



JUNE 2026

From the Pastor

The Baptized Story

(Romans 6:1-11)

“Life is like stepping into a boat which is about to sail out into the sea and sink” (Shunryu Suzuki, 1904-1971). I ran across this quote recently and was saddened by how many hold to this narrative of life. Even within the Church, many of us can be darkened by the weight, burden, and work of daily life, tempted into the narrative that life is nothing more than work until you die and hope that you did good enough for a better life after this one. We would think that this talk has no place in the Church, but we find it in God’s Word as well. David says in Psalm 103:15-16, *“As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.”* Soloman famously says in Ecclesiastes 1:2, *“Vanity of vanities, vanity of vanities! All is vanity!”*

If this is the narrative of, not just the world, but also the Church, where is our hope? If the life of the Christian is simply to live and then die, hoping for the best along the way, then what is the point? Why live at all if we are simply working towards death?

If this has ever been your struggle, or the struggle of one you love, I have Good News. This is not your narrative; this is not your Story! For you, child of God, member of the body of Christ, His Church, the narrative has changed and you belong to a different Story. Outside of Christ, Suzuki is right, but with Christ everything has changed and you live with Christ! In your baptism, you already faced death, but not alone. *“We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death... For one who has died has been set free from sin”* (Romans 6:4a, 7). In baptism, you have already died, your sins are dead and have no place in your life ever again. You have no need to fear death or dread the journey towards the end, because that death has already happened in your baptism, and that changes everything.



Dates of Interest:

- Ladies LunchJun 3
- Adult CPR Class.....Jun 4
- VBS Training.....Jun 4
- Voter’s Meeting.....Jun 7
- Youth Glow Night!.....Jun 7
- Men’s FellowshipJun 9
- Christian Ed Planning..Jun 10
- Coffeehouse.....Jun 12
- Thanks Diane, RLP.Jun 13/14
- Father’s Day.....Jun 21
- VBS.....Jun 22-26
- Blind Ministry.....Jun 26
- Stephen Ministry...Jun 27/28

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David knew this when he continued in Psalm 103:17, *“But the steadfast of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him”* as well as Soloman in Ecclesiastes 3:14, *“I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before Him.”* God has done His steadfastly enduring love for you in baptism. In those Word-filled-waters, all that God has to give was given to you, and nobody nor anything can ever take that away. Not only have you died with Christ in your baptism, you have also risen with Christ, *“we too might walk in newness of life... we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His... you also must consider yourselves alive to God in Christ Jesus (Romans 6: 4, 5, 11).* This is our Narrative; this is our Story in our resurrected Savior and Lord!

Your baptized brother in Christ,
Pastor Zach Sarrault



The Confirmands and their families enjoyed an evening together at the Confirmation Banquet held on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 in the Fellowship Hall.

Spiritual Milestones

Confirmation



<u>Name</u>	<u>Baptismal Birthday</u>	<u>Confirmation Verse</u>
Kaitlyn Rose Astudillo	March 11, 2012	Jeremiah 29:11
Alexandra Eunice Beyer	June 10, 2012	John 14:6
Cadence Alaina Ciencewicki	December 9, 2012	Ephesians 4:32
Nolan James Davis	January 15, 2012	Isaiah 43:1
Ethan Archer Douglas	May 8, 2011	Psalms 23:4
Dean Abram Dudek	July 1, 2012	Deuteronomy 4:39
Matthew Walter Heise	June 3, 2012	Psalms 40:8
Brendan Cole Johnson	April 15, 2012	Isaiah 41:10
Elam Michael Justice	August 19, 2012	2 Corinthians 3:4-5
Logan Elizabeth McSwiney	September 16, 2012	1 Corinthians 16:14
Fiona Grace Measmer	July 29, 2012	1 Peter 5:7
Aaron Ray Newcomb Jr.	November 18, 2012	Philippians 4:13
Aven Thompson Williams	November 18, 2012	Proverbs 3:5-6

Confirmation Sunday was celebrated on May 3, 2026 during the [9:30 am worship service](#).

Congratulations to Our Confirmands!

