



# Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church \* January 2026



"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed" (Proverbs 16:3).

Setting goals for self-improvement each year is a personal process, the results of which we don't always care to share. While telling your spouse that you plan to clean out the garage by February holds you accountable, it also makes you feel even lazier if March rolls around and it's still a mess.

Having a partner who knows your new year's resolutions can be both a blessing and a curse, unless that partner is God. Talking to Him about your goals will give you peace of mind and an opportunity to ask for wisdom (whether your plan is in your best interests and others') and guidance (how to reach your goal).

This year, consider these Bible verses and have peace in knowing that if it is God's will for your resolution to be fulfilled, He will enable you to accomplish it.

**1. Teach with intelligence.** "Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness" (2 Timothy 2:23-24).

**2. Pray for guidance.** "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him" (James 1:5).

**3. Forgive those who have hurt you.** "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you" (Colossians 3:13).

**4. Take care of yourself.** "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body" (1 Corinthians 19:20).

**5. Love others.** "The most important one, answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

**6. Be a role model.** "Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity" (Titus 2:7).

**7. Don't be discouraged by failures.** "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

**8. Value your friendships.** "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone?" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-11)

**9. Help those in need.** "Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me'" (Matthew 25:34-40).

*"Borrowed" from: aop.com*



Happy New Year!

Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern not yourself with what you tried and failed in, but what it is still possible to do. Now is the time to put aside past and present setbacks and failures and look with confidence to the new day called tomorrow.

—Pope John XXIII



The start of a New Year - Happy New Year to you all!

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

As we start our new year, we look at a fresh start. As the year begins, we are reminded that God renews his love for us constantly. This love will bring us strength and courage to face the coming year. In this coming new year, let's show God's love by showing our love for all of God's people.

The new year will bring many ways for you to participate in God's work and fellowship. Please join your friends here at Faith to share in all of these activities.

On Sunday, February 22, 2026, we will be holding our Annual Congregational Meeting. Please consider what your gifts may be to serve on the new Council, Endowment Board, or any committee we have at Faith Lutheran Church. When you are called and invited to serve, please consider serving with an open heart. We look forward to you joining us on the 22nd. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.

Happy New Year and blessings to all,  
*Bea Olsen, Council Vice President*

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## Endowment Board Meeting Summary

The Endowment Board held its final meeting of the year on Monday, December 15. During the meeting, the Board confirmed the receipt of reimbursement funds from the Church property sale in the amount of \$50,828.89. These funds have been deposited in the demand checking account pending further allocation.

The Board also discussed supporting local charitable organizations and reached consensus on the following contributions:

**Lutheran World Relief \$500**

**Menifee Valley Community Cupboard \$500**

**San Bernardino Community Wellness Center \$1000**

*Bill Brauer, Chair of the Endowment Fund Board*

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**Save  
the  
Date!**

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

**February 22, 2026!**



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Communion Servers	Power Point	Ushers
4th: Roderick 11th: Candy 18th: Joanne 25th: Mars	4th: Lorna 11th: Danielle 18th: Bill 25th: Pat A.	4th: Freddericka 11th: Diane S. 18th: Kandie 25th: Karla	4th: Candy 11th: Bill 18th: Mike 25th: Mikey	4th: Annie 11th: Becky 18th: Judy Ad. 25th: Gina
Attendance	Greeters	Altar Guild	Sound	Live Stream/Video
4th: Judy Ad. 11th: Shirley 18th: Pat O. 25th: Joanne	4th: Jean 11th: Dave F 18th: Jean 25th: Walli	4th: Kandie, Diane M. 11th: Mars, Diane M. 18th: Kandie, Freddericka 25th: Mars, Freddericka	4th: Mars 11th: Mars 18th: Candy 25th: Candy	4th: Madeline 11th: Madeline 18th: Madeline 25th: Madeline



## Hunger Never Rests!

The Menifee Valley Community Cupboard  
is in need of **Soup** for **January!**

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!



I would like to thank all of you for the Christmas gifts and cards you gave to me this Christmas! Your kindness and generosity are so appreciated!

*Lynn*






## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANUARY BABIES

### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

January 1	Betty Baumann
January 2	Richard Konrad
January 5	Frank Ehrig
January 8	Ariana Stafford
January 15	Vicki Crow
January 20	Judy Appel
January 26	Carol Morris
January 30	Amber Concepcion



## January Anniversaries

### ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

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!

## Volunteer for Coffee Hour!

Thank you to all those who signed up to help with coffee hour in December. We had a bevy of helpers; can we repeat this in January? Please sign up to help!

