



Forecaster



Faith Lutheran Church * January 2024

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2



Thank you, Pastor John for your leadership, your friendship, your humor, your amazing sermons, and your patience and love with each of us. May God bless you, Sarah, Danielle and Theodore as you start your new adventure. You will be missed!

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13 NRSVUE

From Christmas to Christmas, over these almost 5 years I look back with profoundly fond joy and gratitude to each and every one of you! I pray the hope that God provides surrounds all of you in the time to come! Thank you one and all! And so, for the last time as your pastor... May you go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Blessings in Christ!

Faithfully your servant, Pastor John Barton



As we bid farewell to the year behind us and embrace the possibilities of the new one ahead, let us carry forward the lessons of faith, hope, and love. May the coming year be a canvas where we paint our kindness, sow seeds of compassion, and build bridges of unity within our community. Let's continue to be beacons of light, illuminating the path for others through our deeds and prayers. Our days ahead will be different but working together Faith Lutheran will thrive and continue to grow.

Thank you for sharing your love and commitment to Faith Lutheran during the past year. Love and togetherness as we move forward!

Wishing you a blessed New Year filled with God's grace, peace, and abundant blessings for all.

New Year Blessings, Diane Swarts, Council President



Worship Schedule

FOR JANUARY 2024

Blessed New Year to All!! We bid Farewell to Pastor John and his beautiful family on January 7. After that, our Worship Schedule will continue at 9:30 am every Sunday. Community worship will be the glue that holds us together.

So please continue to worship regularly, give generously and participate in the surveys and choices we will be facing as a congregation. Additionally – pray, pray, pray that God will send us the pastor we need. *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4: 6-7*

- January 7 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
Last day for Pastor John/Farewell Reception following worship
- January 14 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
Pastor Rex Wignall presiding
- January 21 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
Supply Pastor to be announced
- January 28 In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am**
Supply Pastor to be announced

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

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/Cekm6HP0yDnHEB0/review>



Worship Assistants January



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Power Point	Ushers	Greeters	Attendance
7th: Roderick	7th: Amy	7th: Candy	7th: Annie	7th: Rudy & Evelyn	7th: Harold
14th: Marlene	14th: Lorna	14th: Bill	14th: Gina	14th: David F.	14th: Shirley
21st: Steve	21st: Kathy	21st: Lynn	21st: Judy	21st: Mike	21st: Joanne
28th: Joanne	28th: Diane M.	28th: Mike	28th: Walli	28th: Diane M.	28th: Pat Olson
Altar Guild: Kandie, Diane M.					

A Happy Unbirthday Celebration

Join Us
and don't Be
Late
for a very
important date!

When: Sunday, January 14, 2024
For: All Faith Lutheran Family
Time: Following Worship
Where: Fellowship Hall



Greetings dear women of Faith!

We are looking forward to January and the beginning of the New Year. One filled with happiness, hope, love, joy and good health. Welcome, *all* of you, to any and all of our activities and events.

Get ready for our Winter/Spring Bible Study! Our theme for our study January thru April will be “Scripture and nature: Teachers of faith”. The four-session study will be presented in our *Gather Magazine* by Rev. Sara Olson-Smith. Our January 2024 study is entitled “Weather: Powerful force for change”.

If you have not received your January *Gather Magazine* the study can be found on the internet by going to www.gathermagazine.org/bible-study. Scroll down until you find the Winter/Spring 2024: “Scripture and Nature: Teachers of Faith” study. If you have a problem, please give Bea Olsen a call. **Select the Circle Bible study time listed below that's best for you and join in the conversation. All women are welcome.**

We received \$1,220.00 for our yearly Thankoffering. Thank you to all who gave so generously. Thankofferings go directly to churchwide Women of the ELCA for their ongoing ministries.

