



May 2026

# The Butterflier



In this Issue:

<u>Article</u>	<u>Page</u>
Pastor Bill's Page.....	2
Church Council .....	3
Blood Drive .....	3
Worship & Music .....	4
Stephen Ministry .....	5
Cover Girls.....	6
Bible Study.....	7

<u>Article</u>	<u>Page</u>
Flower Chart.....	7
God's Work, Our Hands.....	8
Coffee Hour.....	8
PrimeTimers .....	9
Guys' Night Out.....	9
R & R Gathering .....	9
Spring Fiesta .....	9

<u>Article</u>	<u>Page</u>
Graduation News.....	10
Book Discussion .....	11
Aluminum Can Recycling .....	12
Share the Care .....	13
Communion Bread .....	13
Thrivent.....	14
Calendar .....	15
Back Page.....	16

## Pastor Bill's Page



With the festival day of Pentecost coming up at the end of the month, I've been wondering what it would have sounded like to stand in Jerusalem that day?

Not the usual noise of a crowded city—vendors calling out, footsteps echoing on stone streets, the low hum of conversation in a dozen accents. No, this was something else entirely. A rushing wind, but no storm. Voices rising, but not in chaos. Words spoken in languages never learned...and yet somehow understood.

Some in the crowd were amazed. Others were confused. A few dismissed it outright. Yet, right there, in the middle of that that noise and wonder, the Spirit of God was at work.

In the second chapter of Acts of the Apostles, Pentecost arrives not as a quiet, orderly moment, but as something disruptive—something that breaks through barriers people had long taken for granted. Chief among them: language. People from all over the known world suddenly hear the good news of Jesus Christ in their own tongue. Not a single, uniform voice—but many voices, each trying to carrying the same message.

Have you had an experience like that? When Cathie and I have traveled, I have often been amazed at the number of languages that surround us. That was especially evident at the Eiffel Tower last year. People from all over the globe gather there. Just walking from one giant leg to another, I must have heard a dozen languages. Some I could identify. Others I couldn't tell where one word ended and another began. I thought about how hard it is, on a global scale, to get ideas across.

Sometimes it's just as hard in the day-to-day world, too. We know what it's like to be lost in translation. We've all had those moments—misunderstood texts, conversations that go sideways, intentions that don't land the way we hoped. We speak, but aren't heard. We listen, but don't quite understand. And sometimes, those small breakdowns mirror larger ones: divisions between generations, cultures, perspectives, even within the Church itself.

Pentecost doesn't erase those differences. It doesn't flatten the world into one language or one way of speaking. Instead, the Spirit moves through the diversity. The miracle is not that everyone suddenly speaks the same—it's that everyone hears the same good news, right where they are. God meets people in their own language. And that means something for us.

It means the Spirit is still at work in the noisy, messy, multilingual reality of our lives. It means God is not waiting for perfect clarity or polished words before speaking. It means that even in our misunderstandings and missed connections, God is still finding ways to be heard.

Maybe the question for us this Pentecost isn't just *"What would it have sounded like back then?"* but *"What might it sound like now?"*

What does the voice of the Spirit sound like in your daily life? Perhaps it's a word of encouragement that comes at just the right moment. A conversation that unexpectedly brings clarity. A nudge to reach out, to listen more closely, to speak more gently. A moment when, despite all odds, understanding breaks through.

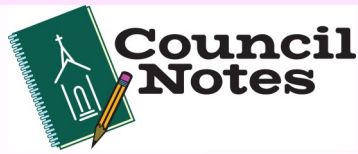
The first Pentecost was loud and unmistakable. But the Spirit has never stopped speaking. The question is—are we listening? And just as importantly—are we willing to become part of that voice?

This Pentecost, you might try a simple practice: step just slightly outside your usual circle. Speak a word of peace to someone new. Listen carefully to someone whose experience is different from your own. Learn how to say "Christ is risen" or "peace be with you" in another language—and mean it.

Because the miracle of Pentecost didn't end in Jerusalem. It continues wherever the Spirit turns confusion into understanding, strangers into neighbors, and ordinary words into carriers of God's grace. Even now. Even here.

