



Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church * November 2024



Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6–7

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; all be safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin. God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

I think it began with Thanksgiving services all across our nation and soon infiltrated every Sunday Worship (COVID-19 didn't help). Over the years, many of God's people have become more interested in staying home or attending their own festivities rather than coming together for the Godly appointed assemblies which the church offers for worship.

Every Thanksgiving we sing, "Come, ye thankful people, come!" but what happens when they don't?

The Apostle Paul knew human nature. He knew that given time, the sinful nature and life in this troubled world would challenge our faith, causing some to become neglectful, even indifferent toward their faith in the Triune God. So, he gives this sanctified advice: "Just as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

Walking in Jesus today is like walking with Him when He roamed the Holy Land two thousand years ago. The only difference is His visible presence. Today we are the body of Christ which means we live in Him and He in us! We are His presence in the world and that means His work is being done through believers in the power of the Holy Spirit.

It seems right that Paul is delivering this message to us because he was not one of the original twelve disciples who literally walked with Jesus. Like us, he did not follow Jesus through the Judean countryside and see the deliverance He brought to so many lives. But when the risen Christ revealed Himself to the Apostle and planted faith in his heart, Paul was a man made new; radically changed. Just like us, he walked in Christ Jesus by faith. He realized the importance of having a life rooted and built up in Christ and established in the faith so that he abounded in thanksgiving!

As we look at the record of Paul's life with all the troubles he endured for Christ, it's hard to imagine that he "abounded in thanksgiving." But that's exactly how he describes the life rooted and built up in Christ and established in Him. ABOUNDING!

With all the trouble he endured one wonders how abounding in thanksgiving is even possible? See how he describes this new walk in Christ: "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

Paul would completely agree with the Apostle John who said, "We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). God's love for you and me is the centerpiece and core of faith and the reason why we abound in thanksgiving. Of God's love Paul wrote: "neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38–39).

Thanksgiving is not just a once-a-year event or a national holiday celebrated around a turkey dressed table; it is the spontaneous and daily response of a believer who walks in Christ Jesus the Lord, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith.

Borrowed from Pastor Vern, Blessed Savior Lutheran Church, O'Fallon IL

Three Kinds of Giving

Late Episcopal clergyman, author, and educator Robert N. Rodenmayer wrote this interpretation of what giving means:

"There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, 'I have to'; duty giving says, 'I ought to'; and thanksgiving says, 'I want to.' The latter comes from a full heart. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the love of God."



Sharon Zolzer

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the worship service on November 10th for a luncheon to celebrate the life of Sharon Zolzer! All are welcome!



Dear Church Family:

As the crisp air and colors of fall surround us, we are reminded of God's abundant blessings in every season of life. This time of year encourages us to pause, reflect, and give thanks for His grace, love, and provision.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." – Psalm 107:1

Just as the harvest reminds us of God's faithfulness, let us also remember the countless ways He has provided for us, spiritually and physically. May we share His love generously with others, just as He has poured out His love upon us.

We pray that your Thanksgiving is filled with gratitude, joy, and meaningful time with loved ones. Let's continue to encourage and love one another, offering thanks and praise!!!

"Enriching Lives Through Faith and God's Grace"

God's Blessings,
Diane Swarts, Council President



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Power Point	Ushers	Greeters	Attendance
3rd: Roderick	3rd: Amy	3rd: Candy	3rd: Annie	3rd: Joanne	3rd: Diane M.
10th: Candy	10th: Kathy	10th: Lynn	10th: Gina	10th: Kent	10th: Carol
17th: Marlene	17th: Danielle	17th: Bill	17th: Judy Appel	17th: Dave	17th: Shirley
24th: Joanne	24th: Sandy	24th: Mike	24th: Diane M.	24th: Danielle	24th: Judy Adams

Altar Guild: 3rd, 10th: Marlene, Debbie 17th, 24th: Kandie, Marlene

Snip 'N Stitch

On Thankoffering Sunday, we were treated to a display of the beautiful quilts made by our Snip 'N Stitch Quilters! The quilts will be donated to a woman's shelter and to The CARE Project. Thank you, Ladies, for your beautiful work!



