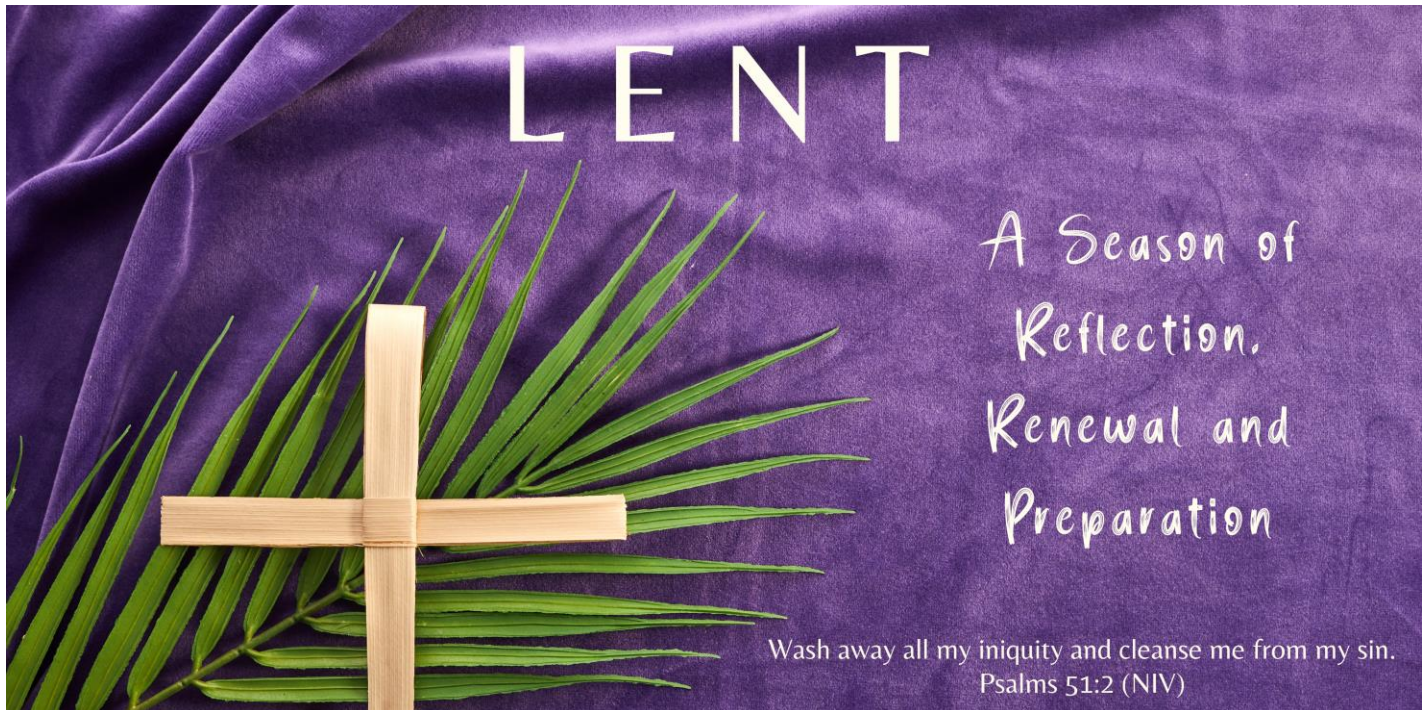




# Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church \* February 2024



Lent is a time of reflection, renewal, and preparation for the Easter season when we, as Christians are called to deepen our spiritual lives through the practices of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. The belief is that our consistent participation in these practices, like exercise we do for our physical health, improves our spiritual well-being by stripping away all that is unnecessary and becoming more mindful of how God is working in our lives. Challenge yourself this year, and go beyond the usual practice of “giving up” something. Now is a great time to take stock of your spiritual life and to grow in it. Not sure where to start? Check out these ideas:

- Spend time each day engaging in self-examination and reflection. What positive changes can you make in your life?
- Take something on, such as 40 days of letter writing, 40 acts of kindness, or 40 phone calls to the important people in your life.
- Turn off your car radio while driving. The silence may be jarring at first, but you may find that you are able to concentrate better and will be more observant of your surroundings.
- Don't buy anything that you don't NEED. If you can live without it, you don't need it. Give it up for Lent. Put the money that you would have spent into a jar. You will be surprised at how quickly you build up your savings...either keep it as savings or donate it to someone in need.
- Work out daily to take care of the body God gave you. For Lent, commit to doing some kind of workout every single day. You can go on a walk, join a gym, do chair yoga, or even just stretch! Do whatever your body is capable of doing.
- Replace 30 minutes of TV or screen time daily with 30 extra minutes of devotion or prayer time.

