



# Forecaster

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH \* NOVEMBER 2021



*A note  
from the pastor*

*So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for God. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what God wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.*

*~ Romans 12: 1-2 (The Message Version) ~*

## Reformation and New Creation

Dear faithful friends and fellow children of God:

It's cooling down, the season is changing, and we're all asking the good ol' question: "Where in the world has the time gone?" As we pass Reformation Sunday, with its welcoming of New Members, saying Godspeed to one departing us, we are seeing the changing of the seasons in the church too. God continues to change us and our community of Faith. We are reminded that the Reformation did not end in the 1500's and that God's creation did not end after the beginning and Genesis. God continues to create and reform, and continues to invite us to do the same.

Whether we answer that call to continue forward in God's ever-changing creation full of joy or with some hesitation (or kicking and screaming as the case may be sometimes) God holds us close through change. Our lessons from Reformation Sunday declaring that "Here We Stand, We Can Do No Other!" do not mean that we stay standing in one place or that we can **reform** the church back to what it was in some golden memory of old. And as the Romans text reminds us, we cannot mindlessly **conform** the church to one pop culture item, fad, or celebrity. In other words, our path forward in faith and as a church is not one of letting nostalgia turn into hindsight or regrets for the future. God's path of reformation and creation is moving forward, not backward. We use those wonderful memories of the past, the legacy of the saints who have gone before us to propel us forward in creating the new church day by day. As I say each Sunday Worship: "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice AND let us be glad in it."

Just as Martin Luther had continued struggles from the papacy and other factions with his reformation, we continue to wrestle with the pandemic and its effects. But just as the Garden of Eden debacle didn't stop God from loving the creation, we won't let the immaturity of the world

and culture around us to brainwash us into missing the words of love and hope and grace which God continually creates in our lives and in our living. To take the example of the apostle Paul's writing to the Romans, we place all of our living and believing before God as an offering, stewarding all of it in praise of God's steadfast love and faithfulness with us. So as we continue to wrestle with what to do next, what the next steps are in our pilgrimage of faith in the pandemic-era take heart and keep faith in God, believing that *"God brings the best out of you."* There are exciting things happening at Faith Lutheran Church in Menifee, California. And if you're wondering what that might be, well I invite you to come and find out! There is a seat at the table just waiting for you!

So, until we see each other again: *"May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."* (Numbers 6:24-26).

Yours in Christ, Pastor John Barton

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## *Worship Schedule* FOR NOVEMBER 2021

All are welcome to Worship!! Hope to see you when you are able!

*Not comfortable wearing a mask???* Find any parking spot in the church parking lot and listen to the live broadcast of worship on your car radio **any Sunday** on 98.9 FM at 9:30 am.

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|--------------------|--|
| <b>November 7</b>  | In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am<br><b>STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY – Bring your pledge cards to church</b> |
| <b>November 14</b> | In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am  |
| <b>November 21</b> | In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am<br><b>Guest Preacher – Pastor Shane Freiberg</b>                 |
| <b>November 28</b> | In-Person (and Drive-In) Worship & Communion at 9:30 am<br><b>First Sunday of Advent</b>                                 |

**Communion:** New individual kits formed like small chalices have arrived. Open the bread on the bottom, invert the cup and open the wine.

Those hesitant to be in larger crowds may continue to worship by choosing one of the following alternatives:

- **Radio:** in our parking lot still broadcasted live on 98.9 FM at 9:30 am
- **Online:** at our website, any time after 2:00 pm each Sunday
- **USPS:** Receive a paper copy of the service via mail

-The Worship & Music Committee



## GRATITUDE AND THANKSGIVING

***Rejoice always, prayer without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.***

***1 Thessalonians 5:16-18***

Gratitude means thanks and appreciation... Gratitude, which rhymes with “attitude” comes from the Latin word *gratus*, which means “grateful or pleasing”. When you feel gratitude, you’re pleased by what someone did for you and also pleased by the results.

Thanksgiving is a national holiday dedicated to the focus of being thankful and celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year. Family and friends gather for a feast on Thanksgiving Day. We are not meant to do life alone. Therefore, Thanksgiving is so important, not as an isolated dinner once a year, but as a way of life, coming together with others around a table, proclaiming God’s blessing over our lives.

