



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2026

From the Pastor

The Wisdom of Numbering Our Days

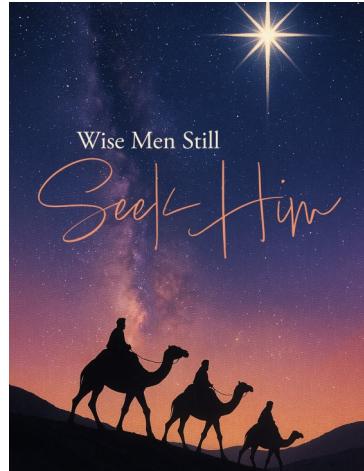
(Psalm 90:4, 12-14)

The comparison/contrast between eternity on the one hand and time measured by watches and hourglasses on the other has always been a mindblower for me. Once upon a time when I was a little guy, my grandpa repeated Hendrik van Loon's parable in *The Story of Mankind*: "Imagine a mountain 100 miles high and 100 miles long. Every thousand years a tiny bird comes to this mountain to sharpen its beak. Once that entire mountain has been worn away, one day in eternity will have passed!" Wow. Then — and now — I realized my finite brain cannot easily comprehend the notion. But once every 365 days we turn the calendar from one year to the next. It is a moment to remember just how short our lives here truly are.

"Teach us to number our days," the Psalmist asks of God, "so that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12). Though the brevity of life

may seem like an issue best ignored or simply put out of mind as we advance from one calendar year to the next... the Psalmist indicates that wisdom is found in lingering a bit on that topic. Doing so we may find the end of the year to be an opportune time once again to find our heart's rest in our God of

forgiveness. We need not continue to look back with regret over what might be left unaccomplished in the past year. And we have every reason to look ahead to what is coming in the new year! Our God restores us and reconciles us to Himself time and time again. Every morning gifted by God is a morning to find satisfaction in God's "unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days" (90:14). This new year will bring



Dates of Interest:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Epiphany Sunday..... | Jan 4 |
| New Sunday Morning... | Jan 4 |
| Ladies Luncheon..... | Jan 7 |
| New Adult Christ Ed..... | Jan 7 |
| Following Naomi..... | Jan 8 |
| Coffeehouse..... | Jan 9 |
| Men's Breakfast..... | Jan 10 |
| Sanctity of Life..... | Jan 18 |
| Office Closed..... | Jan 19 |
| Blind Ministry..... | Jan 30 |
| Taize..... | Jan 31 |

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Christianity's Influence on American Literature

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am
Fellowship Hall

January 4-February 15

A nation's culture is defined in large part by its literature. Since many of our earliest settlers came seeking freedom to practice their Christian faith, much of what they wrote reflects a rich Biblical heritage. Writers in following generations continued that tradition.

We will examine poetry and prose selections from more than a dozen famous American writers, including

Anne Bradstreet, John Greenleaf Whittier, Countee Cullen, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Stephen Crane.

This study will reveal how widespread and enduring has been the Bible's influence on our literature.

Led by Larry Cameron.

All materials provided each session. Bring your Bible as we trace the links between Scripture and each literary selection. Some available.



its own share of ups and downs, gains and losses, hopes and challenges. But no matter what may come our way, we find ourselves in the loving embrace of our God. There is no better place we could ever be.

As I look forward to the events of this year, let me finally offer up a heartfelt "thank you" to all of you who took the time to complete and submit the congregational survey last month. Your feedback better enables us to seek God's direction for us as a congregation in the months to come. I look forward to working with our congregation's staff, Council, and all of you as we seek a path forward together that allows the mission of God at Resurrection Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool to continue and grow. Entering 2026 there is much to be thankful for... and excited about!

A very blessed New Year to all of you,
Pastor Jonathan

Outreach Service to the Community

The Christmas Store

Many thanks to our generous congregation! This year, we collected double the amount of toys compared to 2024. The donations filled a huge Econoline van and 2 SUVs. The Christmas Store operated December 12-13. The Human Care Committee thought you might like to know how it works, so we share with you the description from United Church at 820 East Williams Street (Hwy. 55) in Apex, North Carolina:

Once the Christmas Store begins and clients arrive, they are greeted, checked in for their appointment, and treated to holiday music, decorations and refreshments with the help of volunteers. Free childcare is provided by volunteers for clients who bring their children. The children will visit with Santa's helpers, hear the Christmas story, and enjoy crafts and games. Volunteers then assist clients in locating the toys for the particular age group and gender of each registered child. Clients have the opportunity to select three gifts for each child registered. When clients have finished shopping, volunteers wrap the toys. Once wrapping is completed, volunteers assist the clients in getting the gifts to their car, and picking up their children from care.



