



# Forecaster

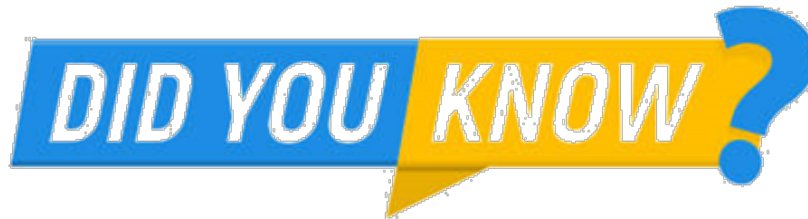
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH \* APRIL 2023



***“All glory, laud, and honor ~ to you, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children ~ made sweet hosannas ring.”***

*Opening words to hymn “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” ELW 344*

*Words written by Theodulph of Orleans, 760- 821*



Hi friends! Your Pastor here!

Our Lenten Journey together is coming to a close and so in its place comes **Holy Week**. Lent has prepared us for this, our week of High Holy Days. So, *did you know that:*

"Holy Week (sometimes called Passion Week) is the week before Easter. On Palm Sunday, Christ made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. On Monday and Tuesday he taught in the Temple. On Wednesday, he rested at Bethany. Thursday, he returned to Jerusalem, ate the Last Supper with his disciples, and was betrayed by Judas. On Friday, he was crucified, and on Saturday, his body lay in the tomb. "\*

The **Paschal Triduum**: “a three-day period that begins at sundown Holy Thursday and may end either at the Easter Vigil or at sundown Easter Sunday.”\* Thus, it is a season within a season. The Triduum is meant to be one worship service spread over 3 days, this is why you don’t have all the same parts of an ordinary Sunday Worship Service included in the order of service for the 3 Holy days held between Holy Week’s bookend Sundays of Palm/ Passion Sunday and Easter.

**Palm Sunday** (or Palmarum): Liturgical color: scarlet (representing love and zeal, fire and blood) or purple (representing penitence and mourning). "The sixth Sunday in Lent and the first day of Holy Week. It commemorates Christ's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem (Matt. 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-19). May also be called Passion Sunday."\*

**Maundy Thursday** (or Holy Thursday): Liturgical color: scarlet, purple, or white (because of the institution of Holy Communion at the Last Supper). “The Thursday of Holy Week when Christ washed the feet of his disciples instituted the Lord's Supper, and gave a new commandment of love. The name is derived from the Gospel reading from John 13:34: *Mandatum novum do vobis*, "A new commandment I give you: Love one another."\*" Jesus’ actions reveal that discipleship means crossing the boundary from selfishness to servanthood. While the plot against him begins to unfold, Jesus has a meal with his disciples and afterwards washes their feet. At the end of this worship service, we strip the altar remembering that Jesus ~ was stripped before he was beaten and crucified. We are also reminded that Christ was stripped of his dignity on the cross and that our servanthood involves humility and self-denial. *Our Maundy Thursday worship will be at Faith Lutheran at 5pm on April 6th.*

**Good Friday**: Liturgical color: The only day of the year that has no liturgical color because the altar is completely stripped and bare. In some traditions, this lack of color is represented by the use of black cloth to represent mourning and death (also used on Ash Wednesday). “The Friday in the

week before Easter. Holy Week. The day on which the crucifixion is commemorated." In some traditions, a "Service of the Three Hours" is held on this day. This is "a service held on Good Friday from 12:00 noon until 3:00 pm, commemorating the crucifixion. A common meditation at this service is the Seven Last Words of Christ from the cross." Today, our Lord's servanthood reaches its ultimate limit. On the cross Jesus became the lamb who was slain for sinners. The tone of Good Friday is one of prayer and reflection. It is a solemn celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross. *Our Good Friday worship will be at Sun City United Methodist Church at 5pm on April 7th.*

**Vigil of Easter** (or Holy Saturday): Liturgical color: Gold (representing the Holiest holiday of Easter) and/or white (representing purity and joy). "The day before Easter Sunday, when Christ's body lay in the tomb. The Easter Vigil [is] considered the "mother of all vigils," it begins after nightfall on Holy Saturday and ends before dawn on Easter. This vigil includes extensive readings from Scripture, psalms, prayers, and the lighting of the Paschal candle."\* becomes an expression of our spiritual boundary crossing and points to some facet of our passage from death to life with Christ. *We do not currently offer an Easter Vigil, but instead choose to celebrate Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday morning at 9:30am.*

