

## Second Sunday in Advent

### December 5, 2021

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*Pastor's Corner for December 5-11*

#### **Christ for All Nations, 2: What Then, Shall We Do? (Luke 3:1-14)**

Jesus, Savior for all nations of the world, is our theme for Advent this year. You might recall how the unique experiences of RLC members and friends in celebrating Christmas in their home countries started last week with RLC member Martin Kunkel's description of his family's Christmas celebration in Brazil. This week, we have a submission from RLC member, Annette Langefeld-Kennedy, who first came to the United States from Germany, over 50 years ago. Her story depicts God's call to live out the forgiveness of sins we receive through faith in Christ Jesus not only in the ordinary vocations of life (our jobs, etc.) but also in the domestic stations where God has placed us (our status as parents, grandparents, sons/ daughters, and friends), as we care for one another. Annette writes:



“Growing up in Germany after World War II, we were very poor. My parents were refugees from the East, fleeing from the Russians, and left with only what they could easily carry. First, they settled in a tiny town in northern Germany where they were provided a hanger without heat, stove etc. We had an outhouse!!! We lived in farm country, but the farmers did not share much with refugees. My grandma would go out at night and steal what was left behind on fields.

My earliest memories of Christmas, maybe some from hearsay also: St. Nick would come on Dec. 6, and we had to put out our shoes to find treats like oranges, nuts, and other little goodies the next morning. During the Advent season there was baking and lots of secrecy. Christmas Eve was the big day. We could only admire our Christmas tree on Dec. 24th. It was always a surprise before receiving some gifts. It was usually small but had real candles. My mom was very crafty. One year, since they had no gifts for us, she had made little house out of cardboard and colored them. I immediately wanted to eat them!!! I was apparently always hungry and thought it was food!

Later their situation improved slowly, and we moved to a different town, also in Northern Germany. Advent Sundays were always special. We would light the candle on the advent wreath, sing Advent carols (not “Silent Night” until Christmas!), play games, and create little crafts to give as presents. My mom taught me to play the recorder and I loved playing Christmas hymns. When I lived there, the Northern part of Germany was very Lutheran, the southern part Roman Catholic. We had religious instructions in our school taught by our pastor. The few Catholic children were excused from that and had their own classes.

Getting older I remember attending church services in our little town and on Christmas Eve there was standing room only. On Christmas Eve, I would recite the story of Jesus’s birth according to St. Luke. Christmas in Germany has changed over the years. Having lived now in the U.S. for more than 50 years I kept many of our beloved customs. The Advent season is my favorite time of year: waiting, preparing for the birth of our Lord and Savior. Traditional Christmas music sung by choirs or

beautiful voices plays in my house all day long until January 6th! My favorite carol for Advent: Flung wide the door.”

Annette shares a photo with us of an original wood carving she had as a child. It was made in the region of the Ore Mountains in what used to be Eastern Germany (GDR). It shows angels in a kitchen baking cookies. Those who hear the call of John the Baptist in our text today to repent and believe the Good News of Christ ask, “What then shall we do?” John does not tell them to go off and perform heroic acts of self-sacrifice. He merely instructs them to live out their vocation as friends of the poor, tax collectors, and soldiers (3:10-14). In other words, his listeners are to identify their domestic station (as parents, grandparents, sons, or daughters) or their own life’s vocation, and fulfill it to the best of their ability... in humility and unselfishness. For some that might be as ordinary as baking Christmas cookies together! For others, it might mean using our gifts to befriend the poor, the refugee, or serving our children/ grandchildren in everyday “unheroic” ways.

Nothing extraordinary is needed as God bears fruit through us for His Kingdom. What then, shall we do as we await the coming of Jesus?

### **Thank You to All Who Made Pledges for Stewardship Weekend, 2021**

I’m grateful for all who took part in our November pledge weekend! We received a total of 63 pledges, either from in-person worship or via the Internet for 2021 (in 2020 we received a total of 75 pledges). If you would still like to make a pledge as a way to prayerfully commit before God how you plan to give of your first fruits in 2022, we invite you to [submit a pledge electronically here](#). All pledges are submitted anonymously and are not a part of any fundraising campaign at RLC.

