



Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church * May 2025



On May 11th, we will celebrate Mother's Day, expressing gratitude for the incredible gift of mothers and their profound impact on our lives. As Christians, we understand motherhood is a sacred calling infused with love, sacrifice, and God's grace. I have often referred to spiritual moms as those who are not necessarily biological moms but serve as mother figures to others for the cause of Christ.

Proverbs 31:26-28 beautifully captures the essence of a godly mother: "She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her." Now, it is essential to note that the picture presented here is an ideal; it is meant to offer a framework for understanding godly womanhood.

A mother's role extends beyond physical care; she plays a crucial role in spiritually, emotionally, and mentally nurturing her children. Just as God nurtures and cares for His children, mothers reflect His love and compassion in their everyday actions. In Proverbs 22:6, we're reminded of the importance of a mother's guidance: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." This observation is worth noting and emulating.

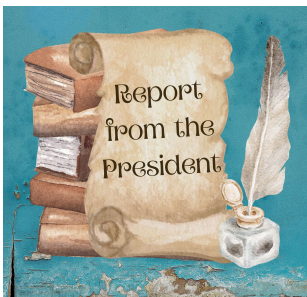
Mothers exemplify the sacrificial love that Jesus taught us. John 15:13 says, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends." Mothers often sacrifice their own needs and desires for the sake of their children, embodying the selfless love modeled by Christ. My Mom indeed expressed such love for my brother and me.

Furthermore, the Bible teaches us about mothers' strength and resilience. Proverbs 31:25 states, "Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come." In times of adversity, mothers draw strength from their faith and trust in God's providence, inspiring us all with their unwavering courage. My Mom...was an example of strength and dignity, while spiritual moms exemplified faith. I am thankful for both. I am grateful my Mom became a lady of faith as well.

As we honor mothers, let's remember to express our gratitude and appreciation for their unconditional love. Ephesians 6:2-3 reminds us of the commandment with a promise: "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Paul is teaching here that honoring our moms is a sign that we genuinely know God and results in us being blessed by the Lord.

Ultimately, Mother's Day is a time to reflect on the profound blessings of motherhood and to thank God for the precious gift of mothers, whether biological, spiritual, or both, in our lives. Let's celebrate their love, emulate their virtues, and honor them as representatives of God's grace and wisdom. How could we do any less? Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone)!

Borrowed from: Craig Cooper



Welcome to Spring, Easter, and renewal in all things!

This coming month we are going to go **Live** with our Sunday Services. For years the Sunday service has been recorded, then posted to our website and YouTube. The upcoming change is to **broadcast Sunday services Live on YouTube**, like live television, then post to the website and YouTube as we have already been doing.

This will allow people who are homebound or out-of-town to enjoy services right along with those who are in church. Since YouTube is the second largest search engine on the planet, with 3 billion searches per month, we can reach viewers from **anywhere** that has internet access. **Online Giving** on our website will allow the same people to make donations if they are moved by our messages and worship.

If you search "**Faith Lutheran Church Meniffee**" you can find the latest Live videos. Be sure to click the "thumbs up" and "subscribe" to teach YouTube what you want to see, and click the "notification bell" to get a message when we post a new video. Never miss another service!

Steve Kent, President



Come and join us for Bingo!

Thursday, May 1st at 4:00
Fellowship Hall at Faith Lutheran Church
Fellowship, snacks and Bingo!
Bring your friends – ALL are welcome!



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Power Point	Ushers	Attendance	Greeters
4th: Roderick	4th: Amy	4th: Mike	4th: Annie	4th: Kathy	4th: Judy Appel
11th: Candy	11th: Kathy	11th: Bill	11th: Judy Appel	11th: Pat O.	11th: Judy Adams
18th: Joanne	18th: Candy	18th: Mike	18th: Gina	18th: Shirley	18th: Dave F.
25th: Roderick	25th: Bill	25th: Candy	25th: Diane M.	25th: Joanne	25th: Judy Adams

Altar Guild: 4th, 11th: Kandie, Diane M. 18th, 25th: Mars, Debbie

Grace, Not Judgment

In a world quick to judge and slow to understand, Jesus' responses stand as timeless examples of grace in action. This collection explores 13 powerful moments where Jesus chose understanding over condemnation, teaching valuable lessons about compassion and empathy.

