



Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church * May 2024



Pentecost Sunday is just around the corner – May 19, 2024!

But what is Pentecost?

It's not like Pentecost is a word that we use much outside of church. Unlike some other Christian holy days, it hasn't leaked into popular culture. You won't find new stories about the "War on Pentecost" – there's no tradition of gift giving (and the accompanying sales) around Pentecost. You aren't even likely to find an increase in chocolate sales to go with the holiday. So, what is Pentecost ... and why should we care?

The Basics of Pentecost

Pentecost Sunday is the day when Christians around the world celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

On Christmas, Christians celebrate the Incarnation – the idea that God became human in the person of Jesus Christ. On Easter, Christians celebrate the Resurrection – the belief that Jesus rose from the dead, a sign of the promise of resurrection given to all God's people. And on Pentecost, we celebrate the Holy Spirit – the gift of God's comfort, power, and strength given to God's people.

The History of Pentecost

In the Hebrew Scripture, the Jewish people celebrated a holiday known as the "Festival of Weeks" (see Exodus 32 and Deuteronomy 16). This was a harvest festival, a time when the Israelites celebrate the generosity of God, shown in a successful harvest of grain.

While the Temple stood in Jerusalem, each farmer would bring their *first fruits* – the first ripe samples from their fields – and give them as an offering of thanksgiving in the Temple. This meant

that many Jews from all across the countryside would gather in Jerusalem in order to present their offering at the Temple.

The Festival of Weeks happened fifty days after the Passover. For this reason, the Greek-speaking Jews of the first century called the festival “Pentecost” – from the Greek word meaning “fiftieth day.”

It was during the Festival of Weeks, fifty days after Passover, that the disciples of Jesus were gathered in Jerusalem. They had spent the last fifty days making sense of their experiences of the resurrection of their teacher, Jesus, and the fact that he had just ascended into heaven (for this whole account, see the book of Acts, chapters 1 and 2).

While the disciples were gathered, the Holy Spirit filled them. They began to tell to the pilgrims who were gathered in Jerusalem about Jesus. As they preached, they were amazed to discover that all the pilgrims – regardless of what language they spoke – were able to understand them.

So What?

The Christian holiday of Pentecost is rooted in this historical event – an event sometimes called the “birthday of the church” because it marks the day that Jesus’ disciples began to share the story of Jesus and invite others to share in their faith in Jesus as the Son of God.

But Pentecost is more than just remembering an historical event.

On Pentecost, we invite the same Spirit that filled the disciples that day to transform our lives.

Even more important than looking backward and remembering what God did two thousand years ago, we look forward and invite the Spirit to pull us into the future.

The Holy Spirit has a way of turning things upside down. The story of Acts is all about how the lives of the disciples got turned upside down – and by extension, how the world turned upside down by this new, Spirit-filled faith.

On Pentecost we invite this disruptive presence of God into our own lives.

The fruit of the Spirit, says Paul, is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These are what we seek to live into, how we seek to transform the world, and the evidence of the Spirit at work in our lives and in the world.

Join us in worship as we celebrate and explore all that Pentecost means for us.

-Written by Pastor David Hansen, Spirit of Joy! Lutheran Church, The Woodlands, TX



Dear Family of Faith:

I hope you are enjoying this fabulous weather. I wanted to thank all our volunteers, as we could not do all the magnificent things we do here at Faith without you. The buzz around here for things happening seems to grow each and every week and I feel the excitement.

Each month all the minutes from the committees and the council are posted on the bulletin board, please take a moment to review them and feel free to ask any questions of our council members.

This is from the ELCA....You are the Church!

Jesus didn't come to start a church. He came to show God's love for the whole world. He came to heal and to teach and to save. And, as he did that, he gathered a crowd. They were changed by that encounter. And when Jesus said, "Hey, you want to come along and help?" they followed him. They were the church. Long before there were church buildings or seminaries to train pastors or even a book with the story of Jesus written down in it, they were the church.

The church is people. And, today, the church is us. We are the church when we get together to celebrate and to mourn, to worship and to learn and to serve. But we are also the church when we are at home, at work, at school, having coffee with the neighbor, doing our shopping, paying our taxes, marking the ballot. We are the church wherever we go. It is our job, in all those places, to share the good news of God's love in everything we say and everything we do.

