



Forecaster



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH * MARCH 2021



There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. ~Ecclesiastes 3:1-8~

Dear faithful friends and fellow children of God: Gathering While Apart, a year in the life of a pandemic age congregation.

This month will see the passage of the anniversary of our congregation and our world entering into the pandemic lockdown at a major scale. Some places entered sooner, some later, but our congregation made the decision to enter into our time apart in March of 2020. We didn't know how long it would take, many of us thought we would be back sitting in the pews in "real church" in a matter of weeks, at worst a couple of months. But the reality has set in that our time apart has taken longer than originally expected. Along with that realization comes another: that what we have been doing for the last year, is still "real church!" As Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 reminds us, there is a time for everything and we will come to the time where we worship in our sanctuary again. But this anniversary is as good a time as any to remind us that God meets us wherever we are and we can worship and give our God praise from the bottom of the ocean to the tops of mountains, from the desert to tropical beaches... and surely from our homes and parking lot and inside of our church sanctuary.

With the end of February, we also see our new church council formed. Let us give thanks for those going off the council: Thordis Moe, Bill Brauer, and in particular, we give special thanks to Caroline Ogden, our outgoing president of the congregation. Deep gratitude to the three of you for your gift of service to your community of Faith, More gratitude is given to all of our returning members to the council: Sharon Seims, Arlene Dressler, Mike McGavran, Gale Eury, Jean Miles and Kandie Hulme. Additionally, those last 5 members are our new council officers: Secretary Arlene, Treasurer Mike, Vice President Jean, and Co-Presidents Kandie and Gale. Finally, gratitude and warmest of welcomes to our new council members Cody Meckler, Harold Whitford, and Amy Sinclair (whom the council asked and elected to join Council at the February council meeting). I am honored and it is wonderful to serve alongside all of these incredible siblings in Christ.

More than ever, as this season of our time apart continues, our church leadership continues to work hard for our congregation and to keep us connected. And so more than ever we need everyone to share in their God-given talents to support our leaders and lean into the season of building up our congregation. Whether it be joining in at our Bible studies or new ministry groups (see last month's Forecaster), calling and checking in on members you haven't heard from in a while, or intentionally attending our worship services - let us all gather together in our own way to continue the service and praise of our community of Faith

Lutheran Church. Though our beloved church is completing a year in the pandemic, it is only one season in the life of the church. The season of God's love for us is in all seasons of church life and our lives; that is God's sacred promise to us. That is the good news that will see us through the pandemic and beyond.

So, until we see each other again: "May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26).

Yours in Christ, Pastor John Barton

Endowment Board

As you know, the Endowment Board awarded a \$2000 scholarship to Paige Bunker, Ruth Ditsch's great-granddaughter, for the current school year. Going forward, the Endowment Board will accept scholarship applications on an annual basis. Now the board is ready to receive applications for the 2021-2022 school year. Please encourage students who are entering the fields of education and/or pastoral ministry to access the scholarship application form online at faithmenifee.com. The deadline for submission of the application is May 1, 2021. Recipients of the scholarships, which will range between \$500 and \$2000, will be notified by June 1, 2021. Thanks for helping to spread the word about this opportunity!

Pat Adams, Endowment Board



We as a family at Faith mourn the loss of the following members in 2020:

Barbara Kincheloe
Ruth Purdum
Vivian Thompson
JoAnn Hallahan
Sonja Gautsche

Edna Lovett
Frank Rodriguez
George Eide
Shirley Jay
Jim Gray

Gladys Mathias
Udell Hintz
Bob Eury
Arne Oftedal
Gordon Westby

President's Report



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Thank you all who participated in our Annual Meeting in the wake of this pandemic. We have met our quorum with 61 ballots returned by February 19, and successfully elected our new Council as well as completed our other responsibilities in keeping our Church moving forward.

BALLOT RESULTS

(Signatures removed by Pastor John Barton)
(Ballots counted by Ken Borchmann and Bill Seel)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: passed with 59 votes

2021 COUNCIL: Arlene Dressler (1 year): 61
Kandie Hulme (1 year): 61
Cody Meckler (1 year): 61
Harold Whitford (3 years): 61

ENDOWMENT BOARD: David Moe (1 year): 61
Caroline Ogden (2 years): 59
Tex Culp (1 year): 59

SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES: Rodrick and Amy Sinclair: 61

APPROVAL OF 2021 BUDGET: passed with 59 votes

NEW COUNCIL FOR 2021

After results from the ballots were obtained, the new council met on February 22, 2021. They voted on officers for the coming year. In addition, they voted to add Amy Sinclair to the Council to fill a vacancy that we were unable to fill prior to the election.