### **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](#).

**Three Little Books: New Adult Bible Study to Begin Sunday Mornings, January 9**

Many thanks to Mr. Bill Xenakis for offering to lead a new Adult Bible Study at RLC on Sunday mornings, beginning January 9. Entitled "Three Little Books," the study will explore the subject matter of several New Testament books (Jude, Titus, and Philemon...to name a few!) and apply them to our daily lives. There is no need to register. Just join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM! We will announce the location of the group study prior to our first gathering on January 9.

Peace and joy,  
Pastor Jonathan

Photo Provided Courtesy of Annette Langefeld-Kennedy



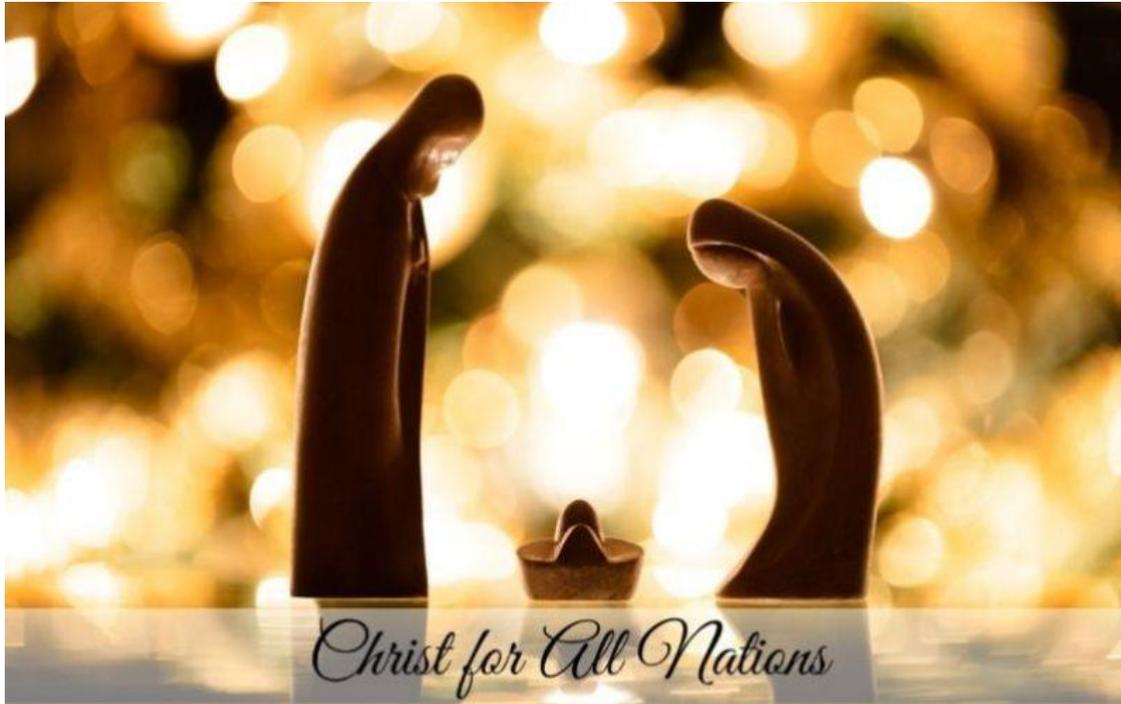
*Prayers  
of the Church*

*Worship Bulletins*

[click here](#)

[click here](#)





*Christ for All Nations*

### **Advent Worship Services**

<b>November 28</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	
<b>December 1</b>	Wednesday, 6:00 pm	Hanging of the Greens Service in Sanctuary (children focused service)
<b>December 5</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	
<b>December 8</b>	Wednesday, 6:00 pm	Service featuring Old North State Brass in Sanctuary
<b>December 12</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	
	8:00 am	Christmas Music Festival in Sanctuary
	9:30 am	featuring Festival Chorus accompanied by a full orchestra
<b>December 15</b>	Wednesday, 6:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer in Sanctuary
<b>December 19</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	
<b>December 22</b>	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/wakegov/wakegov/2020/12/15/wakegov-warmth-for-wake)