Church Council News

January 2026

A joint meeting of the 2025 RLC Council and 2026 RLC Council was conducted on 9 December 2025, two days after the Resurrection Lutheran Church (RLC) Voters elected three new members and three incumbents to the Council (Lori Jannings, Tom Bolling, and Mike Hahne). During this Council Meeting, we welcomed our newest members, Stephanie Beckett, David Duncklee, and Joe Bastante. Stephanie began attending RLC two years ago and is very active volunteering at Coffeehouse, attending Tuesday morning Bible Study, as well as other prayer groups and Bible Studies during the week. David and his wife Pam are also newer members, though four of their five children attended Resurrection Lutheran Preschool. Joe and his wife Ginny have been members for 15 years; both are active at RLC, in fact Joe served on the RLC Council in past (welcome back Joe!).

Leaving the RLC Council are Mike Heffner, Linda Mangino, and Mark Dirks. All three have been faithful Council Members during their respective tenures. The good news is all three will continue in their service to our Lord here at Resurrection. Thank you, Mike (Heffner), Linda, and Mark – you will be missed on the Council but remembered for your outstanding contributions.

In addition to a new Council Member Orientation, the 2026 Council elected officers as required by RLC Bylaws. The 2026 Council officers elected are Mike Haertling (President), Lori Jannings (Vice-President), Mike Hahne (Treasurer), and Jason Jennings (Secretary).

RLC now has a Safety and Security Team which includes members who are retired Law Enforcement Officers. This team is working with the RLC Office Staff and select members on the planning of the future of safety and security for the RLC Community.

A small team is also working with the RLC Staff on Information Technology needs for the office and finance team. It is important to keep current with opportunities from new technologies without spending more than is absolutely required.

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

| | |
|---|---|
| Mike Haertling, President (505) 690-9929 | Charles Miller, Council Member (919) 534-5649 |
| Lori Jannings, Vice-President (919) 523-6619 | Jason Jennings, Secretary (813) 440-9112 |
| Mike Hahne, Treasurer (919) 749-7666 | Stephanie Beckett, New Council Member (919) 667-8506 |
| Mike Heffner, Departing (469) 644-2049 | Joe Bastante, New Council Member (919) 239-5663 |
| Mark Dirks, Departing (919) 345-5348 | David Duncklee, New Council Member (919) 417-9923 |
| Tom Bolling, Council Member (847) 922-9555 | Ex Officio: Margaret Hyatt, Operations Director (919) 851-7248 |
| Linda Mangino, Departing (919) 538-0104 | Ex Officio: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Sr. Pastor (301) 997-6687 |

Adult Christian Education

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities



Monday

DivorceCare

Mondays, 6:30-8:30 pm — Room 151, Family Life Center — January 19-April 20

Leader: Sue Campau

Resurrection will be hosting a DivorceCare support group starting January 19-April 20. This 13-week program supports people who are going through separation and/or divorce and provides practical tools offering more than support — it also offers the love and presence of Christ. Workbooks are required to get the most benefits and are available when participants register at DivorceCare.org (look for the group hosted by Resurrection Lutheran Church). Contact Sue Campau through RCB for more details, or to volunteer with helping facilitate and greet participants.

Tuesday

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am — Fellowship Hall — September 2-May 19

Leaders: Pastor Zach Sarrault, Pastor Jonathan Blanke

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

Christian Parenting - The Spiritually Vibrant Home

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm — Room 240, Family Life Center — January 7-February 11

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

We all long for homes where we can thrive and flourish. What does it take to have a spiritually vibrant household? Don Everts invites us to contemplate what the Bible says about households and consider what a new research project has revealed by pulling back the curtains on everyday households of faith.

The project shows that some of the healthiest, most vibrant homes extend beyond the nuclear family and include people that may not be biologically related but feel like family. In the end you might just be surprised by how God wants to work in and through your household. And you'll have practical steps for nurturing a vibrant household of faith, no matter what stage of life you are in.