**Tenebrae:** (Latin, "darkness.") "During services on the last three days of Holy Week, the candles and lights of the church are gradually extinguished until the church is in total darkness, reminiscent of the darkness that covered the earth at the crucifixion. Psalm 51 is often sung at this time."\*

**Easter, Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord:** Liturgical color: Gold and/or white. I could say more about Easter... but you will just have to join us to find out for yourself! See you at 9:30am on Sunday April 9th!

Let me know if you have questions about the Holy Week, other parts of the church, worship, or faith in general. I invite you into these discussions and to be curious about your worship, worship space, and your faith - I am eager to talk with you!

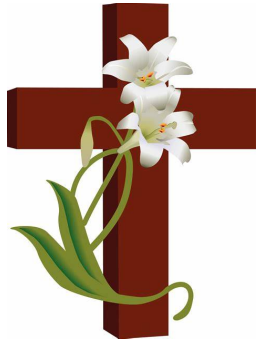
*Now you know,* thanks for your curiosity,  
Pr. John Barton

\*Within these articles, I will frequently use information from the book Worship Without Words ~The signs and symbols of our faith~ by Patricia S. Klein. Think of this sort of like a "Word Collage." (This month, I also gained inspiration and some quotes from Lord of Life Lutheran Church at <https://www.lordoflife.online/holy-week.html>)





John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me."



I am happy to be your new Council President for 2023 and I wish to welcome our newest Council members: Connie Gibson, "Sarge" Hunter, and Diane Swarts.

Our worship service, the "Blessing of the Animals" was a great success. Our parking lot was full and so, too were our hearts. Thank you to all who made this day possible.

We are happy to announce that a wonderful anonymous donation has been offered to our church for improving our Sanctuary Sound System. We will be working at replacing our current sound system over the next few months. We are tremendously grateful for this generous donation. Amen, and Hallelujah!

God be with us during this Lenten season as we prepare for Holy Week and open our hearts for the coming of Easter, when we can all say: "Christ has risen! He has risen indeed, Hallelujah!"

Easter materials will be available for our congregation's youth on the table in the narthex. We have also given out Holy Week and Holy Communion materials to our current youth members.

God be with us during the last days of this Lenten season, as we prepare for Holy Week and open our hearts for the coming of Easter. Easter is the most joyous day of the Christian year because it celebrates that Jesus defeated death, once and for all. It celebrates that Jesus brought salvation to the whole world; to all who believe in Him, through His death and resurrection. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." (1 Peter 1:3) We rejoice on Easter Morning when we can say: "Christ has risen! He has risen indeed, Hallelujah!" Blessings to all as we prepare for the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

As a reminder, the church council meeting minutes and committee reports are being posted on the Narthex bulletin board for all to review. As always, our church meetings are open to all members, and you are invited to attend. Our next council meeting is April 24<sup>th</sup> at 1pm, in-person and on Zoom.

In Joyful Service to Christ,

Amy Sinclair, Church Council President

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](mailto:FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com).

- If you would like to **receive Prayer Chain emails or phone calls**, please notify the Church Office.
- **To request prayer**, please contact Lynn Bennett at 909-553-5080 or [faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com).

# Worship Schedule

## FOR APRIL 2023

Palm Sunday and Holy Week begin the month of April. We have planned to share Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Worship with our Methodist neighbors by each congregation hosting one of the two joint services. See details below.

Easter follows - the Resurrection of our Lord – and then seven weeks of continued Easter Worship and Joy, known as the Easter “season”. We will be following/learning about the fourteen “Stations of the Resurrection” (two per Sunday) during these seven weeks. Each “station” will celebrate a time when Jesus appeared to various disciples after He rose on Easter. Come worship the Risen Christ and bring a friend for this new adventure!