This series of Thursday evening, 7:00 P.M. Zoom Bible studies will examine these stories and will remind us that even in challenging situations, grace can transform lives and heal broken spirits. Through these biblical accounts, we will discover how Jesus' gentle approach to difficult questions and situations continues to inspire and guide people today. Contact Pastor Ken at hopegiver@aol.com for log in information.



**BIBLE
STUDY**
via Zoom!

Led by Pr. Ken Puccio
2nd & 4th Thursdays
7:00 pm on Zoom
hopegiver@aol.com

for more info:

I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!

The Fellowship Team invites you to enjoy the Ice Cream Sundae Summer Socials, the 4th Wednesday of each month during the summer from 6:30 – 7:30.

Mark your calendars for: June 25th, July 23rd, August 27th, and September 24th!

Please sign up to enjoy the fun! Bring your friends! All are welcome!



Transition Team Update

The Transition Team is continuing to work on Faith's Ministry Site Profile (MSP). We are now focusing on gathering key information from the congregation.

We need your input. On April 21, we sent out an email with links to three online surveys for the congregation to complete. We are grateful that a number of you have already completed the online surveys. We hope that many people who worship with us will participate. We want to stress that these surveys are extremely important. Each person at Faith, should answer the survey questions themselves individually even if living in the same household as other Church members. Also, we will have paper versions of the surveys available the week of May 4, in the narthex, for those who prefer a hard copy instead of the computer. There will be a box in the narthex for the completed surveys. By gathering information from the congregation, these three surveys will help us complete Faith's MSP. The first survey seeks basic demographic information about the people in your home. The second survey asks your perspective about what gifts for ministry you believe our next pastor should have. The third survey seeks your point of view on the relative importance of the various tasks that our next pastor will need to perform.

It is extremely important that we compile completed surveys from as many folks who worship with us as possible. To help achieve this, we will have members of the Transition Team set up in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday May 4, with laptop computers in order to assist people in completing the online surveys. Please stop by after worship if you need assistance with the computer surveys.

On March 30, the Transition Team hosted the first of several small group meetings. That meeting was for current and recent Church Council members to share their input on various matters such as, the most important skills/talents of a new pastor and what activities a new pastor should focus on in the first year of his/her ministry with our congregation. That first meeting went very well.

In April we held several other small group meetings, which were open to all persons who worship with us here at Faith. We also held a small group meeting at Pacifica Assisted Living, in order to receive ideas and perspectives from some of our homebound members. During all of these sessions, we received valuable feedback. Thank you to all who participated.

On behalf of our church's Transition Team, I want to express gratitude for your helpful input and continued prayers as we move forward with this vital work.

Blessings in Christ,

Amy Sinclair, Transition Team Chairperson



Land Sale Status

Diane Swarts and I met with the City on Monday April 21st. After nearly 6 months of waiting, the State finally blessed the applicable documents we negotiated on your behalf and which you approved at the Special Congregational Meeting last October.

Now, everything is in the hands of the City of Menifee, so hopefully things will move with less delay. There will be a formal approval of the documents by the City Council at their May 21st meeting. We anticipate going into Escrow by the end of June, with a closing hopefully by the end of August. The City anticipates 8-10 months after that to complete the development of the Park.

Mike McGavran



The Outreach Team continues to look at new ways to expand our impact of doing good in our local Menifee community. We would like to expand our work with MilVet, a local non-profit dedicated to connecting the military community to programs and resources to enrich the lives of deployed troops, veterans, and their families. Here are several ways you can get involved in supporting MilVet in their mission:

- ✓ Attend one or many of the MilVet monthly packing events. Here, care packages are assembled for deployed troops. Sign up for the monthly events can be done on www.milvet.org.
 - ✓ One month out of each quarter we will collect items MilVet needs to go into care packages for deployed troops. Currently, we are collecting **instant coffee and disposable razors**. Please add them to your shopping list.
 - ✓ Plan to attend the WELCA Fundraiser June 21 to benefit MilVet (see fundraiser article in this Forecaster).
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FINANCIAL REPORT for MARCH 31, 2025

1. Comments

- Member giving continues to be significantly below budget.
- As said last month Expenses continue substantially below budget because, while we budgeted for a half-time Pastor, that position is currently vacant. Our Pastoral expenses will contain only payment for Supply Pastors during the Transition and Call processes, plus the expense for our Transition Facilitator for the next several months.
- During the previous year, we managed to set aside monies in the New Pastor Reserve Fund which now total over \$83,000. Current thinking is that we do not need to add to this amount, so until we call our next Pastor, we will continue to run under budget in expenses due to the open Senior Pastor position.
- While our overall budget will likely run a surplus due to the low Pastoral Expenses, **the Congregation should pay attention to Member Giving as a measure of our overall financial health.** It is possible that we would continue to see monthly surpluses even as Member Giving runs under budget. If so, this would result in an unhealthy trend that would adversely affect our Church once we fill our vacant Pastoral position.