Church Council News

May 2026

The Council is preparing a budget for the upcoming Voters' Meeting on **7 June**. Our treasurer started a budget timeline for us in April, and we are on track to bring next year's budget to the voters. Expenses will be up approximately 3.9%, but income is also up about 9%. Our financial position remains strong as we move to a new budget year and begin the new capital campaign "Faith in Action."

Faith in Action is on track for a kick-off in mid-August. Our Walsh campaign consultant for this part of the campaign (and moving forward) will be Mr. Charlie McAllister. Charlie is a retired pastor and has just finished a successful campaign at a Lutheran Church down in South Carolina. More exciting Faith in Action news— Mike Heffner will serve as the Campaign Administrative Assistant working with Charlie and the Church Office Staff.

Our School reported that the Vestibule Project in the Family Life Center (FLC) was approved by the Town of Cary. This construction project will begin at the end of May and should be completed before the start of school in August. Because it is an official construction area, the associated entrance and this part of the FLC near the main stairwell will be cordoned off until it is safe for passage. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation in avoiding this area while construction is underway.

We continue to pay attention to the safety of all on the Resurrection Campus during worship, Bible Study, and during other activities during the week. Our focus is on a safe and welcoming atmosphere for all. Unfortunately, today's environment forces us to think hard about safety and thus we have provided assistance from off-duty police officers during the past several months. This concern is especially true for our school students and staff. The School Board and the Church Council's Safety Team have recently met with Forza Security – a firm highly recommended by all local Police Departments. Forza can offer more consistent and "low-key" support at a price that will allow us to cover more than just Sunday mornings. If you would like to learn more, please see Mike Haertling.

During the Senior Pastor's Report, Pastor Blanke announced the commissioning and installation of Robin Hester on May 31 as LCMS called Teacher and Principal at Resurrection Lutheran School. We give thanks to God for Robin and pray God's continued blessing on her ministry and work among us.

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

Men's Summer Fellowship Series

Stay connected over the summer! Join us for our June event on **Tuesday, June 9** from 6:30-8:15 pm at the Tap Station (320 S. Salem Street, Apex).

All men invited. Just show up — you do not have to eat or drink to attend.

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

Divorce – A Sad Reality

Have you or a family member been affected by divorce? If so, you can understand the sense of loss it can bring to everyone in the family. More than just the couple who are separating but children, parents, friends, and coworkers are all affected when a couple separates. It can be a soul crushing experience that leaves a person brokenhearted. The hardest part is feeling isolated and alone during a painful time and often throws a person into a state of crisis.

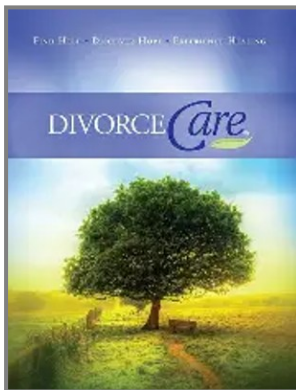
Lawyers are good resources for the legal aspects of divorce, but they do not always focus their care on the emotional and/or spiritual care of the individual, taking time to listen to their pain and suffering. This is where a Stephen Minister can provide a listening ear and help provide a person with a chance to look at possible resources to help them heal so they know that they don't have to feel alone.

Today, the statistics say that 40% - 50% of marriages end in divorce AND that it takes one year of healing for every 5 years of marriage. That's pretty staggering!

If you or someone you know who could use a listening partner for support before, during, or after the divorce process, consider emailing the Stephen Leader team at stephenministry@rlcary.org and ask about how to make a referral to a Stephen Minister.



There are other programs that can provide support in addition to a Stephen Minister such as Pastor Alan's Christian Conciliation team and a new RLC small group called "DivorceCare." DivorceCare is a program that provides a safe place where caring people come alongside each other to find healing from the pain of separation or divorce. In this 13-week video-based support group program, participants will find helpful counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and practical tools for decision-making so they can begin the healing process.