Bring Your Questions: Faith and Science

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm — Room 251, Family Life Center — January 7-February 11

Leader: Pastor Jonathan Blanke

This class will be an in-depth examination of a topic introduced this past fall in Pastor Jonathan's "Bring Your Questions" class. How can (or how should) Christian theology embrace science?

Using the Bible, a report of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations of the LCMS (*In Christ All Things Hold Together*), and a variety of other Christian resources, we will discuss the nuanced and multi-dimensional way that science and faith can relate to one another. Topics included will be "Reading God's Word," "Science in the Christian School Classroom," "Theology of the Cross vs. Theology of Glory," and more.

Women of the Word (WOW) - Chosen: A Study of Esther

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm (Fellowship at 6:45 pm) — Fellowship Hall — January 7-May 20

Contact Jamee Thieme or Study Leader, Shane Jarvis

You're invited to study the Book of Esther. The setting: A lavish feast in the opulent Persian Empire. The event: a beauty contest. The plot: save a nation from annihilation. In this study, see that God's presence is ever abundant in your life, and that God gives you the courage to live fearlessly as Esther did. Learn the historical context of the Book of Esther to enrich your understanding of God's Word.

The book, *Chosen: A Study of Esther* by Donna Pyle is available for self-purchase. A Zoom group version of this will be available on Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm.

Men's Ministry - A Study in Ruth

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm (Fellowship at 6:30 pm) — Room 245, Family Life Center — January 7-February 11

Contact Tom Gebbia or Study Leader, Mike Heffner

The book of Ruth tells an unforgettable tale of purity, faithfulness, innocence, loyalty, duty, and love. Yet it is set in dark times - during the period of the judges - which is best described as an era of political and religious decentralization, frequent warfare, moral decline, lawlessness, and spiritual apostasy. This is foreshadowed in the final verse of the book of Judges, which precedes Ruth, and tells us that "in those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25).

Against this backdrop of strife and chaos, Ruth is a story of ordinary people making the most of their bad situation and finding God in the midst of it. The book of Ruth corrects the belief that our lives must be extraordinary to be useful. Whether our circumstances are difficult, seemingly mundane, or somewhere in between, God is always working His purposes out. Throughout this study, we will learn to be still and explore how God's loving hand is working in our lives - even in the midst of life's humdrum, routine events.

[View the Christian Education Booklet, Winter 2026](#)

Paper copies available in the Narthex and the Family Life Center lobby.

Spiritual Milestones

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

First Communion

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm — Room 251, Family Life Center — January 7-February 11

Leader: RLC Called Teacher Tyler Timm

First Communion instruction for 5th grade youth (and others interested) will be held on Wednesday evenings, using *This Is the Feast: Preparing for the Lord's Supper* (CPH). Students are asked to watch the movie, Prince of Egypt before the first class.

Confirmation

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm — Room 240, Family Life Center — September 3-April 22

Leader: Pastor Zach Sarrault

Confirmation is a valued step in the faith formation of our youth. It is a time for 7th and 8th graders to confirm the faith that they were baptized into and grow in the knowledge and grace of their Savior. They see how God has worked in the past and still works today, equipping them to live in family that God has baptized them into. Bible and Catechism provided.

