



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2022

From the Pastor

More Than “Just Another Fish” in the Sea

(1 Corinthians 12)

The month of January and the performance of yearly “firsts” (first department store sale, first dream, first shrine/temple visit, first calligraphy, and the list goes on!) are all a big deal in the country where I once lived: Japan. In addition to all of the family traditions that surround the celebration of a new calendar year in Japan, the *hatsuseri* is the first auction of bluefin tuna, held at the Toyosu fish market—the largest wholesale fish market in the world. This first auction is always, on the one hand, a bit of a publicity stunt. Bragging rights for claiming the first bluefin tuna of the year in 2019 were worth 334 million yen (almost three million dollars)! But the tradition of the first auction of the New Year in Japan and the attention it gathers is a kind of symbol of the nation’s hopes for fishing conditions and economic possibilities throughout the rest of the year, too. A tuna fetching a high price at the inaugural January auction of the year is a symbol of the fish uncaught...yet hoped for, in 2022.

Jesus famously described the mission action of the church using the metaphor of fishing and catching fish. But the month of January provides an opportunity for all of us to focus not only on our call to fish as fishermen and women of our loving Savior. It is a chance to recognize our worth in God’s eyes as fish once caught and paid for by God’s Son, Jesus Christ! This month we will hear not only how we have received the gifts of God through Holy Baptism. We will see how each of us is a person through whom God actively is at work in His Church...how the Church is a little less than it would otherwise be when any one of us checks out, opts out, or drops out. St. Paul puts it like this: “Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

Worship Schedule

Saturday

6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday

8:00 am in the Sanctuary*

9:30 am in the Sanctuary

11:00 am

Praise Worship
in the Family Life Center*

*Live Stream

Dates of Interest:

- Weds. Eve. Resumes Jan 5
- First Communion Class . . . Jan 5
- Baptism of Our Lord Jan 9
- Sunday School Resumes . . Jan 9
- Stephen Ministry Jan 9
- New Women’s Study . . . Jan 10
- Install Church Council . . . Jan 16
- Martin Luther King Day . . Jan 17
- Welcome to RLC Jan 22
- Sanctity of Human Life . . Jan 23

Bible Study Opportunities

Three Little Books

Weekly on Sundays,
starting January 9,
9:30-10:30 am, Room TBD
Led by Bill Xenakis

Stephen Ministry Training

Weekly on Sundays,
starting January 9,
2:00-4:00 pm, Room 251
Led by Ron Bostick,
Jan Boyer, Sue Campau

Men's Ministry Study and Fellowship

Weekly on Mondays,
7:00 pm, Room 240
Led by Tom Gebbia

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Weekly on Mondays,
starting January 10,
7:00 pm Online via Zoom
Led by Jamee Thieme
and Sharon Hahne

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship

Weekly on Tuesdays,
10:30 am, Room 151
and Online via Zoom
Led by Pastors
Jonathan and Zach

Patterns of Evidence: The Red Sea Miracle 2

Weekly on Wednesdays,
starting January 5,
6:30 pm in Room 151
Led by Mindy Stephani

Men with Kids

Weekly on Wednesdays,
6:30 pm in Room 247
Led by Tom Gebbia

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit” (1 Cor. 12:12-13). Too often we act as if we’re the only person in the room with spiritual gifts (we are here to save the world!) At other times, we wonder what our own spiritual gifts are and despair that we might never have gotten any! God’s vision for us is different. God’s plan for His church is that it be a place where each individual is valued as the person God created that person to be. Whether actively serving in some specific role or receiving the support and care of others, each member of the body of Christ is important. Each has an important purpose and a place. Each has been a valuable fish worth catching and keeping, in God’s eyes!

As we strive to see one another more and more with God’s eyes—and not merely our own—there are two core values from our church’s “Mission, Values, and Vision” statement ([click here, to read](#)) that RLC staff and volunteer servant leaders will be highlighting throughout 2022. It is good to state what those are, up front, right now, at the beginning of the year: (1) Mutual care among members of the RLC family that enhances our ability to grow spiritually and (2) our homes as key places where faith in Christ Jesus is nurtured. Monthly newsletter articles in 2022 will shine light on specific goals related to these two core values and how our life together enhances what God is already doing in these areas. I invite you to keep up with these articles, give us (myself, RLC staff, and the Church Council) your own feedback, and resolve to be a part of that ongoing conversation.

“There are plenty of other fish in the sea.” It’s a common expression signifying that when human relationships in one arena don’t work out, there are always other options. I pray that every person reading this will understand the value he or she has in God’s eyes. You mattered enough to God that He won and purchased you through the sacrifice of His own dear Son Jesus! You are more than “just another fish” in the sea, to Him. Let’s do all we can in this year of our Lord 2022 to demonstrate that what mattered and continues to matter to God, matters to us, too.