Our December Women of the ELCA Christmas Party with a Purpose was enjoyed by 25 of our church women on Saturday, December 9. We heard a wonderful speaker, Carole Gift Page, a Christian author who shared her story of her writing career and a wonderful message for all. Also, items were collected to be shared with the many asylum seekers who are flooding into the San Diego County area and are being helped by churches in the area by the Pacifica Synod, ELCA. King of Kings Lutheran Church, Oceanside is the church receiving these donations for distribution. Our day closed with lunch and fellowship enjoyed by all.

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 set-up 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:

Pastor John Meets with *Gather Magazine* Circle Bible Study Leaders: Wed., Jan. 3, 10:00 at Church

Snip and Stitch Quilters: Thursday, January 4, 9-12 noon at Church

Mary Circle Bible Study: Wednesday, January 10, 10:00 am at Church

Women of the ELCA Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 17, 10:00 am at Church

Evening Circle Bible Study: Thursday, January 18 at 6:00 pm at Church

In this New Year, let us “Trust in the Lord with all our hearts, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and He shall direct your paths.” (Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV)

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

FINANCIAL REPORT November 30, 2023

1. Comments

- a. Member giving was above budget again this month, and we are also over budget year-to-date. We have exceeded budget for the last 5 months and 8 of the 11 months this year. Let's keep it up!
- b. We are making headway on reducing the budgeted deficit. *THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING!*



2. Financials Review

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
 - i) **For the month**, slightly over budget at 102.0% (\$1,376 vs \$1,171).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 111.5% (\$130,553 vs \$117,046).
- b. **Total Income**
 - i) **For the month**, under budget at 96.2% (\$12,636 vs \$13,129).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, over budget at 103.8% (\$180,273 vs \$173,718).
- c. **Expenses**
 - i) **For the month**, over budget at 112.2% (\$18,676 vs \$16,646).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, slightly over budget at 102.9% (\$188,232 vs \$182,892).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - i) **For the month**, a loss of \$6,040 vs the expected loss of \$3,517.
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, a loss of \$7,959 vs the expected loss of \$9,173
- e. **Checking balance**
 - i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$72.27, the lowest in many years.
 - ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$6,017.

Submitted by Finance Committee





BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO

January 1, 1935	Betty Baumann
January 2, 1956	Richard Konrad
January 5, 1956	Frank Ehrig
January 8, 1979	Ariana Stafford
January 9, 1952	Diane Molina
January 15	Vicki Crow
January 20, 1940	Judy Appel
January 26, 1939	Carol Morris
January 30, 1992	Amber Concepcion



There are no official wedding anniversaries in January, so feel free to celebrate your own regardless of when it is! You can never celebrate too often, right?!



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 boxes of stuffing, mashed potatoes and rice sides (Spanish rice, rice pilaf, etc.) for January!

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. Give Dawn Smith a call at 951-301-4414.

Diane Swarts - Community Cupboard Liaison

The Christmas Giving Tree



The Outreach Committee would like to thank our members for their generous donations of gift cards to Menifee Valley Community Cupboard for our local seniors in need! Your commitment, compassion, love and willingness to reach out to those in need reflect God's love.

A total of \$1565.00 was donated! Alleluia!

"Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14



Giving = Love in Action

Faith WELCA

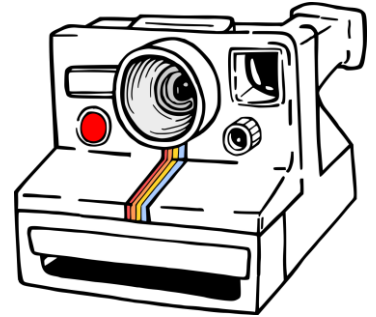
CHRISTMAS PARTY
WITH A PURPOSE

2023



Attention Committee and Group Chairpersons!

If you take photos at any upcoming events, please email them to the church office at faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com and/or to Mary Mazy at 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!

Endowment Fund Board News

Over the years, many of you have generously made donations to the Endowment Fund. Thank you. Going forward, please follow these steps in order to direct your donation to the category of your choice.

