

# First Sunday in Advent

## November 28, 2021

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*Pastor's Corner for November 28-December 4*

### **A King for All** **(Luke 21:25-36)**

Sometimes it's not only what the Scriptures say— but what they leave out that gets our attention. In St. Luke's account of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, he

makes note of the words of the crowd who came out to greet Jesus: “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!” Seems unremarkable, right? But what Luke does not record in his account are the shouts of some in the crowd remembered by other gospel writers that Jesus is the “Son of David” (Matthew 21:9) and “King of Israel” (John 12:13). It’s a minor difference, but one worth noting. Why should this small detail matter? St. Luke records the events of Jesus’ life as one who is a Savior for Israel, indeed— but especially for all nations of the world. As such Jesus is not only welcomed as “King of Israel” but as “King”! He is a Savior for all nations.

Jesus, Savior of all nations, is our theme for Advent this year. So as to introduce some of our church members and friends who have joined our community from all over the world, I’ve asked RLC folks with experience of the Christian church in other nations to share brief descriptions of how Christmas is celebrated in the countries they know. Sometimes the customs are very similar— sometimes quite different. The first submission is from RLC member Martin Kunkel, who came to RLC from Brazil:



“In Brazil, we have several Christian holidays, as still 63% of the population is Catholic. However, for the Lutheran Church in Brazil, Christmas and Easter celebrations are the most important dates in the Christian Calendar. In all Lutheran Congregations, Advent and Christmas Eve are celebrated with great joy. Just like here in the US, we decorate

our homes with Christmas trees, colored lights, and the manger, that reminds us of the simplicity with which Christ was born. Usually this scenario (the images with Joseph, Mary, manger, lambs, cows, etc.) we install under the Christmas tree during Advent. But just missing the baby, Jesus. The manger is empty during this time. So, at Christmas Eve Jesus is placed in the manger as a sign of His Birth, and all gifts and presents are around the manger to distribute later.

You can see in the picture a Christmas tree at Mom’s home... Gifts, candles, lights, the manger under the tree.... In my family we still use actual candles around the

Christmas tree... Nowadays it is very rare to burn candles around the tree. Usually just colored led lights. On Christmas Eve, we always go to worship first, and afterward celebrate the birth of Christ with abundant food and distribution of gifts. It is the greatest moment for our families to be together, reading some words from the Bible, praying, and hanging out to celebrate the Birth of Christ.”

Jesus Christ, the light of the world is coming again! We prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior for all nations... together.

### ***New Community Facilitators for Zones 26, 31, and 34***

I'm grateful for our community facilitators for zones across our area who make regular phone calls to check in and ask about prayer requests to people of our congregation— both active families and those we have not had the chance to see in person for a while. We now have a total of 34 zones —the complete number of zones for our congregation— though I still need to line up community facilitators for a few more areas. Our newest community facilitators:

- Zone 26, East Apex and West Raleigh (Zip Codes 27539 and 27606): Ron Carrea
- Zone 31, Southwest Cary (more from Zip Code 27518): Tom Gebbia
- Zone 34, Central, North, and East Raleigh (Zip Codes 27607, 27608, 27609, 27612, 27615, and 27616): Daisy Morris

If you receive a phone call or email from any one of our community facilitators who are holding you and your neighbors in their prayers, please don't hesitate to respond. We are grateful for their service!

### ***Memorial Service and Celebration of Life in Christ for Fuad Akil Rihani, Saturday November 27 at 11 AM***

Next Saturday we are privileged to gather with the family of Fuad Rihani, now called home to glory, for a brief time of remembrance and thanksgiving to God for the gift of this brother in the faith. Following the service, the family will be hosting a reception in the Family Life Center. Please join us if you are available. If you are not able to be in town for the event, we invite you to view the service on our church's YouTube channel (Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cary NC).

**Save the Date: RLC Congregational Meeting to Convene Sunday, December 12 at 1 PM**

We invite all members of RLC to gather Sunday, December 12 in the Family Life Center for our semiannual Voters' Meeting and election of new Church Council members following the 11 AM service on December 12. Information regarding the slate of candidates and agenda for the meeting will be distributed separately from these announcements. For information, please contact [Barry Needle](#).

Peace and joy,  
Pastor Jonathan

Photo Provided Courtesy of Martin Kunkel



*Prayers  
of the Church*

*Worship Bulletins*

[click here](#)

[click here](#)



**Thanksgiving Eve Worship  
Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm**



We gather for worship on the eve of this national Day of Thanksgiving with joyful hearts, and we raise our hymns and prayers in gratitude to God for an abundance of blessings. God, in His Grace, has given us all that we need for body and soul. We respond with thanksgiving, recognizing that all we have is from His Grace.