- Gather up 40 things in 40 days. Every day, walk around your house and collect at least 1 thing to donate or throw away... every day, until Lent ends.
- Give up that bad habit you've been wanting to kick. After 40 days, you may be ready and able to give it up permanently.
- Take the season of Lent to save some extra money and shower someone in your community with anonymous gifts. Thanks to the miracle of online shopping and delivery, they need never know it came from you. This is a chance to be a "stealthy superhero" of generosity known only to your heavenly Father.
- How about ideas for our kids and grandkids? Help them to challenge themselves by giving up something that is symbolic of a basic necessity that other people lack. For example, they can sleep on the floor, not in their bed, to practice solidarity with the homeless. Or perhaps, they choose to drink nothing but water (and maybe milk, for growing bodies) to be in solidarity with those who lack safe drinking water. Another suggestion for kids is to have them gather up some of their older toys and clothes that are in good condition to donate to other kids who have less than they do. Since they just received Christmas gifts, Lent is a perfect time for that!
- Or, go back to the basics...give up chocolate, sweets, soda, etc. Giving up sweets is my go-to!



Dear Beloved Church Family,

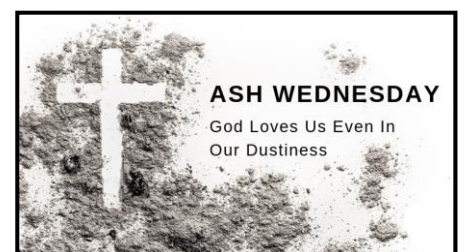
As we prepare for our annual meeting, let our hearts be filled with hope and excitement for the journey that lies ahead. This is a time for reflection on the blessings we've received, the challenges we've overcome, and the growth we've experienced together.

As we discuss plans, share ideas, and make decisions, may the spirit of unity guide us. Our collective efforts and dedication have brought us to this moment, and there's an abundance of possibilities awaiting our exploration.

In every challenge, there is an opportunity, and in every opportunity, there is the potential for transformation. Let us embark on this journey with joy, knowing that our shared commitment to faith and community will lead us to new heights. As I write this message your Faithful committee chairs are submitting their annual reports for you to peruse. Our Annual Meeting will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> immediately following the worship service. Please think about joining a committee or running for Council. May the love that binds us together be the driving force behind our actions and decisions. As we move forward, let hope be our compass, and excitement be our fuel. Together, we are not just a church; we are a family, a community, and a force for positive change.

February 14th is Valentines Day and  
Ash Wednesday!

*Diane Swarts, Council President*



# Worship Schedule

## FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Worship is alive and well at Faith Lutheran!! We have several Supply Pastors who will lead us in worship each Sunday and Ash Wednesday (February 14 at 5:00pm). That means we will have Communion every Sunday. Midweek Lenten worship will take place beginning February 21 at 5:00 pm, immediately followed by Soup Suppers. These Lenten services will feature the Holden Evening Prayer Service (we have purchased booklets with the music) and a Dramatic Reading by a Lay Member. Come worship and join in soup fellowship. Now more than ever – Bring a friend!!

**February 4 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**  
Pastor Rex Wignall presiding

**February 11 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**  
Pastor Karen Marohn presiding

*February 14 Ash Wednesday Worship & Communion at 5:00 pm*

**February 18 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**  
Pastor Shane Freiberg presiding

*February 21 Midweek Lenten Worship at 5:00 pm (Soup following)*

**February 25 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**  
Pastor Shane Freiberg Presiding

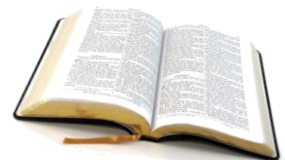
*February 28 Midweek Lenten Worship at 5:00 pm (Soup following)*

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, by the following Tuesday

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## Could it be you?



For quite a while now we have had Bible study on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month at 2:00 led by Pastor John. We are looking for someone who is willing to take over the study so we can continue to offer it! If your schedule doesn't work with what we've done in the past, we are open to changing it up! So...please ask yourself.....

