

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 19, 2026



Pastor's Corner for July 19-25, 2026

Not Our Job

(Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)

This seems like a good time of year to be talking about weeds. It is utterly baffling how weeds seem to grow spontaneously and even take over spaces where effort has been expended to feature garden vegetables or ornamental shrubs or perennial flowers. Yet not even mid-July heat or humidity or mosquitoes can dissuade the most ardent weeders from their task! The promise of achieving a weed-free flower bed or clean-looking kitchen garden beckons.

Jesus therefore knows just how powerful talking about weeds and getting rid of them can be for getting a point across about the Kingdom of God. And so, He tells His followers a story about a wheat field into which an enemy has introduced weeds on purpose. The weeds grow in and among the wheat,

making the weeding task challenging. You could pull up the weeds...but you'd pull up the wheat along with them! When the owner of the field in Jesus' story was asked what to do about the weeds, he tells his servants to leave them alone until the time of harvest. Until then everyone would have to live with the prospect of a weed-filled wheat field! When Jesus explains the parable to His disciples, He makes it clear that this time of waiting until the harvest is their proper attitude, too. There will be a time of separating "wheat" from "weeds." There will be a time of separating out those who are of the Kingdom and those who are not. There will be a time for reaping, for harvesting, and for final judgment. But that time is not yet. Nor does the responsibility to judge others once-and-for-all fall to either you or me. The Law of God is good and shows us what is right. We do well when we strive, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to not only uphold justice but seek the righting of wrongs—especially when we are guilty of them! But sometimes the zeal to "weed out" another person by either rebuking them or pointing out their sins comes from a heart that wants to carry out God's judgments on His behalf. Jesus' parable is a reminder that such judgment is not our job. Ours is to wait. Ours is to do what we can to work on behalf of justice here below and to leave the final judgment to God alone. We have received the mercy and grace of God, through the sacrificial death and glorious resurrection of God's Son Jesus Christ. Knowing this, how can we not approach the world with an attitude of trust in God's timing and God's restoration at the End of all things?

And here's the thing: As God teaches us to not worry about the task of weeding, He also gives us the invitation to look forward to the harvest (His harvest) of all that is beautiful and delicious in the garden of His Kingdom which is yet to come! Praise God for His gracious and merciful work to cause you and me—His Kingdom people—to bear fruit. This week, as we take note of our own corner of that garden, let's look forward to all that God is now at work accomplishing—and ultimately, WILL accomplish—in and through such as us.

***Faith in Action* Campaign to Begin Soon**

Our congregational capital campaign kick-off is just around the corner! The theme of the campaign is “*Faith in Action*” as emphasized in Ephesians 2:8-10: “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Please pray for our “*Faith in Action*” campaign efforts. I will be speaking a bit this weekend about how everyone can lend a hand and get involved as volunteers. Let’s all ultimately do our part toward this essential effort so that our church can continue to be faithful to God’s mission. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

In peace and joy,
Pastor Jonathan

Prayers of the Church

Gracious God,

We give thanks to You for our Resurrection Lutheran Church community that You have rooted in Your overflowing grace and guided by Your Word in this place since 1978.

We come before You, praying that You will continue to gift us to be a beacon of Your light and saving hope in Jesus Christ.

May our *Faith in Action* campaign be guided by You for the growth of Your kingdom. Help us make Your love known to those who need to know the love of Jesus.

We pray, Heavenly Father, that You will raise up faithful stewards of Your gifts and laborers for Your harvest.

In Jesus’ holy name, we pray.
Amen.



Mites for Missions

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **July 18 and 19**. Please place your gifts in the large purple Mite Box in the Narthex near Sanctuary Worship.

Gifts can also be made by check, payable to RLC, and mailed directly to Donna Krupcale, % Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary NC 27518. The large Mite Box is always available at the Welcome table in the Narthex for gifts anytime during the month.



Thank you for supporting the mission grants of Lutheran Women in Mission!

**Flowers Placed on the Sanctuary Altar
In Celebration of Their 65th Anniversary
by John and Deanna Leuenberger**

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!](#)

Celebrate Christmas in July and Help Local Charities!