Be watching for the next DivorceCare class starting in August. You can register at the DivorceCare website or reach out to [Sue Campau](mailto:Sue.Campau@rlcary.org) for more details. Volunteers are needed to help promote the group and possibly fill in as facilitators. Please let one of the pastors or Sue know if you can help!



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

Galatians 6:2

Gifts & Memorials

In Honor of Elam Justice's Confirmation

For Gifts and Memorials

Larry and Debbie Adams

In Honor of Her Husband

To the General Fund

Fran Xenakis

In Honor of Keith and Dawn Leister's 50th Anniversary

For Gifts and Memorials

Bob and Barbara Shimmel



FREE Hands-Only CPR Training



Join a Nation of Lifesavers™ Today!



Thank you, Avery Alladin!



National CPR Week | June 1-7



Thursday, June 4th, 2026



5:30 PM – 6:30 PM



RLC – Fellowship Hall



Ages 12 and up | FREE Admission

Goal: Train 20+ Participants!



SCAN ME

Registration Requested - Scan QR

<https://forms.gle/yxi5ABQaghLeb4Kg6>

Questions? best.steve13@gmail.com

Stewardship of Health & Life | Youth Program | American Heart Association

**This is a free community training session and does not provide full CPR certification.*

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (Durham, NC) is seeking an organized, welcoming, and detail-oriented Parish Administrator to support the daily operations and ministry of the congregation. This full-time position provides administrative, communication, scheduling, and office support for the Pastor, staff, ministry leaders, and congregation.

Responsibilities include: managing office operations and reception; coordinating church communications, website updates, social media, and e-newsletters; preparing worship materials and meeting packets; maintaining membership records, calendars, and schedules; supporting church events, livestreams, and ministry activities; and coordinating facility and vendor-related needs.

Ideal candidates will possess strong organizational and communication skills, maintain confidentiality, work well independently and collaboratively, and demonstrate a heart for serving within a church environment.

Preferred Skills are Microsoft Office, Canva, Constant Contact, Zoom, website and social media management, and Google Docs/Drive experience.

This role plays an important part in helping Grace Lutheran Church create a welcoming, organized, and mission-focused ministry environment. Reply along with resume to: hr@gracedurham.org.

Stewardship of Life & Health

June Health Focus

Medication Safety

The Stewardship of Life & Health group encourages all members to take an active role in their medication safety. Regularly reviewing your medications — including prescriptions, over-the-counter medicines, and supplements — can help prevent interactions, reduce side effects, and ensure your treatments are working effectively.

Some medications require extra attention because they carry a higher risk of side effects or complications if not taken properly. Examples include blood thinners (such as warfarin or Eliquis), insulin and diabetes medications, opioid pain medications, sedatives or sleep aids, and certain heart or blood pressure medications.

If you have questions or concerns about your medications, members of the Stewardship of Life & Health group are available to help. You may reach out to us at LifeAndHealth@rlcary.org to connect with someone who can provide general medication education and counseling.

Please note that our group is not a substitute for your personal healthcare provider. We cannot prescribe medications, provide medical diagnoses, or offer individualized medical counseling or treatment recommendations. You should always consult your physician, pharmacist, or other licensed healthcare professional regarding personal medical decisions or concerns.

Congratulations, Zoe!

Zoe Oettinger achieved a major milestone by earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Her Court of Honor was held Sunday, May 17 in Durham.

Her Eagle Scout project was to build self-watering planters for a school. Zoe has also had the opportunity to participate in many high adventure Scout Treks during her time.



Happy Anniversary!

