

# 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

Last Sunday we celebrated the Presentation of Our Lord. 40 days after the birth of Jesus his parents brought him to the Jerusalem Temple. We had been reading and hearing stories of the adult Jesus calling disciples and opening a ministry of teaching and healing. We stepped back to the infancy of Jesus for a Sunday.

It was also Groundhog Day and I was reminded of that classic movie "Groundhog Day" when Bill Murray's character awakes to find that he must step back and live Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> all over again, and again! Sometimes reliving a day may have some advantages. How wonderful to relive a day of great joy and celebration. But also, how often would we like to take back a word we said, or a deed we did? How often it would be great to have the chance to face a day again and make different choices. But we don't have that chance. We have something better – the grace to lie down in peace, to commit the day, with all its successes and failures, its joys and sorrows to God. And we know that like Simeon in the Temple, we have seen the light of Christ and can rejoice and live in the grace of forgiveness. And we are headed to a celebration that will have no end!

The challenge for us is to cultivate the sense that each day is a gift to be used and directed as God intends. It is to come each night with thanksgiving and with confidence that, even as we sleep, we are in God's tender care, knowing that God neither slumbers nor sleeps.



### COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

Pastor Harry will host three sessions on our understanding of Holy Communion on March 2, 9, and 23 at 9:00 a.m. The class is geared for our grade-school-age youth, but all are welcome to participate and refresh your knowledge of the Eucharist.

Speak with Pastor, if you would like to participate. Each of the young people who complete the series will have their First Communion after instruction on March 30<sup>th</sup>



### 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](#)

# CALENDAR

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

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

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

11:30 a.m. Adult Forum in the Chapel on the “Gospel of Luke”

The second session of the Adult Forum 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!



Please submit articles for the next *The Steeple Light* by the end of the day to [office@relcarlington.org](mailto:office@relcarlington.org).

**Thursday, February 20,** 11:00 a.m. online Bible Study, see 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. Worship Service, Vicar Jessica Zurcher preaching, Pastor Harry Therwanger presiding

Photo! please stay after Worship for a few minutes to take one group photo for the website.

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, [christinay.cuesta@gmail.com](mailto:christinay.cuesta@gmail.com), with any questions you may have.



## Sunday, March 2 – Transfiguration

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger, “My Bible” presentation during Worship

Seven of our grade school youth have walked through the Bible with an adult guide, usually a parent. They have made notes, highlighted significant verses, signed one another's Bible, but could not take them home. They became familiar with and came to own their Bible. Now that they have finished the “My Bible” Class, the Bible they have been working in for the last several months will be officially presented to them to keep and use. In the Baptismal liturgy parents and godparents make promises in response to God's promise to make this newly baptized child God's own. Among those promises - "and shall place into their hands the Holy Scriptures." Our church family is standing with our families to help them keep their promises. If you have a young reader in your family and they would be blessed to have such an experience, let pastor know. When we have another group we will plan the “My Bible” Class again.

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

2:00 Joint Confirmation @ Peace

**Tuesday, March 4 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper,** 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall



## Wednesday, March 5 – Ash Wednesday

6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. “Ashes to Go” at the Metro station. Pastor Harry Therwanger

11:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger



**Thursday, March 6,** 11:00 a.m. online Bible Study, contact Pastor Harry for the link

## Sunday, March 9 – Lent 1

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

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

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

11:30 a.m. Adult Forum in the Chapel, led by Gail Ramshaw

In the twentieth century, Lutherans were among the Christians that began the revival of the Three Days -- the ancient way to keep Easter over the three days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter. We at Resurrection in Arlington can be proud of ourselves that we have kept the Three Days for over 25 years: thus we are at the head of this liturgical renewal. On March 9 and 16, Gail Ramshaw will present adult forum discussions of some of the Old Testament readings that are part of the Easter Vigil. As you can see on this medieval image, Christians saw the story of Jonah as a picture of Christ's resurrection -- and so it is one of the readings of the Vigil. You can see a list of the options in the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal on page 269. Gail hopes to see you at the forums on March 9 and 16.



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



## Wednesday, March 12 – Lenten Midweek Evening Prayer

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



## ELCA and Metro DC Synod News



### 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.

### 2024 Synod in Review

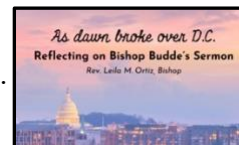
Celebrate all that God has accomplished through the Metro D.C. Synod in 2024! You're invited to explore the Synod's "Year in Review" – a vibrant collection of stories, photos, and reflections. Hear from Bishop Ortiz, Synod Vice President, Jennifer Slagle Peck, synod staff, and team leaders to see how God's faithfulness has worked in and through this community. Be inspired by what's possible through the Holy Spirit's movement and invitations. [https://metrodelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2024-Metro-DC-Synod-Annual-Report\\_D2.pdf](https://metrodelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2024-Metro-DC-Synod-Annual-Report_D2.pdf)





## As Dawn Broke over D.C.

Reflecting on Bishop Budde's Sermon. Click here to read the reflection by Bishop Ortiz.  
<https://metrodelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/As-dawn-broke-over-D.C.%E2%80%94Reflecting-on-Bishop-Buddes-Sermon.pdf>



## Supporting Lutheran Ministry

In light of recent social media posts attacking the humanitarian work of Lutheran social service agencies. The link below is the response from Katharyn Wheeler, representative on the board of Lutheran Social Services National Capital Area (LSSNCA) She addresses two crucial points: the Synod's steadfast commitment to supporting LSSNCA and similar organizations and how we can effectively respond on social media when confronting injustice—whether related to this situation or other instances of wrongdoing in our community. <https://metrodelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/How-to-Support-Ministry.pdf>



## 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 March 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 Jack, Church Council President, [jbschoen@alumni.colgate.edu](mailto:jbschoen@alumni.colgate.edu) before noon on Wednesday. Thank you for respecting our time. Announcements will be published for one week unless specific run dates are given.