What if we begin to think about ways to show gratitude every single day, not just the fourth Thursday of November? When you focus on gratitude and everything that you have to be thankful and grateful for, the positive energy in your life is amplified! Our circumstances do not always change for the better, but we can be confident that He will use them to change us for the better. What are some of the things you are grateful and thankful for?

Everyone, have a blessed Thanksgiving with your family and friends this year!

Cheerfully in Christ, Gale Eury and Kandie Hulme



## FINANCIAL REPORT Ending September 30, 2021

a. **Offering Envelopes**

- i) **For the month**, we are below budget at 94.7% (\$9,328 vs \$9,852).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, we are on budget at 100.2% (\$95,726 vs \$95,552).

b. **Total Income**

- i) **For the month**, below budget at 98.4% (\$11,853 vs \$12,050).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, well above budget at 113.4% (\$136,548 vs \$120,410).

c. **Expenses**

- i) **For the month**, slightly over budget at 105.5% (\$15,946 vs \$15,111).
- ii) **Year-to-date**, under budget at 96.9% (\$133,824 vs \$138,087).

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

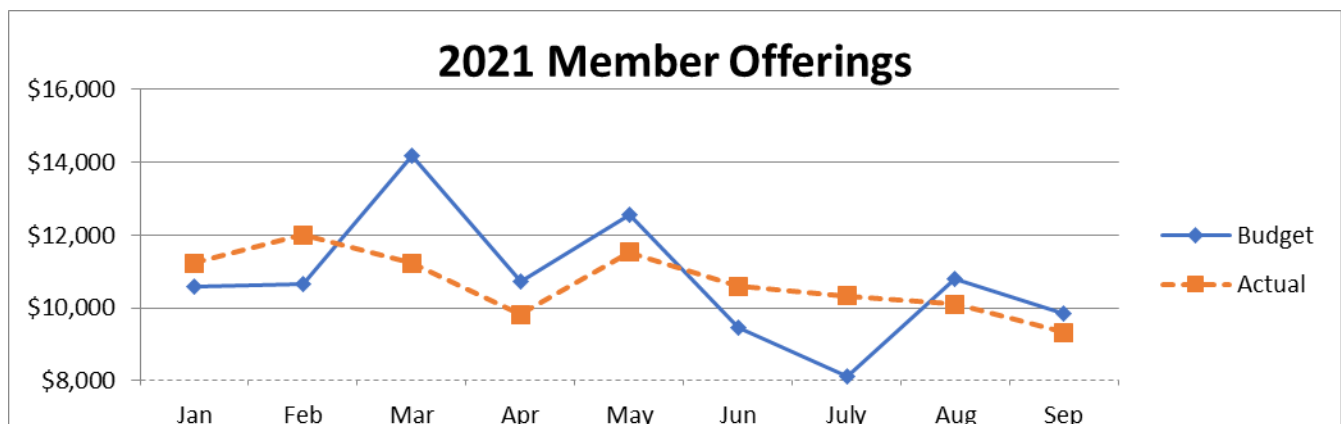
- i) **For the month**, worse than expected with a loss of \$4,092 vs. the expected loss of \$3,061.
- ii) **Year-to-date**, much better than expected with a profit of \$2,724, vs. the expected loss of \$17,677.

e. **Checking balance**

- i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$18,741.
- ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$22,813.

f. **Comments**

- i) Member giving continues to run below budget. Due to Special Gifts early in the year, I do not expect us to end the year in the red. However, the trend is troubling for next year's budget. Still, our YTD member giving is on budget at 100.2%.
- ii) Hopefully, a renewed emphasis on Stewardship along with new members, will result in improved Member giving, allowing us to strengthen our ministry in the coming months.