2. Financials Review

- Offering Envelopes**
 - For the month (5 Sundays), below budget at 90.56% (\$13,127 vs \$14,496).
 - Year-to-date, significantly below budget at 80.01% (\$32,647 vs \$40,804).
- Total Income**
 - For the month, slightly below budget at 96.05% (\$17,350 vs \$18,063).
 - Year-to-date, below budget at 87.19% (\$42,734 vs \$49,014).
- Expenses**
 - For the month, significantly below budget at 70.63% (\$10,941 vs \$15,491).
 - Year-to-date, significantly below budget at 68.89% (\$33,596 vs \$48,767).
- Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - For the month, a surplus of \$6,408 vs the expected surplus of \$2,572.
 - Year-to-date, a surplus of \$9,138 vs the expected surplus of \$247.
- Checking balance**
 - Balance at Month-end is \$22,332.93.
 - Previous Month-end balance was \$16,298.20.



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

May 16	Arnette Calkins
May 17	Caroline Ogden
May 25	Steve Kent
May 26	Nancy Randolph
May 27	Marlene Rosselli



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

May 6, 2000	Gregg & Jennifer McGavran
May 17, 2008	Roderick & Amy Sinclair
May 28, 1977	Tom & Judy Brosz



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
Pasta for May!**

Our partners, Menifee Community Cupboard have been impacted by recent federal programs cuts. Most of us have not experienced food insecurity, but many locally do experience it, both seniors and families. Let's remind ourselves to do all we can to help those in need here in Menifee! As you are able, be Christ in action, add the monthly item to your shopping list and add it to the collection bin by mailboxes!

Are You a TECHIE??

Volunteers are needed to be trained to run the **Sound** system. We **MUST** have 3 techs per Sunday - Power Point, Sound and Video to make it all flow seamlessly. Please see Steve Kent or Marlene Rosselli if you are interested and we will set up training sessions as soon as possible. If you cannot do it yourself, please pray that God will provide the needed volunteers.

- Worship & Music Team



W-ELCA Annual Fundraiser - Tickets on Sale May 4th!!

Women of Faith, be part of the fun and mark your calendars to attend these key events!!



Saturday, June 22 – W-ELCA Annual Fundraiser benefiting MilVet.

Tickets are \$15 and go on sale beginning Sunday, May 4!

The Rancho Rockers are scheduled to play and plenty of goodies will be raffled off. Bring family, friends and neighbors to fill the Fellowship Hall. Help us make this event the best one yet, while supporting our veterans and active-duty service members.

Do not miss out on the fun!

Gift Baskets for W-ELCA Fundraiser to Benefit MilVet

Our annual WELCA fundraiser is just over 1 month away (June 22) and it is gift basket time. We are looking to have 24 baskets of goodies for our raffle. We already have a few baskets but need many more donations to make our baskets absolutely divine! What might you like to contribute?

- Want to donate a basket? Think of a theme and collect your items.
- Gift cards are wonderful additions to any gift basket. Restaurants, Target, coffee shop, etc.
- Do you quilt, crochet or craft other items? Just let us know.
- Want to donate cash or check? Donate to WELCA and note “gift baskets” in the memo line. We will use the monies to buy gift cards to supplement the baskets.
- Individual items can be gifted, and we will make up the basket.
- Chocolate, chocolate Did I say chocolate is always a treat for any basket.

Donations are being accepted now and must be received by Sunday, June 1, 2025. Get with Candy Pellechio and let her know what you can contribute, cepellec@gmail.com or 908-601-4540.



I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of my Faith Family for the prayers, the patience, the cards, and the love shown me during my medical leave! I healed well and I attribute that to reduced stress and extra rest! Special thanks to Mike, Joanne, Kandie, Jean, Mars and all of you who helped with the things I couldn't do! I'm so grateful and blessed!