Join us in the Sanctuary for Worship and Holy Communion or view service online at [Resurrection Lutheran Church-Cary NC - YouTube!](#)

There will be no other Wednesday night activities held.

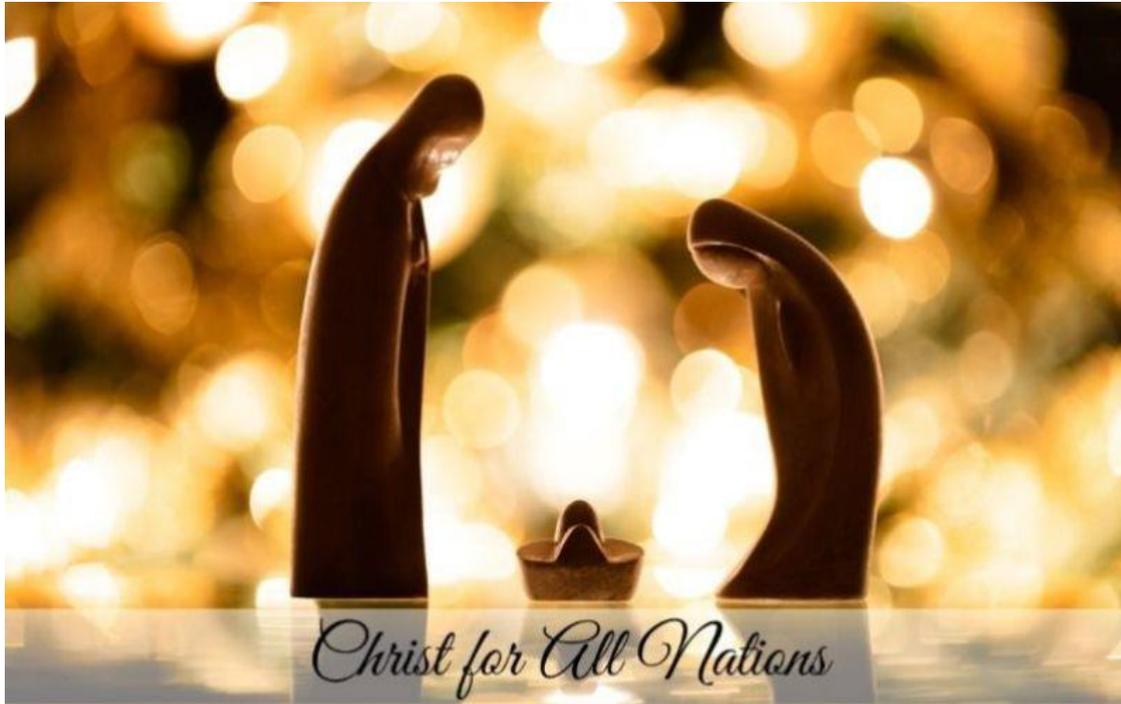


**Happy Thanksgiving!**

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 25  
and Friday, November 26.

On November 27-28, all worship services will be held, but no Sunday School  
for children and adults.

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## Advent Worship Services

November 28	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent	
December 1	Wednesday, 6:00 pm	Hanging of the Greens Service in Sanctuary (children focused service)
December 5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent	
December 8	Wednesday, 6:00 pm	Service featuring Old North State Brass in Sanctuary
December 12	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent	
	8:00 am	Christmas Music Festival in Sanctuary
	9:30 am	featuring Festival Chorus accompanied by a full orchestra
December 15	Wednesday, 6:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer in Sanctuary
December 19	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent	
December 22	Wednesday, 6:00 pm	Outdoor Service in Circle Entrance with Lighting of Outdoor Christmas Tree (family friendly)

**Worship Times: Saturday 6:00 pm and Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am (praise)**

Sunday 8:00 am and 11:00 am Services, and the Indoor Wednesday Evening Services will be live streamed at [Resurrection Lutheran Church-Cary NC - YouTube](#).

Advent devotions are available in the Narthex and Family Life Center lobby.

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## Reaching Out with the Love of Christ to all People through Advent Offerings

Each Season of Advent, RLC designates a few ministries to support in reaching out with Christ's love to all people. This year, the following organizations were chosen:

### **Warmth for Wake**

Seasonal energy assistance outreach program that is sponsored by Wake County Health and Human Services. The goal is to provide fuel to low-income residents of Wake County during the coldest winter months.

