



Forecaster

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH * JULY 2021



³⁷"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?'

³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' ⁴⁰The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

~Matthew: 25: 37-40~

Dear faithful friends and fellow children of God:

As we are welcomed into July and pass the longest day of the year, we also proceed with our journey away from the pandemic restrictions. But just as the country's founders did not immediately actualize their freedom from tyranny on July 4th, 1776, we will also have to continue our patience and cooperation together to actualize freedom from the pandemic. As the pandemic recedes, more and more restrictions have been lessened or removed and many people have asked questions about when we will reflect those same actions at Faith. I welcome any such questions when they come from a place of wanting to help the congregation grow safely. However, I also want to remind us that we have taken things a bit slower and more cautious during the whole pandemic, and thankfully the results have been the safety of our congregation. We are all so thankful for the excitement about reopening the church. We will most likely continue to be behind other churches or organizations in our area because we would not want to let impatience undo our long, hard work of continuing to promote safety for all of our members. Let us keep the commandment of love thy neighbor set firmly in our hearts. We must consider the safety of those who are most vulnerable in our community, those who cannot be vaccinated due to health concerns or because they are too young to receive it.

All of that said, be rest assured that as soon as the church leadership has decided that the time has come to safely remove a restriction or resume an activity or ministry, we will joyfully announce it. We are all in this together, that is the point, God calls us to be one body of Christ, joined by our praise of God and common care for each other. So while we continue to practice patience, we can keep busy in our faith lives, using our hands to do God's work of, to paraphrase Matthew's gospel, 'feeding the hungry, inviting the stranger, clothing those who need them, and visiting those who cannot join us in the sanctuary.' Rejoice in the ministries we have already reclaimed from the grasp of the pandemic and be invigorated by those holy activities we continue to wake from their hibernation. We're two months into inside worship again so we have begun to stretch those churchy muscles again, but it's also understandable that we are still a little rusty or might not be as confident. But I have faith that we will continue to warm up, that our church-muscle-memory will return with practice, that we will see our Faith community thriving again in all the ways we cherished before the pandemic.

So let me cheer you on and encourage us with some faith exercises. Full disclosure, I did not come up with this list, I found it in a book I found at the church called the B-I-B-L-E. I've heard the author is pretty effective at getting people involved in faith. The list is:

- **Show up:** come and be with your faith community as frequently as you can.
- **Invite:** tell someone about your community, let them know how you like to start off your week at church.
- **Welcome:** do what we do best, making others feel at home just as someone did for you when you first came to Faith.
- **Help:** help others and yourself by participating, engaging, and worshipping. Help grow the church by bolstering ministries like *Fellowship* and *Outreach*. Help grieve the time and loved ones we've lost through the *Remembering and Honoring* group. Help celebrate the time and loved ones we still have together through *4+1* or *Cheer* or any other ministry which calls us together as the people of God.
- And in all of it, **Share** the good news that our loving God is with us always!

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

Congratulations to the Class of 2021!



*Allison McGavran
Santa Rosa Academy*



*Maddie Meckler
Rancho Verde High School*



All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness. So that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

This month, our first Sunday will be the 4th of July. The holiday provides the opportunity to be with one another. It gives us a moment to celebrate, give thanks and know that God has provided everything we need.

Last week I attended *The Bishops Conversation with Congregation Presidents* Zoom meeting. Several of the Council Presidents from churches in our synod were also in the meeting. We met in small groups to share resources and ideas focusing on how we are, and will be doing ministry in this post-pandemic world. Most of our churches in our synod are having the same challenges. We need to find ways to spread the Good News to our neighbors and especially to reach the younger generation. Our synod held online presentations about the book "Growing Young" and we can find them on our synod YouTube channel. Please let me know if you are interested.

