

Reformation Day - October 31, 2021



Pastor's Corner for October 31-November 6

Something Real (John 8:31-36)

This weekend, in addition to our usual services at 6 PM Saturday and 8 AM Sunday, we invite you to enjoy the great outdoors together with our Ethiopian brothers and sisters in Christ at Ritter Park for a joint Reformation Sunday service. Our oneness in Christ will be highlighted in a celebration of Holy Communion for all worshippers. The greatness of God, as we all gather around God's Word and Holy Supper together, will be our focus.

Jesus once said: "If you abide in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the Truth and the Truth will set you free" (8:31-32). I can't think of any place in the Bible where Truth (with a capital "T") is so clearly underlined by our Lord. This usage is the "truth" of the witness stand, where people swear to tell "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." In a world where personal narratives seem

to trump truth and truth seems to have lost its currency... where those who claim to profess "truth" are at best politely tolerated and at worst considered fanatics... the claim that Jesus' Word is Truth is a statement that stands out.

But when Jesus says that His Word is "Truth" He is saying more— much more. Jesus was setting Himself alongside GOD and GOD'S Word. Teachers in Jesus' day taught that God and God's Word were true. If Jesus said the same about His own Word, that could only mean, as Jesus' puts it later, that He and the Father "are one"! There's no sitting on the fence when it comes to Jesus. Either He's a blasphemer or His Word is Life itself. But even that's not all. There's something else worth pointing out, especially as we consider Holy Communion and the contribution of the Reformation. In Jesus' day, "Truth" meant, as it seems to mean throughout the Gospel of John, "real," "genuine," or "unfeigned." Yes, Jesus is saying that His Word accords with the facts. Yes, He is saying that His Word is on the same level as God's Word. But He is also saying that His Word is one thing in life that is not a lie, that is never phony, that can be trusted in times of trial... and ultimately does not disappoint. Life is full of false claims, false hopes, and unmet expectations. But God's Word, together with ordinary bread and wine, is what is "real" and eternal. It may not make all the problems we face go away. But it does bring true freedom... freedom from a life of brokenness we sense deep down we were created to know and enjoy.

We take a moment to celebrate the work of Martin Luther and the early Reformers to turn the attention of the church to what is "real": not traditions and human teachers but the living Word of God. How wonderful that the only Reformer that truly matters is Jesus, God's Son! How amazing that Jesus and Jesus' Word have set us free.

Mask Policy at Resurrection Lutheran Church: Where Are We Now?

Many of you might have heard that the city of Cary made the decision to discontinue the indoor mask mandate as of today (Friday), at 12 AM. Statistically this is a reflection of improved conditions in our area that have brought the positive test rate for COVID in Wake County down to 3.5% (from a recent high of 9.8%, Aug 28) and the average daily deaths in our county from COVID down to .9 (from a recent high of 4.3, Sept 14). ICU hospitalizations for both COVID and non-COVID

patients in our county remain stubbornly high, currently standing at 81% capacity. New cases reported daily currently stand at a weekly average of 13 per 100,000, quite a bit lower than the recent high of 75 (Aug 25), but still above the target for “substantial” transmission (vs. “high”) as established by the CDC. Mayor Weinbrecht attributed the change in policy to the positive set of statistics and the relatively high rate of vaccination in Wake County.

Assuming the statistical data continue at this level or go even further in a positive direction, we will be returning to a "mask optional" policy for all fully vaccinated worshippers in services starting Saturday, November 6. If conditions deteriorate this week, we will put off the change. Either way, I will verify the policy for next weekend in my Pastor’s Corner.

Why delay our own church’s response? The city of Cary’s change in policy is a positive development! Still, delaying by one week gives us the chance to communicate this policy change ahead of time and thereby notify any worshippers electing not to worship indoors unmasked of the change. Also, waiting to see whether improved conditions continue (or get even better) allows us to make an informed decision less likely to be changed later on. As always, I thank you in advance for your patience and understanding!

Love and joy in Christ,
Pastor Jonathan

Baptized on Sunday, October 31 is Evan Michael McGrady, born August 7, 2021, son of Matthew McGrady and Brittany McGrady. Godparents are Christian Larson and Stephen McGrady. May God’s blessing be upon Evan Michael as he grows in his baptismal grace.

*Prayers
of the Church*

[click here](#)

Worship Bulletins

[click here](#)



What?