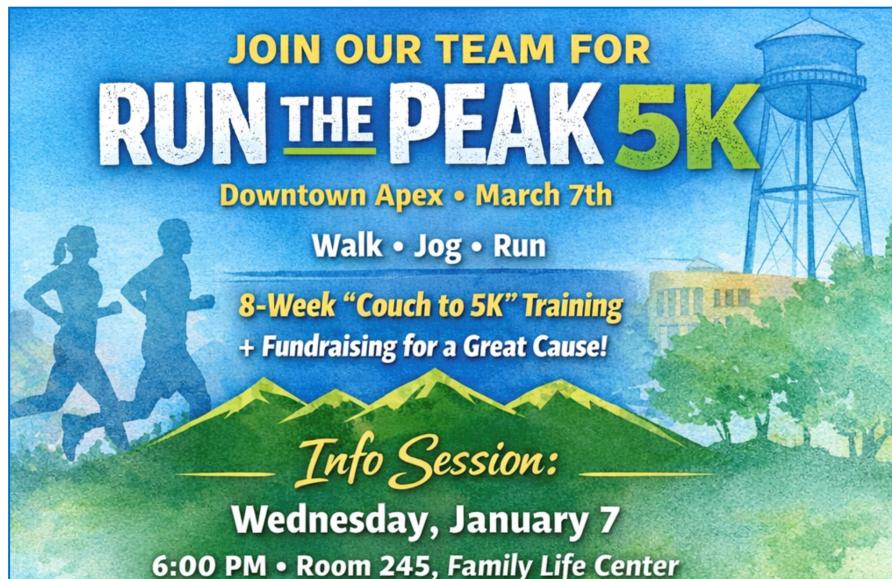
Stewardship of Life & Health

January News

Looking for a meaningful way to get moving, build community, and challenge yourself over the next few months?

The Stewardship of Life & Health is forming a team to participate in the "Run the Peak" 5K in downtown Apex on March 7. We welcome all beginners, walkers, and experienced runners of all ages to be part of our team. We'll provide a training plan, including an 8-week "Couch-to-5K" plan for beginners, and we'll raise funds together for the Resurrection Lutheran facilities.

Join us for an info session on **Wednesday, January 7** at 6:00 pm in Room 245, Family Life Center. Contact Anthony Johnson or Art Berger for details, or sign up to stay informed here: bit.ly/3KUN5A8.



The weather outside can be frightful this time of year! Your Stewardship of Life & Health Group has some tips for keeping you and your family safe during these next few winter months!

WINTER WEATHER SAFETY

Stay Warm, Stay Safe

When the temperature drops, fire risks rise. Protect your home and family with these steps:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from space heaters.
- Have chimneys and fireplaces inspected and cleaned before use.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms, a critical safeguard in the winter months.
- Use flashlights, not candles, during power outages.

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

Stephen Ministry

Remembering Hope: Supporting Families Facing Dementia

Dementia is a journey marked by uncertainty, loss, and profound change — not only for those diagnosed, but also for their families and caregivers. As memory fades and daily life becomes more challenging, the emotional and spiritual toll can be overwhelming. Yet, in the midst of this struggle, there is hope and help. Drawing from Dr. Benjamin Mast's book, *Second Forgetting*, and the compassionate work of Stephen Ministers, we find practical ways to support families walking through dementia.

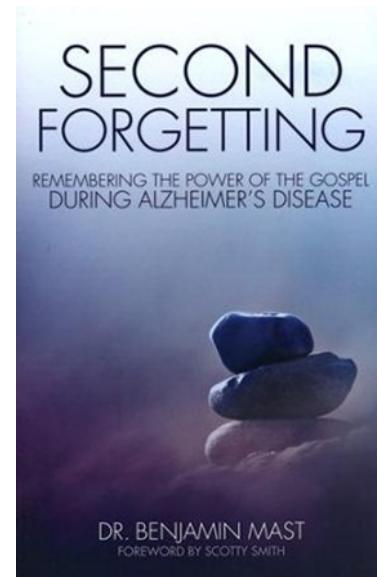
Dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, gradually erodes memory, identity, and independence. Dr. Mast describes the "first forgetting" as the cognitive decline experienced by the person with dementia. The "second forgetting," however, is a spiritual and emotional phenomenon in which family, friends, and even the church may "forget that God is present and lovingly caring for us, even when we are in the midst of great suffering."

This insight is crucial for caregivers and loved ones. The loss of identity and the fear of being forgotten can be as painful as the disease itself. Mast encourages families to remember that, even when memory fails, God does not forget His children. The gospel offers assurance, comfort, and hope — reminding us that our worth is not defined by our abilities, but by God's love.

Stephen Ministers can play an important role during these times as well. They are trained lay caregivers who provide confidential, Christ-centered support to people facing life's difficulties, including dementia. Their ministry is one of presence: listening, caring, encouraging, and praying with those who are hurting. For families dealing with dementia, Stephen Ministers can be a lifeline — offering emotional and spiritual support when it's needed most.

Dementia is a difficult journey, but families do not have to walk it alone. By remembering God's promises and offering compassionate, practical support, Stephen Ministers and churches can make a profound difference. As Dr. Mast reminds us, "We may forget, but God always remembers." In every moment — no matter how small — there is hope, dignity, and love.

[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.