God's Blessings,

Diane Swarts, Council President

Let's talk about social media . . .

Are you following us on social media?

The use of social media is a great way to advertise Faith Lutheran (for free!) and help us GROW! Help us by going to the links below to follow our page and be sure to invite your friends and family to follow us, as well! In addition, you can write a review on Facebook, Instagram and Google, as well! The more interaction we get on our social media pages, the higher we'll place in the algorithm, which makes us easier for others to find us, follow us and join us for worship!



<https://www.facebook.com/faithlutheranmenifee>



<https://www.instagram.com/faithlutheranmenifee>



<https://g.page/r/Cekm6HPOyDnHEB0/review>



Worship Schedule

FOR MAY 2024

May is a month of festivals! May 9th is the day of our Lord's Ascension. May 12th is the last day of the Easter Season (as well as Mother's Day). May 19th is Pentecost when we wear Red to remember and celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to all those who were assembled in Jerusalem to hear Peter preach. May 26th we finish the month with Holy Trinity Sunday and join in a resounding round of a favorite old hymn: "Holy, Holy, Holy". Come join the celebrations! Stay faithful – we miss you when you're not able to worship with us!

May 5 **Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
Pastor Rex Wignall presiding

May 12 **Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
Pastor Rich Ajer presiding

May 19 **Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
Day of Pentecost – Wear Red!
Pastor Rich Ajer presiding

May 26 **Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
The Holy Trinity
Pastor Rich Ajer presiding

Those hesitant to be in larger crowds may continue to worship by choosing one of the following alternatives:

- **Radio:** in our parking lot still on *live* broadcast. Tune to 98.9 FM
- **Online:** on our website, any time after 2:00 pm each Sunday



HAPPY

MOTHER'S DAY

God's richest blessings to all mothers and mother-figures.



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Power Point	Ushers	Greeters	Attendance
5th: Roderick	5th: Amy	5th: Mike	5th: Annie	5th: Bosingers	5th: Joanne
12th: Steve	12th: Kathy	12th: Candy	12th: Gina	12th: Judy Adams	12th: Diane M.
19th: Candy	19th: Sandy	19th: Lynn	19th: Judy Appel	19th: Steve	19th: Kathy
26th: Joanne	26th: Pat	26th: Bill	26th: Diane M.	26th: Frank	26th: Debbie

Altar Guild: 5th: Marlene & Kay Thomas; 12th: Marlene; 19th: Debbie & Kay; 26th: Debbie & Diane M.

Christmas in July

We will be celebrating our military and veterans and their families in need by collecting gift cards for Target, any grocery store or gas station. The donations go to MilVet of Murrieta, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

Please visit our patriotic giving tree in the Narthex from Memorial Day through July. Help our military and veterans if you are able.

Choose a star ornament, purchase the gift card (save any activation or validation receipt), bring it back to church, and place in a provided baggie. Choose a thank you gift for yourself.

Please respond by July 31. Thank you!

Raven Hilden, the founder and CEO from MilVet, will come to speak with us during coffee hour on June 2 to tell us about their work.

We are excited about this new opportunity to spread God's love!



FINANCIAL REPORT

March 31, 2024

1. Comments

- a. Member giving has been short of budget for the last three months. Fortunately, our expenses have also been running under budget. This, despite fully expensing the Pastoral Expense budget line items. Let's see if we can get closer to budget in our member giving as we go forward in the next several months.
- b. This month, we were able to transfer \$8,480 to the New Pastor Reserve Fund, by charging our Pastoral Expense categories to the full budgeted amount, which makes that money available to move to the New Pastor Reserve Fund.



2. Financials Review

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
 - i) **For the month**, under budget at 93.1% (\$12,862 vs \$13,823).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, under budget at 92.6% (34,725 vs \$37,515).
- b. **Total Income**
 - i) **For the month**, under budget at 98.3% (\$18,292 vs \$18,617).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, under budget at 94.2% (54,339 vs \$56,433).
- c. **Expenses**
 - i) **For the month**, under budget at 95.2% (\$17,589 vs \$18,471).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, under budget at 90.6% (51,154 vs \$56,445).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - i) **For the month**, a surplus of \$703 vs the expected surplus of \$146.
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, a surplus of \$3,185 vs the expected surplus of \$1,212.
- e. **Checking balance**
 - i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$6,576.
 - ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$5,901.





BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

May 10	Sheron Zolzer
May 13	Madison Astorga
May 16	Arnette Calkins
May 21	Rudy Bosinger
May 25	Steve Kent
May 26	Nancy Randolph
May 27	Marlene Rosselli



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

May 6, 2000	Gregg & Jennifer McGavran
May 17, 2008	Roderick & Amy Sinclair
May 28, 1977	Tom & Judy Brosz



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please notify the church office so we can add you to our list!



Hunger Never Rests!

The Menifee Valley Community Cupboard is in need of **peanut butter (16 oz)** for **May!**

Your donations are always welcome and needed! Bring your donations to the church office during our regular hours or you may drop your items off at The Cupboard at 26944 Cherry Hills Blvd (951/301-4414). When you drop off your donations, please inform the Community Cupboard you are from Faith Lutheran. If you are a Thrivent member you may wish to use your Thrivent Action Card to purchase up to \$250.00 of food for the Cupboard. For more information, call Diane Swarts at (949) 500-7986.

Diane Swarts - Community Cupboard Liaison



Greetings dear women of Faith!

It is May and Spring is here! Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers, grandmothers, and great grandmothers.

Our May *Gather Magazine* spotlights the issue of mental health in the May 2024 devotional article "Compassionate Companions". The study by Elise Seyfried tells us how congregations can play a role in mental health ministry. May is Mental Health Awareness month. This issue impacts one in five adults in the U.S. Come and join us at the daytime Mary Circle and learn more.

Our evening circle is studying women of the Bible. Come and join that group and find out more about the interesting lives of the women of the Bible.

Select the Circle Bible study time listed below that is best for you and join in the conversation. All women are welcome.

Pacifica Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering: On Saturday, **April 13**, four women from Faith traveled to Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Banning for a day of Bible study, service projects and social time together. About 40 women from many churches of our area gathered with our sisters in Christ from Southern California Pacifica Synod. A fun and fulfilling day was had by all.

June fundraiser. Come join us on **Saturday, June 22**, in the Fellowship Hall for a great day. The recipient of our fundraising this year will be The CARE Project. This is a non-profit organization created by a breast cancer survivor to emotionally and financially support both male and female breast cancer patients. The Rancho Rockers will be back to entertain us. There will be raffle drawings for gift baskets and gift cards, all followed by lunch and fellowship. There will be a signup sheet in the narthex. Note a "save the date" on your calendar. Invite your friends as well and come join us!

Coming up this month:

Quilters: Thursday, **May 2**, 9-12 noon in the Fellowship Hall at Church

Mary Circle Bible study: Wednesday, **May 8**, 10:00 am at Church

W-ELCA Board Meeting: Wednesday, **May 14**, 1:00 pm at Church

Quilters: Thursday, **May 2** and Thursday **May 16**, 9-12 noon in the Fellowship Hall at church

Evening Bible Study: Thursday, **May 16**, 6:00 pm at church

Planning ahead – Mark your calendar!

Women of the ELCA Annual Fundraiser: Saturday, **June 22**, 10:00 am

Women of the ELCA General Meeting and Luncheon: Saturday, **September 21**, 10:00 am

Pacifica W-ELCA Convention, San Bernardino: Friday-Saturday, **October 18 and 19**

W ELCA General Meeting & Christmas Luncheon: Saturday, **December 14**, 10:00 am

*Let us daily: "Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good, sing praise to God's name for God is gracious."
(Psalm 135:3)*

