



Forecaster

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH * AUGUST 2023



“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...God has made everything beautiful in its time. God has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”

~Ecclesiastes 3:1,11~

Hi friends! Your Pastor here!

Earlier this year in my articles, I described some of the information and theology about the seasons which combine to constitute our church year. So far, I mainly focused on the season of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, but now I think it is high time to fill out the church year and talk about the rest of the seasons. The seasons are different measures of faithful time and as church father Thomas Merton says: "To say that the redemption is an ever-present spiritual reality is to say that Christ has laid hold upon time and sanctified it, giving it a sacramental character, making it an efficacious sign of our union with God in him. So "time" is a medium which makes the fact of redemption present to all men." This article is filled with information about when we worship and why at that time or in that season. So, *did you know that:*

There's a distinction to be made here at the beginning. As Christians, we frequently use Sabbath and the Lord's Day synonymously. But as Patricia Klein points out: *"**Sabbath** is most correctly, the seventh day of the week or Saturday, the day on which God rested after creation (Gen. 2:2) and the day which he commanded be honored as a day of rest by the Jews (Exod. 20:8-11). Sometimes Sabbath is used to designate the day of Christian worship, Sunday. However, **Sunday**, or **the Lord's Day** is the first day of the week, and the weekly commemoration of Christ's Resurrection on that day (John 20:1-25). From the earliest days of the Church, Christians gathered on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2), as well as on the seventh day (or the Sabbath). But as the gentile influence increased in the Church, gradually the observation of the Jewish Sabbath waned. "The Lord's Day" is first used in the Book of Revelation (1:10)."

If Sundays and Sabbath are the individual units of measure we use to experience worship times, then they are what make up the various church seasons and liturgical year. *"**The five seasons** of the church year are Advent, Christmas (Christmas through the Baptism of Our Lord), Lent, the Paschal Triduum (a three-day season that begins at sundown Holy Thursday and may end either at the Easter Vigil or at sundown Easter Sunday), and Easter (Easter through Pentecost Sunday)."

The liturgical year begins with the season of **Advent** with the liturgical color of blue. You will notice the illustration at the end of the article has Advent as a light purple, which was formerly the color of Advent, and still is in certain traditions as it was a connection to Lent. There are many thematic and theological connections between Advent and Lent as seasons of preparation for the High Holy Days of Christmas and Easter respectively. The word Advent comes from Latin meaning "coming." "The first season of the Church Year, which begins with the fourth Sunday before Christmas. The first Sunday is called Advent Sunday. A period of preparation for the coming of the Lord at Christmas and at the end of time, it lasts about four weeks, ending at Christmas." The 3rd Sunday of Advent is celebrated as Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of joy. "Rejoice (Gaudete) in the



Lord always.” The theme of the day expresses the joy of anticipation at the approach of the Christmas celebration.

“Christmas” (Christ's Mass) is one of the major festivals of the Christian Year, celebrated on December 25 and commemorating the birth of Christ. This feast is a celebration of the Incarnation, when God became human. Also called the Nativity of Our Lord. Liturgical color: white. The Twelve Days of Christmas. The season of Christmas, from Christmas Day (December 25) through Epiphany (January 6), a time of joy, relaxation, and hospitality. The evening of January 5 is sometimes called the Twelfth Night, a night anticipating the Epiphany. Sometimes called Twelfth Day, January 6, the final and grandest day of the Christmas season, the day on which the Wise Men from the East, following a star and bearing gifts for royalty, made their way to Bethlehem to worship the king (Matt. 2:1-12). The word **“Epiphany”** is Greek meaning “to show forth” or “manifestation.”

A season of prayer, fasting, and penitence in preparation for Easter. Historically, **Lent** is the time when catechumens were prepared for baptism at the Easter Vigil. The season begins on Ash Wednesday, a movable date, and lasts for forty days. Lent culminates with **Holy Week** (sometimes called Passion Week) and 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. ** For a more in-depth look at Holy Week, including the Paschal Triduum, refer back to my April 2023 Forecaster article on the subject.*

