact the church office ASAP, if you are willing to take on this role.

- Human Care Committee

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 and Family Ministry



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

Sunday School for Middle and High School
 Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am
 The Warehouse, Room 253, Family Life Center

High School Youth Group

Sundays, 6:30-8:00 pm The Warehouse, Room 253, Family Life Center

Middle School Youth Group

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm The Warehouse, Room 253, Family Life Center



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

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool



at Resurrection Lutheran

PRESCHOOL

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

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



office@rlpcary.org 919.851.7270



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

Resurrection Lutheran School

Tom Kolb, Executive Director of Schools and Youth, Southeastern District-LCMS, and former Principal of Resurrection Lutheran School, presented Robin Hester, current Principal, with the official certificate of accreditation from the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) during our services last week.



RLS successfully completed this process last spring. This recognition affirms the dedication of the teachers and staff, the support of families, and the hard work of students. More importantly, it reflects the shared commitment to providing a Christ-centered, academically strong education for every child within the school.

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

Latest Lion's Tale



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, September 20 6:00 pm - 58

Sunday, September 21 8:00 am - 112 9:30 am - 156 11:00 am - 78

Total In-Person Worship: 404

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel:

Sunday, September 21 8:00 am - 93 11:00 am - 51

Total Online Views: 144

Financial Update - Fiscal 2024/25

August 2025

Budgeted Giving to Date: \$235,778 Actual Giving to Date: \$240,770

Current Over/(Under) Giving: \$ -4,992

Budgeted Expenses to Date: \$248,826 Actual Expenses to Date: \$248,155 Current Under/(Over) Spend: \$ -7,385

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

Church Calendar





100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

<u>rlcary.org</u>

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

Prayers of the Church – September 28, 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 Douglas, Henry Otten, Michael Flannery,
- *Helen Campbell, Paul Batt, *Geoffrey Wiggins, Caitlyn, Mark Zimmerman, Justus Nicolai, Alex Fernandez

Ongoing Cancer Treatments

*Mike Allen, Anne Price, Angie Price, Alison Zieglmeier, Carol Diliberto, Jackie, Kathy Siemon, Scott Brinkley, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Sue, Kathy, Pamm Haley, Bob, Michael Murphy, *Greta Nelson, *Marina de Moura Torres, Ames, Doug Gill, Emily, *Alison Whatley, Joe Huley, Lyn Becksford

For Expectant Moms

*Shannon Dawe, *Renee Guerin, *Alyssa Shaw, Ally Brown

Those Prayed for on September 21, 2025

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
- Via de Cristo Retreat Team, September 18-21, Leaders and Guests
- *Janet Bowling, Retiring as RLC Bookkeeper after 18 years!
- Birth of James Andrew Evans on September 10, Grandson of *Diane and *Ken Hooper
- Birth of Jaxon Noah

For Healing

- *Kim Goss
- All Those Exposed to COVID, with COVID, and Recovering from COVID
- Blind Ministry Guests Maria and Jeff Barker, Linda Jones, Judy Dean, Ruby Franklin, Miriam Delgado, Helen Rice-Lyles, Nancy Waggoner, Kathy Stegall
- *Greta Nelson

- Pastor William Otto, Cancer Treatment and Surgery
- *Pam Dickson
- *Stephanie Ford
- Betty, Memory Issues
- *Mindy Stephani, Recovery
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of *Jen Kirby
- *Alison Whatley
- Bryon, Recovery from Brain Injury
- Carrie Heilman, Cancer Treatment, Daughter-In-Law of *John and *Virginia Heilman
- Dave, Brother-In-Law of *Susan Brandt
- Clare Roberts, Cancer Treatment, Mother of *Michelle Wood
- *Charlie Shiel
- *Charlotte Raines
- Cynthia Wyse, Recovery
- Brian Gorneau, Recovery from Accident at Home
- *Fern Frusti
- Deb, Sister of *Pam Dickson
- Tyler, Recovering from Burns, and His Family Supporting Him
- Belle, Cancer Return, Healing
- Jeri Breitsprecher, Recovery, Mother of *Sue Campau, Recovery and Guidance for Her Family
- Mike Hodgin
- Herbie Campau, Mother of *Tom Campau
- *Clinton Peterson
- Kathy Mitchell
- Khari Otten
- Tommi
- Ryan
- Dave, Debbie, Rick, Jordan, Kim, Carly, Karen, Graydon, Olevia, Larry, Jessica, Kelli, Everett, Dan, Catherine, Breann, Judy, Tim, Justin, Red, Brian, Kevin, Keith, Carlton, Sam, Patty, Anna, Anne, Paul, Skylar, Eric, Joe, Charlotte, Jason, Mike, James, Gary, Gene, Lois, Walter, Mark, Gabby, Kathy, Ken, Sandy, Kelly, Doug, Mara, Douglas, Barbara, Connie, Linda, Jake, Jennifer, Ty, Carrie, Bill, Virginia, Sandy, Morgan

For Comfort

- Family and Friends of *Ron Mitchell, Especially Wife *Carol
- Family and Friends of Cheri Spitz, Former Resurrection Lutheran Preschool Director
- Family and Friends of Dale Sims, Brother of *Donna Krupcale
- Family and Friends of James Taylor, Family Member of the *Altieri's
- Family and Friends of Dan Cooney, Friend of the *Altieri's

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- Persecuted Christians
- People Around the World Affected by Natural Disasters and Weather Events
- Families and Businesses Recovering 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
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Safe Travels
- Annie Ruth Ford, Mother of *Dennis Ford
- *Eric and *Jill Hammergren
- *Jan Wozniak
- Jan and Rich Bloom
- *Ginny and *Ed Koren
- *Meredith A.
- *Fran Xenakis
- *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
- Dorothy Conners
- *Jim and *Thelma Rhodes
- *Anita Moore and Family
- Rundel Family
- Marion Cecconi, Mother of *Lecia Roberts
- Our Government and Leaders
- Kyle, Job Search
- Doug Gill, Hospice Care
- *Helen Campbell and the *Roth Family
- *Kathy Rihani
- For Son Eric, Recovering After Brain Surgery
- Long/Ostack Families, Following Death of Walter Ostack

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 Alan Shaw, Intentional Interim Pastor at Peace Lutheran Church, Goldsboro NC
- SMP Vicar Christopher Reed, SMP Training and Vicarage, and His Family
- Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools Staff
- Area Pastors and Schools Staff
- Our Stephen Ministers
- Our Ministry of Presence

For Ongoing Mission and Outreach Efforts

- 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
- Eastern NC Lutheran Via de Cristo

For Our Missionaries

• JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia

<u>Click here for the Cima Family Newsletter!</u>

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 9/26/25