*Prayerfully submitted by Mike McGavran, Treasurer*



Dear Ladies of Faith,

*"I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever." (Psalm 86:12)*

November, the month we set aside a special day of thankfulness for our many blessings, we will be studying the third lesson of our series in *Gather* magazine, "The Gift of the Spirit", by Sara Olson Smith. In Session 3, "**Wind of God: Refiner and Re-router**", we will discuss how the Holy Spirit - the wind of God - is moving us into deeper faithfulness and more authentic love. We'll see the ways in which God's Spirit moves us to bear good fruit in the world and refines us into our truest selves. We will also follow the Spirit's movements through the early church to see how the Spirit re-routes God's people, guiding us into transformed lives and renewed communities of faith.

In October, Lydia Circle met at church with three in attendance. Mary Circle met at church with ten in attendance, with one on Zoom. **We are praying that you will join us at one of our Circle Bible studies.** All women of Faith and any friends are invited to join with us for an inspiring, challenging study of the Word. We enjoy listening to and learning from each other's life experiences. **Select the Circle Bible study time listed below that is best for you and join us.**

**Thankoffering Sunday Update:** Thanks to YOUR generosity \$1,218 was received, and will be sent directly to Churchwide Women of the ELCA, in support of their ongoing ministries! That's awesome!

**Plan ahead to join us for our WELCA Christmas Party with a Purpose, Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.** We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for fun and fellowship, while making Christmas gifts for our homebound members. All materials needed will be provided. Just for fun, we are asking you to bring one small, wrapped gift for exchange between ourselves. Election of 2022 W-ELCA officers will also be a part of our time together.

## 2021 Pacifica Women of the ELCA Convention and Gathering on Zoom

**DON'T ZOOM??** Come to Church on NOV 6th! We'll be Zooming there!

- ❖ **CONVENTION** (Elections & Business) - Friday, **November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30pm**
- ❖ **GATHERING** (Worship, Speakers & Surprises) - Saturday, **November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-4:00pm**
- ❖ **THEME:** Spiritual Disciplines **THEME VERSE:** Colossians 3:16
- ❖ **LOVE GIFTS: Million Kids-** working to prevent child exploitation.  
(Make checks out to Faith W-ELCA, with the Memo: Million Kids)

### ❖ Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83634217328?pwd=aWE3S1ltNmpPdTZDQVdwOHl0QW9iUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 3421 7328 Passcode: 713252

**By phone:** (669) 900-6833 OR (253) 215-8782 (Same meeting ID and Passcode)

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### COMING UP:

**Pastor John Meets with Circle Bible Study Leaders:** Wednesday, **NOV 3**, 9:30am at Church  
**Pacifica W-ELCA Convention & Gathering: NOV 5 & 6** (see above)

**Lydia Circle Bible Study:** Tuesday, **NOV 9**, 10:00am at Church

**Mary Circle Bible Study:** Wednesday, **NOV 10**, 10:00am at Church and Zoom

**W-ELCA Board Meeting:** Wednesday, **NOV 10**, 1:00pm at Church and Zoom

**Faith W-ELCA Christmas Party-With-A-Purpose** (and elections): Saturday, **DEC 4<sup>th</sup>**, 10:00am-noon at Church

In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the word of God for you in Christ Jesus.”

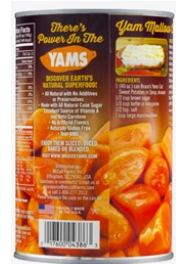
(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Thanking God for you! Pat Olson, W-ELCA Vice President



## Hunger Never Rests!

**The Menifee Valley Community Cupboard is in need of  
Canned Cranberries or Canned Yams for November!**



Your donations are still welcome and needed! You may 1) Drop your items off at The Cupboard at 26944 Cherry Hills Blvd (951/301-4414). 2) Call Pastor John (949/258-3452) for pick up and delivery! 3) Bring your donations to the church office during our regular hours. 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.

*Ruth Ditsch - Community Cupboard Liaison*



There were no weeds to pull in October, so I enlisted my “new man” to assist in changing some outside lights (me holding the bulb and Sarge turning the ladder). Seriously, it’s great to have help with his knowledge to assist!

The big concern was the backflow valve for our water supply. I can’t quite remember when EMWD started this safety program, but it prevents contaminated water from backing up into the clean water supply. The worker from Backflow Express said ours had probably never been changed (it’s solid copper, about 18” long and costs over \$1300...ouch!). We are getting it done just in time, as EMWD sets a time limit on fixing the problem.