Pastor Bill

## Church Council



“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.: 1 Peter 4:10

Over the last few weeks, I have been surrounded by the subject of “gifts” ....

The gift of grace given by Jesus’ death on the cross, gifts given for special occasions, gifts received both physically and spiritually, the joy of being the giver and the recipient of gifts. The focus of the DAMN Women of the ELCA retreat was serving others by using our gifts. Notice that word “using”. A gift is not a gift until we give it away!

As Council focuses on sustaining and maintaining our congregation, a huge part of that encompasses using our gifts, as a whole congregation and as individuals within the congregation. Are you a good organizer, planner, motivator, presenter, listener, cheerleader, mediator? The list goes on and on. We are called to use our gifts as stewards, not owners; to serve others, not to bolster our own reputation. So, over the course of the next few months, we will be working to help each other identify our individual gifts and ways that we can use those gifts to “let service be our sure vocation”. God gave us each great gifts, let’s give them away!

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Barrett

Council President






# BLOOD DRIVE

## Sunday June 7

### 9am - 1pm



Donor appreciation  
gift is this beach towel!

**Worship & Music**

**May 24, 2026**



*Easter season is culminating in Pentecost on May 24th.  
We celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit as our advocate  
and life-giving source for the world.*

**Sunday, May 24th is Pentecost  
WEAR RED!**

## Stephen Ministry



### Stephen Ministry – Acknowledging Mental Health Issues

Every day we hear or read about the increase of mental health needs in our nation. From its inception Stephen Ministry has emphasized the importance of recognizing mental health issues in congregations and the community. Stephen Ministry is able to be helpful because it focuses on one trusted lay-minister talking confidentially with one other person. Stephen Ministers are trained to give emotional and spiritual support based upon God's unconditional love. When a hurting person's needs extend beyond the boundaries of Stephen Ministry, the Stephen Ministry Team is confident in recommending a trained professional. Sometimes the care receiver needs a level of care and type of skills not in the Stephen Ministry training.

Dr. Kenneth Haugk, founder of Stephen Ministry, a Lutheran Minister, and a clinical psychologist, recently up-dated his resource, "When and How to Use Mental Health Resources". He posts that the Stephen Minister's role fits in well with other kinds of caregivers. The type of caregiver is:

- ◆ A friend or family member can provide informal care.
- ◆ Small groups give group support.
- ◆ Stephen Ministers give one-on-one, ongoing Christ-centered care and support. They instill a sense of hope and confidentiality in their care receivers and help them recognize that they are not alone.
- ◆ Pastors give pastoral care.
- ◆ Mental health professionals give emotional and psychological care.

The Stephen Ministry Team is trained to recognize when a person is experiencing a mental health crisis and is confident in suggesting to the care receiver that a professional's involvement would be beneficial.

If you or someone you know could be helped by a Stephen Ministry caring relationship, talk to or call one of our Stephen Leaders: Kathy Barrett, Judy Severance or Kim Trigg.

*Submitted by a member of RLC—each month these articles are written by various Stephen Ministers*

## Cover Girls

The RLC Cover Girls Sewing Group is slowly winding down the mission of their Lutheran World Relief quilt project. The quilts will not be picked up until November so there may be some stragglers coming through. This project continues to be so important as LWR continues it's work with agencies in many countries; in addition to some United States locations. Many of the quilts have gone to Ukrainians who have fled to other countries for safety; as well as other countries with disasters, such as Mali, Peru, South Sudan, Tanzania and Zamia. That IS what Lutheran World Relief does! We have an opportunity to be part of this mission and will do our best to send as many quilts as we can in November 2026. Lutheran World Relief's LOVE and our LOVE Changes LIVES! Many thanks to all who make this mission possible, we couldn't do it without the dedication of others; such as the Gals who tie ALL the quilts, those who donate fabric or crochet thread (for tying) those who cut, design, sew and Mike Sciascia for his willingness to move things around for us.