June 6

Ethan and Denise Denault
20 years

June 7

John and Sandy Eckstein
68 years

June 8

Todd and Dottye Nichols
35 years

Rich and Cheryl Roth
52 years

June 9

Stephen and Laura Petroski
15 years

June 12

John and Linda Cook
52 years

June 13

Jim and Thelma Rhodes
62 years

June 15

Bill and Eileen Douglas
63 years

June 22

Doug and Robin Hester
35 years

June 23

Jon and Ashley Huddle
25 years

Shane and Jennifer Kirby
25 years

June 26

Fred and Terry Page
66 years

June 27

Mike and Terri Green
51 years

June 29

Roy and Linda Rhoden
63 years



Resurrection Lutheran School, 8th Grade Graduates

Nola Ann Althaus	Fuquay Varina High School
Amelia Grace Anderson	Middle Creek High School
Clara Joy Chalk	Wake Christian Academy
Nolan James Davis	Grace Christian School
Henry Ruffin Gibbs	Cardinal Gibbons High School
Fenet Taro Goro	Wake STEM Early College High School
Georgia Katherine Gross	Athens Drive High School
Elaina Raine Hester	Academy31
Logan Elizabeth McSwiney	Fuquay Varina High School
Fiona Grace Measmer	Cardinal Gibbons High School
Sharon Wasse Melaku	Felton Grove High School
Andrew Frederic Miranda	Grace Christian School
Mckinley Lois Nicholes	Felton Grove High School
Brayden James Shuell	Grace Christian School
Charlotte Providence Snyder	Apex High School

High School Graduates

Tristan James Beckett	Ravenscroft School, to Auburn University for Aviation (Commercial Pilot)
Elena Bostick	Apex High School, to Meredith College for Animal Science (Pre-Vet) and Volleyball
Cameron Brake	Grace Christian High School, to University of North Carolina - Wilmington Honors College for Psychology
Isabella Brown	To University of North Carolina - Wilmington
Lily Davis	To University of North Carolina - Charlotte Honors College
Eva Marianne Robison	Cardinal Gibbons High School, to University of North Carolina - Wilmington Honors College for Elementary Education
Hodge Williams	Holly Springs High School, to Pitt Community College for Finance and Baseball

College and Advanced Graduates

Courtney Hoffmeister Blanford	University of Wisconsin - Madison, PhD in Social Work
Jasmin Bolte	The University of Washington School of Law, Seattle
Emily Piontek	East Carolina University Nursing School, RN, BSN
Emma Striker	University of North Carolina - Greensboro, B.A. Double Major in English and Media Studies
Edward Whynot	Appalachian State University, Crew Member of the Solar Car Project This Summer



Middle and High School



High School Graduates, please mark your calendars for the weekend of June 6-7! We would like to recognize all of you in worship.

Please email Jenny to confirm you will be in worship and what service you will be attending. If we are not expecting you, you may be missed.

GLOW NIGHT — Sunday, June 7! This will be our last youth group for the year. It is open for all our current High School youth and our rising Freshman.

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



**Resurrection Lutheran Church
Vacation Bible School**

**June 22-26
9 am - 12 noon**

4 year olds to 5th graders

\$10 per child

**Questions?
erika.hulse@rlcary.org**

**Register to participate
or volunteer here** → 

Register: bit.ly/3NapWKZ



**Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool**

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org

919-851-7270

office@rlpcary.org



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

June 8 - 11 (9:15-12:30)

June 15 - 18 (9:15-12:30)

RLChurch VBS June 22-26

Neighbors, friends, & family welcome!

PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

From Kindergarten Graduation to Field Day to 8th Grade Graduation to our wonderful Closing Chapel, the last week of school has been a special celebration of our students and an incredible ending to the 2025-2026 school year.

What a year it has been! From championship athletic teams to field trips, the Spelling Bee, Science Olympiad, NCTIES, the 8th grade trip, Camp Linn Haven, the International Festival, cultural arts events, Field Day, STEM & Art Night, and so many everyday moments in between, our students have accomplished so much this year.

Most importantly, we are thankful for the ways our students have grown academically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually throughout the year. God has truly blessed our school community in many ways.

Thank you, families, for all you do and for sharing your children with us each day. It is truly an honor to be part of your child's educational journey and to partner with you in helping them learn, grow, and know the love of Christ.

Enjoy your summer, and we look forward to seeing everyone in August as we begin the 25th year of Resurrection Lutheran School. We have so much to be grateful for!

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.
Psalm 126:3

With gratitude,
Robin Hester

The weekend of May 30/31, Robin Hester was Installed and Commissioned as a LCMS Called Teacher and Principal for Resurrection Lutheran School.

Congratulations and thank you for your faithful service!



**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.*



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