

RESURRECTION



NEW LIFE NEWS

Jesus is the Resurrection
and the Life...

A Life He gives and a
Life we share...



We are living in the end times.

So what?

We're in the thick of the "holiday season." The commercials and holiday specials on TV attempt to dictate what life should be like this time of year. We often see families smiling and laughing. But how often do our lives really look and feel anything like those overly produced moments we see in movies and on TV? Is our holiday experience filled with laughter and delight, or is it mostly filled with stress and anxiety? The chaos of this life and the whirlwind of increasingly busy schedules can leave us with a sense of longing rather than fulfillment.

The pain and hardship of this life, whether in this time of year or anytime, should come as no surprise. We are living in the *End Times*, the last days before the end of the world comes. But so what? What difference does that make? God makes it clear that we shouldn't be surprised when life isn't the Hollywood ideal. In fact, because of sin in this world, God says that this life is going to be troublesome. He even warns us that wickedness will increase in the last days.

However, we live in the *End Times* like a child watches the calendar for Christmas. We wait with that same sort of eager excitement because we, too, are waiting for a gift. We're not waiting for toys and games wrapped in shiny paper. There is something much better coming. As the apostle Paul wrote in the Bible: "I consider that our present

sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).

God promised a Savior right at the scene of the world's first sin. He followed through on that promise by sending Jesus to pay the price for everyone's sins by dying on the cross. God's forgiveness is ours now; trusting in Jesus we are God's children! And as his children we stand waiting for the rest of that gift: rescue from this world of hardship to be brought to an eternal life where only good exists.

Jesus' work for us, his death and his resurrection, assure us of his love. While there may be dark times in this life, none of those change God's love. He is with us now to help us get through the rough times. Because of Jesus and the gift of salvation that he won for us, finally God will take us to be with him forever in heaven. These *End Times* will give way to an eternity of true joy!

For more Questions & Answers,
go to www.WhatAboutJesus.com,
then *Questioning God*.

Resurrection Lutheran Church New Life News

Special Advent Services and Meals coming up in December

Advent means coming. It's the time of the year when we get ready for the coming of Christ at Christmas. This year we will again have special services to prepare our hearts.

Advent Suppers will be on Thursdays at 5:30 PM and the services will be held on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. December 3, 10, 17. These will serve as our Thursday evening Worship for those weeks.

Thanks to Pastor Moldenhauer from Our Redeemer, Madison, for preaching for the service on December 10th.

Sing for Joy!

December 3

“Mary's Song of Joy”

Vicar Eric Melso

December 10

“Zechariah's Song of Joy”

Pastor Phil Moldenhauer

December 17

“Simeon's Song of Joy”

Pastor Nathan Strutz



◆Christmas Eve Worship - December 24th, 6:30PM◆

◆Christmas Day Worship - December 25th, 9AM◆

Christmas For Kids - Saturday, December 19th

It's time to sign up for Christmas for Kids! The program starts at 10:30am and ends at 12:30pm on Saturday, December 19th. Sign-up slips for your children are found on the table in the church entrance. Just fill out the sheet and put it in the box also located on the table. You can also call to sign-up your children at 608.848.4965.

Hope to see you there! Questions or concerns email vicarmelso@rlcverona.com.



Christmas
FOR kids



Children's Christmas Service, Sunday, December 20th, 9AM

Join us for the Children's Christmas worship service on December 20th. The children of Resurrection Lutheran Church will recite, sing and rejoice celebrating the birth of Jesus during the service.

December News from our Director, Katie Mikula

Welcome December! It has been an amazing first half of the school year, filled with a lot of hard work and fun! We are all looking forward to holiday activities and enjoying family time during winter break.

3's Classroom

Ms. Jennifer's classroom will be busy celebrating Christmas and Jesus' birth. The children have been busy learning the songs and words from our Christmas program, which is planned for Sunday, December 20th at 9am. Letters for this month are J for Jesus, C for Christmas, and W for winter. Activities planned for this month include one-to-one correspondence, creating patterns with ornaments, and continuing fine motor skills.

4's Classroom

Ms. Mikula's classroom will be finishing up their "buildings" unit this month and then jump into their "gingerbread men" and "Christmas around the world" themes. Letters for this month are U, C, and O. Activities include looking at a building's logo for clues on what happens inside, working on patterns, reading different books about gingerbread men and creating their own gingerbread man, playing with gingerbread playdough, and having a pj and Polar Express party. Parents are invited to spend the morning in the classroom on December 22nd and join us for our holiday party!