Mid May - we will start on our summer project which is sewing Kid/Baby quilts. This is always a "fun" project as we get to sew with cute kid fabrics (most of the time) and they are not as large as the LWR quilts. These quilts will be donated to non-profit groups within Collin County – Plano Children's Hospital, Wylie/Plano Children's Medical Clinic & The Samaritan Inn/McKinney. Last year we donated approximately 150 kid quilts!



If you are doing any "Spring Cleaning", we can always use gently used sheets for backs, crochet thread for tying quilts and any fabric that you will not be using, especially cottons. Just drop items off at the Cover Girls Drop Off at the top of the stairs. REMEMBER – WE ALWAYS HAVE KID/BABY QUILTS FOR SALE!!

Questions: Contact Marilyn Neer at [neermarilyn@yahoo.com](mailto:neermarilyn@yahoo.com)

or send a text to: 214-557-2886



What color thread does God use to sew LOVE?

God so-loves us that He stitches the fabric of the relationship between us and God together with holy-colored thread that will last FOREVER!



## ***Bible Studies***



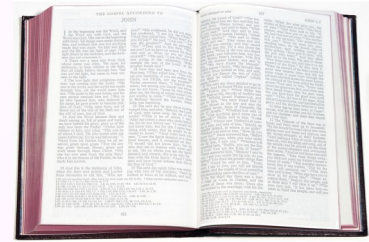
### **Mid-day Thursday Bible Study**

The group meets on Thursdays from  
11:30 am to 1:00 pm  
in the RLC Library.

Bring your lunch and your Bible.

We are studying the topic of:

*Isaiah, Trusting God in Troubled Times*



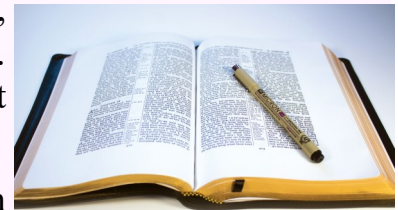
### **First Tuesday Bible Study**

"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE"

words of Jesus as He tells Thomas and the disciples and us,  
the way to believe and have unity with God, through Him.  
Come and learn more of the "I Am" statements and what  
they mean for us.

All Women of RLC are invited to come and learn with us in  
the library on Tuesday, May 5th, at 6:30 pm.

Call Ruth Parker at 214-533-7554 for more information.



BIBLE STUDY GROUP



### **May 2026 Flower Chart**



- May 3rd:** Rita Fischer—In memory of my twin sister Ronni
- May 10th:** Marilyn Neer—In memory of my son Michael and Mom whose birthdays were May 1st
- May 17th:** Rita Fischer—Celebration of son Carl III's Birthday
- May 24th:** Kerry Bade—Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary
- May 31st:** Jan Frum—In memory of my mother

## God's Work, Our Hands

### GWOH: Day Devoted to Love of Our Neighbors and Church



The ELCA's national day of service – "God's work. Our hands." Sunday – is September 13th. Across the country, thousands of ELCA members will engage in service work to make a positive change in their communities, build and deepen relationships, and share God's love. Our outreach ministry, Impact, will be planning this year's celebration but we value YOUR input to make this a purposeful day for our members of all ages and abilities. If you or your ministry has a project idea or are willing to lead a project, please contact anyone on the Impact planning team: Cathie Irons, Ellen Frost, Nancy Parker, Sharon Bosse, or Becky Schuerman Choi.

## Coffee Hour takes a Summer Break

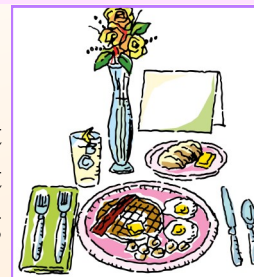
The last day of Sunday School is May 17th, which also signals the end of Sunday morning coffee hour until the fall. We still need hosts for these final weeks, so convince a friend or two to help you throw a worship after-party! You'll turn water into coffee, bake and/or buy treats (yes, we can reimburse), serve the goodies after church, and clean up. Training available. Questions: talk to Becky Schuerman Choi.



## Fellowship Events

### PrimeTimers in May

PrimeTimers will meet on Wednesday, May 13th, at 11:30 at Norma's Cafe. Rick and Sallie Diamond are hosting. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Please encourage sign up, as we are growing again! Hallelujah!