## Is God calling you for this ministry?

# Worship Assistants February



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Power Point	Ushers	Greeters	Attendance
4th: Roderick	4th: Amy	4th: Candy	4th: Annie	4th: Judy Appel	4th: Kandie
11th: Marlene	11th: Sandy	11th: Mike	11th: Gina	11th: Bosingers	11th: Arlene
14th: Marlene	14th: Diane M.	14th: Candy	14th: Annie	14th: Judy Adams	14th: Pat O.
18th: Steve	18th: Kathy	18th: Bill	18th: Judy	18th: Dave	18th: Shirley
21st: N/A	21st: Steve	21st: Lynn	21st: N/A	21st: N/A	21st: Kathy
25th: Joanne	25th: Bill	25th: Mike	25th: Walli	25th: Bosingers	25th: Marlene
28th: N/A	28th: Pat A.	28th: Lynn	28th: N/A	28th: N/A	28th: Joanne

**Altar Guild:** Marlene Rosselli & Kay Thomas

Let's talk about social media...

### Are you following us on social media?

The use of social media is a great way to advertise Faith Lutheran (for free!) and help us GROW! Help us by going to the links below to follow our page and be sure to invite your friends and family to follow us, as well! In addition, you can write a review on Facebook, Instagram and Google, as well! The more interaction we get on our social media pages, the higher we'll place in the algorithm, which makes us easier for others to find us, follow us and join us for worship!



<https://www.facebook.com/faithlutheranmenifee>



<https://www.instagram.com/faithlutheranmenifee>



<https://g.page/r/Cekm6HPOyDnHEBO/review>



### Social Media Bonus!!



Beginning on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14), there will be a daily devotional posted on our social media pages every day during Lent! So, check them out...click to like each devotional, comment on them and click to share them!



**Greetings dear women of Faith!**

**Many of you are already busy participating in the activities of the church and looking forward to February events.** Welcome, *all* of you, to any and all of our activities and events.

**Our Winter/Spring Bible Study will continue with our second Bible study session of “Scripture and Nature: Teachers of Faith”. This second session “Creatures” is presented in our *Gather Magazine* by Rev. Sara Olson-Smith.**

We have two Circle Bible studies each month. A daytime study on the second Tuesday of the month and an evening study on the third Thursday of the month. **Select the Circle Bible study time listed below that's best for you and join in the conversation. All women are welcome.**

**Our calendar for the year** for Women of the ELCA events at Faith has been set as follows:

Saturday, March 23, 10:00 am General Meeting at church

Saturday, June 22, 10:00 am General Meeting and annual fundraiser at church

Saturday, September 21, 10:00 am General Meeting at church

Saturday, December 14, 10:00 am General Meeting and Christmas gathering

Watch for further details in the coming months.

**Pacifica Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering** will be held Saturday, April 13 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Banning CA. This is a Saturday event open to all women of the church. We carpool from the church, so a ride can be provided if needed. Watch for further details and a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

**Our 2024 election of W-ELCA Board officers** was held at our Women of the ELCA December meeting. Connie Gibson was elected Secretary and Arlene Dressler was elected Treasurer for 2024. No nominees were received for President and Vice President. At our January Board meeting Diane Molina was appointed as Vice President and Bea Olsen will continue as President.

**Prayer Partners for 2024** were chosen at our December meeting for those who wished to participate. If you were unable to attend the meeting and would still like to have a Prayer Partner for 2024, please contact the Women of the ELCA Circle Chairs or Kandie Hulme for details.

**Sunday Coffee after church services** – just a reminder your help is needed to continue to have this coffee and fellowship after our church service. Help with the setup is provided by Evelyn. We would like volunteers to help serve and with clean up after our Sunday coffee. **Please sign up...give it a try.**

**Women of the ELCA Upcoming Events:**

**Snip and Stitch Quilters** – Thursday, **February 1**, 9-12 noon at Church

**Mary Circle Bible study** - Wednesday, **February 14**, 10:00 am at Church

**Evening Circle Bible study** - Thursday, **February 15**, at 6:00 pm at Church

**Women of the ELCA Board Meeting** - Wednesday, **February 21**, 10:00 am at Church

**W-ELCA General Meeting** – Saturday, **March 23**, 10:00 am at Church

**“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!” (Philippians 4:4)**

*In Christ's love, Bea Olsen, Women of the ELCA President, cell # 951 370-3600*

# Save the Date!

Mark your calendar and save the date!  
Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** will  
be held on  
**February 25, 2024!**

## ARE YOU READY FOR SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY?

Whether you are a football fan or not, I think it's safe to say we're all fans of tackling hunger! Faith will be hosting the Soup-er Bowl beginning now through February 11th! Bring cans of soup to the church and put them in the container for the team you're cheering for! AFC? NFC? It doesn't matter! In our Soup-er Bowl everyone wins!!



# SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY

Let's Help Tackle Hunger!

P.S. Don't forget to bring dry pasta for the Community Cupboard, too!

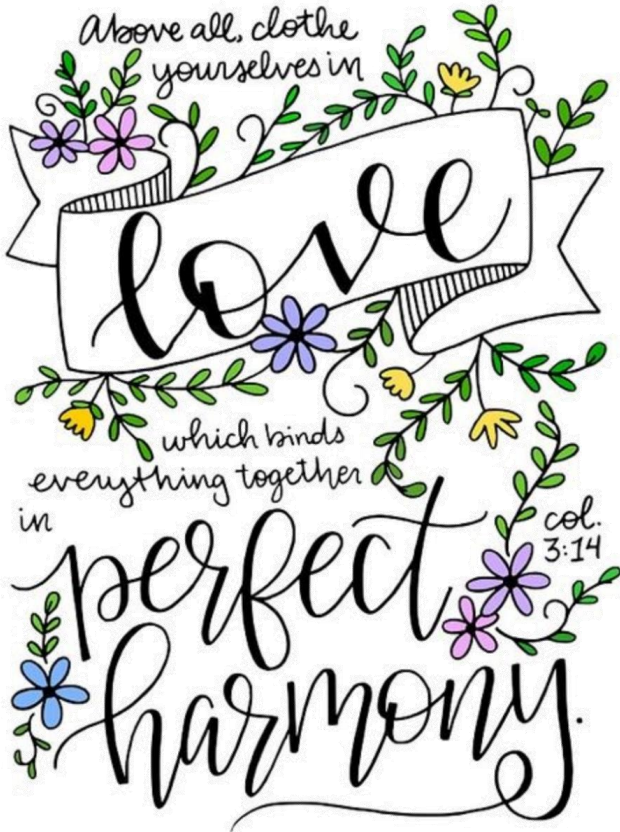
Did someone say "soup?" Our Lent Soup & Study will happen every Wednesday evening during Lent at 5:00, beginning February 21st. The "study" will feature the Holden Evening Prayer Service and a dramatic reading by one of our Faith members. Come worship and join in soup fellowship. Bring a friend...or 2...or 10! ALL are welcome!

# Lent Soup & Study

Every Wednesday during Lent | 5:00 pm

# SAVE the DATE

Pacifica WELCA Spring Gathering



Our date has changed for our SPRING GATHERING,  
but not our spirit and commitment

April 13, 2024

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Banning

More information to follow



## Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day originated as a Christian feast day honoring a martyr named Valentine and through later folk traditions, it has also become a significant cultural, religious and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

Happy 95th Birthday!