CO-PRESIDENTS: Kandie Hulme & Gale Eury
SECRETARY: Arlene Dressler
VICE PRESIDENT: Jean Miles
TREASURER: Mike McGavran

LIAISONS TO COMMITTEES

Each Council member is responsible for a Committee to be the official Council contact to bring information both to and from the rest of the Council:

EDUCATION: Amy Sinclair
FELLOWSHIP: Jean Miles
OUTREACH: Sharon Seims
PROPERTY: Harold Whitford
SERVICES (CHEER): Kandie Hulme
STEWARDSHIP: Gale Eury
W-ELCA & KITCHEN: Arlene Dressler
WORSHIP & MUSIC: Amy Sinclair
YOUTH (In all Committees): Cody Meckler

Thank you for supporting me throughout the past 3 years! It was an honor to serve as your Council President. We are facing a new beginning, a new way of doing things. Stay tuned to the new Council for more information on how we will continue to do Church.

In Christ's Service, Caroline Ogden



Spotlight on Ministry: Hymn Planners

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: ADMINISTRATION, MUSIC AND KNOWLEDGE

Giving Generously of themselves to the Glory of God!

Hymn planning is a subgroup of the Worship & Music Ministry dedicated to helping Pastor Barton choose the hymns for each worship service. Anyone in the congregation is welcome to join us at our meetings on Zoom – once, occasionally or regularly. (*Our next meeting is Monday, March 15th at 9:00 am.*)

We meet every four to five weeks to choose hymns guided by suggestions from Sundays and Seasons, a worship resource provided by the ELCA. Many of the hymns suggested in this resource are unfamiliar to our congregation, so we must come up with alternative possibilities that are still in keeping with the lessons and themes of each particular Sunday. We also try to incorporate hymn requests from congregational members if we have any. Feel free to browse through the hymnals you've received at Drive-In Worship and send a request to the church office or Pastor.

The hardest part of our search is trying to find a suitable recorded version that we can play over the radio broadcast. Sometimes many of these online hymns that match the lyrics and melodies in our hymnals are neither comprehensible nor well “performed” musically. Sometimes we find a soloist who is wonderful, but with whom it is not always easy to sing along. Listening to such a version can be just as much a blessing as singing along. This process can be a bit time-consuming. What you've heard to date are the best options we've found so far for the hymns we've used.

We all firmly believe that music is one of the ways we are blessed and that God speaks to us as we worship. Hymns must be chosen with care and prayer. It is our prayer that you are blessed by the hymns we choose every Sunday in worship. It is an ongoing adventure to maintain the richness of our musical heritage under the extraordinary circumstances of worshipping in our cars via the radio. Thank you for your attendance and your understanding. Come to Drive-In Worship and sing your hearts out in your cars!!

Psalm 66:1 “Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name!”

Please note:

- If you are not currently receiving the **Forecaster via Email** and would like to, please email your request to the Church Office at FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com.
- If you would like to **receive Prayer Chain emails or phone calls**, please notify the Church Office.
- **To request prayer**, contact Gale Eury: GaleEury0@gmail.com
Cell: 951-679-3372.



FINANCIAL REPORT
Ending January 31, 2021

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
 - i) **For the month**, we are above budget at 106.1% (\$11,235 vs \$10,589).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, we are above budget at 106.1% (\$11,235 vs \$10,589).
- b. **Total Income**
 - i) **For the month**, significantly above budget at 145.4% (\$18,558 vs \$12,763).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, significantly above budget at 145.4% (\$18,558 vs \$12,763).
- c. **Expenses**
 - i) **For the month**, just under budget at 98.6% (\$15,627 vs \$15,851).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, just under budget at 98.6% (\$15,627 vs \$15,851).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - i) **For the month**, much better than expected with a profit of \$2,931, vs. the expected loss of \$3,088.
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, much better than expected with a profit of \$2,931, vs. the expected loss of \$3,088.
- e. **Checking balance**
 - i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$18,782.
 - ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$15,890.

What this means:

- In 2020, our overall average giving was just over 91% of Budget, due in large part to the pandemic and the loss of several members last year. As a result, our 2021 budgeted income for Jan-Sept is based on just 85% of 2020 Actuals. It's a hopeful sign to see Offering Envelope giving exceed budget for January.
- Total Income was substantially above budget due to a \$5,000 Special Offering gift from a deceased member.
- With Expenses essentially on budget, the net result (Net Operating Income) was a profit rather than the expected loss.

How we are doing:

We've started 2021 slightly ahead of budget. **Thanks for your faithfulness.** Let's keep it that way! Don't forget your Lenten and Easter offerings.

