



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2022

From the Pastor

A Lord of Downward Mobility

(Philippians 2:5-11)

According to Merriam-Webster, the definition of “upward mobility” is “the capacity or facility for rising to a higher social or economic position.” Economists use the term a lot. The goal for governments, educators, and a host of social institutions is to do all that is possible to see that folks better themselves... that as many people as possible gain more upward mobility over time. In the process, more and more folks are to make advances in physical/mental health, job opportunities, access to education, and are better able to flourish.

Upward mobility that benefits people in need is a wonderful, beautiful thing. But every year the season of gift-giving (and gift-buying) reveals

a darker side to the human aspiration to do more, be more, and get more. Ironically, it’s the very time of year we turn our attention to the birth of Jesus, whom Christian author Henri Nouwen famously called the Lord of “downward mobility.” Though



our culture is constantly beckoning us in the opposite direction, Jesus, in the words of St. Paul, “who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.” Jesus Christ, to rescue the world from sin and death, did not only, in the words of C. S. Lewis, “limit the thing most precious in the world to Him: His unhampered, unhindered communion with the Father.”

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:

Holidays and Beyond	Dec 1
K.I.C.K.S. Event	Dec 9
Voter’s Meeting	Dec 11
Ignite Christmas Party.....	Dec 11
RLS Christmas Festival	Dec 15
No Sunday School.....	Dec 18/25
No Weds. Night.....	Dec 21/28
Church Office Closed.....	Dec 23
Christmas Eve.....	Dec 24
Christmas.....	Dec 25
Church Office Closed.....	Dec 26
New Year’s Eve	Dec 31

VISIT US ONLINE AT RLCARY.ORG

Sunday Morning Adult Ed

In the Fullness of Time

"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son..." (Galatians 4:4).

God sent His Son to earth for a purpose: to accomplish His salvation plan. When we look at the Old Testament, we see that God had been working this plan from the very beginning and the Christmas story is where the plan was finally being fulfilled.

In our new Bible study, we will use Paul L. Maier's book, *In the Fullness of Time*, to better understand the unfamiliar historical details surrounding the familiar Christmas story as told by the gospel evangelists. In the process, we will see that God's faithfulness to Joseph and Mary, shepherds and wisemen... all the people who populate the original Christmas story foreshadows His faithfulness to us, too!

Join us on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall, November 13-December 11. Class will be team led by Pastors Jonathan & Zach.

Questions? Contact the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org.



He was obedient to the Father in offering up His very life! All this He did for you and me.

That is what the birth of Jesus in a manger is all about. Christmas is a time of year when the downwardly mobile Jesus is on full display... a time of year when the downwardly mobile Jesus comes to us... when He is born again in our hearts — that we might know what real "upward mobility" is all about!

A very blessed Christmas to all of you again this year....
Pastor Jonathan



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

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

◇ **Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service** | lirs.org

Mission: As a witness to God's love for all people, we stand with and advocate for migrants and refugees, transforming communities through ministries of service and justice. Driven by our faith and our nation's values, LIRS works to protect and embrace refugees, migrants, and children seeking a new life in America.

◇ **MANNA Food Bank** | mannafoodbank.org

Mission: To involve, educate, and unite people in the work of ending hunger in Western North Carolina. We are the Mountain Area Nutritional Needs Alliance (MANNA), a network of more than 200 partner agencies, volunteers, staff, board, and others working together in a shared mission of involving, educating, and uniting people in the work of ending hunger in Western North Carolina.

◇ **With Love From Jesus** | withlovefromjesus.org

Mission: To cooperate with the Holy Spirit in building the kingdom of God by meeting practical needs. We are an Evangelical outreach to the needy community in Raleigh and surrounding areas. Our goal is to minister to the spiritual needs, as well as physical needs of those individuals we serve each week.

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



She will bear a son,
and you shall call
his name Jesus.

for he will save his people
from their sins.