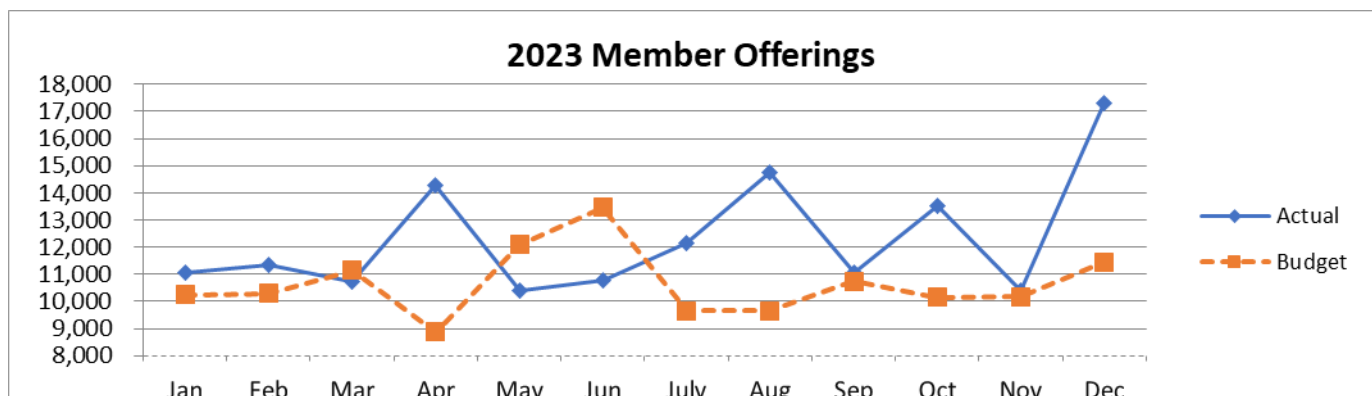
Earlean Wagner

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### December 31, 2023

#### 1. Comments

- a. The trend of exceeding budget for Member giving continued for the 6<sup>th</sup> month. December giving exceeded budget by \$5,848! As a result, we finished the year with Member giving exceeding budget by \$19,355! Our family of Faith is incredible!
- b. As a result of your commitment to our Church, our loss for the year was \$3,861 instead of the expected loss of \$11,179.
- c. The new year will bring more challenges for us to overcome, but God is Great, and we can continue to make a difference in our community. With each of us doing our part in the coming year, we can continue to grow in service to our community and each other. God's blessings on each of our faithful members!



#### 2. Financials Review

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
  - i) **For the month**, significantly over budget at 151.1% (\$17,296 vs \$11,448).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 115.1% (\$147,849 vs \$128,494)
- b. **Total Income**
  - i) **For the month**, significantly over budget at 150.7% (\$22,701 vs \$15,064).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 107.5% (\$202,975 vs \$188,782).
- c. **Expenses**
  - i) **For the month**, over budget at 109.0% (\$18,603 vs \$17,070).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, slightly over budget at 103.4% (\$206,835 vs \$199,961).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
  - i) **For the month**, a surplus of \$4,098 vs the expected loss of \$2,006.
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, a loss of \$3,861 vs the expected loss of \$11,179
- e. **Checking balance**
  - i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$4,117, much better than last month.
  - ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$72.27.





**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS**

To

February 7, 2005  
 February 20, 1941  
 February 24, 1946

Deane Meckler  
 Bea Olsen  
 Mary Mazy



**ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**

To

February 14, 1970      Randy and Kandie Hulme

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



*"Hunger Never Rests"*

**Hunger Never Rests!**

**The Menifee Valley Community Cupboard is in  
 need of pasta for February!**

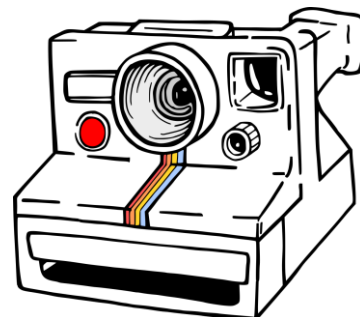


Your donations are always welcome and needed! Bring your donations to the church office during our regular hours or you may drop your items off at The Cupboard at 26944 Cherry Hills Blvd (951/301-4414). When you drop off your donations, please inform the Community Cupboard you are from Faith Lutheran. 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 Diane Swarts at (949) 500-7986.

*Diane Swarts - Community Cupboard Liaison*

## Attention Committee and Group Chairpersons!

If you take photos at any upcoming events, please email them to the church office at [faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com) and/or to Mary Mazy at [maryhmazy@gmail.com](mailto:maryhmazy@gmail.com). Lynn and Mary are working together to show off and share your photos on our bulletin boards, on our social media accounts, the Forecaster, etc.



*Thank you in advance!*

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## Endowment Fund Board News

On an annual basis, the Faith Endowment Fund Board accepts scholarship applications. The number of scholarships awarded each year varies. In 2023, four scholarship winners received a total of \$3600.

For the upcoming 2024-2025 school year, two types of scholarships are available. The first category of scholarships is offered to students pursuing the fields of education and/or church ministry. The second type of scholarship is for students majoring in fields other than education and/or church ministry, including trade-school fields. This second type of scholarship is limited to current or former members of Faith Lutheran Church and students who have another direct connection to our congregation. Each awarded scholarship has a value of at least \$500.

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, 2024, through May 1, 2024. Recipients will be notified by June 1. Thanks for helping to spread the word about this opportunity, and thanks for the financial support that enables this program to continue.