Having a shared responsibility for Coffee Hour can mean that many hands can make coffee hour an enjoyable fellowship time. **We need teams of two (2) volunteers on every Sunday to help with serving and cleaning up.** Coffee Hour ends at 11:30am, although people are welcome to stay and talk and turn off the lights when they leave.

### Can you help?

Home-baked goods are welcome for Coffee Hour. We ask that no more than two (2) people bring home-baked goods on any Sunday. There will be a sign-up sheet in the kitchen for bringing home-baked goods and a sign-up sheet for coffee hour volunteers.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

### November 30, 2025

#### 1. Comments

- a. November 2025 Member giving was below budget. YTD Member giving is 19.5% below budget and below 2024 giving.
- b. 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 Call processes.
- c. 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.
- d. The Park Land Sale Escrow closed on 11/13/2025 and **\$446,500** was deposited in the Provident bank account via wire transfer. \$240,000 was withdrawn from Provident via Cashier's Check and deposited in the new US Bank account. An additional \$5,000 was transferred on 11/21/2025 from Provident to US Bank. Repayment to Endowment in the amount of **\$50,828.89** was issued on 11/21/2025, leaving a balance of **\$395,671.11** as the remaining property sale proceeds.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Actual	\$ 9,541.00	\$ 9,978.00	\$ 13,127.00	\$ 10,208.00	\$ 14,631.00	\$ 11,979.00	\$ 10,391.00	\$ 11,460.00	\$ 8,670.00	\$ 10,063.00	\$ 12,027.00	
Budget	\$ 13,154.00	\$ 13,154.00	\$ 14,496.00	\$ 13,154.00	\$ 13,154.00	\$ 14,054.00	\$ 12,860.00	\$ 13,665.00	\$ 13,417.00	\$ 13,549.00	\$ 14,931.00	
Expenses	\$ 11,598.00	\$ 11,057.00	\$ 10,941.00	\$ 12,531.00	\$ 11,383.00	\$ 13,536.00	\$ 11,433.00	\$ 11,255.00	\$ 13,976.00	\$ 10,382.00	\$ 14,638.00	



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2025	\$ 9,541.00	\$ 9,978.00	\$ 13,127.00	\$ 10,208.00	\$ 14,631.00	\$ 11,979.00	\$ 10,391.00	\$ 11,460.00	\$ 8,670.00	\$ 10,063.00	\$ 12,027.00	
2024	\$ 10,325.00	\$ 11,538.00	\$ 12,862.00	\$ 11,070.00	\$ 11,580.00	\$ 17,721.00	\$ 9,984.00	\$ 10,310.00	\$ 12,922.00	\$ 10,287.00	\$ 10,611.00	



## 2. Financials Review

### a. Offering Envelopes

- i) **For the month**, below budget at 80.55% (\$12,027 vs \$14,931).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, still below budget at 81.49% (\$121,844 vs \$149,511).

### b. Total Income

- i) **For the month**, above budget at 89.81% (\$15,921.93 vs \$17,727.77).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, below budget at 92.06% (\$162,864 vs \$176,912).

### c. Expenses

- i) **For the month**, below budget at 83.97% (\$14,638 vs \$17,433).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, well below budget at 73.76% (\$132,020 vs \$178,982).

### d. Net Operating Income (Total Income minus Expenses)

- i) **For the month**, a surplus of \$1,284 vs the expected surplus \$295.
- ii) **Year-to-date**, a surplus of \$30,844 vs the expected deficit of \$2,070.

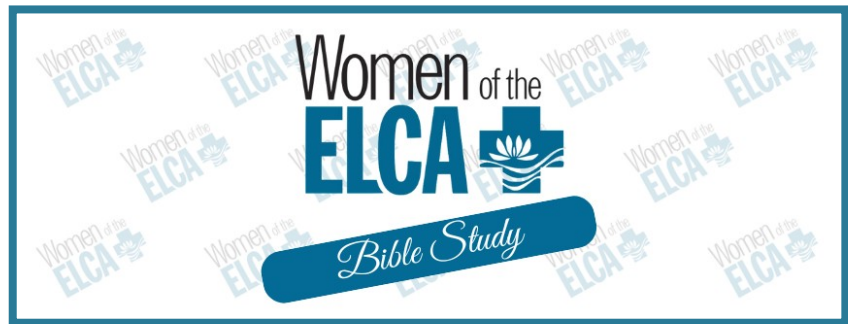
### e. Checking balance

- i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$241,780.74.
- ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$41,518.44.