Hope and joy in Christ,
Pastor Jonathan



Happy New Year and Thank You!

The RLC Ministry and Support Staff wish you a Happy New Year and offer a heartfelt Thank You for the many cards, notes, and gifts we received. We are truly blessed to serve together!

Pastor Alan's Coaching Corner

Last month I wrote about making “church year resolutions” since Advent was the start of our new church year calendar. This month may seem like Deja Vue as I (again) talk about New Year’s resolutions. A good number of RLC members have come in already for coaching around a specific topic that they are looking to resolve or on longer-term coaching relationships as they work on a project or specific goals.



Maybe it’s a “simple goal” like eating right and exercising. (Note the “air quotes”. I am probably not alone as someone who makes a renewed resolution each year. Maybe I’ll even reach out to a coach this year.) Coaches make great accountability partners for goals that need someone to encourage you through each step. Maybe you need more of a

“thought partner” to help explore different options for projects at work or home. I’ve been pleasantly surprised at the number of RLC members who came in with some pretty serious life events and needed short-term coaching to just think through some options. Maybe it’s even a life-changing event where Christian Conciliation is the tool we will reach in and grab in order to save a relationship or a marriage or a business partnership. Coaching runs the gamut of challenges and goals.

So... what do you think? What are your New Year’s resolutions? Are you willing to take the next step and bring along a coach to walk with you? If so, let me know how I can help support you through your journey into 2022.

Use [this link](#) to go to SignUpGenius or go to www.signupgenius.com/findasignup and enter my email (alan.shaw@rlcary.org) to find the group and secure one of the time slots. This just helps me plan my time and know if someone is coming, so I don’t plan a home visit and leave you at the door wondering where I went.

Pastor Alan
alan.shaw@rlcary.org

New Member Class

Welcome to Resurrection

We will explore practices of faith and how Resurrection helps us nurture these disciplines in our personal lives, church family, and community. We do ask if you are joining Resurrection (even if transferring from another congregation) to participate in this class as it helps you learn about our church life and how you can serve alongside us as a member of the RLC family.

Our next class will be held on Saturday, January 22 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. To register, contact Pastor Alan at alan.shaw@rlcary.org or the church office at office@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248.

Gifts & Memorials

In Memory of Fuad Rihani:

For the Live Stream Fund

Robert and Barbara Steele
Keith and Dawn Leister
Tom and Debra Gebbia
Marcia Shaw
John and Virginia Heilman

In Honor of Cynthia Wyse's Retirement

For the Love Fund

Jamee Thieme

For the Pastor Paul Kibler Endowment Fund

Donna Krupcale

Thank You!



Thank you to all who donated to Holidays and Beyond, helping Western Wake Crisis Ministry provide support for our neighbors in need!

Your generosity provided the equivalent of 35 boxes between items donated and monetary gifts.

And is very much appreciated!

Thank You to Resurrection Lutheran Church for Your \$2,000 Donation!

This will help provide 20,000 meals to the community in need. 2021 has been another challenging year as our friends and neighbors continue to see the devastating effects of COVID-19. At the Food Bank, our partner agencies supporting folks on the front lines are still reporting a sustained 35% increase in need over pre-pandemic levels. From January 2021 until December, with your amazing support, we were able to distribute over 113,086,321 pounds of food.

Thank you for your incredible partnership and helping us towards our mission to nourish people, build solutions, and empower communities.

Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina



Finance Department

Offerings

To assist our weekly Counting Teams, please use your offering envelopes or write your offering number on your check. To participate in the monthly direct draft program, complete the authorization form found in the public office near Finance. You can also donate online through the website at [Online Giving | Resurrection Lutheran Church \(rlcary.org\)](https://www.rlcary.org). Mobile donations can be made through the new Vanco Mobile app.

Questions or comments can be directed to finance@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248 x36 and leave a message.

Fellowship Committee

Coffee & Fellowship

Please join us for Coffee & Fellowship!

- * January 2, 10:30 am in Room 151, Family Life Center
- * January 9, 9:00 am in Hallway by Church Mailboxes
- * January 16, 10:30 am in Room 151, Family Life Center
- * January 23, 9:00 am in Hallway by Church Mailboxes

We would love to have your Small Group or Ministry host Coffee & Fellowship. We will supply the coffee and cookies, you supply the helpers. You will have the opportunity to "Show and Tell" what your group does and how others can join or help.

If interested, please contact [Kim Simpson](#).