Prayerfully submitted by Mike McGavran, Finance Committee Chair



Dear Women of Faith,

It is hard to realize that we are already in the season of Lent. We are now focusing on the promise that, “God shows God’s love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

The third session of our four-part Bible Study series “**Journey with Angels**” is found in the March issue of **Gather* magazine. We will study the scriptures to learn how angels enter our lives during times of loneliness, abandonment, and sorrow, and give us Holy Comfort.

We continue with two Circles. Lydia – Bea Olsen, Chair – met on February 18th. Three members gathered in person, outside at church, and shared a meaningful study on “Turnaround Angels” who influence people to make positive changes in their lives. The study was led by Bea Olsen. Mary Circle – Pat Olson, Chair – met February 10th on Zoom. Ten members shared an excellent and thought-provoking lesson led by Joanne McGavran, following the same theme. **All women of Faith are included in W-ELCA. You can belong to more than one Circle – try us out!**

Our W-ELCA Board has been brainstorming ideas that might make our meetings more accessible to all. One idea is to reactivate the Elizabeth Circle, a.k.a the “**Brown Bag Circle**”, who originally met at 6:00pm. Everyone brought a “brown bag” and ate supper together before the study began. 3:00pm was their most recent meeting time, but they could be scheduled at any time with or without the “brown bag”. We also tossed around a **Zoom “Pajama Circle**”, which could work at night or in the morning, and **Bible Study “Buddies”** for those not comfortable with Zoom or meeting at church. This would be **one-on-one by phone**, set at any time of any day, very flexible, and determined by the two “Buddies”. Changing our General Meetings (once we can meet safely) from weekdays to Saturdays is a definite possibility. Hopefully, this would enable women who work outside the home and mothers of young children to attend. **More ideas would be appreciated!** Do give this some prayerful thought and share YOUR ideas with us.

**Gather* is the monthly magazine containing the lessons we use for our Circle Bible studies, as well as inspiring and thought-provoking articles. During Lent, there are daily devotions to contemplate. Both Joanne McGavran and Pat Olson have back issues we’d be happy to share with you. To subscribe, call 884-409-0576, or email Gather@cambeywest.com.

COMING UP:

- **Pacifica W-ELCA Zoom Event** – Saturday, March 6, 1:00pm ... Pass Code: 339647 ... Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84497587584?pwd=eVgyV3ZFaDVBM1JmZXNlb0h1UUc1Zz09>
OR Call 1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 844 9758 7584 # #
- **Lydia Circle meets the 2nd Tuesdays:** March 9th, 10:00am at Church (if safe)
- **Mary Circle meets the 2nd Wednesdays:** March 10, 10:00am on Zoom
- **W-ELCA Board Meeting:** Wednesday, April 7th, 11:00am on Zoom

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

Praying to share our W-ELCA experiences with more of you,
Pat Olson, Vice President



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

- March 2 Loni Knowles
- March 4 'Annie' Misko
- March 5 Allison McGavran
- March 7 Kay Espe
- March 7 Roderick Sinclair
- March 10 Esther Neumen
- March 10 Diana Ward
- March 19 Ruth Ditsch
- March 24 Dale Lawyer
- March 26 Gale Eury
- March 26 Ken Van Oort
- March 31 Pat Olson



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

- March 11, 1961 Dick & Bea Olsen
- March 11, 2000 Harold & Mary Ann Whitford



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

Canned Pasta or Chili for March!

Your donations are still welcome and needed! You may 1) Drop your items off at The Cupboard at 26944 Cherry Hills Blvd (951/301-4414). 2) Call Pastor John (949/258-3452) for pick up and delivery! 3) Bring your donations to the church office during our regular hours. 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 David Moe at (951) 230-8493.

Ruth Ditsch - Community Cupboard Liaison

**“CALL” TO WORSHIP & PRAYER
(CONFERENCE TELEPHONE CALLS)**



**“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
Matthew 18: 20**

In an effort to make more connections among members and spend time in the presence of the Lord, we want to organize some worship and prayer groups who meet by telephone to

provide regular opportunity to meet together to catch up with one another, share prayer concerns, read some scripture and pray. This month the meetings will be held **Thursday, March 4th** and **Thursday, March 18th at 2:00 pm**. Please give this some prayerful consideration and call in for a special time of prayer and worship.

How does it work?

From your **regular telephone**:

1. Call the following number: (408) 638-0968
2. Enter the meeting ID number: 804 657 8088 and press the pound key (#)
3. It will ask, "If you are the host, enter the host key." Don't worry, the Leader is the host so you just press pound (#) again.
4. Wait for the Leader to answer your call and let you in.
5. Write down the telephone number and Meeting ID for the next time.



LENTEN & EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Below is the schedule for worship during Lent and Easter. We will continue to mail out the worship service to those who are homebound or otherwise unable to attend Drive-In Worship or watch it online at our Website (faithmenifee.com).