### Guys' Night Out—May 28, 2026

Guys Night Out will convene at Lazy Dog on Preston at 6:00 pm  
Thursday, May 28, 2026.

Contact Craig Feronti for further information (972)989-3222.



### R&R Adult Fellowship

Saturday, May 16th

Hosts for the evening are Lynn & Mark Waterman

R&R is a fun adult fellowship group. We gather at the host's house, each of us bringing snack type foods and favorite beverages to share. Host provides utensils, napkins, plates, cups and water, to keep it simple for hosting. We meet at 5:30 pm and are usually wrapping up by 8:30 pm or so. We range from 12 – 25 folks and always enjoy our time together. No RSVPs, just come, and invite others, too. It's a great way to meet people and get to know the ones you've met before.



A Family Event

It's time for our fantastic Fiesta! *Tino's Too Restaurant* is catering our lunch, and we are serving Tres Leches cake for dessert. There will be games for everyone and a piñata for the kids.

**SUNDAY, MAY 3rd**

Noon - 2:00 PM -- in the RLC Celebration Center.

COST: Adults \$10 Child \$5

## Graduation News



**Congratulations, 2026 Graduates! We wish to honor you  
and your accomplishments.**

**Graduation Sunday will be May 17th.**

**Please let us know where you are graduating from, your  
degree if you are a college grad, and what your next steps  
will be.**

**Grandparents, please share your grandchildren's info as  
well!**

**Please send all info to [ann@rlcplano.org](mailto:ann@rlcplano.org).**

“For I know the plans  
I have for you”  
declare the *Lord*  
Plans to *prosper* you & not  
to harm you. *Hope &*  
Plans to give you *a Future*

~ Jeremiah 29:11

## ***Book Discussion***

### **Women's Book Discussion**

**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

Our next book discussion will be held on Saturday, May 2nd. As usual we meet at 9:00 am for social time/treats and begin our discussion at 9:30 am. All are welcome! Don't let the title fool you!

### **How to Read a Book by Monica Wood**

*Our Reasons meet us in the morning and whisper to us at night. Mine is an innocent, unsuspecting, eternally sixty-one-year-old woman named Lorraine Daigle...*

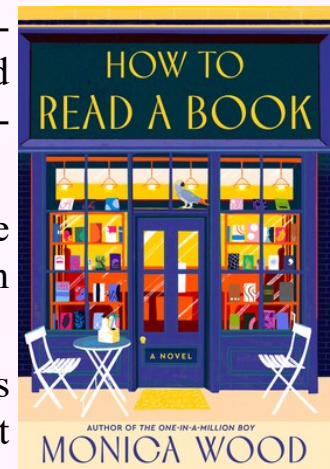
In this emotional book club fiction, Violet Powell, a twenty-two-year-old from Abbott Falls, Maine, is being released from prison after serving twenty-two months for a drunk-driving crash that killed a local kindergarten teacher.

Harriet Larson, a retired English teacher who runs the prison book club, is facing the unsettling prospect of an empty nest.

Frank Daigle, a retired machinist, hasn't yet come to grips with the complications of his marriage to the woman Violet killed.

When the three encounter each other one morning in a bookstore in Portland—Violet to buy the novel she was reading in the prison book club before her release, Harriet to choose the next title for the women who remain, and Frank to dispatch his duties as the store handyman—their lives begin to intersect in transformative ways.

*How to Read a Book* is an unsparingly honest and profoundly hopeful story about forgiveness, letting go of guilt, seizing second chances, and the power of books to change our lives. With the heart, wit, grace, and depth of understanding that has characterized her work, Monica Wood illuminates the decisions that define a life and the kindnesses that make life worth living.



