



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2022

From the Pastor

Love Is All We Need

(1 Peter 4:8)

Ever notice how love is so easy to talk about but so difficult to consistently put into practice?

Our usual default understanding of love is that it resembles “a feeling of strong or constant affection” (Merriam-Webster). The problem, of course, is that feelings typically come and go. What counts as warm, fuzzy feelings of affection one minute can easily be transformed into boredom, disappointment, or worse. To use a rather ordinary and obvious example: It might just be that the adorable puppy everyone fell in love with, based on its online picture or the 10-minute visit at the neighbor’s house, becomes a very serious responsibility once the daily routine of walks, baths, and trips to the vet starts to sink in! What was at first an automatic, perhaps even unexpected, feeling of joy and delight must eventually give way to a committed relationship of giving care in order for that new puppy to grow and thrive.

If that is true for a relationship between a human being and a dog, how much more so for creatures made in God’s image! How much more so for those who bask in the care and love of God for them in Christ Jesus! Love in the Bible can refer to the attachment of a parent for a child (Genesis 22:2). It can refer to romantic love (Song of Solomon 1-2) or the love of one friend for another (Proverbs 17:17). But in the Scriptures Jesus is the lens through which we understand love as more than a feeling. Jesus is the place where God’s unconditional and no-strings-attached love for sinners became real. Jesus demonstrates that God’s love for us is more than a feeling...it is a commitment. Epiphany, containing 8 Sundays in January and February this year, is a season we give thanks for the love of God revealed in Jesus’ healing miracles and His proclamation of Good News to those

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:
Ladies Lunch Feb 2
Veterans Lunch Feb 2
Welcome to RLC Feb 5
This Is the Church Feb 6
Following Naomi Feb 10
K.I.C.K.S. Event Feb 11
HS Spirit Sunday Feb 13
Ignite Event Feb 20
Transfiguration Feb 27
Beginning Bibles Feb 27

Bible Study Opportunities

Three Little Books

Weekly on Sundays,
9:30-10:30 am,
Fellowship Hall
Led by Bill Xenakis

This Is the Church

Weekly on Sundays,
starting February 6,
9:30-10:30 am, Room 251
Led by Pastor Jonathan
and Pastor Zach

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,
January 10-February 14,
*A New Song: I Have Set
My King on Zion*,
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, Fellowship Hall
and Online via Zoom
Led by Pastors
Jonathan and Zach

Patterns of Evidence: The Red Sea Miracle 2

Weekly on Wednesdays,
January 5-February 23,
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

disheartened by only "Bad News." St. Peter describes the outcome of God's love lived out when he writes that "love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8). That's our focus at RLC for the month of February. Because we've received God's no-strings-attached brand of love and forgiveness so freely and completely in Christ, we strive more and more to live it out.

February continues our current sermon series for Epiphany entitled "All We Need Is Love." The Word of God delivers the gift of God's love and forgiveness. Our "Welcome to Resurrection" event for Winter 2022 on February 5 gives newcomers to RLC the chance to discover more about how they can give and receive love as the newest members of the RLC family. February 5-6 will be the kick-off to our delayed (due to January snow) fundraiser for Gateway Women's Care. Be sure to get a baby bottle and make your contribution to this organization that has changed lives by advocating for the unborn and caring for families dealing with unplanned pregnancies. Then the next KICKS (Kids in Christ Keep Shining...3rd-5th Grade Youth) event February 11 will be on the theme of love; those taking part will, among other things, make cards for RLC shut-ins. Finally, on the last weekend of February (26-27), new Bibles will be distributed to RLC toddlers and their parents. What better way to close out the month than to share the story of God's love with some of RLC's youngest members?

Valentine's Day can be a day of candy and flowers and dinners out with that special someone. Jesus demonstrated that God's love for us is so much more than a one-day-of-the-year event...it is a daily commitment. What a privilege to not only receive such love but to share it with others, together with each and every one of you! May God continue to empower us as we, His beloved, love as we have been so richly loved.

Hope and joy in Christ,
Pastor Jonathan

Baby Bottle Fundraiser

This is the ninth year we have conducted a baby bottle fundraiser to support Gateway Women's Care. As you leave service, grab an empty baby bottle. Place your donation of coins, bills, or checks in the bottle and return to the box in the Narthex or Family Life Center lobby. Checks made payable to Gateway Women's Care. Last day for collection will be Sunday, February 27.