Communion will continue to be administered during online and Drive-In Worship with each household providing their own communion elements of bread and drink on Sundays. Online Wednesday Lenten services will be offered on our website.

- March 3 Lenten worship online
- March 7 Drive-In Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
- March 10 Lenten worship online
- March 14 Drive-In Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
- March 17 Lenten worship online
- March 21 Drive-In Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
- March 24 Lenten worship online
- March 28 Palm Sunday Drive-In Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
- April 1 Maundy Thursday service Online
- April 2 Good Friday Drive-In Worship at 3:30 pm
- April 4 Easter Drive-In Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

Membership Directory Updates:

- Page 1: Anderson, Gloria: Change phone number to (951) 301-9527.
 Page 1: Barton, Pastor John: Change address to 23080 Cannery Rd., Wildomar, CA 92595.
 Page 2: Bennett, Lynn: Change address to 25801 Warwick Rd., Menifee, CA 92586.
 Page 3: Borchmann, Ken: Remove cell phone numbers. Use landline only.
 Page 4: Carr, Audie: Change address to 1000 S. Gilbert St., #13, Hemet, CA 92543 and change phone number to (951) 357-3161
 Page 4: Chandler, Rich: Change cell number to (951) 450-3979 and Sandy's to (951) 436-8690.
 Page 5: Diaz, Eleanor: Remove.
 Page 7: Eury, Bob: Remove.
 Page 8: Gautsche, Sonja: Remove.
 Page 8: Gray, Jim: Remove.
 Page 9: Hallahan, JoAnn: Remove.
 Page 9: Harper, Deborah: Add cell number (951) 837-7648.
 Page 9: Heinz, Pam: Correct email to prheinz@gmail.com.
 Page 10: Hinkel, Erma: Remove landline and only use cell number.
 Page 10: Hintz, Udell: Remove.
 Page 10: Howe, Gina: Add email gina777@verizon.net.
 Page 11: Jay, Shirley: Remove.
 Page 12: Kincheloe, Barbara: Remove.
 Page 12: Knowles, Loni: Correct email to loni3236@gmail.com.
 Page 13: Maser, Ruth: Add email ruthmaser@gmail.com.
 Page 13: Mathias, Gladys: Remove.
 Page 16: Meckler, Cody: Add cell (951) 464-9951.
 Page 18: Schriock, Jo: Correct name to Jo Anne.
 Page 19: Stoner, Jerome: Add email stonewal21@verizon.net.
 Page 19: Thomas, Kay: Add phone number (909) 731-0783.
 Page 19: Van Oort, Sue: Correct phone number to (951) 323-3564.
 Page 20: Westby, Gordon: Remove.
 Page 21: Whitford, Harold: Add email tootallwhit@yahoo.com.
 Page 21: Wrangle, Julie: Change "Brookdale" to "Pacifica".

Faith Lutheran Church

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

Office Phone: (951) 679-1518 **Pastor John's Direct Phone:** (949) 258-3452

Email: FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com **Website:** www.faithmenifee.com

Church Office Hours:

Tues & Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm

Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

Our Staff:

Pastor: Rev. John Barton

Email: prfaithmenifee@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Lynn Bennett

Email: FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com

March 2021

March 2021

April 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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	

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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
Feb 28	Mar 1 1:00pm Endowment Board	2	3 Lenten Worship Online 9:30am Bible Study Leaders Meeting	4 1:00pm New Member Class-Zoom 4:00pm Call to Prayer & Worship-Zoom Telephone Call	5	6 1:00pm Pacifica WELCA Event-Zoom
7 Lector: David Moe 9:30am Drive-In Worship	8 1:00pm Exec Board via Zoom	9 10:00am Lydia Circle-In Person at Church	10 Lenten Worship Online 10:00am Mary Circle-Zoom 10:00am Mutual Ministry 1:00pm Remembering &	11 2:00pm Bible Study via Zoom	12	13
14 Lector: Amy Sinclair 9:30am Drive-In Worship	15 9:00am Hymn Planning via Zoom	16 10:00am Cheer Committee	17 Lenten Worship Online St. Patrick's Day	18 1:00pm Finance Team-Zoom 4:00pm Call to Prayer and Worship-Zoom Telephone Call	19	20
21 Lector: Bill Brauer 9:30am Drive-In Worship	22	23 Forecaster Deadline 2:00pm Worship & Music via Zoom	24 Lenten Worship Online	25 2:00pm Bible Study via Zoom	26	27
28 Lector: Joanne McGavran 9:30am Palm Sunday! Drive-In Worship	29 1:00pm Council via Zoom	30	31	Apr 1	2	3