*Submitted by Madeline Puccio, Treasurer*

## What do you know about the Bible?

\*a ministry of Women of the  
ELCA (WELCA)



Has God called you to be in a relationship with Him? What have you done to understand the nature and love of God, of His son Jesus Christ? All of us are called to know Him. One way to do that is to study His Word, the Bible. Studying with other believers can be more enlightening and helpful than reading Scripture alone. Here at Faith, WELCA gives you opportunities to study God's Word in a community of believers, a safe space to question, learn and grow.

- **Mary's Circle** uses studies from Gather Magazine. The group meets on the second Wednesday of the month (January 14) at 10am.

Come when you can and grow in faith! All are welcome.

## Evening Bible Study Survey

In January 2026 WELCA will survey the congregation to ascertain if there is a continued interest in an in-person evening Bible Study. We will explore possibilities of interest for co-ed study, as well as, day of the week, start time, etc. Please pick up a brief survey and share your interest and preferences so that we can plan how to best serve our Faith Lutheran community.

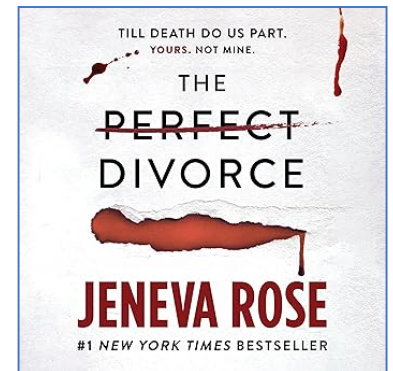




Meniffee Reads! (a book club) is reading "The Perfect Divorce" by Jeneva Rose.

Till death do us part. Yours. Not Mine.

It's been eleven years since high-powered attorney Sarah Morgan defended her husband, Adam, against the charge of murdering his mistress. Sarah has long since moved on, starting a family with her new husband, Bob Miller, and changing careers. Her life is back to being exactly how she always wanted ... or is it?



After discovering Bob engaged in a one-night stand, Sarah wastes no time filing for divorce. However, amid their ugly separation, new DNA evidence is uncovered in the case against Adam, forcing the police to reopen the investigation and putting Sarah right back in the spotlight. Everyone wants to know what really happened, most of all former deputy Marcus Hudson, who is hell-bent on finding the truth.

But when the woman Bob slept with is reported missing, he and Sarah start to fight dirty, and a high-stakes game of cat and mouse ensues. Filled with thrilling suspense and Jeneva Rose's signature twists and turns, this book will have listeners wondering...Can Bob and Sarah achieve the perfect divorce? Or will it be "till death do us part"?



WELCA  
Save These 2026 Dates!

Saturday, March 21: WELCA Spring Event

Saturday, June 20: Luncheon Fundraiser to  
benefit the Community Cupboard

Saturday, September 19: Fall Event

Saturday, December 12: Holiday Event



## Gift Baskets for the WELCA Fundraiser

It is never too early to start thinking about the 2026 WELCA fundraiser on June 20! Check out these tips for how you might be able to help.

- Did you get a gift you might never use, but might be good in a gift basket, donate it!
- Did you get a gift card to a place you do not go? Donate it (assuming you have the receipt or authorization receipt)
- Do you craft, knit, crochet, quilt, woodwork, or other creative hobby? Plan now for what you might want to donate for the gift baskets. Don't get caught last minute.
- Do you love to shop? Start shopping now and look for items throughout the year in clearance sales, etc. that might be good to make a gift basket.
- Do you have extra-large baskets you need to get rid of? Donate them for the gift baskets.



Did you know you do not have to wait until May to donate? We can accept your gift basket donations anytime of the year! See Candy Pellechio for questions or donations.



This quarter (Jan.-Mar.) your Outreach Committee is collecting the following items for MilVet:

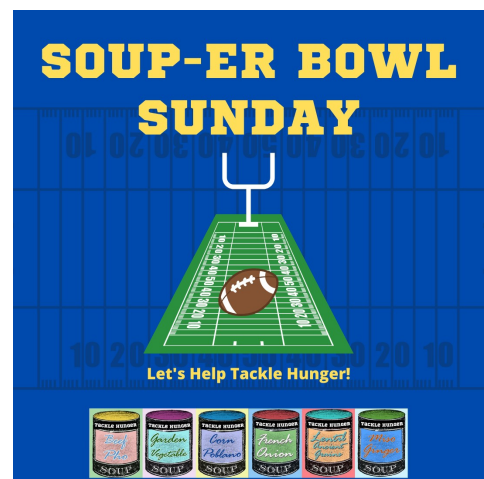
Protein or Granola Bars  
Body Wash (for men or women)

These items will be used at MilVet's monthly packing event, where boxes are packed and sent to deployed military.

Thank you for your love and support!