Pacifica WELCA Convention & Gathering

"Nothing is more beautiful than a woman who is brave, strong and emboldened because of who Christ is in her." -Joni Lamb

The Pacifica WELCA Gathering & Convention was held on October 18-19, 2024! There were 5 of us from Faith Lutheran who attended and a great, meaningful, time was had by all! If you weren't able to attend, we would love for you to join us next year!



Come and join us for Bingo!

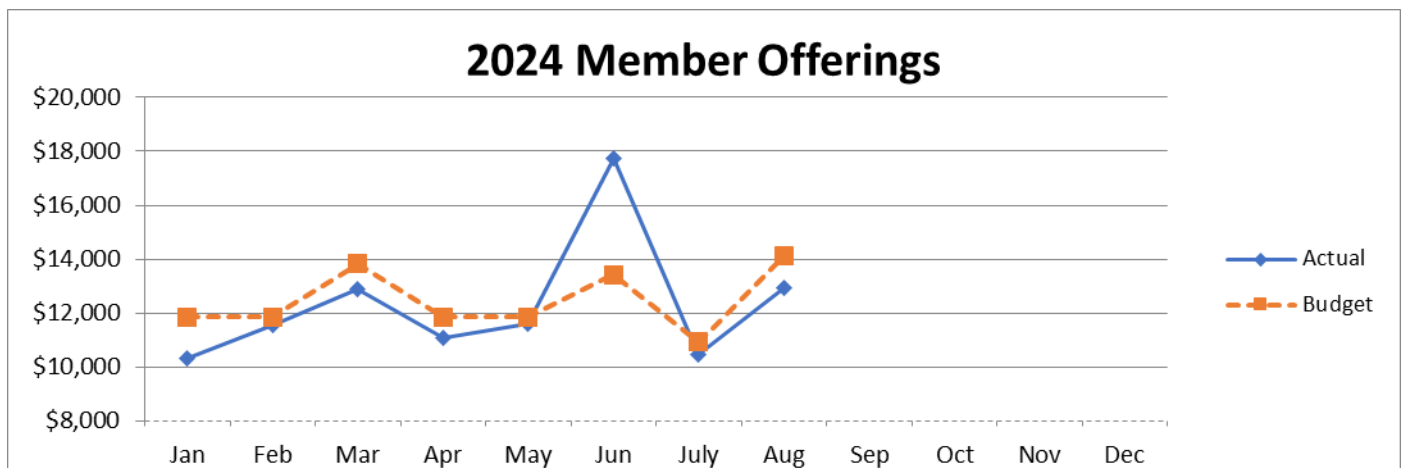
Thursday, November 7th at 4:00
Fellowship Hall at Faith Lutheran Church
Fellowship, snacks and Bingo!
Bring your friends – ALL are welcome!

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 30, 2024

1. Comments

- a. Member giving continues below budget. Total Income for the month was substantially below budget. This was because we did not receive budgeted income from the Park sale, due to contractual delays.
- b. Expenses were also substantially below budget because we chose not to transfer unspent Pastoral Expense to the New Pastor Reserve Fund "savings" account on our balance sheet. We made this decision to offset the expected budget shortfall for October, and to keep the checking account balance from going too low. The New Pastor Reserve fund has over \$57,000, but we anticipate adding more in a few months.



2. Financials Review

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
 - i) **For the month**, below budget at 91.7% (\$12,922 vs \$14,099).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, slightly below budget at 97.5% (\$108,451 vs \$111,188).
- b. **Total Income**
 - i) **For the month**, substantially below budget at 56.7% (\$15,300 vs \$27,008).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, substantially below budget at 86.0% (\$151,275 vs \$175,996).
- c. **Expenses**
 - i) **For the month**, substantially below budget at 56.3% (\$10,525 vs \$18,690).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, significantly below budget at 85.8% (\$144,023 vs \$167,772).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - i) **For the month**, a surplus of \$4,775 vs the budgeted surplus of \$8,318.
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, a surplus of \$7,252 vs the expected surplus of \$8,224.
- e. **Checking balance**
 - i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$10,515.
 - ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$5,932.