[Warmth for Wake | Wake County Government \(wakegov.com\)](https://wakegov.com)

### **MANNA FoodBank**

Private, not-for-profit service organization working to end food insecurity in the 16 counties of Western North Carolina, including the Qualla Boundary. MANNA links the food industry to over 200 partner pantries and other human service organizations to get food to thousands of families' tables. MANNA is an acronym, and stands for Mountain Area Nutritional Needs Alliance.

[MANNA FoodBank | Work of Ending Hunger in Western North Carolina](https://www.mannafoodbank.org)

### **Lutheran World Relief (Quilting)**

Often, when natural disasters strike or war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion, but we don't know how to help. Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents, or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world rife with suffering.

[Quilts | Lutheran World Relief \(lwr.org\)](https://lwr.org)

Please use the Advent Offering envelopes or indicate 'Advent Offering' on memo of checks. Offerings will begin to be received on the First Sunday in Advent, November 28.

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# Christmas Store

Would you like to help provide presents for children in need this Christmas?

The Christmas Store provides financially-challenged parents with an appointment to choose free toys for their children, age 14 and under. Families living in Apex, Holly Springs, Willow Spring, Cary, Fuquay-Varina, Morrisville, or New Hill are referred by local aid organizations or school counselors.

Typically, partner organizations ask their patrons, members, and customers to donate new toys for toddlers to teens and deliver them back to their location or to directly to United Church in Apex, which hosts the store.

At Resurrection Lutheran Church, we place Christmas trees with gift tags in the Narthex and Family Life Center. Please pick up a tag, purchase the item, then place the unwrapped toy with tag attached back under the tree.



Another way to help stock the Christmas Store is by purchasing toys online at your favorite retailer and have them delivered directly to United Church, 820 East Williams Street, Apex, NC 27502.

**All toy donations are due by November 28, 2021.**

For gift ideas or a direct link to shopping online, check out the Christmas Store's Amazon profile page using this QR Code.



***Last weekend to drop off your items!***

Visit the Christmas Store's website at [ChristmasStoreNC.com](https://www.ChristmasStoreNC.com), Facebook page at [TheChristmasStore](#), or [Amazon for Gift Ideas](#).

## Meeting Notice

Voter's Meeting  
Sunday, December 12 at 1:00 pm  
Family Life Center Gym

Agenda Includes 2021-22 Council Members Elections

## Sleep in Heavenly Peace



Thank you all for a successful Sleep in Heavenly Peace Build Day! On a sunny day, 50 volunteers built 28 excellently crafted beds in just 2 hours. SHP/Fuquay-Varina was also thrilled to receive beautiful quilts from The Piecemakers, RLC's Quilting Group, for each bed. What a great day!

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

*No kid sleeps on the floor in our town!*

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## Stephen Ministry



Now is the time to consider attending Stephen Ministry class! To keep Stephen Ministry going strong, we need congregation members who are willing to answer Jesus' call to be trained as lay caregivers, called Stephen Ministers. This distinctively Christian training includes a variety of topics such as listening, assertiveness, maintaining boundaries in caregiving, and grief, focusing on how to provide care while God cures.

When our new Stephen Ministers have completed their training, they will be commissioned and ready to begin their ministry. Working under supervision, these

Stephen Ministers will be available to meet weekly with people experiencing grief, illness, job loss, divorce, relocation, and other life difficulties.

Being a Stephen Minister may be one of the most fulfilling and transformative ministries you will ever be a part of. You will grow spiritually and gain skills to use not only in your caring ministry but also in your everyday relationships with family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers.

RLC's **next training class begins January 9, 2022** and runs through June 5, 2022 (with a break for Easter and Mother's Day. Classes will be held from 2:00-4:00 pm on Sunday afternoons here at the church. We invite you to think and pray about this opportunity. If you're interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, contact any of the Pastors, Ron Bostick, Jan Boyer, Sue Campau, or Bill Xenakis and we can talk about how you can get started.

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## The Coffeehouse

Thank you so much to our wonderful Coffeehouse volunteers, and Chris Reed and Charlie Shiel who played music for us. We had 98 people attend the first Coffeehouse back. Our guests faces were filled with joy! And ours, too.

The next Coffeehouse is **Friday, January 14 from 7:00-8:30 pm** and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday each month. Our January event will begin our 20<sup>th</sup> year hosting Coffeehouses!