Matthew 1:21

Worship Services

December 7 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm
Holden Evening Prayer Service in Sanctuary

December 11 ~ 3rd Sunday in Advent

December 14 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm
featuring Old North State Brass in Sanctuary

December 18 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent, 8:00 am and 9:30 am
Christmas Music Festival, *What Sweeter Music*, in Sanctuary
featuring Festival Chorus Accompanied by a Full Orchestra

December 21 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm
Christmas Carol Celebration in Circle Entrance (family friendly)

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

3:00 pm - For Families with Young Children in Sanctuary
featuring Interactive Lessons and Carol Singing

4:30 pm - Traditional Christmas Carol Family Worship in Sanctuary
Special Pre-Service Musical Offerings by Resurrection Music School Students

6:00 pm - Candlelight Service in Family Life Center
Contemporary Settings of Traditional Carols and Holy Communion

8:00 pm - Candlelight Service in Sanctuary
Traditional Christmas Carols with Resurrection Brass Ensemble,
Sanctuary Choir, Heavenly Handbells

10:00 pm - Candlelight Service in Sanctuary
Traditional Christmas Carols and Holy Communion

December 25 ~ Christmas Day, 10:00 am

Festival Celebration of Holy Communion with Christmas Carols
featuring Anno Domini Quartet and Gloria Singers in Sanctuary

Worship Times, unless noted:

Saturday 6:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and Praise 11:00 am

Sunday Morning Adult Ed

David and the Psalms

David (of the Old Testament) and the Psalms are forever linked. In this 10-week class, we will explore the life of David, whether boy or King, as well as the Psalms. Scholars are divided about how many of the Psalms David wrote but he wrote at least 46 of them - sometimes laments or of praise.

David-Shepherd, Warrior, King, Husband, and Father- he certainly had many roles in his life. The Psalms - written over a span of many years, speak of personal triumphs and sometimes tragedies, are intricately linked with his life, his triumphs and tragedies.

We will explore the life of David, as well as some wonderful psalms and how they applied to the writer as well as to our lives today.

Bring your Bible to class. There is no book to buy.

**We meet in Room 151,
Family Life Center, Sundays
from 9:30-10:30 am.**

Led by Mindy Stephani.



Live Stream Services
on our YouTube Channel:
[youtube.com/
resurrectionlutheran-
churchcarync](https://www.youtube.com/resurrectionlutheran-churchcarync)

Outreach to the Community

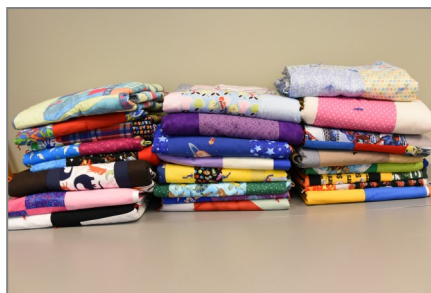
Sleep in Heavenly Peace

What a beautiful day it was! Imagine 50 volunteers - you made that happen! 20 beds in 2 hours, so much fun. We love working with your church family. Your generosity and hospitality was very much appreciated. Our count to date is 383 beds to kids in the last 25 months. It is only through support like yours that we can do it. Thank you! If interested in delivery day opportunities, all dates are listed here: signupgenius.com/go/10c0d49aba823a3f4c61-shpbed10.

Thanks again, everyone!
Zella Bracy, Sleep in Heavenly Peace



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE



Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

Monday Evening

New Monday Night Women's Bible Study ~ *Life Lessons from Revelation*

Join us for Max Lucado's *Life Lessons from Revelation*, a 12-session study on the book of Revelation. The apostle John writes about an amazing vision he saw while in exile that gave him a glimpse into heaven. Key themes are God has a plan and a future for the world, God will be ultimately victorious over evil, there will be a final accounting for our faith and our lives, and there is a better world in store.

We meet on Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm from January 9-March 27, in-person and via Zoom. Books are available through Amazon and christianbook.com. A digital version is also available through Amazon. Contact Jamee Thieme through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Men's Ministry Weekly Study and Fellowship

We meet on Mondays from 7:00-8:15 pm in Room 240, Family Life Center, for fellowship, study, and small group discussion. On **December 12**, we will close out 2022 with a potluck and tool gift exchange starting at 6:30 pm. Contact mens-ministry@rlcary.org or join Men's Ministry through RCB.

Tuesday Morning

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship

We study the coming Sunday Scripture lessons from 10:30-11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault. God gives His Word to instruct, guide, and bless our lives. The Scripture lessons in worship offer a menu every week to build up the people of God in faith and hope.

Wednesday Evening

The Thread

The Holy Scriptures are rich and varied in content. Not only do we have two testaments (both Old and New), but the people God used to bring us the Word used poems, songs, historical narrative, letters, and parables to do so. What is the one common thread that holds this rich tapestry together? Join us as we look at various Old and New Testament passages where the most prominent themes of the Scriptures as a whole are in evidence. We meet Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jonathan Blanke. Last class will be held on December 14.

Men With Kids

Men with Kids meets in Room 247, Family Life Center, from 6:30-7:30 pm. This Wednesday night group will follow the Confirmation class schedule. Join the Men's Ministry RCB group or contact Tom Gebbia at mens-ministry@rlcary.org.



