



Forecaster



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH * OCTOBER 2023



“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

~Ephesians 2:8-10~

Dear faithful friends and fellow children of God:

Reformation Stewardship Season! It’s that season again! Well, perhaps it is better to say “those seasons” again, because we have many coming to us! It is Fall again true, but the seasons I am emphasizing here are **Reformation** and **Stewardship**. The astute readers of my August Forecaster article might be saying, “I don’t remember either of those being seasons in the church year!” And technically you would be correct. We, as Lutherans, commemorate the Reformation on “Reformation Sunday,” the final Sunday in October, so not technically a season. And we, as members of Faith Lutheran Church, have traditionally observed our Stewardship season acutely in November, with varying dates of Stewardship activities like Time and Talent buckets, Temple Talks, and the like. Again however, the astute sermon listener will have picked up themes and allusions to Stewardship throughout this current church and calendar year, knowing that Stewardship does not just happen on one Sunday or one month, but throughout the year!

To the point then, October and November will be our season for both of these concepts as our Reformation Stewardship Season, combining the best of both to be our guide in becoming better *managers of God’s affairs on earth*, aka **stewards**. As stewards, we use God’s gifts to us to mix together different ingredients (including, but not limited to those in the graphic above) to make a batch of soulful experiences, the substance that makes for a thriving, sustainable community of faith. May the above scripture from Ephesians and this verse from 1 Peter be our companions in this season of Reforming and Stewarding together as the people of Faith Lutheran Church!

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” 1 Peter 4:10

Mark your calendars for some upcoming Faith-filled and Soulful Experiences with Stewardship:

- **October 1st:** Pr. Tom Goellrich, our Pacifica Synod Assistant to the Bishop as “Director for Evangelical Mission” will be guest preaching in the spirit of priming us all for the stewardship

season. If you miss it or want to hear it again, you will find a recording of Pr. Tom's sermon on our website.

- **October 29th and November 5th:** Temple Talks on Generosity by fellow Faith Members during worship on both of these Sundays.
- **November 12th:** Lisa Higginbotham, CFRE, our Regional Gift Planner with the ELCA Foundation will speak to us during worship and then provide a presentation on Legacy Giving Stewardship after the service. Lisa has been a great help to churches all over the synod including ours, consulting with our Faith Lutheran Endowment Board, who is sponsoring the presentation.
- **November 19th:** Stewardship Pledge Sunday (more information to come).

*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).*

Pr. John Barton

Bonus Theological Fact: "U.S. PRESIDENT WHO WAS A MINISTER " from [A Theological Miscellany](#) by T.J. McTavish. pg. 123

"James A. Garfield (1831-1881) of Ohio, the twentieth president of the United States, was a lay minister of the Disciples of Christ denomination. He was baptized in 1850 and became a fervent preacher, though like most preachers of the Churches of Christ movement, he was never officially ordained. After serving in the Ohio Senate and the Union Army, he was elected to Congress in 1863, then to the U.S. Senate, and in 1880 was elected president."



Encouraging others is work disciples can only do in community. Encouragement from others at just the right moment speaks volumes. It can mean the difference between giving up and knowing you're okay. The receiver knows someone cares and feels that she matters. Just as Jesus encouraged Peter to walk on water, we also are called to encourage others to stretch beyond what they think they can do. Encouragement in the faith community is not just a pep talk: It is an affirmation and blessed assurance of what God can do in our lives.

I also want to remind everyone of who our Council Members are:

Diane Swarts: President

Arlene Dressler

Sarge Hunter: Vice President

Jean Miles

Amy Sinclair: Treasurer

Jerome Stoner

Connie Gibson: Secretary

Harold Whitford

If you have any concerns, suggestions, or questions, feel free to approach any of us!

Diane Swarts, President

October 22, 2023

Come and celebrate our 60th Anniversary!



You are invited to
celebrate

sixty

years of
living faithfully and
serving our community

October 22, 2023
Following our 9:30 worship service

28200 Portsmouth Dr., Menifee, CA
951.679.1518

Please RSVP no later than October 9th!

Worship Schedule

FOR OCTOBER 2023

Fall is in full swing and we are preparing for several special worship times to celebrate many events. Pastor Tom Goellrich from the Synod office has been helping the Outreach Ministry and will give a special sermon. We will have many guests and former members here to celebrate our 60th Anniversary, including the Bishop of the Pacifica Synod. And of course, we will celebrate Reformation Sunday with its many traditions. Invite someone you know to join us.

October 1 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
Guest Preacher: Pastor Tom Goellrich

October 8 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

October 15 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am

October 22 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
60th Anniversary Worship with Bishop Dave Nagler as Guest Preacher (Sign up!)

October 29 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am
Reformation Sunday / Reception of new members / First Stewardship Temple Talk

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	Power Point	Ushers	Greeters	Attendance
1st: Roderick	1st: Mars	1st: Amy	1st: Annie	1st: Bosingers	1st: Mars
8th: Harold	8th: Sandy	8th: Candy	8th: Gina	8th: You??	8th: You??
15th: Deane	15th: You??	15th: Lynn	15th: Judy	15th: Lynn	15th: You??
22nd: Pastor	22nd: Steve	22nd: Mike	22nd: Walli	22nd: Mars	22nd: You??
29th: Mars	29th: Kathy	29th: Bill	29th: Judy/Walli	29th: You??	29th: You??