How can we be a blessing to our community? We need to build relationships and work alongside our neighbors for the common good. We want to teach our congregation to be present and interact with each other to be fully aware of God's presence. We need to be aware of what's present in the lives of people around us. Reach out to a friend or neighbor - bring someone to church with you. Some of the events we might want to have for our congregation and our neighbors is Blessing of the Animals, a Family BBQ, or a Movie Night. Also let us explore opportunities to participate in a day of service "God's work, Our hands" on Sunday September 12, 2021. Getting back to normal activities is what everyone is looking forward to.

When you realize how much God loves you and then you start showing people how much he loves them, that is how you change the world. Unknown

Cheerfully in Christ,
Gale Eury and Kandie Hulme, Co-Presidents



The fans in all 3 bathrooms have been cleaned and new signs were placed near the light switches.

I met with one asphalt contractor and another said he will use Google Earth to prepare an estimate. Both will email bids for different options for our parking lot (still waiting).

California Paintworks will be painting the dark brown wood and metal trim on the church during the beginning of July. We are keeping the same dark brown to match the trim on the Verizon tower. If you see them working, please park at a distance.

Respectfully, Harold Whitford, Property Committee Chair

FINANCIAL REPORT
Ending May 31, 2021

a. **Offering Envelopes**

- i) **For the month**, we continue below budget at 91.7% (\$11,533 vs \$12,575).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, we are under budget at 96.6% (\$55,357 vs \$57,324).

b. **Total Income**

- i) **For the month**, below budget at 93.5% (\$14,339 vs \$15,344).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, above budget at 115.9% (\$85,103 vs \$73,452).

c. **Expenses**

- i) **For the month**, over budget at 106.9% (\$16,158 vs \$15,122).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, under budget at 95.4% (\$73,647 vs \$77,241).

d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)

- i) **For the month**, we had a loss of \$1,819 vs. the expected profit of \$223.
- ii) **Year-to-date**, much better than expected with a profit of \$11,456, vs. the expected loss of \$3,789.

e. **Checking balance**

- i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$27,389.
- ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$29,174.

f. **Comments**

- i) May Member giving was below budget, continuing the trend which started in March. The below budget giving has now pulled down our YTD member giving to under 97% of budget. Hopefully, this trend will reverse now that we are back to full in-person Worship services.
- ii) May expenses were high due to catchup billing from our bookkeeper and the cost of weed abatement on our back lot.
- iii) YTD Total Income and Net Operating expenses are way above budget due to \$15,000 in Special Offerings from deceased members.



Prayerfully submitted by Mike McGavran, Treasurer

Special Giving

Thank you to all who donate to the Community Cupboard, World Hunger and Disaster Relief. **As a reminder, please make your checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church**, and indicate the purpose on the check's Memo line. If you make your check payable directly to the organization, we cannot deposit the check, and so, we will need to return it to you so you can either mail it directly yourself, or replace that check with one made out to the Church.



Dear Liberated Women of Faith,

Praise God! We are free to worship in our beloved church sanctuary once more! We are free citizens of the United States of America! We are free to decide, in ever-increasing circumstances, whether or not we will wear a mask.

All women of Faith are invited to join our Circle Bible study found in the *Gather* magazine. We continue with Session 2 which explains "Just Truth". We will travel with Paul on the road to Damascus and experience his life-changing transformation. We will also take a closer look at how our Savior chose to share difficult truths with God's people, and we will witness his boldness in speaking truth to power.

Our two Bible study groups are both available in July *inside* in the Fellowship Hall! Check the schedule below and choose the time that's best for you. We look forward to more ladies joining us in Bible study groups. If you are considering re-joining Elizabeth Circle, or being part of a Saturday or early evening group, give Joanne McGavran a call and let her know (949-280-1123). To subscribe to *Gather*, call (844) 409-0576 or email Gather@cambewest.com.