Easter: “On this “Queen of the Festivals” of the church year, we commemorate the Resurrection of our Lord. In the early Church, the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus was associated with the Jewish Passover and even today retains this association in the words of the liturgy. Indeed, throughout most of the non-English speaking world, this celebration is known as Pascha, or Pasch from the Greek for Passover. Like the Jewish Passover, the date of Easter is variable and all other movable feasts are dependent upon it. Easter occurs the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox, March 21. The English word Easter derives from an Anglo-Saxon spring goddess called Eostre (according to the writings of the Venerable Bede), whose old pagan festival Easter replaced. Also called Resurrection Sunday. Liturgical colors: white and gold. The 50-day season of Easter also includes **Ascension Day**, the Thursday 40 days into the season, and concludes with Pentecost which is Greek for “fiftieth.” Also called Whitsunday, Pentecost is the fiftieth day after Easter, the eighth Sunday of the Easter season. It is observed in commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples in the form of cloven tongues of fire. Liturgical color: red.”

“The time of the year not associated with the five seasons of the church year is known as **Ordinary Time** (from the Latin word ordinal, meaning “counted”).” There are two sections of ordinary time, the first and shorter time being in between epiphany and Lent. The second and longer section takes up most of the calendar year in between Pentecost or Holy Trinity Sunday and Christ the King Sunday which occurs just before the beginning of Advent. So let us conclude with this prayer for ordinary time: “God of the (extra) ordinary, send now your interrupting Spirit upon our ordinary lives, our ordinary stories, and our ordinary churches. Raise us from the dead. Forgive us. Convert us and invite us again into discipleship. Amen.”

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.”*



NOTES FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end" - Lamentations 3:22

Hello Faith Family and Friends,

Please sign-up for our Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser. Sunday August 13th at 11am after worship. Join us for a sit-down luncheon and bring a friend. Cost for lunch is a Love Donation. All donations will go toward our 60th anniversary celebration. Call the church office if you need for more information, 951-679-1518.

Council Executive Committee Update:

After prayerful consideration, the Church Council members voted to shift a few of our officers' positions on the executive committee. These changes to the officer positions were voted on and approved at the July 31st Council meeting.

We now have Amy Sinclair as our new church Treasurer, with assistance from Mike McGavran as the Chair of the Finance Committee. We also have Diane Swarts as the Council President who moved from vice president, and Sarge Hunter stepped up as the new Council Vice President. Connie Gibson is still our Council Secretary and our other council members are: Arlene Dressler, Jean Miles, Jerome Stoner, and Harold Whitford. We will continue to have our office administrator, Lynn Bennett, performing most of the daily and weekly treasurer tasks as an assistant to the church treasurer. Also, our current bookkeeper, will continue to do the bookkeeping duties.

Please keep our Church Council members in your prayers as we move through this transition. Also, please feel free to reach out to any member of the Council if you have any questions or concerns.

We plan to have an installation of the officers on the Executive Committee during worship on a Sunday in August.

Council Retreat: The church council members are having a lunch and leadership time on August 7th at 11am. This retreat time together will be led by Pastor Kent Tuohino, of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Riverside, along with our own Pastor John Barton.

Land Sale/Park project: The Church Council is still looking forward to the sale of church land to the City of Menifee for the Park project. We will keep you informed as we receive more information.

We give thanks for all our members and friends at Faith Lutheran Church of Sun City.

Our Next Council Meeting is on August 28, 2023, at 1pm in person or via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Council Meeting Minutes and Committee Reports are posted on a bulletin board in the Narthex for all to read.

Faithfully in Christ, Amy Sinclair, Newly Elected Treasurer

Servant Spotlight



If you don't already know Freddericka Bradshaw, you need to! She is a busy bee around Faith Lutheran Church! Freddericka serves on the Cheer Team and visits folks at Pacifica almost every Sunday! She also serves on the Outreach Committee, the Endowment Board, as well as other ministries and volunteer opportunities!

Thank you, Freddericka, for all you do to help and support Faith, our ministries and our members!

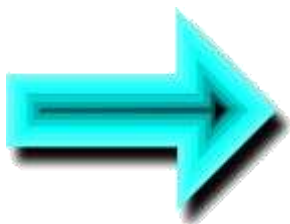
**Help Grow Our Church
and Have Fun at the
Same Time!**
Pick up a flyer at church
and invite, invite, invite!!