Sign ups for next year are active: [bit.ly/3kqoHGN](https://bit.ly/3kqoHGN). Please come and help us make our special needs adults feel our Christian love! We need setter uppers, servers, greeters, minglers, and cleaner uppers.

Questions? Contact Brenda Peterson or the church office.

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## Children and Family Ministry



**Fun at K.I.C.K.S. (Kids In Christ Keep Shining)!**  
3rd-5th Grade Youth Group



This year, the Children's Advent Devotion focuses on Christmas in other countries. If you were born in or have lived in another country, have memories of Christmas traditions, and would like to share them, please email [maryann.unger@rlcary.org](mailto:maryann.unger@rlcary.org). MaryAnn can also be available in person or by phone. If you know how or why the tradition started, she would like to know that, too. Look forward to hearing your stories and sharing them with our families with children!

## Christmas Eve

The 3:00 pm Christmas Eve service is for families with young children. We have included the children in a variety of ways over the years. This year, we also plan to engage children and their family in the service. If you are interested in participating in Bible readings, lighting the candles, and other ways, please contact [maryann.unger@rlcary.org](mailto:maryann.unger@rlcary.org).

For more information regarding the Children and Family Ministry, [rlcary.org/ministries/children-and-family-ministry](http://rlcary.org/ministries/children-and-family-ministry).

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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](http://rlcary.org/ministries/student-ministry).

Contact [Jenny Piontek](mailto:Jenny.Piontek), Youth Director, with any questions.

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## Resurrection Lutheran Preschool



### Preschool Punchlines

#### 4-year-olds:

Teacher: "What did you do this weekend?"

Boy: "I don't know... you tell me."

### Deciding between TRANSITION & KINDERGARTEN?

PERSPECTIVE from PARENTS, Wake Co. Kindergarten Teacher, and T-K Teachers

**Who:** Families that:

- wanting to ask questions of **parents** "who have been there"
- who are "on-the-fence" about sending a child to Transition vs. Kindergarten
- wanting information about RLP's Transitional-Kindergarten (T-K) class
- wanting to know expectations of children in a kindergarten class
- wanting to know benefits down the road (3<sup>rd</sup> grade, middle and high school years, even college)

**What:** Informational Meeting for Parents, by Parents and Teachers

**Where:** Resurrection Lutheran Preschool, Sanctuary/Narthex, Moving to T-K Classroom

**When:** Tuesday, November 30 at 7:00 pm

**Why:** To Discuss Benefits and Reasons to Send a Child to Transitional-Kindergarten vs. Kindergarten

**How:** Open Dialog Offered from a Wake Co. Kindergarten Teacher, T-K Teachers, and Parents  
*Invite friends and neighbors who may have questions!*

## Registration for the 2021-22 Preschool Year Continues

Our staff is vaccinated and we all wear masks. We partner with our families to keep everyone Healthy Together. Openings for the 2021-22 year are still available. We have classes for children 2-5-years-old, including a transitional-kindergarten class. Join our family today! Email [office@rlpcary.org](mailto:office@rlpcary.org) or call 919-851-7270 to enroll or schedule an individual tour.



Resurrection Lutheran  
**PRESCHOOL**  
*coming soon...*  
**ENROLLMENT FOR 2022-23**

+ Classes for children 2-years-old thru 5-years-old +  
*Our program provides a balance of academic and social opportunities by means of our 'learning through play' philosophy in a loving **Christian** atmosphere.*

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## Resurrection Lutheran School

### Thanksgiving Blessings

Our hearts are filled with gratitude for you! May your Thanksgiving be filled with lots of love, laughs, and special time with friends and family!

### Reserve Your Space

The 2022-2023 enrollment period for returning Resurrection Lutheran School students and their siblings began on Monday, November 15, 2021. It is our expectation that many of the RLS classes will remain at maximum capacity. For that reason, it is important that you re-enroll by November 29 to reserve a spot in your student's class. After this date, enrollment is open to the public. **Letter of Intent with enrollment fee (\$150 per student) is due on November 29, 2021.**



We are 1/3 of the way to reaching the RLS school board's \$4,500 match challenge by Giving Tuesday. Help us make this match possible by donating today! [rlscary.org/about/giving](https://rlscary.org/about/giving)

Schedule a tour or 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*

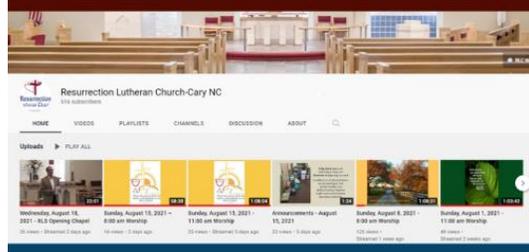


**Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary**  
 Saturday, 6:00 pm  
 Sunday, 8:00 am and 9:30 am

**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](https://youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC)  
 or through our website at  
[rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship](https://rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship).