Coming Up:

Bible study leaders with Pr. John – Wed., July 7, 9:30am at Church

Lydia Circle – Tues., July 13, 10:00am at Church

Mary Circle – Wed., July 14, 10:00am at Church



Special Pacifica Women of the ELCA Zoom Event

"Healing Religious Harms"

Saturday, July 10th at 12:30pm

Presenter – "our own" Pastor Stephanie Lape

Currently serving at Cross & Crown Lutheran Church in Rancho Cucamonga, Pr. Stephanie did her internship here at Faith under Pr. Mark Cansino. Many of you will remember the fine work she did here, and have read her articles in *Living Lutheran* and her newly published book, [Beckoned: Hearing God's Call to Deeper Faith](#).

ZOOM with us by using the link or phone number listed here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87970963288?pwd=MGVETkMvRmdQUkF1VDhoSnZXbEU2dz09>

Meeting ID: 879 7096 3288 **Passcode:** 976954

Calling in by phone? Use one of these numbers: 669-900-6833 or 346-248-7799

At this time of celebration for our country's freedom, let us pray together: "God bless America, land that I love. Stand beside her and guide her through the night with the light from above. From the mountains to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam. God bless America, my home sweet home."

Thanking God with you,
Pat Olson, Women of the ELCA Vice President



BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

July 2, 1941
 July 3, 1936
 July 4, 1950
 July 6, 1929
 July 9, 1948
 July 11, 1942
 July 11, 2002
 July 12, 1934
 July 13, 1953
 July 14, 1935
 July 16, 1951
 July 17, 1939
 July 18, 1942
 July 21, 1930
 July 23, 1929
 July 25, 1942
 July 25, 1925
 July 26, 1966

Betty Heiling
 Joyce Stromberg
 Ruth Maser
 Ron Neumen
 Susan Brauer
 Ken Borchmann
 Cody Meckler
 Marilyn Rieti
 Milton Maser III
 Jan Simon
 Rich Chandler
 Jane Benedict
 Rose Thompson
 Marlin Jay
 Wilma Kinzer
 Pat Adams
 Betty Petrich
 Lynn Bennett



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

July 4, 2000
 July 29, 1950
 July 30, 2007

Milton & Ruth Maser III
 Iver & Lois Linge Jr.
 Ken & Ellie Borchmann



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



Membership Directory Update:

Page 19: Van Oort: Change address to:
 1045 Mountain View Dr., Hemet, CA 92545.

- 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.





Spotlight on Ministry: Finance

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: ADMINISTRATION, GIVING, FAITH

Sharing God's Grace, Generosity and Love

In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul says "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (NIV)

Your Finance Committee has the unenviable task of paying attention to our income and expenses. This includes counting the Offerings, making bank deposits, preparing member giving statements, paying bills, making budgets (and trying to stick to them), and providing our outside bookkeeper with the information needed to produce our Financial Reports. We also review our insurance coverages, manage and negotiate various contracts, and deal with various technology issues. The Gifts of ADMINISTRATION, GIVING and FAITH are the cornerstones of success.

According to Mary Fairchild (a Christian writer, editor, and full-time minister), "The main idea of 2 Corinthians 9:7 is that our giving ought to be voluntary and spring from a cheerful attitude. It should come from the heart. Paul is speaking about financial giving, but voluntary and cheerful giving goes beyond the scope of monetary giving. Serving our brothers and sisters is another form of giving."

The Spiritual Gift of ADMINISTRATION is key to the Committee's ability to organize and manage the details involved. Our members' Spiritual Gift of GIVING provides the ability to do ministry here in Menifee and beyond. Our collective Spiritual Gift of FAITH makes it all possible.

Our meetings are open to all. If you have the Gifts of ADMINISTRATION, GIVING and FAITH, you might want to consider putting these Gifts to work as a member of the Finance Committee. Give me a call if you'd like to find out more.

Mike McGavran, Treasurer / Finance Chair

"Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

(Psalm 30:5 NRSV)

Remembering and Honoring Group

What Is It? Pastor-led conversations about how God's love, grace and tenderness can strengthen, uplift and renew us on our journey through sadness and loss. In this past year and a half, we have all suffered in some part due to the Pandemic. Suspending in-person worship, restrictions on personal interactions with family, friends and neighbors, and losing loved ones who have gone to be with the Lord recently or in the past, are just a few in a list that can feel overwhelming.