# Aluminum Can Recycling



## The Mother of All Can Collections

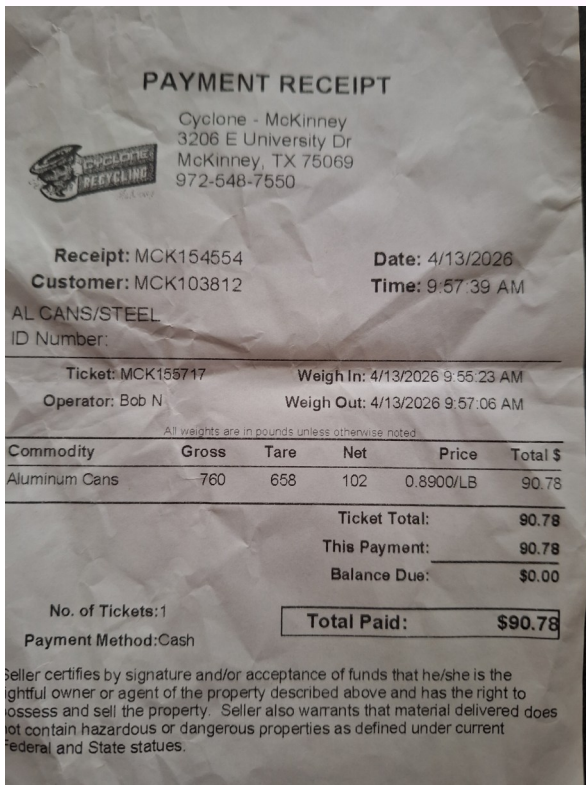
Our sustaining donors to the monthly aluminum collection know to get their cans to church on the first weekend of the month. Due to Aluminati vacation schedules, our May collection will instead fall on the weekend of Mother's Day (**May 9-10**). As usual, drop off your bags of aluminum cans and scrap metal by the west doors so your metaling becomes money for our Affirming Our Foundation (AOF) fund that pays for some of our unexpected maintenance projects.

In our first quarter of 2026, RLC members and friends have donated 395 pounds of aluminum cans worth \$336. Mother Nature approved!

The Aluminati report for April 13th revealed a slight price drop to \$.89/lb. compared to last month. However, we had 102 lb. of aluminum cans so our total was \$91. That of course goes right to the bottom line for AOF.

More and more of us help "Can it for the Planet!"

Metallically, Mark Waterman



## Metaling for Money, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Month	Pounds of Cans	Can Earnings	Scrap Metal Earnings
Jan 2026	70	\$47	\$26
Feb 2026	146	\$126	\$32
Mar 2026	77	\$73.15	\$18.85
Apr 2026	102	\$90.78	
<b>Total to date</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>\$336.93</b>	<b>\$76.85</b>

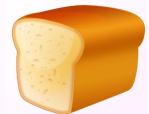
## Miscellaneous

### Volunteers Needed

One vital part of Share the Care is the Transportation Team. These volunteers pick up members who need occasional rides to Church or to medical appointments. Often substitutes are needed to fill in for regular drivers who bring elderly members to Church but have to miss a Sunday or two. Currently there are only five volunteers for this important ministry. If this is something you could do on an occasional basis, call Barbara Klier at 214.476.8911.



### Bread Wanted



Are you willing to provide bread for Communion each Sunday. Oh, but you don't bake. No problem, your local bakery does and you can order one loaf of unsliced bread, soft crust and soft inside so it can be torn for serving, but not be crumbly. (Try the bread you choose yourself to see if it tears easily into smaller pieces and doesn't shed crumbs.) You can bring it to the Church preferably on Saturday or contact Pat Fisher to make other arrangements. Only one loaf of bread is needed for the 10:00 Worship Service each week. If you are willing to provide a loaf of bread, please let Pat Fisher know. You can email her at: [pmifisher@gmail.com](mailto:pmifisher@gmail.com), sign up for one Sunday a month or only periodically.

May 4th	Bill & Gayle Lind
May 11th	Craig & Phyllis Hildebrand
May 18th	Bruce & Pat Fisher
May 25th	Rita Fischer

## ***Thrivent Financial Member Updates***

### **ACTION TEAM PROJECTS FOR 2026**

Are you a benefit member of Thrivent? If so, we could use your help in applying to Thrivent for seed money for a number of service projects and fundraisers at Resurrection Lutheran. It is a quick and easy way to bring in additional funding to Resurrection's annual budget. There are currently about 75 Thrivent benefit members at Resurrection. Each benefit member can have up to **2 projects per year each funded by a \$250 pre-paid VISA card. Associate members can have up to 1 project per year.** That is **\$37,500** that does not have to be funded by Resurrection's annual budget!