On Sunday, February 6, there will be people available to answer any questions you may have. In addition, if you are interested in volunteering at Gateway, come talk to us.

As we have said before, Sanctity of Life applies to all stages and conditions of life but for the month of February, we are concentrating on the unborn and their parents. So, continue to hold up your prayers for them.

"You did not choose me but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last." (John 15:16)

Pastor Alan's Coaching Corner

It's that time of year again. The time I share an update on my seminary studies with everyone so you can know the realization of your prayers... for they are much appreciated. I continue to be thankful to you for the prayers and tuition support that is making this possible.



It was a year that saw our on-campus opportunities cancelled and our Zoom learning expanded. I did miss going to St. Louis, but we all roll with the times and 2021 was a learning experience in more ways than one. Fortunately, we were able to go to the seminary for our January 2022 intensive course.

(I'm actually sitting in the St. Louis airport as I write this update.) With the completion of my January intensive course, I am now 3-years down with 1-year to go. Part of me can't believe it's been 3-years already and the other part of me can't believe I still have a year to go. It's been a challenging year (make that "3-years") trying to balance working at Fort Bragg, working at RLC, and putting in the study time but thanks to a wonderful wife, kids, and church family's prayers, I keep plugging along.

This past year's courses included: Means of Grace, Lutheran Confessions of Faith, Scripture and Faith, Old Testament Theology, and New Testament Theology. I've learned so much in these courses and pray that it shows in my sermons, classes, and specific ministry. Onward and upward now, to Lutheran Reformation starting the end of February (a nice long break for a change) and then rumor has it that the seminary's former president, Dr. Dale Meyer, will be our instructor for the summer Preaching II course. We are all super excited about that.

As for my specific ministry, I have fully redefined my coaching ministry as one that includes Christian Conciliation with a focus on married couples who are looking to move beyond conflict resolution into reconciliation. I'll be writing more articles over the course of this year as to what that looks like. I completed the initial work towards certification (on top of SMP classes) and will be focusing on sharpening my skills as I work with my program mentor to complete the process. I expect to be fully certified around mid-2023, so keep me in your prayers.

The "coaching" aspect of my ministry is still in full swing as well and several RLC folks have utilized the coaching as they focused on specific goals or challenges in 2021. I look forward to continuing that service to Resurrection in 2022 and beyond.

As always, feel free to reach out to me for any coaching or conciliation requests as I serve you in my specific ministry.

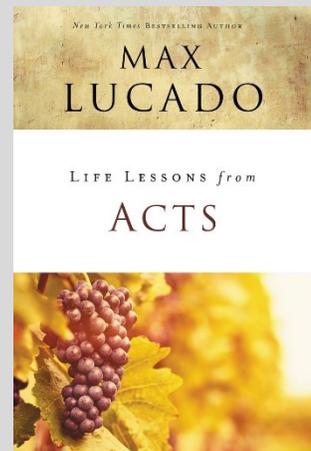
Pastor Alan
alan.shaw@rlcary.org

New Bible Study

Monday Night Women's Bible Study: *New Study*

Life Lessons from Acts:
Christ's Church in the World
(2018) by Max Lucado

February 21-May 23
7:00 pm Online via Zoom



This updated edition of the popular New Testament series by Max Lucado will offer readers intriguing questions, inspirational storytelling, and profound reflections, and will bring God's Word to life for both individuals and small group members.

Each session now includes a key passage of Scripture from both the NIV (formerly NCV) and the NKJV, and the guides have been updated to include content from Max's recent releases (2007-2016).

Study book is available from Amazon or ChristianBook.com. There is also a Kindle version available through Amazon.

Contact Jamee Thieme through RCB or the church office to join the group.

Children and Family Ministry

Looking Ahead

K.I.C.K.S (Kids In Christ Keep Shining), 3rd-5th grade Youth Group

Next event is **Friday, February 11** from 6:00-7:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Focus will be on Love - primarily the love that Jesus has for us. We will have a devotion, play some games, and do a project for Valentine's Day for your family and extras to be given to shut ins and people in the hospital. Hope to see you there! Please RSVP and let me know if you will be attending.

Beginning Bibles will be given to young children (toddlers-7 year-olds) the last weekend in February. They will be handed out and connected to the Children's Message that weekend at all of the services. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Mark Your Calendars for Vacation Bible School (VBS)!

VBS will be held in-person the week of **June 13-17**. Early registration will open on March 1 with a discounted cost. More details to come. If you are interested in joining the team in any capacity, please reach out to me.