Lynn Bennett

Coffee, Conversation and You



Can you help at Coffee Hour on a Sunday to help Bonnie with serving and cleaning up? Coffee Hour starts after worship service and ends at 11:30am, although people are welcome to stay and talk. See the sign-up sheet for coffee hour volunteers and get involved!

Additionally, **we are gladly accepting home-baked goods for Coffee Hour.** Up to two (2) people bring home-baked goods on any Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet in the kitchen for bringing home-baked goods.

Please sign up for a Sunday and head down to coffee hour to meet, greet and fellowship with our Faith family!

Explore God's Word with Us
a ministry of Women of the ELCA (W-ELCA)



Exploring God's word helps us grow our relationship with Christ. WELCA gives you two different opportunities to explore His word in fellowship with others.

- **Mary's Circle** uses studies from Gather Magazine. They meet on the second Wednesday of the month (May 14) at 10am in the library.
- **Lydia Evening Bible Study** is studying women of the Bible. They meet on the third Thursday of the month (May 22) at 6pm in the library.

Continuous learning guides us as we walk in faith with Christ daily. Join us to grow your faith in 2025!

CALLING ALL PET LOVERS AND OWNERS!

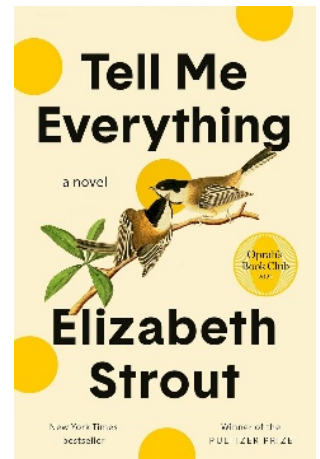
The 2025 Blessing of the Animals will be Saturday, May 17 at 10am. Pastor Shane will be leading this service. Bring your pets, photos of pets, or stuffed animals to be blessed. Tell your friends and family! Flyers are available in the narthex!





Meniffee Reads! (a book club) is reading "Tell Me Everything" by Elizabeth Strout for May. The May meetings are Wednesday, May 21, at 7pm and Thursday, May 22 at 2pm in the library. Join in the fun as you can! ALL ARE WELCOME!

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB PICK • From Pulitzer Prize-winning author Elizabeth Strout comes a "stunner" (*People*) of a novel about new friendships, old loves, and the very human desire to leave a mark on the world. **SHORTLISTED FOR THE WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION**
A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR: *Time*, NPR, *Vogue*, *Parade*



With her remarkable insight into the human condition and silences that contain multitudes, Elizabeth Strout returns to the town of Crosby, Maine, and to her beloved cast of characters—Lucy Barton, Olive Kitteridge, Bob Burgess, and more—as they deal with a shocking crime in their midst, fall in love and yet choose to be apart, and grapple with the question, as Lucy Barton puts it, "What does anyone's life *mean*?"

Wear your *FaithWear* to the game!
Contact Kathy Kent for more info!

FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT

@ THE LAKE ELSINORE STORM

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025 - FIRST PITCH @ 6:45 PM

ENJOY A NIGHT OF BASEBALL WITH THE COMMUNITY AND....

- PRE-GAME GOSPEL BAND
- PRE-GAME PRAYER
- PRE-GAME PLAYER TESTIMONIES
- POST-GAME PASTOR MESSAGE
- FIREWORKS

\$16.95

INCLUDES LOT G PARKING
GAME TICKET
\$2 DONATION PER TICKET BACK TO YOUR CHURCH

CONTACT STORM BASEBALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

TICKETS@STORMBASEBALL.COM - (951) 245-4487

500 DIAMOND DRIVE - LAKE ELSINORE, GA 92530

The Cheer Committee Spreads ...Cheer!

The Cheer Committee and the Sunday School children worked together for our homebound!

Your Cheer Committee delivered prayer crosses and Easter decorations made by our Sunday School children to our homebound members to enjoy, and we mailed some to our other homebound members, as well.

The children really liked doing the craft and the homebound loved receiving them.

Come join the Cheer Committee for fun, fellowship, and providing communion to our homebound members. All are welcome!

See Kandie Hulme, Freddericka Bradshaw or Debbie Ehrig.



Christmas in July

We will be celebrating our military and veterans and their families in need by collecting gift cards for Target, any grocery store or gas station. The donations go to MilVet of Murrieta, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

Please visit our patriotic giving tree in the Narthex from Memorial Day through July. Help our military and veterans if you are able.