Outdoor Worship Service at Resurrection Lutheran Church (with Holy Communion)

Who?

All members and friends of Resurrection Lutheran Church, together with our brothers and sisters at the Ethiopian Evangelical Mekane Yesus Lutheran Church and Oromo Evangelical Lutheran Church

When?

October 31, at 11 AM

Where?

Ritter Park (just across the street and a one block west, off of W. Lochmere Drive)

Why?

To praise God (of course!) and celebrate the beauty of God's creation together without mask restrictions, outdoors

We hope to see you there!

Please Note:

8:00 am Worship will be held in the Sanctuary.

There will be no 9:30 am Worship or Adult/Youth Sunday School.

Children are welcome to come to the park at 10:30 am for activities.

11:00 am Outdoor Worship will not be live streamed.

Finger foods will be provided from the Ethiopian congregations following our worship together.



Saturday, November 6

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.



Prophets Pointing to Jesus

You might have heard this phrase before, “The whole Bible is about Jesus” or “all of Scripture points to Jesus” but phrases like that can raise a lot of questions. In what way does it really all point to Jesus? When we read parts of the Bible, especially the Old Testament, it can be hard to see Jesus in some of the stories. That is the topic we look forward to tackling in our upcoming Sunday morning Bible Study! As we are heading towards Advent and the celebration of our Savior’s birth, we will look at some of the Old Testament prophets and how they pointed to Jesus’ birth. Throughout the study, we will also look at the historical context of these particular prophets to help us better understand why this message of a Savior was so important for them and why it is still important for us today!

This new adult Christian education class, team led by Pastors Jonathan and Zach, will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 am. The class will run November 7-December 19, with no class held on November 28 or December 12. No need to register, just plan to attend in Room 240, Family Life Center.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Patterns of Evidence: The Red Sea Miracle is the second in our two-part film series by award-winning filmmaker, Timothy Mahoney. In this investigation, he examines the journey to the crossing location, looking at two competing views of the Red Sea Miracle. One he calls the “Egyptian Approach,” which looks near Egypt. The other he calls the “Hebrew Approach,” which looks far from Egypt to the Gulf of Aqaba where divers have been searching for the remains of Pharaoh’s army on the seafloor. The investigation raises giant questions about the real location for the crossing site and its implications on your view of God. The answers to these questions point to one of two very different realities.

Join Timothy Mahoney as he retraces the steps of Moses and the Israelites, looking for answers in our Wednesday Night Workshop class **starting October 27 from 6:30-7:45 pm** in Room 151, Family Life Center. As he investigates the possible locations, he interviews top-level secular and biblical scholars in search for clues that support the Bible's timeline for this pivotal event in history. Now, see the evidence as the Bible comes alive with dramatic recreations, 3D animations, and never seen before footage.

Investigate the Israelites’ route to the miraculous sea crossing. This small group study includes thought-provoking questions that will help you explore key scenes from the film and why it matters to our faith. Register with Mindy Stephani or the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).

Advance Directive Opportunity

An Advance Directive allows you to express your wishes for future healthcare and to guide decisions about that care. It does not address financial decisions. Although there is no legal requirement for you to have an advance directive, having one may help you to receive the healthcare you desire. If you are 18 years old or older and are able to make and communicate healthcare decisions, you can complete an

Advance Directive.

The Stephen Ministry at Resurrection is inviting the WakeMed Advance Care Planning Program Coordinator, Monica Young, to our campus on **November 6 at 2:00 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center. Monica will be able to explain the Advance Directive form and answer any questions that you may have. She is also a Notary Public and will be able to support the completion of the document, if requested, that requires a notarized signature.

If you are interested, contact Ron Bostick at office@rlcary.org. Ron will follow up with a copy of the Advance Directive form that will be presented at the session.

Christian Caregiving

Have you ever had a friend or neighbor who was hurting spiritually or emotionally? Have you ever wanted to share, with another person, the love and caring you may have received from fellow Christians? Have you ever known someone who was being consumed by guilt and needed the freedom that God's forgiveness brings?

Have we got the course for you! RLC will be offering a 6-week course based on the book, *Christian Caregiving: A Way of Life*, by Kenneth Haugk, pastor and clinical psychologist who is the founder of the Stephen Series (Stephen Ministry). This course will help you discover ways to become a distinctively Christian caregiver.