Why Participate? Acknowledging our sadness and loss, and remembering and honoring those who have gone before us, in a loving supportive group setting, can lighten our spirits and deepen our walk with Christ and with each other.

When and Where? Wednesday, July 14th, 2:00pm, In-person at Church.

Who? EVERYONE is welcome!

Worship Schedule

FOR JULY 2021

We are welcoming many guests and friends of members to worship every Sunday. Please join us and bring a friend!

ELW (Cranberry) Hymnals have been returned to the pew racks for your use, as well as offering envelopes.

The Church Council decided June 28th to change the mask requirements. Those who have been vaccinated no longer need to wear a mask during worship services. Those not vaccinated are strongly encouraged to continue wearing a mask for your own protection. (Extra masks are available)

Communion will continue to be administered during all worship services with each household providing their own communion elements of bread and drink (water only in the sanctuary on Sundays). Wafers are available if you forget your own.

Remember you may print your own paper version from the website (faithmenifee.com) and bring it with you on Sunday morning as a bulletin.

July 4 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

July 11 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

July 18 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

July 25 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

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

- **Radio:** in our parking lot broadcasted live on 98.9 FM at 9:30 am
- **Online:** at our website, any time after 2:00 pm each Sunday
- **USPS:** Receive a paper copy of the service via mail

The Worship & Music Committee



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

Peggy Wharton

Lois Linge

Services to be held July 21 at 2:00 pm
Here at Faith Lutheran

Services to be held July 17 at 11:00 am
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
30600 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Agoura Hills

Hunger Never Rests!

**The Menifee Valley Community Cupboard is in need of
Canned Tuna for July!**



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



During the COVID crisis of 2021, several of our members used their Thrivent cards to deliver food to the Community Cupboard. In February, Ruth Ditsch delivered 260 pounds of corn and green beans. In March, Amy Sinclair delivered 100 boxes of oatmeal packets to the Cupboard and Dee Seel purchased 20 cases of corn delivered by David Moe. In April, Kandie Hulme delivered 23 boxes of oatmeal packets to the Cupboard and in June, Sandra Miller delivered \$250 worth of canned fruit and Caroline Ogden delivered 216 cans of tuna to the Community Cupboard. A big THANK YOU to these women and Thrivent for their generosity and compassion for people. - David Moe

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

July 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 27	28	29	30	Jul 1	2	3
4 Independence Day Lector: Roderick Shandair 9:30am Worship-ALL are Welcome!	5	6	7 9:30am Bible Study Leaders Meeting	8	9 10:15am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall	10
11 Lector: Andrew Quinn 9:30am Worship-ALL are Welcome!	12 9:00am Hymn Planners 1:00pm Exec Board via Zoom	13 10:00am Lydia Circle-In Person at church 2:00pm Cheer Committee-Zoom	14 10:00am Mary Circle-Zoom 2:00pm Remembering & Honoring-In Person	15 2:00pm Bible Study-In Person 4:00pm Call to Prayer & Worship-Phone	16 10:15am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall	17 11:00am Celebration of Life-Lois Ling (St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 30600 Thousand Oaks Blvd, Agoura Hills, CA)
18 Lector: Bill Brauer 9:30am Worship-ALL are Welcome!	19 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group - Outdoors at Church	20 2:00pm Celebration of Life-Peggy Wharton (Faith Lutheran)	21 2:00pm Bible Study-In Person	22 10:00am Finance Team-Zoom 2:00pm Bible Study-In Person	23 Forecaster Deadline 10:15am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall	24
25 Lector: Marlene Rosselli 9:30am Worship-ALL are Welcome!	26 1:00pm Council via Zoom	27	28	29	30 10:15am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall	31