### **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/work-of-ending-hunger-in-western-north-carolina)

### **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://www.lwr.org/our-work/mission-quilts)

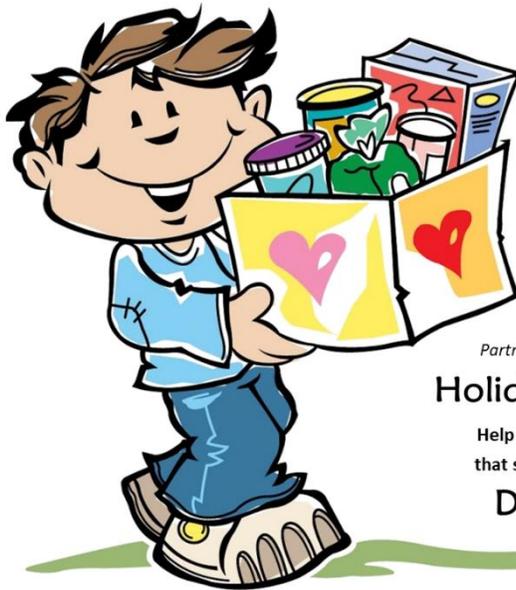
Please use the Advent Offering envelopes or indicate 'Advent Offering' on memo of checks.

## Meeting Notice

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

Agenda Includes 2021-22 Council Members Elections

## Holidays and Beyond 2021



*Partnering with Western Wake Crisis Ministry*

### Holidays and Beyond 2021

Help collect much needed everyday items  
that support families beyond the holidays.

**December 1<sup>st</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Shopping List** - Place these items in a bag or box:

- 1 Dish Soap
- 1 Laundry Detergent
- 2 Packages of 4-roll Toilet Paper
- 3 Cans of Fruit
- 6 Boxes of Mac & Cheese
- 4 Cans of Meat (tuna, chicken, salmon, etc.)
- 3 Cans of Soup
- 2 lbs. of Rice or Pasta

- 4 Cans of Veggies
- 2 Cans of Pasta Sauce (Ragu, Prego, etc.)
- 2 Cans of Tomatoes (diced, whole, sauce, etc.)

The cost of these items should be around \$50. Cash/check donations are also welcome. Make checks payable to **Western Wake Crisis Ministry** and turn into the church office or offering plate. Please bring all donations to church between December 1st and 19th.

*Thank you for your support in helping our neighbors in need!*

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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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## Children and Family Ministry

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

On Christmas Eve, there are two children focused services at 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm. There will be live animals in the Prayer Garden before each service and Happy Birthday, Jesus! cake after. Leave room in your schedule to enjoy both!

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).



**ANNOUNCING**  
**Sunday, Dec. 5th**  
**SPIRIT SUNDAY!!**



9:30am - 10:30am  
 Connection Cafe  
 with Donuts and  
 Hot Cocoa  
 11:00am - Attend  
 church service...together!

Wear your Pajamas to  
 Sunday School and Church!  
 Yes you read that right!  
 Extra ticket if you wear  
 a Christmas theme outfit  
 or pajamas!



**BREAKAWAY**

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](#), Youth Director, with any questions.

## Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

### Preschool Punchlines

On the way to preschool, the radio was on.

“Do you think Jesus sings that song?”

### 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

### PLAYGROUND UPDATE

The wait is over! We are beyond excited to announce that our playground opened for student play on Monday, November 29. We will celebrate this special day with prayers of thanksgiving and plan a celebration and thank you event for our successful Play It Forward Campaign/Playground Project completion at a future date when we can include parents, donors, and all who were involved in the success of this project. We look forward to all enjoying the new playground together!



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

Current RLS Lion's Tale

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## Safe Families for Children ~ Reindeer Run Saturday, December 18

Registration opens at 9:30 am. Fun Run begins at 10:00 am. Event located at North Raleigh Christian Academy, 7300 Perry Creek Road, Raleigh. Registration deadline is December 13.

