

RESURRECTION

Evangelical Lutheran Church

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

www.relcarlington.org - 6201 Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA 22205

Rev. Harry Therwanger, pastorharry@relcarlington.org

Vicar Jessica Zurcher, vicarjessica@relcarlington.org

From the Pastor's Pen

Epiphany – a word from the Greek meaning “to reveal” or “to make known.” It comes into our language to express a flash, insight, inspiration, realization, a vision.

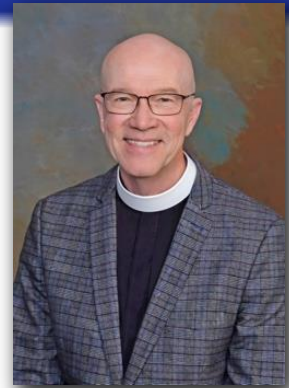
The time following Epiphany, *right now* in the Sundays from Jan 6 until Ash Wednesday, features Bible readings centered on revealing the identity of Jesus. Each Sunday there is one “ah ha” moment after another.

The story of the Magi in Matthew chapter 2 ends the Christmas celebration and opens this time of discovery. The guiding of the star leads the Magi to the revelation of the Babe in Bethlehem.

We have heard the voice from heaven at the baptism of Jesus “you are my beloved.” We will hear the voice from heaven again at the Transfiguration affirming “this is my beloved.”

Along the way we travel with the disciples discovering who this Jesus is and what is his mission. We will see water turned into wine, a miraculous catch of fish, the claim of fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy, the rejection of his hometown crowd, and more.

The Time After Epiphany is also a time to think about mission and outreach – “who is this Jesus” is often the question raised by those seeking or curious of the Christian faith. We answer such questions with these epiphanic scriptures and the witness of our own lives. We are called beloved. We are also called to invite others to be called beloved and join us to learn about this Jesus - this Jesus of amazement, of “ah ha” moments, and unconditional love.



CALENDAR

Sunday, January 19 – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall, No “My Bible” Class

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger

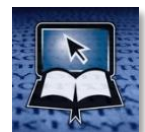
11:00 a.m. Fellowship in the Parish Hall

Monday, January 20 – Martin Luther King, Jr.

The RELC Office is closed to honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Thursday, January 23

11:00 a.m. online Bible Study, contact Pastor Harry for the link



Sunday, January 26 – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall & “My Bible” Class in Room 13

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Vicar Jessica Zurcher preaching, Pastor Harry Therwanger presiding

11:30 a.m. **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The agenda and annual report are available in the Narthex. Please make every effort to attend in person to review our activities of the past year, elect new Council members, and approve the 2025 budget. A potluck luncheon will be served in the Parish Hall immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service. You are invited to bring a dish to share.

Tuesday, January 28

10:00 a.m. The *Piecemakers* Quilters Group



Thursday, January 30

11:00 a.m. online Bible Study, contact Pastor Harry for the link



Sunday, February 2 – Presentation of Our Lord

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall & “My Bible” Class in Room 13

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger

We receive non-perishable food items donations for Arlington Food Assistance



Center (AFAC) in the Narthex. Donations are collected the 1st Sunday of every month.

11:00 a.m. Fellowship in the Parish Hall

2:00 p.m. Joint Confirmation Class @ Faith, 3313 Arlington Blvd.

Sunday, February 9 – 5th Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall & “My Bible” Class in Room 13

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger

35th Annual “Souper Bowl of Caring” - Homemade soups, stews, and chili



will be available for purchase during Fellowship Time.

11:30 a.m. Adult Forum in the Chapel on the “Gospel of Luke” led by the Rev. Dr. Gordon Lathrop.

Sunday, February 16 – 6th Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall, No “My Bible” Class

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger

Please submit articles for the next *The Steeple Light* by the end of the day.

11:30 a.m. Adult Forum in the Chapel on the “Gospel of Luke” led by the Rev. Dr. Gordon Lathrop.

Sunday, February 23 – 7th Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall & “My Bible” Class in Room 13

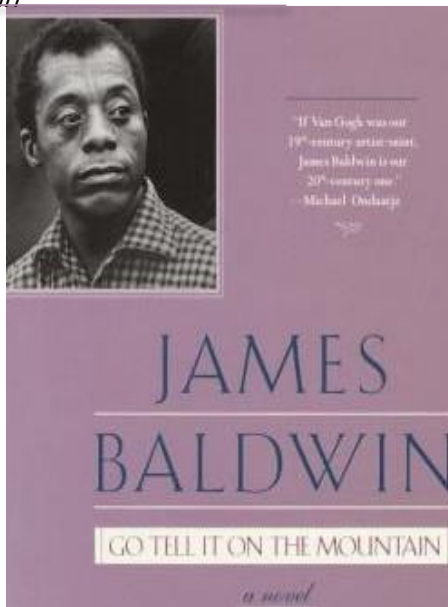
10:00 a.m. Vicar Jessica Zurcher preaching, Pastor Harry Therwanger presiding

11:00 a.m. Fellowship in the Parish Hall

Thursday, February 27

Book Club is reading *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

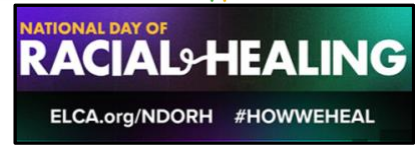
by James Baldwin, more details to come.