Questions you may have regarding any of these programs can be directed to MaryAnn Unger, Director of Children and Family Ministry, at maryann.unger@rlcary.org.



Student Ministry

February Events

Ignite — Middle School

- February 9** Open Warehouse/
6th Grade Small Group
- February 16** Open Warehouse/
6th Grade Small Group
- February 20** 1:30-3:00 pm - Youth Group



- February 23** Open Warehouse/
6th Grade Small Group

Breakaway — High School

- February 6** 9:30 am - Connection Café
6:30-8:00 pm - Breakaway
- February 13** Spirit Sunday
Love is in the air, wear red!
9:30 am - Connection Café
1:30-3:00 pm - NYG Meeting
(No Breakaway)
- February 20** 9:30 am - Connection Café
6:30-8:00 pm - Breakaway
- February 27** 9:30 am - Connection Café
6:30-8:00 pm - Breakaway

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

Disaster Response Training Conference

March 10-12, 2022 ~ Ocean Reef Resort, Myrtle Beach SC

Looking for ways to serve? When disaster strikes, the call for help can take many forms: from collecting a special offering to requests for specific items, to on-site help with tree work, tarping, and cleaning. This year's Disaster Response Readiness Conference will offer sessions, workshops, and special speakers who will address these very topics. If you are interested in developing a congregational readiness program, being LERT or chainsaw trained, then this is the conference for you.



Happy Anniversary!

February 6

John and Virginia Heilman
57 years

February 14

Greg and Betsy Sigmon
35 years

February 17

Ken and Mary Elder
54 years

February 27

Tim and Sue Kearby
40 years

Do you know about Comfort Dogs?

The Southeastern District is home to five Comfort Dogs and you will have the opportunity to meet at least one of them at the Disaster Response Readiness Conference. We are blessed to have these early responders among us. Serving the Southeastern District:

- Zoara, Island Lutheran, Hilton Head SC
- Seth, Eternal Shepherd, Seneca SC
- Soloman, King of Glory, Williamsburg VA
- Amos, Our Savior's Way, Ashburn VA
- Kezia, Emmanuel, Baltimore MD



What are Disaster Response Trailers?

Disaster Response trailers are outfitted with tools, generators, and other items essential for the response that is needed early in the disaster recovery. Holy Lamb (Myrtle Beach SC) and Dave McGuffey (Our Savior, Laurel MD) will have their trailers at the conference so that you can learn about the contribution of this ministry in disaster response.

Join us in beautiful Myrtle Beach for two exciting days (and an optional half-day) of practical training sessions, reports from the field, enjoyable fellowship, inspiring first-hand ministry stories, and information on upcoming service opportunities!

Registration cost is \$50, includes Thursday dinner. Location is Ocean Reef Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC. Sessions begin at 1:00 pm on Thursday and Conference ends at 5:15 pm on Friday. Optional Saturday half-day session ends at 12:00 pm. For more information and to register, se.lcms.org/resources/disaster-conference-2022.



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.

- . developmentally age-appropriate, hands-on, child-centered experiences
- . balance of social/academic opportunities
- . a Co-Teaching Team develops a 'learning through play' environment
- . experienced, committed, nurturing staff
- . averaging over 10 years of staffing stability
- . weekly Chapel & Music for all; Science for 4's & T-K
- . we partner with families to provide the finest program for children
- . a loving Christian atmosphere

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

Missionary Highlight

Mission-Minded Mantey's (Uganda)

There has been so much to celebrate these past few months!

As the lockdown in Uganda has eased, we praise God as we seek new normals. We are thankful we have been able to resume our daily work supporting the Lutheran Church of Uganda. One of our favorite ways to do this is by attending local church services in neighboring villages to help celebrate when people are baptized or confirmed. Few situations on earth are more joy-filled than baptisms in the Lutheran Church of Uganda! There is much celebration, clapping, singing, and dancing as each person is adopted into God's family through Holy Baptism. We praise God for these moments.

We recently were also able to attend an Introduction. Introduction is a cultural wedding where the bride/bride-to-be introduces the husband/husband-to-be to her family. Of course, there is much cause for celebration as families unite and welcome and support one another. Dancing, festivities, and friends and family are joining from different parts of the country, and the world came together for this celebration. Introductions share how the families and friends will support the couple as they plan to begin their lives together.



At the Introduction, Megan wore a traditional dress called a gomasi. Mark wore a traditional shirt, called a kanzu.