Christmas trees are outside the Sanctuary and Family Life Center with "ornaments" highlighting specific needs requested by the following organizations:

Families Together (familiestogethernc.org)

Mission Statement: We believe every family deserves a home, and children should never have to wonder where they're going to sleep at night. This is why we connect families to stable homes as quickly as possible - and why we remain connected with them to ensure that they begin the process of bettering their lives.

Safe Families for Children (SFFC) (safe-families.org)

Mission Statement: SFFC hosts vulnerable children and creates extended family-like support for families facing a crisis through a community of compassionate volunteers to keep children safe and families together.

Gateway Women's Care (gatewaywomens.care)

Mission Statement: We are committed to serving women and men in the community by providing medical, educational, and support services and resources related to pregnancy and sexual health without condemnation or manipulation.

Below is a link for those who might want to shop via Amazon for Gateway Women's Care. We ask that you do NOT send your purchase directly to Gateway but send the order to your home, and then bring it to church and place it under one of the trees.

[Amazon List for Gateway Women's Care](#)

Please take an ornament (or two!) and place the unwrapped gifts with the tag attached under the trees any weekend in July. The last collection weekend will be August 1-2.

Gift cards can be put in the boxes under the tree, in the offering plates, or dropped off in the church office.

Thank you for helping us serve people in need in our community!

Men's Summer Fellowship Series

Hope to see you at our next gathering on
Wednesday, July 22

at Aviator Brewery (688 Brewery Drive) in Fuquay Varina starting at 6:30 pm!



Fun time on June 9th at the Tap Station!

Stay connected over the summer! All men invited. Just show up — you do not have to eat or drink to attend.

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



Saturday, July 25

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.

Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry
for the Visually Impaired meets

Friday, July 31

5:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Contact Annette Langefeld-Kennedy to learn more and for volunteer needs or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement

The Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team (CCMET) is planning a Short-Term Mission Trip to Cambodia in **February 2027**. This mission trip will be a Vacation Bible School (VBS) style with youth activities serving at several churches.

CCMET is hoping to send a team of 8, led by Erika Hulse. [Deadline for interest is Friday, July 31.](#)

Other ways to support the team? We need prayers! Sign up for the prayer team. Also, providing financial support through the [Cambodia Mission Trip Fund](#) is welcome.

Questions? Contact ccmet@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.

The Next Coffeehouse for Special Needs Adults

Friday, August 14

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), Serving Folks at 6:30 pm, and Cleaner Uppers at 8:30 pm. Sign Up: bit.ly/3VAtWW0

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday, August 14** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center. The *Back Porch String Band* will be playing for us.



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

DivorceCare

Resurrection will be hosting a DivorceCare support group **starting August 17** through November 16. 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.

Sessions will be held in Room 140 on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm. Workbooks are required to get the most benefits and are available when

participants register at [DivorceCare - Divorce Recovery Support Groups](#). Select “Find a Group” and look for the group hosted by Resurrection Lutheran Church.

Contact Sue Campau through RCB, or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org) for more details, or to volunteer with helping facilitate and greet participants.





RESURRECTION
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stewardship of Life & Health

Personalized Health Counseling

Stewardship of Life and Health group at RLC can connect you to health-care workers in our congregation to provide guidance and education for questions on your health.



MEDICATION REVIEW & EDUCATION

Dosage, Side Effects, Interactions, Management Strategies



PALLIATIVE & HOSPICE SUPPORT

Pain Management, Emotional Comfort, End-of-Life Planning



COMPLEX & CRITICAL ILLNESS

Navigating Diagnoses, Treatment Options, Chronic Condition Care



LACTATION & NEWBORN HEALTH

Breastfeeding Support, Infant Care, Postpartum Wellness



GENERAL HEALTH & NUTRITION

Dietary Guidelines, Wellness Check-ins, Preventive Health



FITNESS & ACTIVE LIVING

Exercise Plans, Mobility Support, Staying Active

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS



1. SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION
Submit basic question, name, & contact method



2. GET CONNECTED
Response in one week to schedule call

READY TO GET IN TOUCH?