1. Make your check payable to Faith Lutheran Church. On the memo line, write Endowment. Doing so means that the donation will be deposited in undesignated gifts overseen by the Board.
2. If you prefer that the donation be directed to a specific scholarship fund, you have two choices.
 - a. To donate to scholarships for students pursuing the fields of education and/or church ministry, make the check payable to the church, and write on the memo line Endowment S1.
 - b. To donate to scholarships for students majoring in fields other than education and/or church ministry, including trade-school fields, make the check payable to the church, and write on the memo line Endowment S2. (This category of scholarships is limited to current or former members of Faith Lutheran Church and students who have another direct connection to this congregation.)

Every donation is greatly appreciated. Scholarship applications for the 2024-2025 school year will be accepted online from February 1, 2024, through May 1, 2024. To see the application, just visit the church's website at faithmenifee.com. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Adams.

Faith Lutheran Church

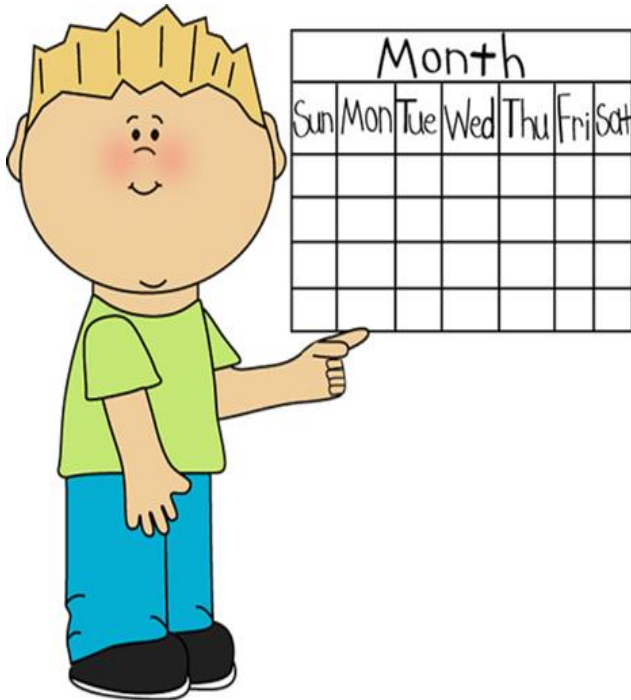
28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

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

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



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

These meetings are subject to change. If you see a meeting is missing from this list, please let the office know!

Pastor John and Lynn would like to thank each of you for all of the gifts and cards you gave us this past month! You are all very generous and your kindness is greatly appreciated!



January 2024

January 2024							February 2024						
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
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
Dec 31	Jan 1, 24	2	3	4	5	6
AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Candy Pastor's Last Sunday 9:30am Worship Service	1:00pm FR&D (Faith R&D)-In Person & Zoom	10:00am Hymn Planners 3:30pm Outreach	10:00am Bible Study Leaders-In Person 10:00am WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom 2:00pm Remembering & Honoring	9:00am Snip 'N' Stitch 10:00am Worship & Music	10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	10:00am Take Down Christmas Decor-Donuts and Coffee
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Candy Pastor's Last Sunday 9:30am Worship Service	1:00pm FR&D (Faith R&D)-In Person & Zoom	10:00am Hymn Planners 3:30pm Outreach	10:00am WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom 2:00pm Remembering & Honoring	9:00am Snip 'N' Stitch 10:00am Worship & Music	10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	10:00am Take Down Christmas Decor-Donuts and Coffee
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
AM: Mars; Lector: Lorna; PPT: Bill 9:30am Worship-Pr Rex 11:00am Unbirthday Party	10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship-In Person & Zoom	10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship-In Person & Zoom	10:00am WELCA Board-In Person	6:00pm WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom	10:00am Stewardship-In Person & Zoom 10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
AM: Steve; Lector: Kathy; PPT: Lynn 9:30am Worship Service: Roderick	4:00pm Endowment-Zoom	Forecaster Deadline	1:00pm Finance Team-In Person & Zoom		10:30am AI-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
AM: Joanne; Lector: Diane; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship Service	1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom	6:00pm Bingo fundraiser for stove		Feb 1		