Meeting Notice

Voter's Meeting

Sunday, December 11 at 1:00 pm

Family Life Center Gym

Agenda Includes 2022-23 Council Members Elections



December 16th & 17th
Two shows each night
6:00 PM & 7:00 PM

O' Holy Night

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

\$15 per person
\$60 maximum for
immediate family

Come to Camp Agapé for an evening of family fellowship and an incredible presentation of the Christmas story. Follow the "Greatest Story Ever Told" as it unfolds across camp through our live nativity! Whether you have been joining us for years or this will be a first for your family, celebrating Jesus' birth is sure to be a moving experience for all! There will be wonderful hors d'oeuvre and snack arrangements for you to enjoy before the show, our favorite carols will be sung, and we will experience the joy in the journey to the manger.

Enjoy the celebration!

Save the date, mark your calendar, or register now because time slots fill quickly!



To register for O' Holy Night, please scan the QR code.
You can also find the registration on our website: agapekurebeach.org.
If you have any questions about registration or payment please reach out to
David at program2@agapekurebeach.org or 919-552-9421.



**We look forward to seeing you and presenting you with
the greatest story ever told!**

Music Ministry

Christmas Music Festival

What Sweeter Music, accompanied by an orchestra and singing of familiar carols including Silent Night, Angels We Have Heard on High, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Joy to the World, O Come All Ye Faithful, special music, and narrative from Holy Scripture will be presented at the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Worship Services on **Sunday, December 18**.

The 8:00 am service will be live streamed to our YouTube channel at youtube.com/resurrectionlutheranchurchcarync).



Student Ministry

Breakaway and Ignite Youth Groups

Thank you so much! Your courage is a blessing and once again, you did an amazing job leading the *Hanging of the Greens* worship service.

Middle School Youth:

Avery, Sophia, Johanna, RJay, Morgan, Kaitlyn, Josh, and Nicole

High School Youth:

Cameron, Ben, Paul, Garrett, Rachel, Cassidy, Dillon, and Penelope



Happy Anniversary!

December 4

Alan and Linda Sullivan
51 years

December 7

Vern and Dorothy Ebert
70 years

December 11

Harry and Carolin Roberts
40 years

December 19

Martin and Mindy Stephani
52 years

December 23

Bob and Barb Shimmel
55 years

December 27

Lyle and Sue Malotky
54 years

Bill and Fran Xenakis
58 years

December 28

Alex and Jackie Wenzel
20 years

December 31

Phil and Kay Gresens
25 years

Outreach to the Community

CLI Prison Alliance

The holidays and winter months can be especially lonely times for prison inmates. Our ministry through CLI Prison Alliance gives us the opportunity to provide materials that encourage, challenge, instruct, and help the incarcerated grow in faith. Consider donating Christian books you have read (soft and hardcover), gently used Bibles, CDs and DVDs. Large print materials and foreign language materials (especially Spanish) are acceptable but not oversized, spiral bound, or magazines. Add to your Christmas shopping list an item to donate. Place the donations in the special CLI wooden bin in the hallway under the coat rack.

At CLI, a stamp is placed inside each cover inviting inmates to take the next step by enrolling in one of the CLI Bible studies. After prison chaplains receive the books, they place them in the library or in hands of individuals. Last year CLI, this local ministry that distributes nationally and to select foreign prisons, sent 403,750 books and Bibles. This year to date, they have received notes from 29,067 men and women who have made decisions for Christ. All it takes is just one book to start someone on that path.



Community Partner

Thank You!

Thank you to Garret Nigg and Resurrection Lutheran Church for the opportunity to host Arc Triangle's first ever "Boo-Nanza" on October 29. It was a great turnout and we received such positive feedback from participants and their families. We honestly could not host these successful events without wonderful community partners like yourself. Your generosity truly makes a difference in our community. We hope to get the chance to work with you all again in the future.

Natasha Pratt, Day Services Coordinator
The Arc of the Triangle, Inc.

LCMS Disaster Response

Thank You!

On behalf of the people and ministries of the Florida-Georgia District, please accept my heartfelt thanks for your financial support of \$400 in gift cards for those in need. Your gift make it possible for us to assist the workers/staff of our churches and schools who suffered damage. The Body of Christ through our District is truly blessed by the support of people like you!

In the midst of the devastation from Hurricane Ian, these blessings become even more apparent as we see how many lost so much and even struggle to meet their basic needs. Please continue to keep all those who have been impacted in your prayers.

Rev. James H. Rockey, President
Florida-Georgia District, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

December News

Children's Ministry News

December 2022

KICKS!