SUBMIT QUESTIONS TO: lifeandhealth@rlcary.org



The program provides support, advocacy, and education only. This does not replace your primary medical care or emergency services

Submit questions to lifeandhealth@rlcary.org

Children and Family Ministry

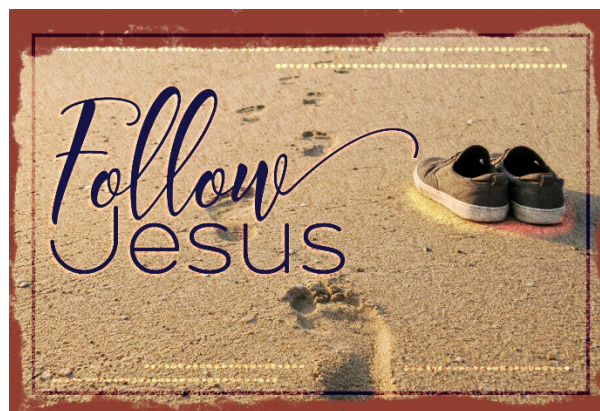
Vacation Bible School Fun!



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



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

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Thank you, **Diane Hooper**, for your 28 years of faithful service at Resurrection Lutheran Preschool! Wishing you all the best in your well-deserved retirement.



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

Resurrection Lutheran School



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

Latest Lion's Tale

WORSHIP SERVICES

Traditional Worship in Sanctuary	Praise Worship in Family Life Center
Saturday, 6:00 pm	Sunday, *11:00 am
Sunday, *8:00 & 9:30 am	

**Services Live Streamed to YouTube*

For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at
youtube.com/@ResurrectionLutheranCary
or through our website at
rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

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 - Lynne Hoffman

You may also contact the church office at 919-851-7248
or office@rlcary.org for assistance.

This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

This Week's Visual Faith Children's Bulletin

Weekly Attendance

In-Person Worship Attendance:

Saturday, July 11

6:00 pm - 76

Sunday, July 12

8:00 am - 75

9:30 am - 107

11:00 am - 102

Total In-Person Worship: 360

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel:

Sunday, July 12

8:00 am - 133

11:00 am - 53

Total Online Views: 186

Financial Update - Fiscal 2024/25

May 2026

Budgeted Giving to Date: \$1,402,200

Actual Giving to Date: \$1,459,583

Current Over/(Under) Giving: \$57,383

Budgeted Expenses to Date: \$1,393,333.33

Actual Expenses to Date: \$1,313,771

Current Under/(Over) Spend: \$79,562.33

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

Church Calendar



100 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary NC 27518

rlcary.org

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

Prayers of the Church – July 19, 2026

*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, 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, Emily, *Alison Whatley, Lyn Becksford

For Expectant Moms

Cassie Melsom

Those Prayed for on July 5, 2026

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, and Those Who Serve
- Vacation Bible School's 119 Children 60 Volunteers
- Baptism of Henry Parker Hulse on June 28, Parents Harrison and Sarah Hulse, Grandmother *Erika Hulse, Godfather and Uncle *Spencer Hulse
- Hymn Bible Class, Led by *Vicar Chris Reed
- 250th Birthday of the USA
- Stephen Minister Commissioning of *Deb Gebbia, *Betsy Moll, *Stu Shaw, and *Pat Smith
- Birth of Rory, Grandparents *Paul and *Susan Brandt
- *Carol Klevenow, Recovery
- Sarah's New Job
- John's New Home
- Henry Fuhrmann's 89th Birthday