**April 2 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**

*April 6 Maundy Thursday Worship at 5:00 pm in the FLC Fellowship Hall, held jointly with United Methodist Church*

*April 7 Good Friday Worship at 5:00 pm at the United Methodist Church  
30220 Carmel Road; Sun City 92586*

**April 9 In-Person (and Drive-In) Easter Worship & Communion at 9:30 am  
The Resurrection of Christ**

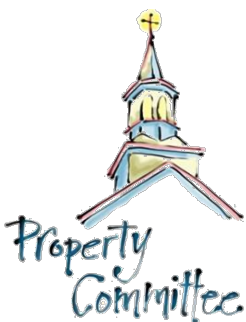
**April 16 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am  
Stations 1 & 2: Earthquake & Empty Tomb**

**April 23 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am  
Stations 3 & 4: Vision of Angels & Disciples at the Tomb**

**April 30 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am  
Stations 5 & 6: Mary Magdalene & Simon Peter**

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



I haven't really had much of anything to report for the last two months, but as we become more active, that means more things happen...some bad, some good. We had Lakeside Electric out last week to replace 2 parking lot light bulbs, along with one bulb socket. They also repaired a timer that controls the lights on the Monument up by the sidewalk and the light on the Cross. “Let there be Light!”

Good news, from what is being reported, an anonymous donor is donating funds for a new sound system! Can I get An Amen? That's all concerning Property at this time.

*Harold Whitford, Chair, Property Committee*



## FINANCIAL REPORT Ending February 28, 2023

- a. We are starting off the year on a high, with member giving exceeding budget by 10%. As a result, our YTD loss of \$1,010 is less than expected. Let's keep this trend going!
- b. Please keep in mind that this year's budget expects a loss of over \$11,000, even with \$20,000 from Endowment. Giving more than expected will help reduce that \$11,000 to a more manageable amount by year-end.
- c. In addition to financial challenges this year, we are in need of your time and talent in several areas. Please give prayerful thought to ways you can get involved to help our church grow our community of Faith this year.
- d. If you bank with Provident Bank here in Sun City, thank you! The Bank periodically sends us a Community Partnership Contribution, which is an amount calculated based on the balances of Faith members having accounts with them. We just received \$485.89. For those of you looking for a bank....



- a. **Offering Envelopes**
  - i) **For the month**, over budget at 110.2% (\$11,333 vs \$10,284).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 109.2% (\$22,396 vs \$20,519).
- b. **Total Income**
  - i) **For the month**, over budget at 111.8% (\$19,305 vs \$17,262).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 109.1% (\$32,123 vs \$29,439).
- c. **Expenses**
  - i) **For the month**, over budget at 105.5% (\$17,203 vs \$16,301).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, on budget at 100.3% (\$33,133 vs \$33,034).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
  - i) **For the month**, a surplus of \$2,103 vs the expected surplus of \$961.
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, a loss of \$1,010 vs the expected loss of \$3,595.

*Submitted by Mike McGavran, Treasurer*

### **STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT**

Have you done your Estate Planning or reviewed your will? It's a chance to leave a legacy for the future of your congregation! Would you consider adding Faith as a small (or even large) beneficiary?



**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS**

To

April 4, 1948	Daniel Conner
April 7, 1938	Peggy Westby
April 8, 2022	Benjamin Astorga
April 11, 1947	Ann Conn
April 13, 1937	Len Morris
April 15, 1932	Ray Olson



**ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**

To

April 12, 1993	Tex & Lesly Culp
----------------	------------------



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

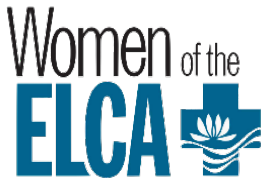
**Endowment Board Scholarships**

On an annual basis, the Faith Endowment Fund Board accepts scholarship applications. For the upcoming 2023-2024 school year, the Board has revised the online application to offer two types of scholarships, each with a value of at least \$500. The restricted scholarship is offered to students pursuing the fields of education and/or ministry. The second type of scholarship, the unrestricted scholarship, is available to students majoring in fields other than education and/or ministry. The unrestricted scholarship is limited to current or former members of Faith Lutheran Church and students who have another direct connection to our congregation.



Please encourage students to apply by accessing the scholarship application form online at [faithmenifee.com](http://faithmenifee.com). Applications will be accepted from February 1, 2023, through May 1, 2023. Recipients will be notified by June 1, 2023. Thanks for helping to spread the word about this opportunity, and thanks for the financial support that enables this program to continue.

