

# RESURRECTION

*Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

[www.relcarlington.org](http://www.relcarlington.org) - 6201 Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA 22205

Rev. Harry Therwanger, [pastorharry@relcarlington.org](mailto:pastorharry@relcarlington.org)

Vicar Jessica Zurcher, [vicarjessica@relcarlington.org](mailto:vicarjessica@relcarlington.org)

### From the Pastor's Pen

In our scripture readings this Sunday we step backwards. February 2<sup>nd</sup> is 40 days after Christmas. According to the Law, 40 days after the birth of a child the parents were to present the child at the Temple. Since Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> falls on a Sunday this year, we observe the "Presentation of Our Lord." We step back into the days following the birth of Jesus.

It is an awesome moment! People came to the temple to encounter the presence of God in a special and saving way.

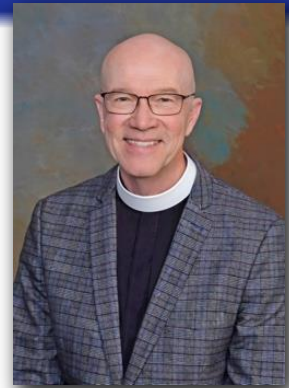
Mary and Joseph bring the presence of God in the 40-day-old baby Jesus into his own temple. The Spirit gives insight to two devoted saints of God, Anna and Simeon, who we meet. The saving presence of God "in the presence of all peoples" and for all peoples.

We come to our church building to encounter the presence of God in a wonderful, special and specific way. Certainly, God is everywhere but God is here in a saving way. We can be sure God is present for us, in the meal, in the Biblical readings, in our fellowship and in the proclamation of the Gospel.

Along with that, let me give a loving reminder that many like to have a few moments of prayer or meditation to prepare hearts for worship. So, remember when we greet one another before service to catch up with folks, please do so in the narthex (lobby) to keep a meditative atmosphere in the nave, the church proper.

You can find prayers to aid your devotion before service in the ELW, page 72 to page 87.

"The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him." (Habakkuk 2:20)



# CALENDAR

## 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.



## Thursday, February 6

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

## Sunday, February 9 – 5<sup>th</sup> 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

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

35<sup>th</sup> 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 February 9 and 16, the Adult Forum after the Sunday Liturgy in the Chapel, led by Gordon Lathrop, will focus on the Gospel according to Luke. The readings from the Gospel in the liturgy for much of this coming year come from Luke, so it is good for us to consider the book more carefully. We will look at the sources for this Gospel, at the meaning of its outline, at some of its principal themes, at ways it differs from the other Gospels, and at what it proclaims to us about the presence of the Risen Christ in the early church and in the church of our own day. Bring your coffee and come!



**Tuesday, February 11,** 10:00 a.m. The *Piecemakers* Quilters Group

**Thursday, February 13,** 11:00 a.m. online Bible Study, contact Pastor Harry for the link

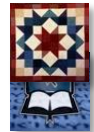
## Sunday, February 16 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

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 to [office@relcarlington.org](mailto:office@relcarlington.org) 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.



**Thursday, February 20,** 11:00 a.m. online Bible Study, contact Pastor Harry for the link

## Sunday, February 23 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall

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

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

February 23 is the last day to take the RIC survey, online or paper copies of the survey are in the Narthex. [Click here to take the anonymous survey](#)



**Tuesday, February 25,** 10:00 a.m. The *Piecemakers* Quilters Group

## Thursday, February 27

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

7:00 p.m. The RELC Book club will meet on February 27 in the RELC lounge.

Recognizing that February is Black History Month, the book club will discuss the highly acclaimed first novel of James Baldwin, *Go Tell it on the Mountain*. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Jack Schoen, [jbschoen@alumni.colgate.edu](mailto:jbschoen@alumni.colgate.edu) or Christina Cuesta, [christinaw.cuesta@gmail.com](mailto:christinaw.cuesta@gmail.com), with any questions you may have.



# RELC Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Survey



Siblings in Christ, we would love your feedback! Over the past year, the RIC Team has been exploring with the congregation the process of becoming a Reconciling in Christ partner. We have journeyed together through book studies, adult forums, and other activities, and we would like to hear more from you. Please take a few moments to complete [the anonymous survey](#) by February 23. There are paper copies of the survey and a basket to return them in the Narthex, for those who would prefer that method. Thank you for your continued participation!

[Click here to take the anonymous survey](#)



## ELCA and Metro DC Synod News



### 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](http://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](http://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. 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](mailto:gdmason@verizon.net) – there are plenty of envelopes available!



## 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](http://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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:gailflat@gmail.com).



## Music at Resurrection

The Music at Resurrection committee seeks quality musical groups to perform concerts. Email Cathy Carr, [jccarr7@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:office@relcarlington.org) and Leslie, Church Council President, [leslie\\_nolen@hotmail.com](mailto: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 & Found

A little hoop earring was found in the Narthex. The earring is gold in color and has three tiny clear stones and two tinnier clear stones set between the three tiny stones. The author is unable to discern the composition of the stones (they could be diamonds, plastic, or glass).

The author is also unable to discern the quality of gold. The hoop has “KS925” stamped inside. The owner of this earring can find it in the Lost & Found drawer in the church office. The pencil in the photo does not accompany the earring; the pencil is to show scale only.