Bible Stories for 3K and lunch bunch

"Birth of John", "An Angel Visits Joseph", and "The Birth of Jesus".

Christmas Vacation

Wednesday, December 23rd - Monday, January 4th. School resumes on Tuesday, January 5th.

Ms. Jennifer, Ms. Becky, and I want to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

Rejoice! Christ the Savior is born!



Chapel day with Pastor



3's having fun on PJ Day



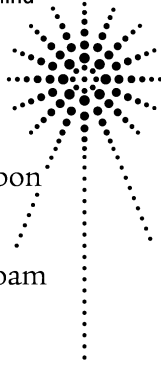
science experiment fun ►

STAR OF BETHLEHEM

Make a mobile to remind you of Jesus' birth.

What you need:

- Paper plate
- Hole punch
- Thin blue ribbon
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Yellow craft foam
- Marker



What you do:

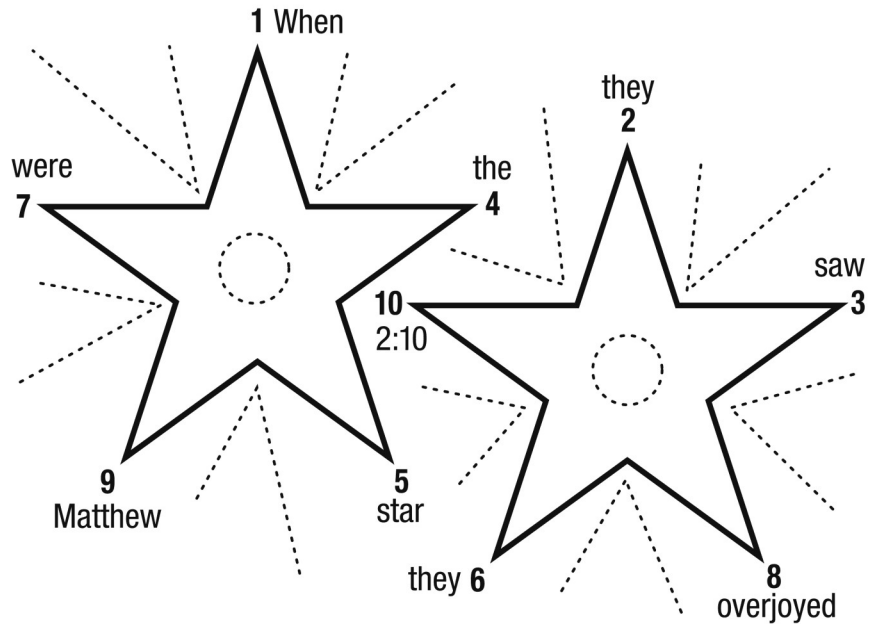
1. With the paper plate upside down, punch evenly spaced holes along the rim. Gently fold the plate and punch a hole in the center.
2. Cut pieces of ribbon, thread them through the holes as desired and tie the ribbons securely.
3. Trace several small stars and one larger star on the foam and cut them out. Punch a hole atop a point of each star.
4. Tie one small star to each outer-rim ribbon.
5. Thread a longer ribbon through the center hole and tie the large star to the other end.
6. Write a verse on the plate or large star. Hang the mobile from the ceiling with another piece of blue ribbon.



The star of Christmas

When Jesus was born, a star led the wise men to him.

Directions: Place the words in order, by their numbers, on the blanks below to complete Matthew 2:10, NIV.



“ _____
 _____ , _____
 _____ ”
 _____ : _____ , NIV

Answer: "When they saw the star, they were overjoyed." Matthew 2:10, NIV

Soccer Camp 2016

Please think about volunteering to help out with soccer camp next summer July 2016. The camp is tentatively planned to take place from Monday, July 11th through Friday, July 15th at Veteran's Park in Verona. If you'd like to volunteer to be a coach or assistant coach just talk with Vicar Melso or email him at vicarmelso@rlcverona.com. No experience required, training and soccer drills will all be provided for the volunteers.