Submitted by Mike McGavran, Treasurer



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

November 2	Lucas Concepcion
November 8	Madeline Puccio
November 10	Dick Olsen
November 13	Mike McGavran
November 26	Ava Holmes
November 29	Kandie Hulme



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

There are no official wedding anniversaries in November, 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
Thanksgiving Side Dishes for November!**

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

TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE

The Transition Team has met a couple of times so far, and we got together with our Pacifica Synod representative, Pastor Darryl Kozak, in order to begin the process of completing our (MSP) Ministry Site Profile. Filling out the online detailed Ministry Site Profile is the main job of the Transition Team. We will be soliciting information from church members as much as possible to help us complete this task. Over the next few months, we will have opportunities for congregation members to meet with the Transition Team in order to discuss our visions for a new pastor and for church members to provide input and ideas. Anyone with a specific wish list is asked to submit the ideas in writing to any member of the Transition Team.

Our Transition Team members are: Pat Adams, Sandra Miller, Candy Pellechio, Pr. Ken Puccio, and Amy Sinclair.

The Transition Team will be meeting twice a month as we work on the Ministry Site Profile and as we begin gathering input from the congregation.

Please keep us in your prayers. Consider using the prayer below.

Prayer During the Transition/Interim time:

Loving God, be with us and guide us during this time of discernment. Fill our leaders with your wisdom. Keep us mindful of the work you would have us do. Lead us and guide us, O Lord, to be about the work of your kingdom even as the search for a new pastor continues. Bless all who have taken on extra responsibilities and fill them with a sense of your love and presence. Holy Spirit, be with us all as we move forward. We pray in your Son's name, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

We will provide updates to the congregation as we move forward with this process.

God Bless us all,

Amy Sinclair, Chair of the Transition Team



4 Plus 1 – What Is It?

What is 4 Plus 1? It's a "Come as you are and share your own story!" kind of thing - small groups of four or more people plus **Christ – the Plus One**. We pray, discuss a scripture passage, talk and laugh together on the **third Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:00am**. It's a great way to learn more about each other and our generous and loving God!

Come on over... Tuesday, November 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Our Topic: Greatness

Sending out another “thank you” to each of you who donated and helped assemble the men’s hygiene kits for Central City Lutheran Mission! We were able to deliver 130 kits!



**Advent and Christmas are just around the corner!
Here are some dates to put on your calendars:**

Sundays, December 1, 8, 15, & 22 – Four Sundays of Advent

Wednesdays, December 4, 11, & 18 – Advent Mid-Week Worship
Services at 5:00pm – Soup Suppers afterward

**Saturday, December 7 – Decorating the Sanctuary and Christmas Tree
10:00 am – All hands are needed. Coffee and donuts served!**

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
Join us and bring a friend for all these Worship Opportunities.

Soles4Souls Update



Faith Lutheran Church delivered another **137** pairs of shoes to Soles4Souls in October! A total of **673** pairs have been donated since the launch of this outreach initiative in February 2024!

Let’s keep up the outstanding work supporting this initiative!



Thankoffering

“...gifts from individuals in gratitude for blessings.”

October 20th was Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Sunday. Each year our congregation is invited to participate in Thankoffering by giving a special gift, over and above our regular giving, in support of Women of the ELCA ministries here in the U.S. and abroad. Thank you to all of Faith Lutheran for your continued support!

WISH LIST: *OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE*

What is God calling you to do?

The Faith Church Council would like to invite you to take an active role in our Ministries. Here are some of the positions available.

Musician - Accompanist to play piano, organ, guitar, during worship on Sunday mornings. For information call Marlene Rosselli (805)405-6938.

Facilities & Property Maintenance – upkeep of the facilities requires many hands and a variety of skills. Do you have an hour to help pull weeds at church? Please contact Frank Ehrig to help out, (951)316-7252.

New Member Coordinator – Welcome visitors and new members. Contact Candy Pellechio (908)601-4540, for further information.

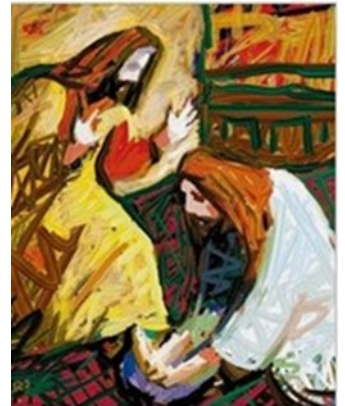
Special Music – Vocals, Instrumentals, Groups, or Soloists to perform during worship. Contact Marlene Rosselli (805)405-6938, for information.