Beginning on **Sunday, November 7**, the class will meet in Room 251, Family Life Center, at 9:30 am during the Sunday school hour for 6 weeks.

Contact Sue Campau, Jan Boyer, or Pastor Alan Shaw to sign up and make arrangements to receive a copy of the book.

The Coffeehouse at Resurrection

The Coffeehouse is for special needs adults to enjoy a safe evening of dancing, eating, and visiting. We are excited to begin again on **Friday, November 12** from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Family Life Center gym. Music provided by our very own, Reign!

Our last Coffeehouse was on Valentine's Day 2020 and our guests have missed them, as we have missed our guests! **We are still in need of food and drink servers, fully masked.** Please sign up: bit.ly/3kqoHGN

Any questions, contact Brenda Peterson.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

We all agree that sleep is important to our well-being and health. Sadly, there are too many children across the country in need of a proper bed. Sleep in Heavenly Peace's mission is to change that and we have the opportunity once again to collaborate with SHP to build bunk beds for families in need.

Join us on **Saturday, November 20**, when we get the opportunity to work alongside SHP in building beds and getting children off of the floor! We need 50 adult volunteers. No skills necessary, just a heart called to share God's love and hands for serving! Sign up today at bit.ly/RLCforSHP.

Learn more at [Sleep in Heavenly Peace \(shpbeds.org\)](https://shpbeds.org) or from our RLC contact, Sandy Nigg.

No kid sleeps on the floor in our town!

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels of Wake County has kept seniors in Wake County well nourished, less isolated, and safer in their homes since 1974. Volunteers and staff deliver lunchtime meals while providing comforting check-ins to homebound seniors. Seniors with the ability to leave home can come enjoy a hot meal in the company of friends at one of our Friendship Cafe locations.

You can help! Meals on Wheels is seeking volunteers to deliver meals to homebound seniors, as well as part-time staff to manage meal delivery sites, and Friendship Cafe locations.

For volunteer details and to sign up, wakemow.org/volunteer-application-mow-wake-county.



If you have a free afternoon, we would love to have you **HOST A TRUNK**. It does not need to be elaborate, treats and simple decor go a long way. Contact maryann.unger@rlcary.org, if interested, or just plan on showing up. Set up time is 2:00 pm.

For more information regarding the Children and Family Ministry, rlcary.org/ministries/children-and-family-ministry.



Trunk or Treat Service Event

October 31st!
Meet @ 2:00
RLC Parking lot
No sign up needed
Done by 4:45pm

Superhero Theme!
Costumes encouraged!

We will set up, play games, hand out prizes to little ones and then clean up. Great way to serve and have fun! This is for all Ignite (Middle School) and Breakaway (High School) youth.

YOUTHWORKS
For IGNITE and BREAKAWAY
(MS and HS)

June 26-July 1, 2022
Blue Ridge Mountains

Ms. Jenny has details!

Sign Up Now! Very Limited Space!

Our hands His work

BREAKAWAY

NO Sunday School!
NO Breakaway!

This weekend Oct. 31st...
INSTEAD!! It's a service weekend!

1st - 10:15am show up to do crafts with little ones before 11:00 church in the park.

2nd - Show up for Trunk or Treat from 2:00 - 4:45.



For more information regarding Student Ministry, including event calendars for Ignite (middle school youth group) and Breakaway (high school youth group), rlcary.org/ministries/student-ministry.

Church Council

One of the responsibilities of the Church Council is to maintain an active membership composed of nine (9) elected members of the congregation.

Per the RLC ByLaws:

- The normal term of office as a member of the Church Council is a two (2) renewable term.
- The Nominating Committee is instructed to seek candidates from RLC's membership.
- Any member of the congregation may propose a candidate for Church Council membership to the Nominating Committee (Officers of the Church Council + Senior Pastor, *ex-officio*).
- The names of the nominees (with bios) will be published to the members of the congregation at least twice before the Election Meeting of the Congregation.

Currently, two Council members are coming to the end of their terms, and are not seeking re-election. And, another member has resigned their Council membership.

Presently, the Nominating Committee of the Church Council is requesting any member of the RLC Congregation to nominate candidates for the Church Council. As soon as you decide, please send your candidate(s) nominations to a member of the Nominating Committee (Barry Needle, Erika Hulse, Lisa Snyder, and Pastor Jonathan Blanke).