Altar Guild: Kandie and Diane (all month)

FINANCIAL REPORT Ending August 31, 2023

1. Comments

- a. Member giving was above budget for the second month, and we are also over budget year-to-date. However, this month's giving included a sizable single contribution, likely representing multiple months of offerings.
- b. While offerings are exceeding budget at this point, please 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. We still have a long way to go. Let's keep up the faithful giving to our ministry!



2. Financials Review

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
 - i) **For the month**, significantly over budget at 143.8% (\$14,764 vs \$9,648).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 111.1% (\$95,569 vs \$85,993).
- b. **Total Income**
 - i) **For the month**, under budget at 95.7% (\$16,642 vs \$17,400).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 102.6% (\$133,796 vs \$130,393).
- c. **Expenses**
 - i) **For the month**, slightly over budget at 103.1% (\$17,336 vs \$16,824).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, on budget at 101.2% (\$133,960 vs \$132,393).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - i) **For the month**, a loss of \$694 vs the expected loss of \$576.
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, a loss of \$165 vs the expected loss of \$2,030.
- e. **Checking balance**
 - i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$7,185.
 - ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$8,751.

Submitted by Finance Committee



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO

October 6, 1934	Doris Hayes
October 8, 1971	Tex Culp
October 10, 1947	Sam Van Fleet
October 14, 1946	Joanne McGavran
October 22, 1945	Lorna Harrison
October 26, 1967	Gregg McGavran
October 30, 1940	Jan Williams



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS TO

October 16, 2010 Frank & Debbie Ehrig



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 boxed potatoes and stuffing for October!**

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.

Also, **The Cupboard Could Use OUR Help With...** Sorting & pricing donations, food distribution, and staffing the Christmas Store (opens NOV 1st). Give Dawn Smith a call at 951-301-4414.

Diane Swarts - Community Cupboard Liaison



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser! Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$854.00 which will be used for 60th anniversary celebration!



Greetings, dear women of Faith!

October has arrived and the feeling of fall will soon be in the air. This month our congregation will be celebrating our **60th anniversary of the church with a celebration on Sunday, October 22**, following our worship service. We look forward to seeing many of you there to join in this celebration.

In October our women's Bible study will be the second session of our Fall study in the *Gather Magazine*. This session has been prepared by the Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni.

Session Two: We will be studying "Holy Places: Sanctuary"

In this October study we will consider various definitions of 'sanctuary'. It can be a place of worship or a place of refuge. This month, we ponder what it means to seek and to find *sanctuary* as a place of holy presence and sacred refuge.

Please note, Lydia and Mary circles will meet on Wednesday, October 11, 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Come join in the conversation and fellowship. All women are welcome.

Snip and Stitch Quilters: Our quilters will meet on **Thursday, October 5, 9:00-12:00** in the Fellowship Hall. No experience as a quilter is needed. There will be various things to do. Please bring a bag lunch if you wish, for lunch and fellowship when we finish. Look forward to seeing you and having you join us to work on a worthwhile project and fellowship together.

The W-ELCA General Meeting was held on Saturday, September 13 in the Fellowship Hall. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Dawn Smith, from the Community Cupboard was our speaker and she shared what they are doing for the community. Several points she made: They will **open their Christmas Store on Nov. 1 and are looking for volunteers to staff it.** Also, they can use volunteers to help with sorting and pricing in the Thrift Store. And, of course they are always looking for 'shoppers'.

The W-ELCA Triennial Gathering in Phoenix AZ was held on September 21-24, 2023

Three of our members, Joanne McGavran, Lynn Bennett and Marlene Roselli attended this gathering. See below for Joanne's report.

Sunday Coffee: Just a reminder your help is needed to continue to have this 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:

Wednesday, October 4, 9:30 am: Pastor's Circle Leaders *Gather Magazine* Bible Study

Thursday, October 5, 9-12 noon: Snip and Stitch Quilters meet in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 10:00 am: Lydia and Mary Circles Bible study in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, October 18, 10:00 am - W-ELCA Board Meeting at church

Coming Soon:

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

Saturday, December 9, 2023, 10:00 am – W-ELCA Christmas Party and General Meeting

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

The September 2023 Women of ELCA 12th Triennial Gathering was Awesome!!

The soon-to-come Photo Collage on the bulletin board near the Fellowship Hall will give you a glimpse of the 4-day event, and YouTube videos of keynote speakers will soon be available on the Women of the ELCA website. They will inspire, uplift and challenge you, and will provide yet another source of Triennial tidbits, photos, statistics and more!

Lynn Bennett, Marlene Rosselli and I joined 1100+ women, men and children at the Phoenix Convention Center for four very full days. What a joy it was to actually be there to see and hear and experience Spirit-filled worship, inspiring speakers and Bible study, engaging workshops, and to embrace new and well-loved friends at every opportunity.