3rd-5th graders are invited to join us for a fun filled Christmas celebration! The fun will include: food, drinks, games and a service project. Friday, December 9th from 6:30-7:30 in the Family Life Center.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us for Bible stories, games, songs and crafts. Sunday School is from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Pre-K room 132
K & 1st grade room 134
2nd & 3rd grade room 131
4th & 5th grade room 133

RAINBOW BAGS

Rainbow bags are available in the lobby for children to take into worship service with them. They contain books, crayons and play items to use during service. Please return the bag after service.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church is offered during the 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service. Children are dismissed to Children's Church after the Children's Message. The children will be engaged in crafts, games and Bible stories. We look forward to seeing your children there!

Questions?
Contact Erika
erika.hulse@rlcary.org

Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children's Ministry Director, at erika.hulse@rlcary.org.



2023-24 Registration is NOW open
for RLC members and currently enrolled RLP students!

To ENROLL or schedule a Tour,
email office@rlpcary.org or call **919.851.7270**

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org

919-851-7270



Class openings are currently available

for **2022-23 preschool year:**

in our **4-year-old, 3-year-old, and 2-year-old** classes.

Visit & 'Like' our **Facebook** page:

**Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool**

Follow us on Instagram:

www.instagram.com/rlpcary

Website:

rlpcary.org

Resurrection Lutheran PRESCHOOL class Offerings for 2023-24

Around
\$23
for a 3-4
hour day of
preschool
includes:

+ Classes for children 2-years-old thru 5-years-old +

- ★ Co-Teaching Teams develop a '**learning through play**' environment
- ★ Developmentally age-appropriate, hands-on, child-centered experiences
- ★ Balance of social/academic opportunities
- ★ Experienced, nurturing, dedicated Staff

NON-Refundable Registration Fee = **\$215 / \$415** for 2 children (checks payable to RLP or cash)

- ★ Average of over 10 years staffing stability
- ★ Weekly **Chapel & Movement/Music** for all ages
- ★ Weekly **Science** for 4's & T-K
- ★ Partnership with families to provide a top-quality program
- ★ A loving Christian atmosphere

Drive-Up Drop-Off/Pick-Up
(for ALL ages)

LUNCH every day for **ALL** classes (provided by parents)

office@rlpcary.org

919.851.7270

Children in 3-year-old & older classes must be independently toilet-trained.

Transitional-Kindergarten (T-K) Informational Sessions

We are pleased to offer the following sessions for families to learn about RLP's T-K program. Attendance is optional and not required in order to register for T-K.

T-K TEACHERS Session

Thursday, January 5th @12:30 pm

T-K Room #112

Opportunity for conversation about our program with our T-K teachers in their classroom.

T-K from a PARENT's PERSPECTIVE

Thursday, January 5th @7:00 pm

T-K Room #112

- Hear first-hand benefits and reasons for 'gifting an extra year' to your child (including down the road- 3rd grade, middle/high school, college).
- Conversation with former T-K parents for families "weighing options" and "on-the-fence" regarding sending a child to T-K vs. kindergarten.
- Wake County Kindergarten teacher shares expectations of students & a typical 'day in the life of a kindergartner.'
- Opportunity for conversation with RLP's T-K teachers about our program.

2023-2024 ADMISSIONS

The 2023-2024 enrollment period for returning students and their siblings is now open. It is our expectation that many of the RLS classes will remain at maximum capacity. It is our goal to continue to grow as we reach out to our community to provide a Christ-centered, academically rich environment where students thrive. For these reasons, it is important that you re-enroll by December 12, 2022 to reserve a spot in your student's class. After this date, enrollment will be open to the community. Please contact Rosie Creasy, Admissions Director, if you have any questions.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

You will not want to miss this year's Christmas program! Join us for an evening filled with drama, music, art, and Christmas cheer. Mark your calendar for **Thursday, December 15 at 6:30 pm**.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 8	School Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
December 9	Girls Basketball Game at Cary Academy, 4:00 pm
December 12	Letter of Intent Due
December 15	Christmas Festival, 6:30 pm
December 16	Early Release, 11:30 am
December 19-January 2	Christmas Break

Looking Ahead...

January 3	Welcome Back!
January 18	Middle School Move Up Day (5th Graders)
February 10	Enrollment Agreement Due for 2023/2024



Resurrection Lutheran School

Robert Unger
Interim Principal

Rosie Creasy
Director of Admissions/
School Growth

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

Soaring to New Heights

Those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

(Isaiah 40:31 NIV)

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.



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