Thank you very much for your candidate nominations.



Being a Christian
is like being a Pumpkin

God picks you from the patch and
brings you in. (John 15:16)

Then washes all the dirt off of you.
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

He opens you up and scoops out all the
yucky stuff. He removes the seeds
of doubt, hate, greed, etc.
(Romans 6:6)

Then He carves you a new smiling
face. (Psalm 71:23)

And He puts His light inside you to
shine for all the world to see.
(Matthew 5:16)

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool Punchlines

A 4-year-old girl was laying on her back on the carpool blanket, moving her legs and arms. "I'm making a snow angel. When I'm at the beach, I make a SAND ANGEL."

Registration for the 2021-22 Preschool Year Continues

Openings are available in our **transitional-kindergarten** (young 5-year-old), 4-year-old, 3-year-old, and 2-year-old classes. Email office@rlpcary.org or call 919-851-7270 to enroll or schedule an individual tour.

Resurrection Lutheran School

SWEET potatoes! Thanksgiving is rapidly approaching, and with it comes baked sweet potatoes, sweet potato casserole, sweet potato pie, etc. We have had an incredibly generous donation of 175 five-pound bags of organically grown Eastern NC sweet potatoes to sell as a fundraiser for our PSO programming. We are selling these 5 pound bags for \$7.50 (they are selling for \$2/pound at Harris Teeter!). The pick up day is planned for **November 13**, tentatively 12:00-3:00 pm.

Sign up for the quantity of bags you would like to purchase at bit.ly/3jLRXq7 before submitting payment. You may pay in advance via [PSO Payment Form](#) or bring exact change (cash or check) at pick up. Thank you to Katie Jennings and Nash Produce in Nashville, NC for this amazing donation!

Learn more about RLS (Junior Kindergarten - 8th Grade) at [Resurrection Lutheran School \(rlscary.org\)](https://ResurrectionLutheranSchool.org)

[Current RLS Lion's Tale](#)

In-Person Services

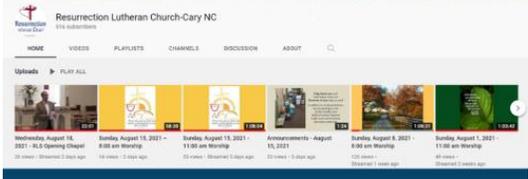


Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
Saturday, 6:00 pm
Sunday, 8:00 am and 9:30 am

**Praise Worship
in the Family Life Center**
Sunday, 11:00 am

Live Stream Worship

Sundays at 8:00 am, 11:00 am



Connect through our YouTube channel at
youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC
or through our website at
rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

Visual Faith for October 31

Attendance and Giving

Church Calendar

Prayers of the Church – October 31, 2021

*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, *Eve Sommers, *David Brooks, *Anne Altieri, *Charlotte Raines, *Eric Hammergren,
*Anita Moore, *John Shaeffer, *Vern Ebert, *Aaron, *Marcus, *Malcolm, *Sandy Nigg, Michael Flannery,
*Helen Campbell, Henry Otten, *Lena Licciardi, Paul Batt, Peter and Esther Kuo, Marc and Elizabeth Langefeld's
Baby Adoption, *Linda Crandall, Jackson Buser, *Geoffrey Wiggins, Caitlyn, Mark Zimmerman, Justus Nicolai

Ongoing Cancer Treatments

*Mike Allen, Anne Price, *Gary Ferro, Angie Price, Alison Zieglmeier, Carol Diliberto, Jim Metz,
Roseanne Candiello, Janice Sommers, Fernley Wagner, *Doug Spitz, Jackie, Linda H., Kathy Siemon,
Joe Kupsky, Scott Brinkley, Pete Brown, *Bill Xenakis, Chris McLaughlin, Linda, Mark Raines, Jimmy Ketner,
Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman

For Expectant Moms

Lija, Mya, Kate, Amy, Samantha, Lynn

Those Prayed for on October 24, 2021

Thanking God Today

- *Jamee Thieme's Knee Surgery
- Roger Miller, Tractor Accident Recovery, Moved to Rehab
- COVID-19 Booster Shots, and Recent Approvals
- Family Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Safe Travel, Vacations, Family Time, Retreats
- Mark Raines, Lung Cancer Contained
- Kathy's Test Results
- Successful Partial Moving
- Our Many Blessings
- Katy and Ryan Johnson's 12th Anniversary