I have an estimate to trim, remove and clean up our shrubbery and trees around our property. If you stop by and look things over, you’ll see what I mean. Sarge and I aren’t equipped (physically or with tools) to hand this job.

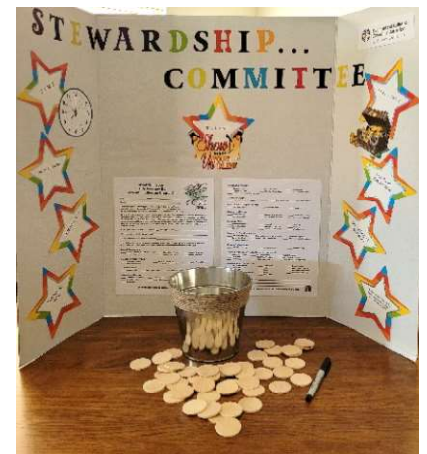
*Respectfully, Harold Whitford, Property Committee Chair*



## Spotlight on Ministry: Stewardship Emphasis 2021 Continues Let your light shine – to the glory of God!

Greetings, dear bearers of Light! We hope ALL of you are taking the opportunity to toss your tokens into the Ministry Buckets of your choosing, and feeling encouraged and uplifted by the Faith members who are sharing their stories during worship! As a reminder, here's how the Bucket Toss works, and a peek at what In-Gathering Sunday is all about.

The **Bucket Toss** is a 3-step process. **Step 1:** Go to your church mail box, and take out the plastic baggie that contains wooden tokens with your name on them. **Step 2:** Go to the Ministry Area displays in the narthex that you are interested in volunteering for or would like more information about. **Step 3:** Toss one token into each of the buckets of your choosing. If you don't have a mailbox, or run out of tokens, you'll find a bowl full of blank tokens you can put your name on. If you are unable to get to church, no worries! Time & Talent sheets will also be available via mail, email or personal delivery so everyone is able to participate. **Toss your tokens on Sundays, or on a weekday during regular church office hours. In-Gathering Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, is when we bring our completed 2022 Financial Pledge Cards, give thanks for YOU – our Fabulous Family of Faith, and receive a special little something to help our lights shine within and beyond our doors.**



Time & Talent Bucket Toss

Please take time this week to seek God's guidance in deciding how you will offer your gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure to the glory of God through the ministry of our Family of Faith in 2022.

**“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”** (Matthew 5:16)

Shining with you!

Your 2021 Stewardship Committee

- If you are not currently receiving the **Forecaster via Email** and would like to, please email your request to the Church Office at [FaithLutheranMeniffee@gmail.com](mailto:FaithLutheranMeniffee@gmail.com).
- If you would like to **receive Prayer Chain emails or phone calls**, please notify the Church Office.
- **To request prayer**, please contact Lynn Bennett at 909-553-5080 or [faithlutheranmeniffee@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheranmeniffee@gmail.com).



**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS**  
To

November 5, 1991	Pr. John Barton
November 5, 1940	Nancy Blackmer
November 10, 1938	Dick Olsen
November 13, 1947	Mike McGavran
November 26, 2016	Ava Holmes
November 29, 1951	Kandie Hulme
November 30, 1932	Arlene Dressler



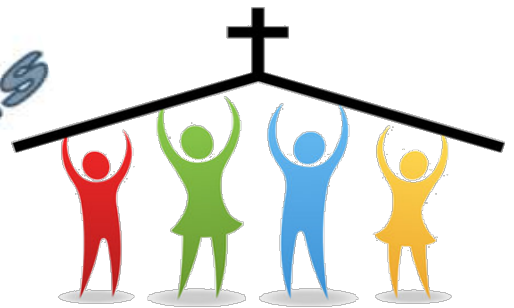
**ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**

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?!