**Visual Faith for Thanksgiving**

**Visual Faith for November 28**

**Attendance and Giving**

**Church Calendar**



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

[rlcary.org](https://rlcary.org)

919-851-7248 | [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)

## Prayers of the Church – November 28, 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, Jackie, Linda H., Kathy Siemon, Joe Kupsy, Scott Brinkley, Pete Brown, \*Bill Xenakis, Chris McLaughlin, Linda, Mark Raines, Jimmy Ketner, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Javed

#### **For Expectant Moms**

Lija, Mya, Kate, Amy, Samantha, Lynn

#### **Those Prayed for on November 21, 2021**

#### **Thanking God Today**

- Successful Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Coalition Build
- \*Eve Sommers Move and Continued Adjustment
- Successful Coffeehouse on November 12 with 98 Guests
- Cary Fire Department's Resolution of Smoke Alarm Issues
- \*Tom Campau's New Job
- Safe Travels
- Great Weather and Sunny Days
- Tim, \*Brenda Peterson's Brother-In-Law, Home from Hospital
- Family Member's Willingness to Assist
- \*Doug Spitz, Cancer Recovery
- God's Great Healing!

#### **For Healing**

- \*Anita Moore, Home from Hospital and Recovering
- Grayson, \*Tina Ashworth's Grandson, Home from Hospital and Recovering at Home
- All Children, Especially Grandchildren, Receiving Covid Vaccine
- \*Mindy's Stephani's Back and Knee
- Neko, Traver's Granddaughter, Cut Her Hand

- \*Mary Newhouse, Breast Cancer
- \*Mark and Pat Otten's Grandson, Henry, Vascular Surgery
- \*Charlotte Raines, Post Vascular Surgery
- Kathy, \*Fran Xenakis' Sister-In-Law, Lymphoma
- James, Sandy, Justin, Tim, Red, Brian, Timmy, Dave, Keith, Mark, Anna, Anne, Richard AnnMarie (surgery), Carol, Carlton, Skylar, Jim, Jeff, Ken, Harold, Herman, Don, Connie

#### **For Comfort**

- Family of Mary Louise Kearby, Mother of \*Tim Kearby
- Family of Ronnie McLeod, Uncle of \*Sandy Wuori
- Family of John Mateer's Wife, Cousin of \*Fran Xenakis' Cousin

#### **For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance**

- Healthcare Workers Worldwide, Especially Our Members Serving in Area Hospitals
- All Caregivers, Especially Those Caring for Persons with Dementia and Alzheimer's
- Fernley Wagner, Upcoming Doctors' Appointments
- Businesses and Employees Working Short-Staffed and Without Adequate Supplies
- Safe Travel in Denver for Parents of Henry Otten and Family to Hospital and Appointments
- Resolving Technical Issues with Wednesday Night's Bible Study
- Prays that Family Members Come to God as Their Source of Strength
- Buford Hansburger's First Christmas Without Wife and Children
- Stephen Ministry Program and Prospective Attendees
- Teachers and Students Coping with Anxiety and Being Overwhelmed
- Resurrection Lutheran Preschool Restoration Following Flooding
- Resurrection Lutheran School Board, Staff and Interim Leadership for Work of Call Committee for Principal
- Those Struggling with Addiction, Their Families, and Support System
- Safe Return of Jackson Buser from Ethiopia

#### **For 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.*

**\*RLC Members**

*Updated 11/24/21*

## Attendance and Giving – November 28, 2021

### In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, November 20  
6:00 pm - 39

Sunday, November 21  
8:00 am - 60; 9:30 am - 85; 11:00 am - 84

**Total In-Person Worship: 268**

### Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, November 21  
8:00 am - 102 views      11:00 am - 32

**Total Online Views: 134**

### General Fund Giving and Spending - October 2021

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Receipts	\$ 110,697.71	\$ 403,986.20
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 104,294.52</u>	<u>\$ 407,030.33</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ 6,403.19	\$ -3,044.13

Last Week's Offerings: n/a

Average Weekly Giving for 2020/21: \$22,443.68

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](https://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](mailto:finance@rlcary.org).

*Updated 11/24/21*