In Christ's love, Bea Olsen, Women of the ELCA President, cell# 951 370-3600

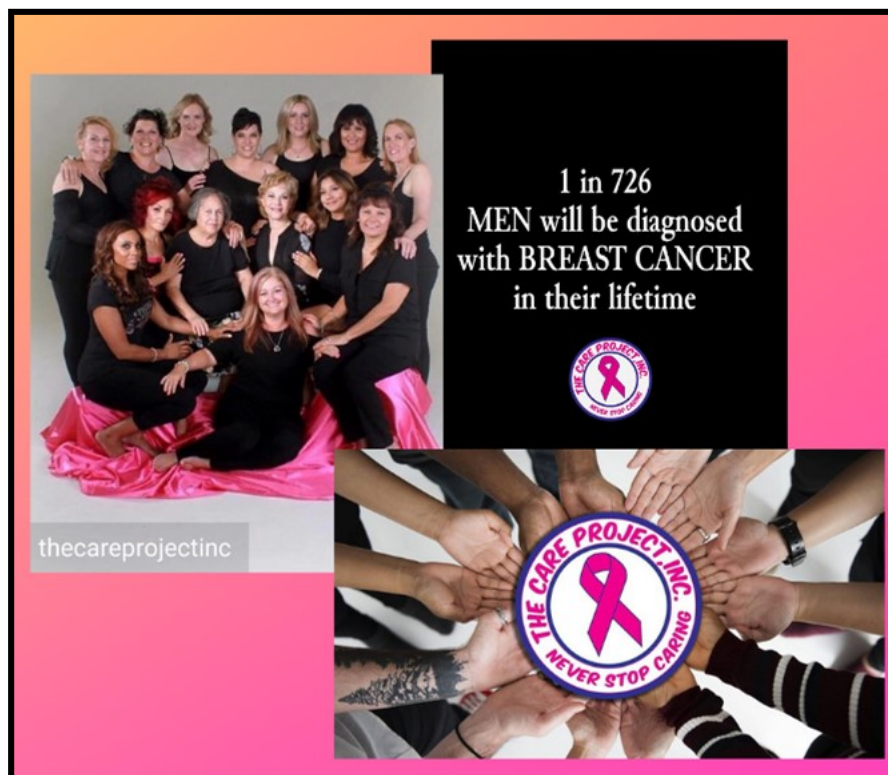
WELCA Quarterly Meeting: June 22

Most everyone we know has been impacted by a family member or friend with breast cancer. This June, the WELCA event will benefit The CARE Project, a breast cancer support non-profit organization. All proceeds raised will go to this cause. One thing that makes The CARE Project unique is they work with both female AND male breast cancer patients and their families. Do you know that 1 in 726 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime??

How can you help? As part of this event, we will raffle off baskets of goodies! To make the baskets, we need your help with goodie donations! We are hoping for 25 baskets, and we are halfway there! Donations can be made at any time between now and June 1, 2024. Here are a few ideas to consider:

- Do you know a business owner? You might consider asking them for a gift card or item from their business.
- Donate new items for a basket - Wine, chocolate, restaurant/eatery gift card, movie or event tickets, etc.
- Did I mention wine or chocolate donations are a favorite!
- Want to make your own basket? Ideas might include: lottery scratch-off basket, BBQ basket, movie basket, book lovers basket, recipe basket with recipe and ingredients/gift card to make your favorite dish, holiday basket built around your favorite holiday, foodie basket, self-care spa basket, pet lovers basket, coffee or tea basket, a brunch basket... the possibilities are unlimited!
- And did I mention wine or chocolate are a favorite!

There are so many ideas! The more ideas and basket donations, the more we can raise for The Care Project and support the breast cancer cause! Please let Candy Pellechio know what you plan to donate. If you have any questions, please contact Candy cepellec@gmail.com or 908-601-4540.





Sunday, May 11, 2024

PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS IN A BAG
BY YOUR MAILBOX

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Annual Letter Carriers'
Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive
1pm-4pm OR 3pm-6pm

EMAIL QUESTIONS
OR TO VOLUNTEER
endhunger@mvcupboard.org



The Outreach Team is Seeking Volunteers!

Your Outreach Committee is working hard to lead many outreach efforts and continue to do the work our Lord calls us to in our local community. However, outreach is the work of the entire church body. We are looking for two (2) volunteers for important outreach initiatives. When each of us takes a small active role, we all benefit and what a difference we can make together!!

New Member Coordinator: Do you enjoy welcoming new visitors and members? Are you passionate about seeing our church community grow? Then this might be a wonderful ministry opportunity for you! We have the process and accountabilities documented making this a streamlined role. Want to know more about what this entails? Speak with Candy Pellechio or Kathy Kent.