LCMS Missionary Retreat

Another reason to celebrate is that our field could gather together for our retreat. We had not been able to meet since 2019. Since that time, some missionaries had retired, new missionaries had come on the mission field, and others had experienced hardships. Retreat allowed us to reconnect, worship together and encourage one another. We are grateful.

- Mark and Megan Mantey

[Follow on Facebook ~ @MissionMindedManteys](#)

TUITION AGREEMENTS

Families who have submitted a Letter of Intent indicating their plans to re-enroll student/s next school year should have received a 2022-2023 Tuition Agreement. The agreement with deposit is due on February 11, 2022 in order to secure your child's spot.

YEARBOOK

Parents, we are in need of candid photos from RLS sporting events, class activities, etc. Please limit the photos to no more than 3 or 4. We cannot promise that we will include every photo in our yearbook that is shared, but will appreciate all that are sent! Share these photos with Mrs. Barnette at pambarnette@rlscary.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 15	PSO Zoom Meeting
February 17	School Board Meeting
February 18	Early Release (Teacher Work Afternoon)
February 21	No School (Presidents' Day Holiday)

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

Greetings to you from Agapé † Kure Beach Ministries!

We are your partner in ministry for faith formation with children, adults, and especially young adults. Together we are "Building Leaders and Forming Faith." **As Summer 2022 approaches, we need your help!**

Working at one of our summer camps is truly a powerful, life-shaping, and faith-forming experience. Many of you already know that - some from first-hand experience!

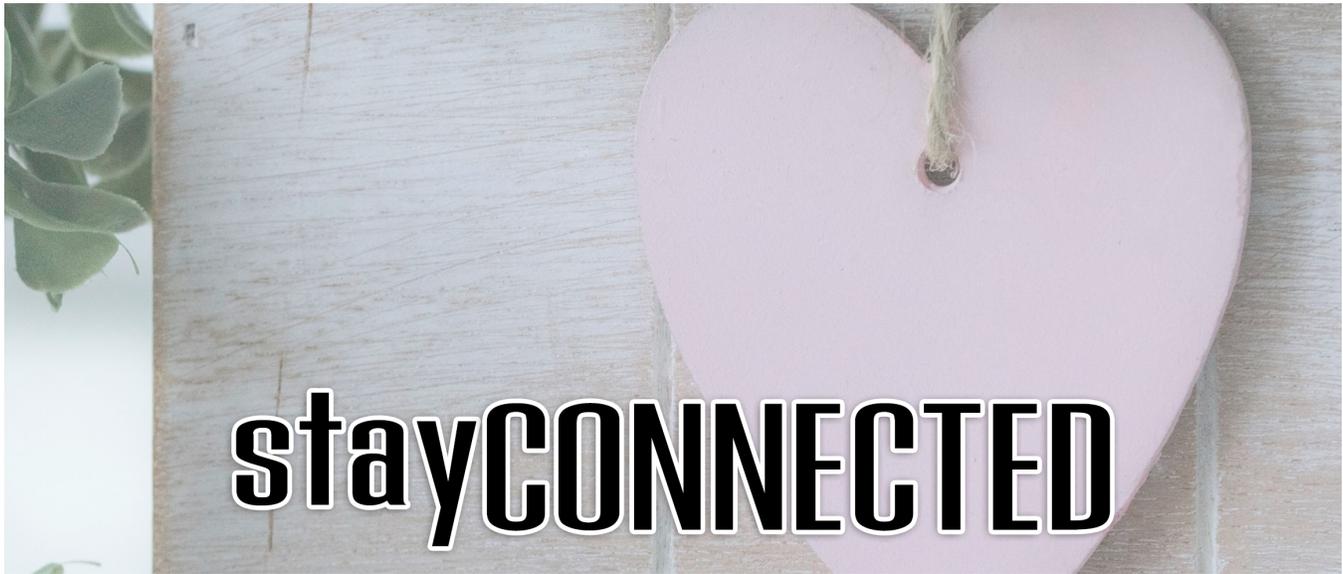
We are recruiting young adults to serve on summer staff as positive Christian role models. Camp is seeking:

- ⇒ **Counselors** - Minimum 19 yrs. of age with one year of college or one year of post-high school
- ⇒ **Support Staff** - 17 yrs. of age or older - lifeguarding, crafts, kitchen, archery, store, etc.

Apply online at agape.campbrainstaff.com.

For more information, agapekurebeach.org or 919-552-9421.





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