*"Carry each other's burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."*

Galatians 6:2

Resurrection Women's Ministries

Advent Tea

The Resurrection Women's Ministries held our annual Advent Tea on Saturday, December 6 using the 2025 Visual Faith Ministry *Advent by Candlelight* materials. We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon together.

Thank you to all who attended, volunteered, and participated to make this event so special — even as we outgrew the Fellowship Hall due to a great response in registrations and moved the event to our gym space!



Widows' Group

Following Naomi

The Following Naomi Widows' Group will be meeting on **Thursday, January 8** at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Faith Shaw will be speaking about women's health.

Contact Eydee Persson or the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).

College Ministry

LCMS-U @ NCSU

After a successful end to a wonderful 2025 Fall Semester, LCMSU @ NCSU is looking forward to starting back up in January for the 2026 Spring Semester. Our first meeting will be on **Friday, January 16** 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" with Holy Communion. Pastor Shaw from RLC will be joining us again for this meeting.

Our second meeting will be on **Friday, January 30** from 7:00-8:30 pm at the NC State Study Center (201 Brooks Avenue, Raleigh). We will have an extended period of food and fellowship before closing the night with "A Brief Service of the Word".

If you or someone you know is interested in joining us, please reach out to [Jonathan Madler](mailto:Jonathan.Madler@rlcary.org) or Pastor Alan Shaw (alan.shaw@rlcary.org).

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, UNC, Duke, or another local or online college.

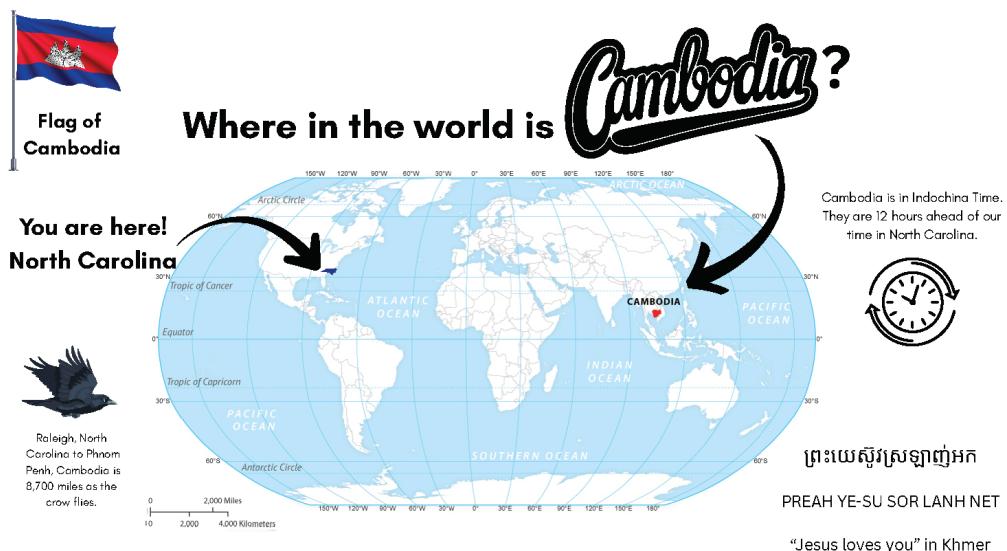
Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team

Mission Minute

The Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team (CCMET) will be sending three members of the team to Cambodia in March. After prayerful consideration and discussion, the team will send Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Paul Brandt to Phnom Penh where they will learn about various organizations and churches that are working to share the Gospel in Cambodia. Pastor J.P. Cima, who works in Cambodia as a LCMS missionary, will be working with Pastor Jonathan and Paul to plan the visit and explore the various churches and missions with them.

On a later trip, Erika Hulse will be joining a short term mission team based out of Nashville, Tennessee that will be serving at Stronghold Cambodia on Fish Island in Kampot. The team will provide lessons, workshops, devotions, and activities for children and families who are a part of the Stronghold ministry.

Please join us in prayer as the team members prepare for their trips and engage with the people they plan to serve. More ways to support the Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement team members will be available in January. If you have questions, please reach out to the team at ccmet@rlcary.org.



Gifts & Memorials

In Memory of Eve Sommers

For the Community Food & Crisis Fund

For the Love Fund

Estate of Eve Sommers

In Honor of Case Justice's Birthday

For the Gifts & Memorial Fund

Larry and Debbie Adams



Human Care Committee

Sanctity of Life

Sanctity of Life Sunday January 18, 2026

As we celebrate and mark the sanctity of life this year, the Human Care Committee would like to share how our church family affirms life all year long through our own ministries and our ministry partners.