*Pat Adams, Chair of the Endowment Board*



**Greetings dear women of Faith! Our Winter/Spring Bible Study continues!** In this fourth and final session, we will consider sayings from Proverbs and other Biblical wisdom related to minding our tongues, integrity in the marketplace, and practical ways to serve our neighbors. (Commandments 7-10)

**“You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. (Exodus 20:15-17)**

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

**Gather Magazine** – The Gather Magazine used for our monthly W-ELCA Bible study has not been received this past couple of months due to publishing problems. They have assured us the next issue will arrive in the next few weeks. As an expression of appreciation for our loyalty to the magazine and the Women of the ELCA, **they will be extending our existing subscriptions by two issues.** In the meantime, Session Four is on the Gather Magazine website [www.gathermagazine.org](http://www.gathermagazine.org). After opening the website, click on **“Bible Study”** at the top of the page and scroll down to **“Winter/Spring 2023”**. From there scroll down to **“April 2023”** and open for printing. Also, there will be some copies of the April study in the church office. We can also put a copy in your mailbox, just let me know.

**Quilters** – We will be starting up our quilters group in April. Eleanor Diaz, a former member of FLC, has graciously offered to help us get started again. Those who are interested please join us on Thursday, April 6, 9-12 noon, here in the fellowship hall. No experience as a quilter is needed. There will be various things to do and we would love to have you. Please bring a bag lunch if you wish. We look forward to seeing you and having you join us to work on a worthwhile project and fellowship together.

**Pacifica Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering:** On Saturday, **March 4**, three members of our Bible study circles attended the Spring Gathering at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Encinitas CA. This was an enjoyable time of Bible study, service projects, and social time with about 25 of our sisters in Christ from the Pacifica Synod.

**Thursday, March 16** was our first W-ELCA meeting of the year. Our speaker was Matresa from the Alternatives to Domestic Violence facility here in Sun City. The ladies enjoyed hearing of the work they are doing here in our community. A lovely lunch was enjoyed by all.

#### **Coming up this month:**

**Pastor John's Circle Leaders Bible study:** Monday, **April 3**, 9:30 am at Church

**Quilters:** Thursday, **April 6**, 9-12 noon in the fellowship hall at church

**Lydia Circle Bible study:** Tuesday, **April 11**, 10:00 am in the library at Church

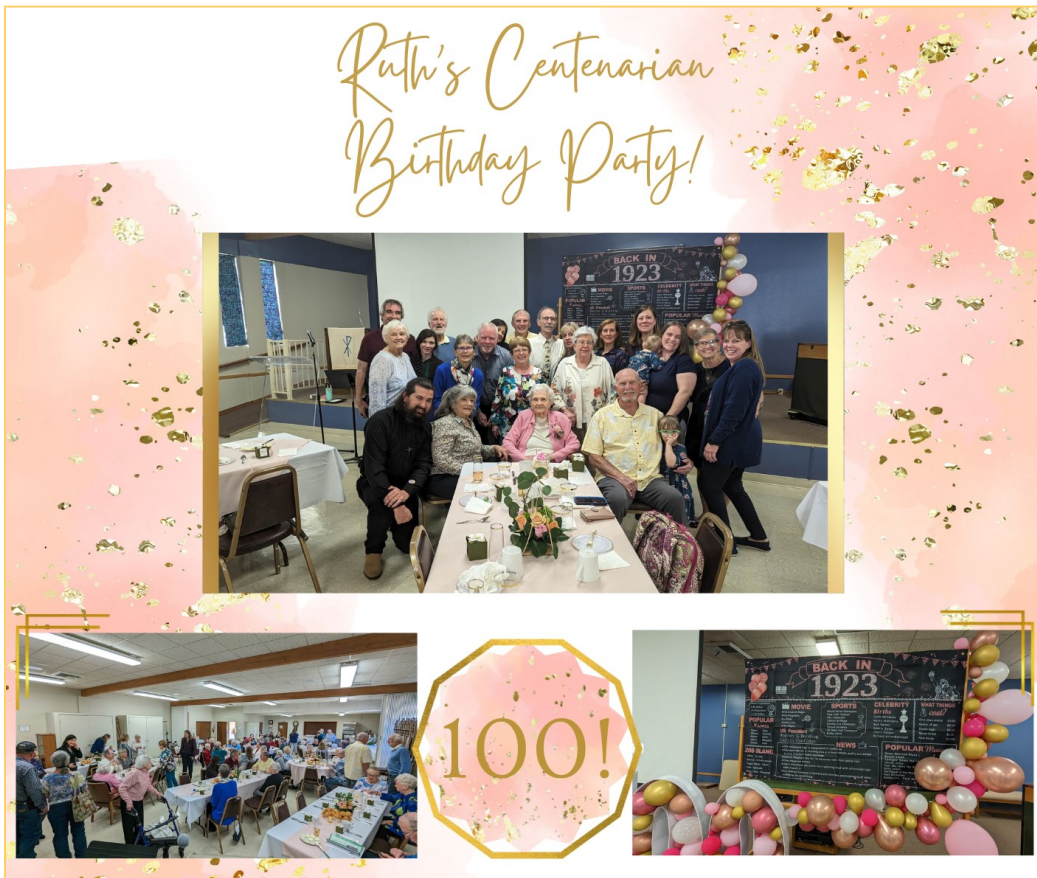
**Mary Circle Bible study:** Wednesday, **April 12**, 10:00 am at Church and on Zoom