National Day of Racial Healing (NDORH)

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., a free, online event to observe the 2025 National Day of Racial Healing (NDORH). Presented by the ELCA in partnership with Augsburg Fortress Publishers, this educational event will feature worship, workshops, music and guided reflection while centering the voices of ELCA leaders of color.



Our exceptional lineup of workshops and speakers was designed to raise awareness of the need for racial healing and to inspire collective action toward building common ground for a more just and equitable world.

The event is open to all ELCA rostered ministers, lay leaders, members, ELCA synods, congregations, colleges, universities, seminaries, separately incorporated ministries and anti-racism teams, as well as the church's affiliate organizations and ecumenical and interreligious partners. More information can be found at: www.elca.org/national-day-of-racial-healing.

Bruce Onobrakpeya: The Mask and the Cross

Nigerian sculptor and printmaker, *Bruce Onobrakpeya: The Mask and the Cross* including *Fourteen Stations of the Cross* are on display through January 21 at the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, 950 Independence Ave., SW, DC.



Council Orientation & Training

All new and returning council members are encouraged to gather for an in-person orientation with Bishop Ortiz. Participants will walk through church leadership best practices, constitution & bylaw processes, and answer any questions you may have about your leadership role on Saturday, February 8, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Springfield, VA. In-person attendance is strongly encouraged, but a Zoom option will be available upon request. Registration is open until Saturday, February 1 on metrodcelca.org.



Traveling Prayer Night

Join the next Traveling Prayer Night on Thursday, February 13, at First Trinity Lutheran Church, 501 4th St. NW, Washington, D.C. A potluck dinner begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by a prayer and meditation service at 7:00 p.m.. All are welcome!



Virtual Town Hall: A Transition Conversation with Bishop Ortiz

All Metro D.C. Synod lay and rostered members are invited to a virtual Town Hall with Bishop Ortiz on Thursday, January 30, as she shares her personal insights and experiences in the role of bishop ahead of the upcoming bishop election at the Synod Assembly on June 6–7. This is a unique opportunity for all synod members to hear directly from Bishop Ortiz, ask questions, and gain a deeper understanding of this important role and the transition process. Hosted by the Bishop Election/Transition Team, this event will be held on Zoom from 7:00 PM–8:30 PM. Please register on metrodcelca.org.



Living Faithfully in Fractious Times

Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Fairfax is excited to invite you and your faith community to join us for an exceptional opportunity to spend an afternoon with Dr. Diana Butler Bass. She will speak on "Living Faithfully in Fractious Times," followed by a book signing and reception.

We are honored to host this prolific author, world-famous theologian, and historian, Dr. Diana Butler Bass, who will lead an inspired and informed discussion on progressive Christianity renowned commentator on contemporary Christian issues.



This community-wide event is co-sponsored by the Metro DC Synod of the ELCA and will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Rd. Fairfax, VA 22032 Fairfax, VA. Free childcare for children between 3-10 years old will be provided for those who register in advance.

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. If we have 10 participants sign up, the office will register us as one group and we will qualify for the discounted registration price of \$15.00. If we do not get 10 signed up by February 16th, you will be contacted to register individually at the standard ticket price of \$20.

RELC Ongoing Programs

Your 2025 Offering Envelopes Are Here!

Offering envelopes for the new year are available for pickup now in the Narthex. If you don't find envelopes for you or your family, please see Glen Mason or contact him at gdmason@verizon.net – there are plenty of envelopes available!



Christ in Our Home

The January, February, and March edition of *Christ in Our Home* has arrived. The daily devotional booklets can be found in the document rack in the Narthex.

RIC (Reconciling in Christ)

In the Narthex there are RIC reading materials with an anonymous question box. The RIC Core Team encourages you to go to the RIC official website for additional information: <https://www.reconcilingworks.org/ric/>



Collection of Food Items for AFAC - www.afac.org

We receive non-perishable food item donations in the Narthex for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Donations are collected on the 1st Sunday of every month. The next collection at RELC is February 2, 2025.

Piecemakers Quilters Group

The *Piecemakers* Quilters Group meets each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Join us to put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief that are sent to refugee camps around the world. No sewing skills needed and no experience necessary. Speak with Gail Flatness for more information, gailflat@gmail.com.



Music at Resurrection

The Music at Resurrection committee seeks quality musical groups to perform concerts. Email Cathy Carr, jccarr7@gmail.com with concert suggestions.

RELC Meal Ministry

RELC's Meal Ministry needs volunteers who are willing to cook and bake when the need arises. If you know of someone who needs the Meal Ministry, reach out to Pastor Harry. Contact Mimi Van Poole with questions. vanpoole2@comcast.net



Livestreaming Worship – View past worship services on YouTube by searching for “Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church.” See you online.

Other Announcements If committee chairs or those responsible for ministry initiatives have announcements, email both Dale, church admin, office@relcarlington.org and Leslie, Church Council President, leslie_nolen@hotmail.com before noon on Wednesday. Thank you for respecting our time. Announcements will be published for one week unless specific run dates are given.



Lost and Found

A stainless-steel travel mug was found in the Narthex on Monday morning. The coffee had been brewing at room temperature for quite some time as the cream had curdled and transitioned to a lovely shade of pistachio. Mmmmm, smell the nutty aroma. A capital letter “M” is printed on two sides of the mug with the word “McLean” underneath. The owner can retrieve this mug from the Lost & Found drawer in the church office. The coffee and cream have been washed from the mug.