Coffee Hour after worship – Get together with a few others and sign-up to prepare coffee & treats on Sunday morning. Contact Connie Gibson, (909)635-4497, for information and to sign up.

Pickup Truck – The Outreach Team needs your help to deliver our shoe donations to the San Bernardino warehouse a few times a year. Please contact Candy Pellechio (908)601-4540.

Thank you for considering these ministry opportunities!

Do you know something that belongs on our Wish List? Please contact Amy Sinclair (562)714-0707.



The Giving Tree

It's that time of year again! Your Outreach Committee will be collecting gift cards to give to Menifee Valley Community Cupboard again this year for Christmas! The Giving Tree will be set up in the narthex on Sunday, November 25 - December 22.

We're looking for your gifts of love to share with those in need in the form of gift cards from:

Local Grocery Stores

Target

Walmart

When you bring your gift card to church during this time, you will get a thank you ornament as a reminder of your gift of love.

Giving is Love in Action! Your Outreach Committee thanks you!



Menifee Fall Festival

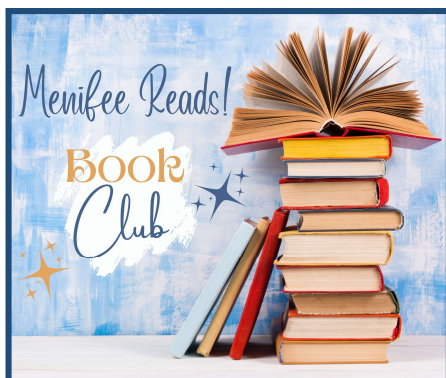
This year Faith Lutheran Church had a booth at the Menifee Fall Festival at MSJC on Saturday, October 19th! We had a great time! The event was well attended with over 9,000 people! We handed out candy, kids bead craft kits, flyers of church activities, we had postcards signed for MilVet and a free drawing for a handmade quilt.

The event was great exposure for our church and the many groups, activities and events we offer.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event so successful! Faith Lutheran Church is filled with the Holy Spirit and abundant life! Thanks be to God!



Faith Lutheran was one of the Menifee churches who participated in Faith & Blue with the Menifee Police Department and other local faith organizations. The event, on **October 5, 2024** benefited MilVet. Faith Lutheran members helped to assemble 200 care packages for service members!



Menifee Reads! Book Club

Menifee Reads! had a great first meeting with 12 people, half from the community at large. The discussion was engaging and everyone indicated they will be back. Our Facebook group continues to grow with the public interest.

We have had some interest in a similar group to meet during the day. If you are interested in this option, please let Candy Pellechio or Kathy Kent know.

The November 20 meeting will be a discussion of "Blue Sisters" by Coco Mellors. If you're a reader, please join us in person and on our Facebook group, [Menifee Reads! \(a book club\)!](#)

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Faith Lutheran Church, Menifee CA
October 12, 2024



Faith Lutheran Church

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

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

Website: www.faithmenifee.com

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

November 2024

November 2024							December 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 27	28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Candy Pledge Sunday & All Saints Sunday 9:30am Worship Service-Pr. Rex Wignall		10:00am Worship & Music		9:00am Snip 'N' Stitch 4:00pm Bingo!	10:30am AI-Anon 1:00pm Transition Team	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AM: Candy; Lector: Kathy; PPT: Lynn 9:30am Worship Service-Pr. Shane Freiberg 11:00am Celebration of Life-Sheron Zolzer	1:00pm Strategic Planning	10:00am Hymn Planners 12:30pm WELCA Board 3:30pm Outreach Team	10:00am Mary Circle Bible Study 2:00pm Remembering & Honoring	4:00pm Cheer/Eucharistic Team 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	10:00am Stewardship 10:30am AI-Anon	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
AM: Marlene; Lector: Danielle; PPT: Bill 9:30am Worship Service-Lay Preacher: Roderick		10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship Team	1:00pm Finance Team-In Person & Zoom 7:00pm Menifee Reads! Book Club	9:00am Snip 'N' Stitch 6:00pm WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom	10:30am AI-Anon 1:00pm Transition Team	Forecaster Deadline
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
AM: Joanne; Lector: Sandy; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship Service-Pr. Shane Freiberg	1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom			Thanksgiving Day 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	10:30am AI-Anon	