The “Just” in the Gathering’s theme of “Just Love” was interpreted and shared in all aspects of the event: “Just” as in “only” and “Just” as in “justice”. Immigration, migration, human trafficking, discipleship, caring for one another and the earth, and the ELCA’s Truth and Healing Movement were among the topics of discussion and calls to action and awareness.

Each Triennial is something beyond special - it’s life-changing. Des Moines, Iowa, is the site of the July 2026 Gathering. Mars, Lynn and I are definitely planning to attend, and hope YOU will, too.

Walking *with* you in Christ’s love... Joanne McGavran



Have you ever wondered how our landscaping looks so nice? Have you ever wondered who brings the trash cans to the curb every week? Have you ever wondered who handles nearly all repairs around Faith? Well, all of those things and more are taken care of by Harold Whitford! Harold is the Chair of the Property Committee and for a long time has done all of these tasks by himself. Recently, he has had some help, but as they say, “many hands make light work!” Please consider joining Harold in keeping our church looking great and in good condition!

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

God's work. Our hands.

On Sunday, September 10th, Faith took part in **God's Work, Our Hands**, the annual ELCA Day of Service. Our members were generous with their donations of hygiene products and we were able to assemble 80 hygiene kits for the Menifee Police Dept. to give to those in need. Thank you to all who participated!



Grateful thanks to all who participated in the Blessing of the Animals on September 23rd!

- ❖ The **Outreach Team** for planning, promoting and staffing the event
- ❖ **Thrivent Financial** for providing people treats, flashlights and fidget spinners
- ❖ **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



Sunday School is Back!



Teach children how they should live,
and they will remember it all their life.
Proverbs 22:6 GNTD

We could not be more thrilled that we have been able to resume Sunday School! We're starting out small, with "just" 6 kids, but we are excited to grow and expand our programs for our youth! This is just the beginning, Folks!

Each week following our Sunday worship service, adults are asked to bring the children to the Fellowship Hall to grab a snack to take into the Library. The kids will then watch a video, which will be followed by prayer and a Bible lesson.

Who do you know who would love Sunday School?" Do you have grandchildren? Children? Nieces or nephews? Younger siblings? Other relatives? Friends? Neighbors? Invite anyone and everyone you can think of to church and Sunday School! What better gift can we give to others?

Catch the excitement...and share it!



let's have some fun!

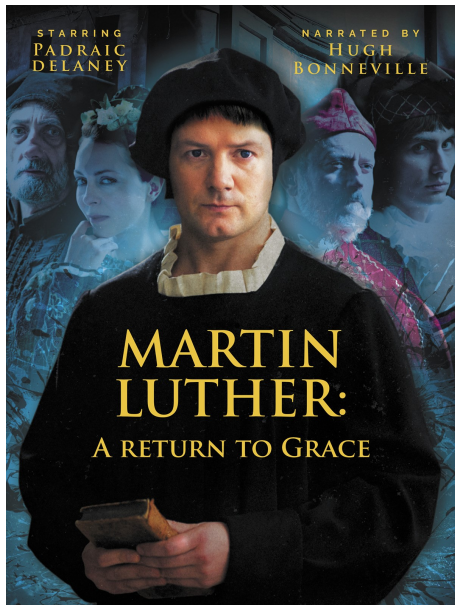
bingo game day!
oct. 25th at 2:00



Faith Lutheran Church
28200 Portsmouth Dr.
Menifee, CA
(951) 679-1518



get ready to shout "bingo!"
and win some amazing
prizes at this fun-filled event!



Did someone say dinner and a show?!

MOVIE NIGHT

Nov. 9th
6:00 pm

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

October 2023

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 1 AM: Roderick; Lector: Mars; PPT: Amy 9:30am Worship Service 11:00am New Member Class	2 10:00am 60th Anniversary Planning	3	4 9:30am Bible Study Leaders-In Person 3:00pm Endowment Fund Board-Zoom	5 9:00am Snip 'N' Stitch	6 10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	7
8 AM: Harold; Lector: Sandy; PPT: Candy 9:30am Worship Service	9 1:00pm FR&D (Faith R&D)-In Person & Zoom	10	11 10:00am Joint Circle Meeting-In Person & Zoom 2:00pm Fellowship Team	12 2:00pm Bible Study-In Person & Zoom	13 10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	14
15 AM: Deane; PPT: Lynn 9:30am Worship Service 11:00am New Member Class	16 10:00am Mutual Ministry	17 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person	18 Pastor at Theosis 10:00am WELCA Board-In Person	19	20 10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	21
22 AM: Pastor; Lector: Steve; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship Service 11:00am 60th Anniversary Celebration	23 Forecaster Deadline 10:00am Outreach w/Pr Tom - In Person & Zoom	24 10:00am Hymn Planning-Zoom	25 10:00am Remembering & Honoring 1:00pm Finance Team-In 2:00pm Bingo Game Day 3:30pm Outreach-In	26 2:00pm Bible Study-In Person and Zoom 4:00pm Cheer Committee-In Person	27 10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	28
29 New Member Sunday! AM: Mars; Lector: Kathy; PPT: Bill Temple Talk 9:30am Reformation	30 1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom	31	Nov 1	2	3	4