For Healing

- Those Ill or Recovering with Covid-19, Especially Sandra, Chris, Kim, Phillip, Langdon, Chase and Family
- Rev. Jim McDaniels, Susan Langlais, Bob Sherburne
- Nancy
- Diane, Radiation Treatments
- Dottie's Stroke Recovery; Mike Schenk's Wrist Recovery
- *Jane Quetel, Recovery from Fall
- Rosemary (*Brenda Peterson's Mother)
- Lynette *Ebert's Daughter, Accident Recovery
- Ben, Megan, Andy, Virginia, Justin, Tim, Red, Brian, Keith, Dave, Mark, Carlton, Carol, Anne, Anna, AnnMarie, Skylar, Susan, Tom, melissa, Marlo, Rev. Jim, Marilyn, Lena, Hope, Tim, Jim, James, Ken, Harold, Herm, Gavin, Corey, Richard, Gretchen, Sandy, Ron, Cindy, Anne, Doreen, Billy, Cleveland, Connie

For Those Recovering from Surgeries and/or Procedures

- *Pat Otten, *Eve, Kathy Siemon, *Jamee Thieme, Tim Jenkins, Harry Roberts
- Andrea, Coffeehouse Guest, Recovery from Stroke
- Those Preparing for Surgery, Especially Karen Ferro

For Comfort

- Family of David McDowell
- Family of Tommy Hunt
- Family of Hunter Stocks

For Protection, Wisdom, and Discernment

- Healthcare Workers Worldwide, Especially Our Members Serving in Area Hospitals
- All Caregivers, Especially Those Caring for Those with Dementia and Alzheimer's
- Those Searching for Jobs and New Job Paths, Especially *Tom
- RLS Board, Staff, and Interim Leadership for Work of Call Committee for Principal
- RLC Coffeehouse and Blind Ministry, Guidance for When to Reopen
- Stephen Ministry Program and Prospective Attendees
- Guidance for Class Electronics
- Teachers and Students on a Challenging School Year
- 2nd Meeting of Following Naomi
- Abducted Christians in Haiti
- Pastor Dave, Chaplaincy in Djibouti and Safety
- Uganda Lutheran Church
- Persecuted Christians
- Jackson Serving in Tigray Region of Ethiopia

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- Those Struggling with Mental Health, Isolation, Loneliness, Those Living Alone or In Long Term Care
- Churches with Pastoral Vacancies and Their Call Process
- *Nancy Randolph's Son A.R., Continue to Have Mobility Without Pain
- Loss of Friendships
- Those Grieving Death of Loved Ones
- Sandy, Suffering from PTSD Symptoms and Bi-Polar
- Our Nation, Leaders, First Responders

For the Lord's Wisdom, Guidance, and Strength for the Health and Well-Being of the People They Serve

- Pastor Jonathan and Juli, Associate Pastor Zack and Kelsey, Assistant Pastor Alan, Faith and Family, and Area Pastors
- RL Church and RL Schools Staff

For Our Missionaries

- *Mark and Megan Mantey, Uganda
- Shauen and Krista Trump, Kenya
- JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia

*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.*

Attendance and Giving

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, October 23

6:00 pm - 50

Sunday, October 24

8:00 am - 49; 9:30 am - 72; 11:00 am - 147

Total In-Person Worship: 318

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, October 24

8:00 am - 127 views

11:00 am - 79 views

Total Online Views: 206

In-Person Sunday School Attendance

Sunday, October 24

Adult - n/a

Youth - 25

Total In-Person Sunday School Attendance: 25

General Fund Giving and Spending - September 2021

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Receipts	\$ 103,686.28	\$ 292,688.49
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 107,149.84</u>	<u>\$ 302,906.31</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ -3,463.56	\$ -10,217.82

Last Week's Offerings: \$18,488.77

Average Weekly Giving for 2020/21: \$22,514.50

Average Weekly Giving Budgeted for 2020/21: \$25,735.58

We are grateful for all who are able to maintain financial contributions to our congregation!

There are four ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate as you exit the in-person worship service
- Mail to Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary, NC 27518
- Online Giving through our church website at rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving
- Download the "GivePlus+" APP, search for Resurrection Lutheran Church, transfer funds from your checking or savings account to RLC

Questions? Contact **finance@rlcary.org**.

Updated 10/29/21