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod states in their Creedal Response to Life

Why do we love and care for life at all stages?

God the Father Created us. Every life is a gift.

God the Son redeemed us. Every life is hallowed.

God the Holy Spirit sanctifies us. Every life is purposeful.

Our church provides financial support, prayer, and many volunteers to those who are:

Hungry: NeighborUp (formerly Western Wake Crisis Ministry and Dorcas Ministries), Food Bank of NC, Meals on Wheels, Inter-Faith Food Shuttle

Disabled: Blind Ministry, The Coffeehouse

Unhoused: Habitat for Humanity, Families Together, PLM

In Prison: Prison Alliance

End of Life / Chronic Illness: Transitions of Wake County, Lutherans for Life

Sharing God's Love in the Southeastern District: Mission Partners SED, Mid-Atlantic Lutherans in Mission

Seeking Prenatal Care: Gateway Women's Center, NeighborHealth

Seeking Family Focused Affordable Healthcare: NeighborHealth

Seeking Support Through Family Crisis: Safe Families for Children

Recovering from Disaster: Lutheran World Relief, Helene Recovery (Through Mission Partners SED and Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Asheville)

The Human Care Committee will provide a Temple Talk and brochure information regarding many of these organizations on **Sunday, January 18**. Please come visit our display, ask questions, pick up a brochure, volunteer to help or join our committee!



DivorceCare Support Group

Looking for Volunteers

Resurrection will be hosting a DivorceCare Support Group starting **Monday, January 19**.

This is a Christ centered and Biblically based program for those who are going through the pain of separation and/or divorce. Volunteers are needed to help.

Volunteer Roles:

Promotion - Within the Church and Our Community

Hospitality - Welcoming, Registration, and Refreshments

Small Group Facilitation - Help Lead Session or Provide Support to Hurting Individuals

Recruitment of Volunteers

Training provided and is self-paced online.

Contact Sue Campau through RCB or the church office for more info.



Stephen Ministry

Dementia and Dementia Care



Questions? Contact Troy Hirt at stephenministry@rlcary.org.

Happy Anniversary!

January 1

Dave and Karen Geisler
20 years

January 9

Zachary and Audrey Keller
10 years

January 13

Jim and JoElla Marting
30 years

January 20

Jeff and Kim Ashmore
25 years

Children & Family Ministry News

January 2026

Important Dates:

January 7 - Kidz Live, 6:00-7:00 pm, Gym

January 11 - Sunday School Resumes, 9:30-10:30 am

January 31 - Family Service Project for First Responders



January Moms Night Out — Saturday, January 24 at 6:00 pm

Adventures in Bloom, Downtown Apex

Make a Charm Bracelet or Necklace

RSVP to Lauren Patton or Erika Hulse



First Responder Service Project



Families are invited to donate snack items, help assemble and/or deliver snack baskets to local first responders.

Questions? Erika at erika.hulse@rlcary.org



**Saturday, January 31 at 10:30 am
in the Fellowship Hall**



Sign up here:

bit.ly/4joENx3



Sign Up: bit.ly/4joENx3

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



Youth Ministry

Middle and High School

Happy New Year!

Out with the old, in with the new. Or is it? Here at Resurrection Lutheran Church our youth, young adults, and adult leaders used to be heavily involved in a program named, Appalachian Service Project (ASP) before COVID. We would send out teams into Tennessee, West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, or Virginia, specifically the Appalachian region with the ASP program. Youth, young adults, and adults worked side by side learning the skills to build homes to make them safe and drier for the residents of the area they were serving during one week over the summer.

Kevin Kuhl (a former ASP Youth Team Member and now Adult Leader in the High School Youth Ministry) has returned with a heart to lead future teams on ASP trips. He will be holding interest meetings in hopes to get a team together (even if it's a small one) for this summer, and then build the program back up here at RLC in the future.

Are you curious? Are you an adult who may like to know more? Are you in college or a young adult that may like to come along on this journey (18-22 years old)? Are you in 8th-12th grade and are looking for a mission trip opportunity? The interest meetings are a place to find out more information. Come see what it's all about, talk to Kevin, hear about his experiences as a youth, hear about the plans he has, and see where God might be leading you this summer and beyond.