Incidentally, during the past few years, Pastor Barton interviewed several scholarship winners. To view those interviews, just go to the Scholarship heading on the church website. By scrolling down past the application form, you will reach the interviews. Enjoy!

*Pat Adams, Chairperson of the Endowment Fund Board*

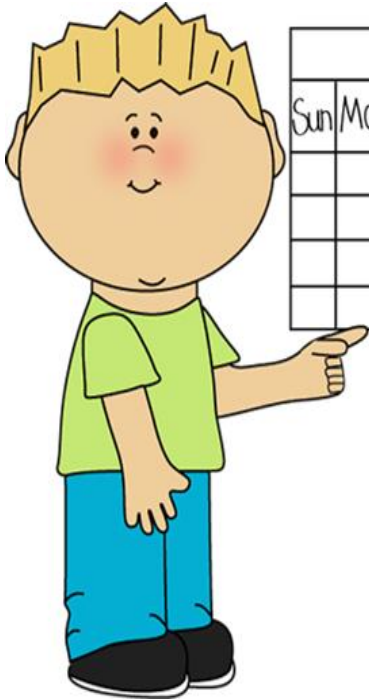
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## AED Training

A training class has been scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 to learn how to use our new AED machine. There are only 9 slots available, (only for folks who regularly attend meetings and church), so if you haven't signed up, please do so as soon as possible.



To help you plan ahead, this is a list of the events that recur each month:



Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

- Snip 'N Stitch: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 9:00
- Worship & Music: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 10:00
- Strategic Planning: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 1:00
- Hymn Planners: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 10:00
- Outreach Team: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 3:30
- WELCA Bible Study: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 10:00
- WELCA Bible Study: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 6:00 pm
- Remembering & Honoring: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 2:00
- 4+1 Group: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 10:00
- Fellowship Team: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 2:00
- WELCA Board: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 10:00
- Stewardship Team: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 10:00
- Finance Team: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 1:00
- Council: the last Monday of each month at 1:00
- Al-Anon: Every Friday at 10:30

*The information printed in the January Forecaster was incorrect for Worship & Music and for Hymn Planners. Please correct your calendars to reflect the above.*

These meetings are subject to change.

If you see a meeting is missing from this list, please let the office know!



Happy Valentine's Day

Many of you have asked for Pastor John's new contact information...so here you go!

John, Sarah, Danielle and Theodore Barton  
 16048 Trail Dr.  
 Oregon City, OR 97045  
 pastorjohn@wllc.org

### Faith Lutheran Church

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

**Office Phone:** (951) 679-1518 | **Email:** [FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com](mailto:FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.faimenifee.com](http://www.faimenifee.com)

**Church Office Hours:** Tues & Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm | Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

# February 2024

February 2024  
 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

March 2024  
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  
 3 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  
 31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
4 AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Candy P/U Annual Report 9:30am Worship Service: Pr. Rex	5 1:00pm Strategic Planning	6 10:00am Worship & Music	7 10:00am Hymn Planners 3:30pm Outreach Team	8 4:00pm Cheer/Eucharistic Team	9 10:30am AI-Anon	10
11 AM: Mars; Lector: Sandy; PPT: Mike P/U Annual Report 9:30am Worship Service: Pr. Karen Marohn	12 10:00am Hymn Planners 3:30pm Outreach Team	13 1:00pm Strategic Planning	14 AM: Mars; Lector: Diane M.; PPT: Candy 10:00am WELCA Bible Study 2:00pm Remembering & Honoring 5:00pm Ash Wed.	15 6:00pm WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom	16 10:00am Stewardship-In Person & Zoom 10:30am AI-Anon 2:00pm AED Training	17
18 AM: Steve; Lector: Kathy; PPT: Bill P/U Annual Report 9:30am Worship: Pr. Shane	19 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship-In Person & Zoom	20 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship-In Person & Zoom	21 Lector; Steve; PPT: Lynn 10:00am WELCA Board 1:00pm Finance Team 5:00pm Lent Soup & Study	22	23 Forecaster Deadline 10:30am AI-Anon	24
25 AM: Joanne; Lector; Bill; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship: Pr. Shane 10:30am Annual Congregational Meeting	26 1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom	27	28 Lector: Pat A.; PPT: Lynn 5:00pm Lent Soup & Study	29	Mar 1	2