Christmas Caroling in Verona! - Friday, December 4th, 4:45PM

Please join us for the fourth annual Christmas caroling event in Verona on December 4th. We will meet at 4.45 pm at the Senior Center in Verona (108 Paoli Street). We will carol outside as the Christmas lights are turned on in Verona, as well as be part of a live weather forecast. We will continue caroling inside the Senior Center during a chili supper and then enjoy chili and hot dogs courtesy of the Verona Area Firefighters. Hundreds of people attend this event. It is a great way to proclaim Jesus' love in our community.

Spread the Good News! Jesus is Born! Saturday, December 5th and 12th

With Christmas approaching, there will be two special opportunities to spread the Good News.

1. **Saturday, December 5.** Youth and adults will distribute Christmas postcards, inviting people to Christmas for Kids and our Christmas Eve and Day services. We have 3000 cards to hand deliver. This will be a non-talking canvass. Simply walk along and leave the postcard in the door. Drivers especially are needed to transport youth.

2. **Saturday, December 12.** Good News and Resurrection will work together on a "prospect canvass." We will visit people who have had contact with our congregation: attended worship, expressed interest, attend Prek, etc. Students from Lakeside Lutheran in Lake Mills will be assisting us. Meet at Good News in Mt. Horeb at 9.00 a.m. We will canvass in Mt. Horeb in the morning, come to Resurrection for lunch and then canvass in the Verona area in the afternoon.

Last year several people attended worship because of the postcards distributed and the personal visits that were made. Speak with Gene Cate or pastor for more information.

Advent by Candlelight - Sunday, December 6th

Advent by Candlelight is a special night; a night to prepare ourselves for the busy Christmas season and set our mindset and priorities to the best gift ever given, God's own Son, Jesus, our Savior from sin. The date is set for **December 6th, at 6:30pm**. Sign-up in the entryway to attend, bring a guest, and donate a dessert or decorate a table.

New Year's Eve Worship Service - 6:30PM, Thursday, December 31st

Join us for the New Year's Eve worship service. Since New Year's Eve falls on a Thursday this year, we will have a special service with communion. This will be different from any Sunday services.

Resurrection Celebrates Ten Year Facility Anniversary - Thursday, January 14th at 6:30PM and Sunday, January 17th

On Sunday, January 17 at the regular 9.00 a.m. service, Resurrection will give thanks to God for ten years of the facility built to his glory. Pastor Doug Tomhave, the first pastor of Resurrection, will preach for the service, which will focus on the symbolism of the facility and its distinctive Lutheran features. Pastor Tomhave will also lead the Bible study on the history of Resurrection up to and including the facility construction.

A potluck will follow Bible study at 11.30 on Sunday. Members of Resurrection who were involved in the ►

building process will share humorous stories and anecdotes about the facility construction process. Join us to give thanks and glory to God.

An RSVP if you plan to attend would be appreciated, especially for the potluck. Email to resurrection@rlcverona.com

Changes to future RLC Book Club meetings

Please join us for the RLC book club meetings at 7PM in the youth room at church for discussion and fellowship. ***There will not be a meeting in December.**

The book meetings have been changed to:

* January 19th: "The End of Your Life Book Club" by: Will Schwalbe

* February 16th: "Unplanned: the Dramatic True Story of a Former Planned Parenthood Leader's Eye-opening Journey Across the Life Line" by: Abby Johnson

We Hear God's Word

For October, average worship attendance was 188. We are currently blessed with 296 members. 47 adults on average attended one of our Bible studies, plus those attending Vine and Branches. Adult membership is 216. Thanks be to God for each person who heard God's Word in worship and Bible study.

November Council Highlights

- ✦ The council continued reading through the Bible and discussing. Very good questions are being asked and answered.
- ✦ Athena Young was welcomed into membership. She had been a member at RLC before moving to Watertown a few years ago. She has moved back to the area. Welcome back, Athena!
- ✦ Mianna Woller was granted a transfer to Good News, as she has moved closer to our daughter congregation in Mt. Horeb.
- ✦ Congregational finances are in good shape. Commitments will be used to help determine the budget for next fiscal year (it's not too late to turn in your commitment.)
- ✦ The council held a good portion of the meeting jointly with Our Redeemer in Madison. The possibility of a new church location in Fitchburg was discussed, along with ways to better promote the grade school at Our Redeemer, especially among RLP Prek families.
- ✦ Our Redeemer is in the process of calling a second pastor. It was agreed that this annual gathering is a benefit to both congregations and will be done again next year. The councilmen enjoyed informal fellowship after the meeting and continue to strengthen ties in Christ.

Resurrection Lutheran Church & PreK School

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