ASP Interest Meetings:

Sunday, January 4 at 12:30 pm
in Room 240, Family Life Center

Wednesday, January 7 at 7:00 pm
in The Warehouse, Room 253, Family Life Center



Contact Jenny Piontek,
Youth 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



Informational Sessions

TK: PARENT's PERSPECTIVE

Thursday, January 8th @12:30 pm

TK Room #112

- Hear first-hand benefits & why to 'gift your child an extra year' (including down the road- 3rd grade, middle/high school, college).
- Conversation with former TK parents for families "weighing options" and "on-the-fence" about sending a child to T-K vs. kindergarten.
- Wake County Kindergarten teacher shares expectations of students & a 'typical day' for a kindergartner.
- Conversation with RLP's Staff about our program.

TK TEACHERS Session

Thursday, January 8th @12:30 pm

TK Room #112

Opportunity for conversation about our program with our TK teachers in their classroom.

Dear RLC Families,

Your support and prayers have been appreciated during the time of the search for the next Director at Resurrection Lutheran Preschool (RLP). The RLP Preschool Board, along with myself, Jodi (Assistant Director), Pastor Jonathan, and Mike Haertling are overjoyed to share the news that Elizabeth Lynnes has been selected as our new Director-Elect for RLP. This decision was reached after much thoughtful consideration and prayers.

Beginning in January, Elizabeth will start working closely alongside me throughout the remainder of the preschool year. This collaborative transition period will ensure that the values, traditions, and high standards of RLP continue. This time period will also provide both stability and continuity for RLP's children, families, and Staff. The Staff of RLP is looking forward to the coming months and the wonderful things ahead for our RLP community.

As always, I hope y'all will reach out with any questions or concerns. Blessings and Happy New Year!

Diane Hooper, RLP Preschool Director

From Elizabeth Lynnes:

I am truly honored to have been chosen as the Director-Elect of Resurrection Lutheran Preschool. As we all know, RLP is a very special place, and I do not take this opportunity lightly. I am excited to serve the preschool in this new role and to follow in the footsteps of Diane (RLP Director fall 2016- present) and Cheri Spitz (RLP Director 1986- spring 2016), whose leadership has shaped the loving community we have today. I'd love to share a little bit about myself with you.

I am a mom to two girls, ages 7 and 11, and I am currently in my fourth year of teaching at RLP. During my time here, I have served as a floater, substitute, 4-year-old teacher, and Transitional Kindergarten teacher. Before joining the RLP family, my background was in educational administration. I received my BBA in Management from Radford University in 2007, graduating Magna Cum Laude.

I deeply value the principles of Resurrection Lutheran and am grateful for the privilege of helping carry forward the legacy of this preschool. My hope is to serve with grace, gratitude, and partnership. I look forward to working alongside Diane and our incredible Staff to ensure the continued strength of the core values that make RLP such a wonderful place for children and families.

With gratitude,
Elizabeth Lynnes

STEM NEWS

We are ready to "hit the ground running" in 2026! Our Science Olympiad team will be working diligently during the month of January to prepare for the Science Olympiad Regional Competition in Raleigh on January 31. Please pray for our team and send positive thoughts our way! This team has great partnerships, positivity, and creativity as we work toward our goals for the competition.

2026-2027 ENROLLMENT

Enrollment is now officially open to the public. We are thrilled that the vast majority of our families have re-enrolled and excited to be welcoming many new siblings to RLS in the fall. Truly a blessing to serve in partnership with you!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 12-28 Winter MAP Testing

January 16 Spelling Bee, 8:45 am
Early Release, 11:30 am

January 16-18 Crusaders Winter Classic

January 19 No School, Martin Luther King Day

January 26-30 National Lutheran Schools Week

January 31 Science Olympiad Regional Competition
at Southeast Raleigh High

Looking Ahead...

February 16-17 No School, Mid-Winter Break



Resurrection Lutheran School

Robin Hester
Principal

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

Come Grow With Us:
Rooted in Christ.
Growing in Grace.

But grow in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ.

To him be the glory
both now and to the day
of eternity. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

*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



Resurrection
Lutheran Church

By Grace Through Faith For Service

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



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Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.

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

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518