FLOAT THRU SUMMER!
FREE ROOT BEER FLOATS & POPCORN
 Wednesdays – 6:30-7:30pm
 July 19th thru August 30th
 In the Fellowship Hall



We would love to have you as a new member of Faith Lutheran Church! Attend our new member class led by Pastor John on August 6 at 11:00!
New Member Sunday: August 20

Check it out!



Worship Schedule

FOR AUGUST 2023

Summer is here in full force. If you are gone, find a church where you can worship. If you have summer guests, invite them to join you at worship. School will soon be back in session. Hopefully Sunday School Faith Formation will begin August 20th. See you in church!!

August 6 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

**August 13 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
Blessing of the Backpacks and Spaghetti Lunch after Worship**

**August 20 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
New Member Sunday**

August 27 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 still on *live* broadcast. Tune to 98.9 FM
- **Online:** on our website, any time after 2:00 pm each Sunday



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Power Point
6th: Roderick Sinclair	6th: Amy Sinclair	6th: Annie Misko	6th: Marlene Rosselli
13th: Harold Whitford	13th: David Moe	13th: Gina Howe	13th: Lynn Bennett
20th: Joanne McGavran	20th: Sandy Chandler	20th: Judy Appel	20th: Mike McGavran
27th: Deane Meckler	27th: Marlene Rosselli	27th: Walli Weitz	27th: Mike McGavran

Greeter: Nancy Randolph

Altar Guild: Marlene Rosselli & Helpers

Attendance: Judy Adams

FINANCIAL REPORT Ending June 30, 2023

1. Comments

- a. Member giving was below budget for the second straight month, but we are still over budget year-to-date.
- b. Keep in mind that being over budget doesn't mean we have a surplus, as the budget reflects an overall deficit of over \$31,000. At the halfway mark, our projected shortfall is running just over \$29,000. We need to continue to give faithfully!
- c. Our expenses were slightly below budget for the month, but are above budget for the year, mostly due to higher than anticipated utility costs and some building repair expenses.



2. Financials Review

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
 - i) **For the month**, significantly under budget at 80.2% (\$10,799 vs \$13,464).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 103.9% (\$68,656 vs \$66,078).
- b. **Total Income**
 - i) **For the month**, significantly under budget at 79.9% (\$12,867 vs \$16,106).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 104.6% (\$96,147 vs \$91,917).
- c. **Expenses**
 - i) **For the month**, slightly under budget at 98.3% (\$16,469 vs \$16,748).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, slightly over budget at 102.5% (\$101,092 vs \$98,649).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - i) **For the month**, a loss of \$3,802 vs the expected loss of just \$642.
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, a loss of \$4,945 vs the expected loss of \$6,732.



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

August 2, 1932	Mardene Miller
August 4, 1956	Ron Biggs
August 5, 1997	Jackie Culp
August 9, 1943	JoLynne Buehring
August 14, 1953	Tom Brosz
August 14, 1946	Pam Heinz
August 22, 1943	Eileen Johnson
August 26, 1953	Judy Brosz
August 29, 1951	Sandy Chandler



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

August 9, 2015	Bryant & Valerie Holmes
August 13, 1978	Rich & Sandy Chandler
August 13, 1960	Ray & Pat Olson



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 tuna** or **chicken** for **August!**



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 David Moe at (951) 230-8493.

Diane Swarts - Community Cupboard Liaison

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**, please contact Lynn Bennett at 909-553-5080 or faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com.



Greetings, dear women of Faith!

August is here and summer continues! This month we are studying the third session of our summer study in the *Gather Magazine*.

Session Three: "Salvation Now: A world Wanting Wellness" by Anna Madsen. Our focus verse is: "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete." John 15:11

In this August study in the *Gather Magazine* we will consider five important concepts:

- 1) **Learn more about our history as we study the book of John.**
- 2) **Be sensitive to those grieving.**
- 3) **Explore what joy is – and isn't.**
- 4) **Consider the marks of joy.**
- 5) **How did you come to realize....?**

Please note this month all circles will meet on August 9, 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor John leading our study. Come join in the conversation and fellowship. All women are welcome.

Snip and Stitch Quilters: Our quilters did not meet in July but will be meeting this month on **Thursday, August 3, 9:00-12:00**. 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, for lunch and fellowship when we finish. We look forward to seeing you and having you join us to work on a worthwhile project and fellowship together.