**W-ELCA Board Meeting:** Wednesday, **April 19**, 10:00 am at Church

**Planning ahead** – Mark your calendar-W-ELCA Annual Fundraiser-Saturday, **June 24**, 10:00 am

In Christ's love, Bea Olsen, W-ELCA President, (951) 370-3600





**Grateful thanks** to all who participated in the March 25<sup>th</sup> Blessing of the Animals...

- ❖ The **Outreach Team** for planning, promoting and staffing the event
- ❖ **Thrivent Financial** for providing people treats and supplies
- ❖ **Kahoots** for donating pet treats
- ❖ **Our generous and loving Lord** for providing perfect weather and Spirit-filled connections with our friends in Christ and the pets they cherish



**Faith Lutheran Church**

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586 | (951) 679-1518

[FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com](mailto:FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com) | [faithmenifee.com](http://faithmenifee.com)

		April 2023							May 2023						
		Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
<b>April 2023</b>		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<b>May 2023</b>		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	7	8	9	10	11	12	
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	14	15	16	17	18	19	
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	21	22	23	24	25	26	
		30							28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1
2 AM: Roderick; Lector: Bill PPT: Lynn Palm Sunday 9:30am Worship Service	3 9:30am Bible Study Leaders- In Person 2:00pm Movie Day: Prince of Egypt	4 10:00am Altar Guild	5 9:30am Quilters 5:00pm Maundy Thursday Service-FLC	6 9:00am Quilters 5:00pm Maundy Thursday Service-FLC	7 10:30am AI-Anon - Library 5:00pm Good Friday Service-SC Methodist	8 10:30am AI-Anon - Library 5:00pm Good Friday Service-SC Methodist
9 AM: Deane; Lector: Ann; PPT: Mars 9:30am Worship Service	10 1:00pm Exec Board- In Person & Zoom	11 10:00am Lydia Circle- In Person at Church	12 10:00am Mary Circle- In Person & Zoom	13 2:00pm Bible Study- In Person & Zoom	14 10:30am AI-Anon - Library	15 10:30am AI-Anon - Library
16 AM: Harold; Lector: Lorna; PPT: Ann 9:30am Worship Service	17	18 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group- In Person	19 10:00am WELCA Board- In Person 1:00pm Finance Team- In Person & Zoom	20 10:00am WELCA Board- In Person 1:00pm Finance Team- In Person & Zoom	21 10:30am AI-Anon - Library	22 10:30am AI-Anon - Library
23 AM: Joanne; Lector: Amy; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship Service	24 10:00am Remembering & Honoring 1:00pm Council- In Person & Zoom	25 3:00pm Outreach	26 3:00pm Cheery/Eucharistic- In Person & Zoom	27 2:00pm Bible Study- In Person and Zoom	28 10:30am AI-Anon - Library	29 10:30am AI-Anon - Library
30 AM: Mars; Lector: Harold; PPT: Ann 9:30am Worship Service 11:00am Plan 60th Ann.	May 1	2 May 1	3	4	5	6