Choose an ornament made by our Sunday School kids, purchase the gift card (save any activation or validation receipt), bring it back to church, and place in a provided baggie.

Please respond by July 4th. Thank you!



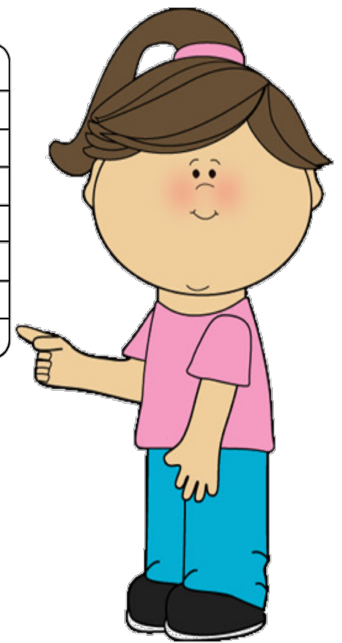


To help you plan ahead, this is a list of the events that recur each month:

- **Snip 'N Stitch:** 1st and 3rd Thursday at 9:00
- **Worship & Music:** 1st Tuesday at 10:00
- **Hymn Planners:** 2nd Tuesday at 10:00
- **Outreach Team:** 2nd Tuesday at 2:30
- **WELCA Bible Study:** 2nd Wednesday at 10:00 and 3rd Thursday at 6:00 pm
- **WELCA Board:** 2nd Tuesday at 12:30
- **Meniffee Reads!:** 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 and the Thursday following the 3rd Wednesday (either the 3rd or 4th Thursday) at 2:00pm
- **4+1 Group:** 3rd Tuesday at 10:00
- **Fellowship Team:** 3rd Tuesday at 2:00
- **Stewardship Team:** 3rd Friday at 10:00
- **Finance Team:** 4th Wednesday at 1:00
- **Council:** the last Monday of each month at 1:00
- **Cheer Team:** 2nd Thursday at 4:00
- **Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study:** 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7:00
- **Strategic Planning:** 2nd Wednesday at 1:00
- **Transition Team:** Fridays, every 2 weeks
- **Al-Anon:** Every Friday at 10:30

Fun at Faith!

S	M	T	W	T	F	S



Happy Mothers Day



Appreciation

Beautiful

Breakfast

Candy

Charming

Comfort

Devoted

Flowers

Forgiving

Gifts

Guidance

Hugs

Jewelry

Joy

Kisses

Laughter

Love

Maternal

Mom

Mother

Nurture

Perfume

Protective

Share

Telephone

Tender

The Best

Warm

Wise

Faith Lutheran Church

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

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

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

May 2025

May 2025

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
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

June 2025

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
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 27	28	29	30	May 1 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch 4:00pm AF-Bingo	2 10:30am Al-Anon	3
4 AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship-Pr. Rex 11:00am New Member 11:00am Small Group 1:00pm	5 AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship-Pr. Rex 11:00am New Member 11:00am Small Group 1:00pm	6 10:00am Worship & Music	7	8 4:00pm Cheer/Eucharistic Team 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	9 10:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Transition Team	10
11 AM: Candy; Lector: Kathy; PPT: Bill Mother's Day 9:30am Worship-Pr. Anderson 11:00am New Member 1:00pm	12 1:00pm Strategic Planning	13 10:00am Hymn Planners 12:30pm WELCA Board 2:30pm Outreach Team	14 10:00am Mary Circle Bible Study	15 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch 6:00pm WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom	16 10:00am Stewardship 10:30am Al-Anon 5:45pm Storm Baseball Game-Faith & Family Night	17 Synod Assembly 10:00am Blessing of the Animals 6:00pm AF-Big Band Rehearsal
18 AM: Joanne; Lector: Candy; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship-Pr Shane 1:00pm RS-Grace&Mercy	19	20 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship Team	21 1:00pm Finance Team-In Person & Zoom 5:00pm AF-Food with Friends Taco Bar 7:00pm Menifee Reads! Book Club	22 2:00pm Menifee Reads! Book Club 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	23 Forecaster Deadline 10:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Transition Team	24
25 AM: Roderick; Lector: Bill; PPT: Candy 9:30am Worship-Pr. Shane	26 Memorial Day	27	28 1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom	29	30 10:30am Al-Anon	31