For Healing

- *Kim Goss
- All Those Who Have Illnesses - COVID, RSV, Flu, Viruses
- Blind Ministry Guests - Helen Rice-Lyles, Daria Radford, Mary Williams, Judy Dean, Kathy Stegall, Norma McCord
- *Greta Nelson
- Pastor William Otto
- *Pam Dickson
- *Stephanie Ford
- Betty, and Others with Dementia
- *Mindy Stephani, Healing and Restoration
- Terrie Johnson, Mother of *Jen Kirby
- *Alison Whatley
- Clare Roberts, Recovery, Mother of *Michelle Wood
- *Charlotte Raines
- Cynthia Wyse
- *Fern Frusti
- Deb, Sister of *Pam Dickson
- Hayes, Belle, Childhood Cancer
- *Clinton Peterson
- Khari Otten
- Henry, Grandson of *Mark and *Pat Otten
- Tommi
- Lorrie Muller, Cancer Treatment
- Addison
- Mike Hodgin
- Justin Shellaway, Brain Tumor Treatment
- Carli, Recovery from Addiction
- Donna Day, Pancreatic Cancer Treatment
- Dave Koester, ALS, and Wife Ruth
- *Trudy Haertling, Physical Therapy
- *Dennis Merrill
- *Cecilia Brown, Rehab and Recovery
- *Sue Sanders
- Carolyn, Continued Healing
- Evelyn Bloom
- Alison, Cancer Treatment
- Kale, Stomach Cancer Treatment
- Tracy
- Susan Richard
- Steve Cottle, Healing
- Kathy, DeAnn, Ethan, Breann, Karen, Carly, Grayson, Paul, Devin, Ben, Megan, Andy, Ricky, Sonny, Linda, Lee, Libby, Greta, Cecilia, Gabe, Emily, Gary, George, Trudy, Johnny, Van, Gary, James, Todd, Diane, Gabby, Julie, Herbie, Jeri, Joe, Glenda, Pam, Addison, Lily, Morgan, Nic, Alison, Mindy, Willette, Walter, Gene, Lois, Becky, Vern, Eric, Graham, Bill, Sandy, Virginia, Melissa, Brad, Darlene, Jeff, Shim, Brenda

For Comfort

- Family and Friends of Thomas Wayne Igoe, Father of *Jennifer Rundle
- Family and Friends of Catlin Pruitt, Husband of Kelly, Father to Dominic, Camden, Connor, Emma
- Family and Friends of Gordon Boyack, Friend of *Alan Sullivan

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- Persecuted Christians
- World Peace
- Cambodia Lutheran Church
- People Around the World Affected by Natural Disasters and Weather Events
- Families and Businesses Recovering in Western NC
- Safety and Thanksgiving for People Helping with Recovery Efforts
- People of Ukraine, and All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Annie Ruth Ford, Mother of *Dennis Ford
- *Eric and *Jill Hammergren
- *Jan Wozniak
- Jan and Rich Bloom
- *Ginny Koren
- *Meredith A.
- *Fran Xenakis
- *Carol Mitchell
- Our Government and Leaders
- Service Members Deployed
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles and Families in Turmoil, Resolutions
- Those Seeking Jobs and Career Changes
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- Dorothy Conners
- *Jim and *Thelma Rhodes
- *Anita Moore
- *Rundle Family
- Marion Cecconi, Mother of *Lecia Roberts
- Those in the Process of Selling Homes for Aging Parents, Plus Related Family Matters
- Jeri Breitsprecher, Mother of *Sue Campau, Managing Mental Decline and Guidance for Her Family
- Resolution of Discord in Families
- Peaceful Resolution to War with Iran, People of the Middle East
- Safety for *Daisy Morris' Son, Daughter-In-Law, and Grandson in Dubai
- That We Trust the Lord is Working for Our Good in Our World Today
- Dick Huffman and Family
- Jack Simpson and His Family, Father-In-Law of *Kim Simpson
- Heather Whitehurst
- For Much Needed Rain
- Kathy Siemon and Her Family
- Help for Drug Addicts
- Teenagers Struggling with Their Mental Health

- *Benjamin Heffner, Study Abroad in Japan, Returning on July 28
- *Cheryl Roth
- Keith Whitehurst
- Steve Skog, and His Mother Mary Taking Care of Him
- Safe Labor for Daughter-in-Law
- Family of Sheila in Her Death
- Student's Direction

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
- 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 Caring Presence Ministry
- DivorceCare Program
- Our Capital Campaign Process, and Thanksgiving for Campaign Team Assembled

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
- Discernment for Cross-Cultural Mission Engagement Team for Future Mission Trips
- Kairos Prison Ministry

For Our Missionaries

- JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia
[Click Here for the Latest Cima Family Newsletter!](#)

*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.*