Join Safe Families for Children (Raleigh) for a family friendly event! All ages are welcome. There will be a fun run, information booths, and plenty of exciting family activities. Runners will be divided into groups based on age in order to run appropriate distances.

This fun run will raise support for the ongoing work of Safe Families for Children to keep children safe from abuse and neglect in the Triangle Area. For more information and to register, [Raleigh Reindeer Run 2021 \(funraise.org\)](https://www.funraise.org).

*In-Person Services*

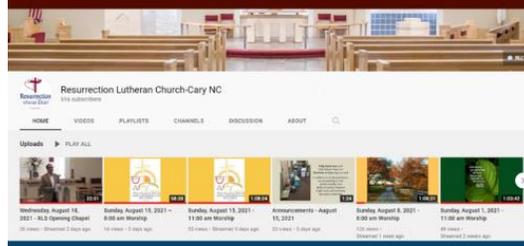


**Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary**  
Saturday, 6:00 pm  
Sunday, 8:00 am and 9:30 am

**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 December 5**

**Attendance and Giving**

**Church Calendar**



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

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

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

## Prayers of the Church – December 5, 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 Kupsky, 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 28, 2021**

#### **Thanking God Today**

- Successful Bunk Build - Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- Janice Sommers, Clear Scans/Cancer Recovery
- Safe Travel and Time with Family/Friends
- Our Many Blessings
- \*Marcia Shaw, Moving Progress - Arrived Safely in NC on November 22
- Good Test Results
- ENCVDC Zoom Gathering, and Other Ways to Connect with Our Christian Community
- Thanksgiving!
- Healing and Family Reconciliation
- Katie
- Advent Praises

#### **For Healing**

- Gordon (Pam's Grandson), Sick but Thankfully Tested Negative for COVID
- Mattie Corbett, Hospitalized with Lung Issues (Friend's Mother)
- All Children, Especially Grandchildren, Receiving Vaccines
- \*Mindy's Stephani, Back and Knee
- \*Mary Newhouse, Breast Cancer
- Henry (\*Pat and Mark Otten's Grandson), Vascular Surgery
- Kathy (\*Fran's Xenakis Sister-In-Law), Lymphoma
- Joanne (Friend of \*Sharon), Pancreatic Cancer

- Mary Dowden, Stroke, Prayers to Regain Speech and Mobility, Also Aid with Expenses
- Charlotte, Eve, Ken, Donald, Harold, Gavin, John, Shirley, Sandy, Bob, Shawn, James, Kathy, Herman, Juanita, Ray and Gracie, Sandy, Carol
- Covid Patients, Heal Depression

#### **For Those Recovering from Surgeries and/or Procedures**

- \*Charlotte Raines, Post Vascular Surgery
- \*Anita Moore, \*Pam Dickson
- Grayson (\*Tina Ashworth's Grandson), Home from Hospital and Recovering at Home
- Edna, who is 103 (\*Sharon's Aunt), Recovering from Fall, Decisions about Moving to Assisted Living

#### **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
- Family of Sandy Boice, Mother of Betsy Moll

#### **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
- Businesses and Employees Working Short-Staffed, and Without Adequate Supplies
- Safe Travel in Denver for Henry Otten's Parents and Family to Hospital and Appointments
- Travel Mercies for All Traveling, Especially During Thanksgiving
- 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 Board, Staff, and Interim Leadership for Work of Call Committee for Principal
- Those Struggling with Addiction, Their Families and Support System
- Safety for Jackson Buser and Other Missionaries/Workers in Ethiopia

#### **For the Lord's Wisdom, Guidance, 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
- Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools Staff

*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 12/3/21*

## Attendance and Giving – December 5, 2021

### In-Person Worship Attendance

*Thanksgiving Eve Worship*

Wednesday, November 24

6:00 pm - 67

Saturday, November 27

6:00 pm - 41

Sunday, November 8

8:00 am - 51; 9:30 am - 70; 11:00 am - 89

**Total In-Person Worship: 318**

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

Sunday, November 28

8:00 am - 94 views

11:00 am - 50 views

**Total Online Views: 144**

### 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 Two Week's Offerings: \$46,342.97

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 12/3/21*