**Happy
Anniversary!**

January 4

Mark and Lisa Snyder
30 years

January 14

Adam and Lauren Ward
5 years

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Missions Unpacked

For the second year, the LCMS Office of International Mission will host a four-week, online Missions Unpacked celebration from **January 24-February 20, 2022**. Participants will have the opportunity to embark on a global mission experience and learn about The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's international mission efforts from the comfort of their homes.

We encourage you to join us, and to invite others, for this series of free webinars and virtual events. Individuals can participate on their own or in groups to:

- Learn about international mission work;
- Meet LCMS missionaries and local church members in Africa, Asia, Eurasia, and Latin America and the Caribbean; and
- Explore languages, foods and cultures from around the world.

[Find a sample weekly schedule and register for Missions Unpacked here.](#)

God's blessings,
Your friends in LCMS International Mission





**Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool**

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org

919-851-7270



Our staff is vaccinated and we all wear masks. We partner with our families to keep everyone Healthy Together.

Openings for this year, 2021-22, are still available. And we have begun registering for next year, 2022-23. There are classes for children, 2-5 years, including a transitional-kindergarten class.

Join our family today! Email office@rlpcary.org or call 919-851-7270 to enroll or schedule an individual tour.

Visit & 'Like' our **Facebook** page:
**Resurrection Lutheran
 Preschool**

Follow us on Instagram:
www.instagram.com/rlpcary

Website:
rlpcary.org

Student Ministry

January Events

Ignite — Middle School

- January 12** Open Warehouse/
6th Grade Small Group
- January 16** 1:30-3:00 pm - Youth Group
- January 19** Open Warehouse/
6th Grade Small Group
- January 26** Open Warehouse/
6th Grade Small Group

Breakaway — High School

- January 9** 9:30 am - Connection Café
5:00-6:00 pm - Leadership
(Undecorate Church)
6:30-8:00 pm - Breakaway
- January 16** 9:30 am - Connection Café
6:30-8:00 pm - Breakaway
- January 23** 9:30 am - Connection Café
6:30-8:00 pm - Breakaway
- January 30** 9:30 am - Connection Café
12:15-2:00 pm - NYG Adult Leaders
6:30-8:00 pm - Breakaway

Contact [Jenny Piontek](#), Youth Director, for more information regarding Ignite (Middle School) and Breakaway (High School) Youth Groups.

THANK YOU

Enjoy a short montage from the first half of the year! ([Click Here](#))
We appreciate our partnership with you more than words can express. Perhaps these sweet faces will portray our gratitude appropriately. Here's to a new year filled with faith, hope, and loving community at RLS!

REFER A FRIEND — EARN \$250 TUITION CREDIT

We have begun accepting applications from community members and look to fill our remaining seats. If you have submitted an application on behalf of a sibling, Rosie Creasy, Admissions Director, will contact you to arrange an assessment/visit. Currently enrolled families are eligible to receive a \$250 tuition credit for every referral! Contact Deb Mahan, Financial Administrator. Please email admissions@rlscary.org, if you have questions surrounding application process.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 10	PSO Zoom Meeting
January 14	Early Release at 11:30 am
January 17	No School - Martin Luther King Day
January 20	School Board Meeting

Mission: Resurrection Lutheran School is committed to educating generations of children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Because of this commitment, we will provide a Lutheran educational experience that is Christ-centered, as well as academically focused for children in junior kindergarten through eighth grade.



Resurrection Lutheran School

Robert Unger
Interim Principal

Rosie Creasy
Director of Admissions/
School Growth

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

Let Your Light Shine

You are the Light of the World...
Let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good
works and give glory to your
Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14a, 16b

Spiritual Milestones

First Communion

First Communion Class for 5th Grade Youth will run in parallel with Confirmation on Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm from January 5-February 23 in Room 247, Family Life Center. The instruction book, *This Is the Feast: Preparing for the Lord's Supper* (CPH), is available.



If interested in registering or receiving more information about opportunities for Holy Communion among our church's youth, please reach out to Pastor Jonathan at jonathan.blanke@rlcary.org.



stayCONNECTED

LIVE STREAM

**Join us online for worship live
Sundays at 8:00 am and 11:00 am!**

Connect through our YouTube channel at
youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC

or through our website at
rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

Missed the live service?

Watch the worship services
on our YouTube channel at any time.



LEARN MORE

rlcary.org | office@rlcary.org | 919-851-7248

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke, Senior Pastor
Rev. Zachery Sarrault, Associate Pastor
Rev. Alan Shaw, Assistant Pastor


GIVING


We appreciate your contributions to our congregation.
Here are the different ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate as you exit the worship service
- Mail to 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518
- Online through our church website at rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving
- Download the Vanco Mobile app to transfer funds from your account

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA

 facebook.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary

 instagram.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary

 youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.
Please send submissions to susan.moore@rlcary.org.

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518