Pet Blessing Coordinator: Are you a pet lover? We hope to have our annual Pet Blessings event this fall. We need someone who loves animals to coordinate this single event. We have volunteers ready to help. Want to know more about what this entails? Speak with Candy Pellechio or Kathy Kent.

Thank you for considering these ministry opportunities!

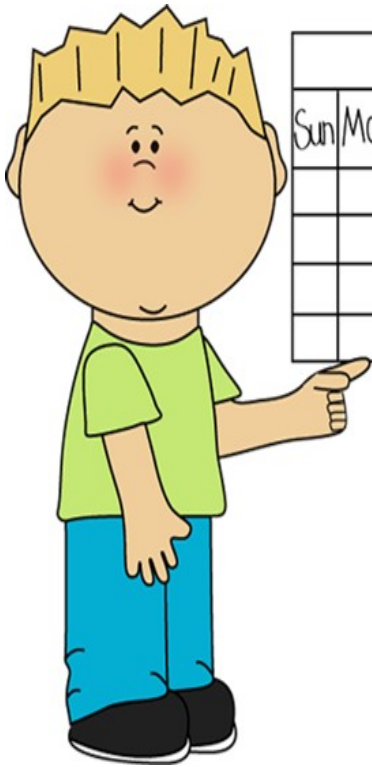
"A mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend." —Unknown



"A mother understands what a child does not say." —Jewish proverb

"Mother: the most beautiful word on the lips of mankind." —Kahlil Gibran

To help you plan ahead, this is a list of the events that recur each month:



Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

- Snip ‘N Stitch: 1st and 3rd Thursday at 9:00
- Worship & Music: 1st Tuesday at 10:00
- Strategic Planning: 2nd Monday at 1:00
- Hymn Planners: 2nd Tuesday at 10:00
- Outreach Team: 2nd Tuesday at 3:30
- WELCA Bible Study: 2nd Wednesday at 10:00
- WELCA Bible Study: 3rd Thursday at 6:00 pm
- Remembering & Honoring: 2nd Wednesday at 2:00
- 4+1 Group: 3rd Tuesday at 10:00
- Fellowship Team: 3rd Tuesday at 2:00
- WELCA Board: 2nd Tuesday at 1:00
- Stewardship Team: 3rd Friday at 10:00
- Finance Team: 4th Wednesday at 1:00
- Council: the last Monday of each month at 1:00
- Al-Anon: Every Friday at 10:30

Please note Harold’s new address!

Harold Whitford
 Masonic Home at Covina
 1650 E. Old Badillo St. #212
 Covina, CA 91724



Faith Lutheran Church

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

Office Phone: (951) 679-1518 | **Email:** FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com

Website: www.faithmenifee.com

Church Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm | Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

May 2024

June 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 28	29	30	May 1	2 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch	3 10:30am AI-Anon	4
5 AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship Service: Pr. Rex	6 10:00am Strategic Planning 4:00pm Endowment Fund Board	7 10:00am Hymn Planners-Zoom only 1:00pm WELCA Board Meeting 3:30pm Outreach Team	8 10:00am Mary Circle Bible Study 2:00pm Remembering & Honoring	9 4:00pm Cheer/Eucharistic Team	10 10:30am AI-Anon	11
12 AM: Steve; Lector: Kathy PPT: Candy 9:30am Worship Service: Pr Ajer	13 1:00pm Strategic Planning 4:00pm Endowment Fund Board	14 10:00am Hymn Planners-Zoom only 1:00pm WELCA Board Meeting 3:30pm Outreach Team	15	16 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch 6:00pm WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom	17 10:00am Stewardship-In Person & Zoom 10:30am AI-Anon	18
19 AM: Candy; Lector: Sandy PPT: Lynn 9:30am Worship Service: Pr Ajer	20 1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom	21 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship-In Person & Zoom	22	23 Forecaster Deadline	24 10:30am AI-Anon 1:00pm Finance Team-In Person & Zoom	25
26 AM: Joanne; Lector: Pat PPT: Bill 9:30am Worship Service: Pr Ajer	27 1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom	28	29	30	31 10:30am AI-Anon	Jun 1