## 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's Soup-er Bowl will begin soon and will be played through February 8th! Keep an eye out for the containers in the Narthex, then 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!!



# CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL & CRAFT FAIR

The Christmas Carnival and Craft Show Faith hosted for MenifeeSeniors.org was a wonderful success! There was shopping, food, games to play and prizes won, singing, dancing and entertainment, PLUS free lunch and a FREE Christmas photo shoot! The craft booths were all filled with hand-crafted items made by 55+ seniors!

Check out the news video posted by Menifee 24/7: <https://fb.watch/EjUSyWsxjs/>



## Tea's the Season WELCA Christmas 2025



# Donation Drop Location at Faith!

## Facebook is Spreading the Word!

The next Donation Drop Off day is Saturday, **January 3, from 9-12**. We continue collecting (**new**) homemade blankets (for Project Linus), eyeglasses (for Lions Club), used towels and blankets (**no batting**) (for Animal Friends of the Valley), gently used or new shoes (for Soles4Souls) and 100% cotton fabric (for Snip 'N Stitch quilts made by Faith Lutheran Church). On the first Saturday each month we are open from 9-12 noon, and the public has access to drop off contributions for these ministries.

There is a 2026 signup sheet in the Narthex for helpers. We need 2 people to be onsite each Donation Day to accept donations. (it's a pretty easy job and you can sit most of the time)

Please share the information with friends and neighbors. Flyers are available in the narthex. **Please share the info on your personal Facebook page as it is posted on the church Facebook page.** Everyone in Menifee should know about these donation opportunities!

### Project ♥ Linus



Providing  
Security  
Through  
Blankets



# SOLES4 SOULS

## JOIN THE BLANKET BRIGADE

Are you ready to be part of the Blanket Brigade?  
Beginning in February 2026, on the first Saturday of each month, from 9-12 noon, everyone is welcome to drop by for some fellowship time with friends and help tie fleece blanket for Project Linus. This monthly event is open to the Menifee community, so bring your coffee and some friends. Do good while spending time with friends!




**Join us beginning Saturday, February 7, 2026**



## The Gospel of John

Beginning in January, and continuing through Lent, Pastor Puccio will be leading a Zoom Bible study on the Gospel of John. During Lent, the focus will be on the "I am" statements of Jesus.

You can access the class on Zoom with the ID 874 9381 9047 with the password: 10311517. Speak with Pastor Ken or contact him at [hopegiver@aol.com](mailto:hopegiver@aol.com) to receive copies of the lesson materials.



**BIBLE  
STUDY**  
*via Zoom!*

**Led by Pr. Ken Puccio**  
**2nd & 4th Thursdays**  
**7:00 pm on Zoom**  
*for more info:* **[hopegiver@aol.com](mailto:hopegiver@aol.com)**



The 2026 offering envelopes are now in your mailbox!  
Please pick them up as soon as possible!

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.

Luke 6:38





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 Board:** 2nd Tuesday at 12:30
- **Menifee 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
- **Food with Friends:** 3rd Wednesday at 5:00
- **Al-Anon:** Every Friday at 10:30



New Member classes are scheduled for January 18th and 25th immediately following the worship service!

New Member Sunday will be February 8th!

Please sign up in the Narthex.

## Faith Lutheran Church

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

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

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

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

## January 2026

January 2026							February 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 26	2	3
					10:30am AI-Anon	9:00am Donation Drop Off
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:30am Worship-Pr. Rex 12:30pm Grace&Mercy	11:00am Council Meeting	10:00am Worship & Music		4:00pm Cheer/Eucharistic Team 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	10:30am AI-Anon	10:00am Take Down Christmas Decor
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:30am Worship-Pr. Shane 11:00am New Year's Brunch with Friends 12:30pm Grace&Mercy		10:00am Hymn Planners 12:30pm WELCA Board 2:30pm Outreach Team 6:00pm Call Committee	10:00am Mary Circle Bible Study	9:00am Snip 'N Stitch	10:00am Stewardship 10:30am AI-Anon	3:00pm Bingo 6:00pm Big Band Rehearsal
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30am Worship-Pr. Shane 11:00am New Member Class 12:30pm Grace&Mercy		10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group 2:00pm Fellowship Team	1:00pm Finance Team 5:00pm Food with Friends 7:00pm Menifee Reads! Book Club	2:00pm Menifee Reads! Book Club 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	Forecaster Deadline 10:30am AI-Anon	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:30am Worship-Pr. Ken P. 11:00am New Member Class 12:30pm Grace&Mercy	1:00pm Council Meeting	6:00pm Call Committee			10:30am AI-Anon	