WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelical Lutheran Church

11010

<u>www.relcarlington.org</u> - 6201 Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA 22205 Rev. Harry Therwanger, <u>pastorharry@relcarlington.org</u> Vicar Jessica Zurcher, <u>vicarjessica@relcarlington.org</u>

From the Pastor's Pen

"No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known." (John 1:18)

RESURREC

Imagine seeing God! How would you react? Thrilled? Terrified? We have examples in scripture of Moses and the prophets who were so overwhelmed that they either hid their faces or fell to the ground in awe. Being a bit humorous here, imagine the water cooler conversation at work:

"What did you do last night?"

"Oh, I saw God. It was really something!"

I don't imagine that we will have any such conversation anytime soon, but we often look for God in the wrong places. The opening prologue of John's Gospel wants us to realize that God exists in relationship in God's self – our

confession of Trinity. So also, we find God in relationship. The relationship that matters most is our relationship with Jesus Christ. God is best seen in Jesus, who is close to God's heart, who has made God known.

When we gather, God promises to be in the midst of our assembly, God is visible in the water and Spirit at baptism. God is with us for our comfort when asked where I may find, touch, see, taste the presence of God, we point to the bread and wine on the altar. We hear God audibly in the Word proclaimed. We are invited to respond to God's love in our relationships with others.

Can we see God in the most vulnerable and marginalized? Can those in need see the face of Jesus in us in our compassion?

The relationships our Savior made while on earth are glimpses of the God that we have yet to fully see. As we share Christ in the relationships that we form and nurture, we allow the world around us to catch more than a glimpse of the God that it may not yet have seen but can surely know.

Dear Church, be that reflection of God! As Jesus has shown us God's heart, may we show others God in our lives.

If you haven't yet filled out the congregational survey from the RIC Team, please do so before this Sunday Feb 23. Paper copies are available in the narthex.

The Memorial service for Miriam J. Handley, John Handley's mother will be held Saturday, March 1 at Christ Lutheran Church in Staunton VA, burial at Saint James Lutheran Church in Fishersville, VA.



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 <u>the anonymous survey</u> 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! <u>Click here to take the anonymous survey</u>

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 23 – 7th 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. <u>Click here to take the anonymous survey</u>

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*) or Christina Cuesta, *christinam.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

Sunday, March 16 – Lent 2

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Vicar Jessica Zurcher Preaching, Pastor Harry Therwanger Presiding
11:00 a.m. Fellowship in the Parish Hall

Wednesday, March 19 - Lenten Midweek Evening Prayer

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

Sunday, March 23 – Lent 3

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Vicar Jessica Zurcher Preaching, Pastor Amy Feira Presiding 11:00 a.m. Fellowship in the Parish Hall

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

Wednesday, March 26 – Lenten Midweek Evening Prayer

Thursday, March 27, 11:00 a.m. online Bible Study, Pastor Harry for the link

Sunday, March 30 - Lent 4

9:00 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Pastor Harry Therwanger 11:00 a.m. Fellowship in the Parish Hall

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 30th











ELCA and Metro DC Synod News

As Dawn Broke over D.C.

Reflecting on Bishop Budde's Sermon. Click here to read the reflection by Bishop Ortiz. https://metrodcelca.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://metrodcelca.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 - 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

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 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, iccarr7@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 Jack, Church Council President, ibschoen@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.







Supporting Lutheran Ministry





Meal Ministry



As dawn broke over D.C **Reflecting on Bishop Budde's S**