We did about 13 Action Team grants in 2025 for a total of approximately **\$3,250!** Keep this Thrivent program in mind as you plan activities for 2026. Below are some possible 2026 projects:

Chili Cook-off and Bingo – Marilyn Neer

RYOT fundraiser for summer trip –

Lutheran World Relief Quilt Project – Marilyn Neer

Vacation Bible School –

Vacation Bible School – Middle School and High School Camp – Lorraine Laut

School Supply Project – Richard Laut

Cover Girls Kid's Quilts – Sylvia Meyer

Fall God's Work – Our Hands –

Fall Festival –

Lovepac – Plano -

Cover Girl's Christmas Sale – Sylvia Meyer

Angel Tree –

Contact Lorraine Laut at 214-205-0886 or at [lblaut@outlook.com](mailto:lblaut@outlook.com) if you can help or if you have an idea for an Action Team. She will guide you through the application process



# May 2026 Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <b>9:00 am:</b> Book Discussion
3 <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service in Church <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service Via YouTube <b>12:00 Noon:</b> Spring Fiesta	4	5 <b>6:30 pm:</b> First Tuesday Bible Study	6 <b>10:00 —3:30</b> Cover Girls	7 <b>11:30-am-1:00 pm</b> Mid-day Bible Study  <b>7:00 pm:</b> Executive Council Meeting	8	9 Aluminum Can Recycling
10 <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service in Church <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service Via YouTube <b>Happy Mother's Day</b>	11	12	13 <b>10:00 —3:30</b> Cover Girls  <b>11:30 am:</b> Prime Timers	14 <b>11:30-am-1:00 pm</b> Mid-day Bible Study  <b>7:00 pm:</b> Church Council Meeting	15	16 <b>9:00 am:</b> 3rd Saturday Maintenance  <b>5:30 pm:</b> R & R Gathering
17 <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service in Church <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service Via YouTube	18	19 <b>7:00 pm:</b> Worship Planning Meeting	20 <b>10:00 —3:30</b> Cover Girls	21 <b>11:30-am-1:00 pm</b> Mid-day Bible Study	22	23
24 <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service in Church <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service Via YouTube <b>PENTECOST SUNDAY WEAR RED</b>	25 <b>Memorial Day</b> 	26	27 <b>10:00 —3:30</b> Cover Girls	28 <b>11:30-am-1:00 pm</b> Mid-day Bible Study  <b>6:00 pm:</b> Guy's Night Out	29	30
31 <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service in Church <b>10:00 am:</b> Classic Worship Service Via YouTube						



**Resurrection Lutheran Church**  
**Pastor: Rev. William Jon Irons**  
**Email: [pastorbill@rlcplano.org](mailto:pastorbill@rlcplano.org)**

**Office Phone: 972.867.0460**  
**Office Fax: 972.758.7921**  
**Office Email: [office@rlcplano.org](mailto:office@rlcplano.org)**  
**Office Website: [www.rlcplano.org](http://www.rlcplano.org)**

**Sunday Worship Hours:**  
10:00 a.m. In Church Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. Online Worship Service

**Office Hours:**  
Monday through Friday  
8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

**Butterflieger Editor: Rita Fischer**  
**Email Articles to:**  
[nygiantfan2@verizon.net](mailto:nygiantfan2@verizon.net)

**2026 Congregational Council**  
**Executive Committee:**  
Kathy Barrett, President  
Karen Oehler, Vice President  
Jan Frum Treasurer  
Beth Smith, Secretary

**Ministry Area Liaisons:**  
Sharon Bosse, Liaison for Serve  
Jay Walls, Liaison for Ancillary Ministries  
Craig Hildebrand, Liaison for Worship  
Mark Waterman, Liaison for Support Ministry  
Marylou Boardman, Liaison for Witness  
Katherine Bandy, Liaison for Learn

**FROM:**  
**Resurrection Lutheran Church**  
**1919 Independence Parkway**  
**Plano TX 75075**