Sunday Coffee: Just a reminder your help is needed to continue to have coffee and fellowship after our church service. Help with the set-up is provided by Evelyn. We would like volunteers to help clean up after our Sunday coffee. Please sign up and give it a try.

Coming up this month:

Thursday, August 3, 9-12 noon - Snip and Stitch Quilters meet in the fellowship hall

Sunday, August 6, 11:00 am - New member class with W-ELCA representative attending

Wednesday, August 9, 10:00 am-- All Circle Bible study in the fellowship hall.

Wednesday, August 16, 10:00 am - W-ELCA Board Meeting at church

Planning ahead –

W-ELCA General Meeting – Saturday, September 16, 2023, 10:00 am

W-ELCA Triennial Gathering in Phoenix AZ – September 21-24, 2023

Pacifica W-ELCA Convention and Gathering – November 3-4, 2023, Yorba Linda CA

December Christmas General Meeting – Saturday, December 2, 2023, 10:00 am

In Christ's love, Bea Olsen, W-ELCA President,
Cell # 951 370-3600 beaolsen@yahoo.com

LADIES, W-ELCA Needs Your FEEDBACK!

W-ELCA would like to know if you prefer to have the circle Bible studies as a group on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, or do you prefer to have them on Tuesday and Wednesday as we've been doing? Please contact Bea Olsen (951.370.3600) or Eleanor Diaz (951.623.3496) and provide your feedback! Thank you!



Faith's Snip 'N Stitch Quilters need your help!

Snip 'N Stitch is in need of sheets, material, and batting in order to keep their quilting ministry going! If you have anything you can donate or know someone who does, please call

Eleanor Diaz at 951.623.3496 or the church office at 951.679.1518.

As a reminder, ALL are welcome to Snip 'N Stitch regardless of your experience! The group would like to start making small blankets (24" x 24") to donate to the fire and sheriff departments to give to children. They can be knitted, crocheted or made with flannel or fleece material. Come and work on these while the quilters quilt!

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday is Sunday, September 10, 2023

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

We will be making hygiene kits for the homeless again this year and we need donations! Please bring your items to the church and put them on the stage in the Fellowship Hall no later than September 3rd. The following travel size items are some suggestions for donations to our kits:

Toothbrush/Toothpaste Dental floss Mouthwash Lotion Socks Razors
Hair conditioner Shampoo Comb/brush set Deodorant Powder Washcloths
Granola Bars Fruit snacks Applesauce Crackers with peanut butter or cheese

On September 10th after church, we would appreciate volunteers to help assemble our kits and place in zip lock bags. We will be delivering some of them to the police station, but we can also keep some in our cars and give out to someone in need. Please let us know if you have any questions!



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

August 2023

August 2023							September 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 30	31	Aug 1	2	3	4	5
			6:30pm (Root Beer) Float Thru Summer	9:00am Snip 'N Stitch 10:00am Remembrance & Honoring	10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AM: Roderick; Lector: Any; PPT: Mars 9:30am Worship Service 11:00am *Baptized We 11:00am New Member	11:00am Council Lunch Retreat & Leadership	2:00pm JoAnne Schriock-Memorial Service	10:00am Joint Circle Meeting-In Person & Zoom 6:30pm (Root Beer) Float Thru Summer	10:00am Worship & Music-In Person & Zoom 2:00pm Bible Study-In Person & Zoom	10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
AM: Harold; Lector: David; PPT: Lynn Blessing of the Backpacks 9:30am Worship Service 11:00am Spaghetti Lunch	1:00pm Exec Board-In Person & Zoom	10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 3:00pm Cheer Committee	10:00am Hymn Planners-In Person & Person 10:00am WELCA Board-In Person 6:30pm (Root Beer) Float	10:00am All Circle Bible Study 10:00am Outreach w/Pt. Tom-In Person & Zoom	10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
AM: Joanne; Lector: Sandy; PPT: Mike 9:30am New Member Sunday! 11:00am *Baptized We	3:00pm Outreach		Forecaster Deadline 1:00pm Finance Team-In Person & Zoom 6:30pm (Root Beer) Float Thru Summer	2:00pm Bible Study-In Person and Zoom	10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
27	28	29	30	31	Sep 1	2
AM: Deane; Lector: Mars; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship Service 11:00am *Baptized We 11:00am Plan 60th Ann.	1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom		6:30pm (Root Beer) Float Thru Summer			