

Resurrection Lutheran School

LION'S TALE WEEKLY

June 27, 2020



Mission

Resurrection Lutheran School is committed to educating generations of children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Because of this commitment, we will provide a Lutheran educational experience that is Christ-centered as well as academically focused for children in junior kindergarten through eighth grade.

HEALTHY TOGETHER

As always, our school mission and current strategic vision remain front and center as we develop Resurrection Lutheran School's response to the pandemic. We have learned a lot about preparing for unforeseen events this past school year and are putting the final touches on Resurrection's Covid-19 Preparedness Plan for the 2020-2021 School Year.

The RLS Reopening Task Force, made up of 12 Resurrection staff and Board members, 8 RLS parents with expertise and experience in healthcare and/or education as well as 7 community experts have made recommendations to the Board for safely reopening RLS in August. This plan will be communicated in a special edition of the Lion's Tale Weekly this week.

While this period is undoubtedly challenging, it also presents unique opportunities to respond with different learning modalities and approaches that support and advance our larger vision. We will continue to share the evolving plans for the 2020-2021 school year. Please understand that this is a fluid situation, information can change rapidly.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. SMITH

"Pat Smith was my son's kindergarten teacher. All through his education, my son has had to fight to succeed! Learning and attention challenges followed him from year to year. But he's made it! Now, a senior mechanical engineering major at University of Florida, he's on his way. So, what does all this have to do with Pat Smith? One day after kindergarten during our ritual debriefing-with-mom time, in which my son USUALLY shared what Joey did, or what Susie said or the cool rock he found on the playground, he looked at me with a very serious little face and shared what he learned from Mrs. Smith that day. I'll never forget it! That day, like many others, Mrs. Smith planted a VERY powerful seed in the mind of my son. She told him, "No one can MAKE you do anything! Instead, you choose! You decide..... You decide the direction you want to go, the choices you want to make, the goals you want to set, the path you want to take." You could tell that he was intrigued by this notion, this proclamation that he was the architect of his own life. That lesson took root and grew. It stuck with him....feeding him, nurturing him, and guiding him ALL throughout his life. Wow! What a powerful start for a shy little boy who struggled to read. The lasting impact of has been astounding. Mrs. Smith, from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU! I could not have asked for a better kindergarten teacher....a better role model....a better human...to welcome my son into the first years of his schooling and his life."



With love, respect, and boundless gratitude, A RLS Parent

Pat Smith has been planting these seeds at Resurrection for nearly 20 years. She served on the feasibility team prior to opening, walking beside Reverend Paul Kibler, the founding pastor of RLS. Pastor saw Lutheran education as an extension of the church and another way to reach out to the community and knew the importance of surrounding children with the love of Christ. His vision was for RLS to provide an environment that stimulated spiritual growth and academic excellence while encouraging children's expression of their unique God-given talents. This mission would promote the active participation of parents and congregation members while facilitating children's interaction with the community through service, and a well-rounded, developmentally appropriate curriculum would focus on the sovereignty of God in all aspects of school life in a warm, nurturing environment.

In the fall of 2002, Resurrection Lutheran School opened its doors to 17 kindergarten students and Mrs. Smith was there, chosen by God, to greet this inaugural class made up of only 5% church members thus validating the important community outreach that was intended. Since then, Pat Smith has taught us all strategies that will continue to guide our paths in life. You see, kindergarten is not just about learning to read or how to hold a pencil as you form your first letters. It is a time for experimentation, discovery, self-reflection, observation, and yes, practicing the art of failure and resilience. Mrs. Smith challenges children to think for themselves, develop strategies and decide what kind of student, and more importantly person, they want to be. Her daily words and actions are a reflection of God's love and she leads her flock using the fruit of the Spirit as her guide. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."^[2]

Resurrection Lutheran School will recognize Pat Smith's service during worship on Sunday, July 12. While we will not be able to meet in person you are welcome to join the live stream.

Coming to you LIVE on Sunday mornings!

Join us online for worship live at 9:00 am! Connect through our YouTube channel at youtube.com/c/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC/live or rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

Please join me in thanking Pat Smith for her faithful service. We wish you a happy and healthy retirement!

ADMISSIONS & CLASS SIZE

While the finalized plan is forthcoming, a preliminary decision has been made as it relates to class size limitations. In keeping with social distancing guidelines **Resurrection will cap classes at 15 students for the 2020-2021 school year.** Exceptions will be made in limited circumstances if a class was already above this number prior to the pandemic. In this scenario, we will provide a larger classroom to ensure adequate physical spacing is achieved. Under these new guidelines, we find ourselves in a waitlist situation in several grades; consequently it will be important that you notify the school office if your plans have changed for any reason (admission@rlscary.org).

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE 4TH OF JULY!