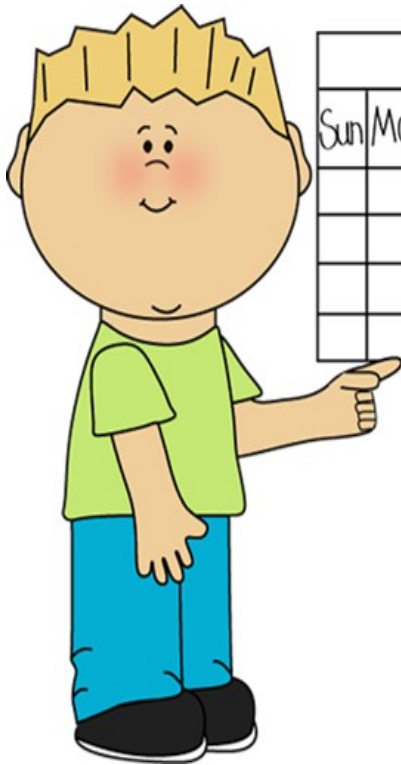
If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please notify the church office so we can add you to our list!

**Worship Assistants**  
*November*



<b>Asst. Ministers</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Power Point</b>
7th: Marlene Rosselli	7th: Harold Whitford	7th: Judy Appel	7th: Lynn Bennett
14th: Roderick Sinclair	14th: Marlene Rosselli	14th: Kandie Hulme	14th: Sarge Hunter
21st: Marlene Rosselli	21st: Bill Brauer	21st: Annie Misko	21st: Sarge Hunter
28th: Joanne McGavran	28th: Valerie Holmes	28th: Erma Hinkel	28th: Mike McGavran
Greeters: Harold Whitford & Arlene Dressler		Altar Guild: Jean Miles & Sharon Seims	





Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

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

- 4+1 group meets the third Tuesday of each month
- Bible Studies are on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
- Call to Prayer and Worship meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month
- Council meets the last Monday of each month
- WELCA Leaders Bible Study and board meeting are the 1st Wednesday of the month
- WELCA Circles: Mary Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday and Lydia Circle meets the 2nd Wednesday
- Finance meets the Wednesday before the Council meeting
- Al-Anon meets every Friday

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

## 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](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

### **Our Staff:**

**Pastor:** Rev. John Barton

**Email:** [prfaithmenifee@gmail.com](mailto:prfaithmenifee@gmail.com)

**Office Administrator:** Lynn Bennett

**Email:** [FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com](mailto:FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com)

# November 2021

November 2021						
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				

December 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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
Oct 31	Nov 1	2	3	4	5	6
Asst. Minister: Marlene Rosselli Congregation Appreciation & Lector: Harold Whitford 9:30am Worship-ALL	1:00pm Exec Board-In Person & Zoom	Election Day (United States)	9:30am Bible Study Leaders Meeting	4:00pm Call to Prayer & Worship-Phone or Zoom	10:30am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall 6:30pm Pacifica W-ELCA Convention (elections/business)-Zoom	1:00pm Pacifica W-ELCA Gathering-Zoom (Worship/Speakers/More)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Asst. Minister: Marlene Rosselli Congregation Appreciation & Lector: Harold Whitford 9:30am Worship-ALL	1:00pm Exec Board-In Person & Zoom	10:00am Lydia Circle-In Person at Church	10:00am Mary Circle-In Person & Zoom 1:00pm WELCA Board-In Person	Veteran's Day (United States) 2:00pm Bible Study-In Person and Zoom	10:30am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Asst. Minister: Roderick Sinclair Lector: Marlene Rosselli 9:30am Worship-ALL are Welcome! 10:30am Follow Up for	2:00pm Remembering & Honoring-In Person	9:30am Cheer Committee-In Person 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group - Church 2:00pm Endowment Board-Zoom	10:00am Worship & Music-In Person & Zoom	4:00pm Call to Prayer & Worship-Phone & Zoom	10:30am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Asst. Minister: Marlene Rosselli Lector: Bill Brauer 9:30am Worship-ALL are Welcome!		Forecaster Deadline	1:00pm Finance Team-Zoom	Thanksgiving Day (United States) 2:00pm Cancelled-Bible Study	10:30am Al-Anon - Fellowship Hall	
28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4
Asst. Minister: Joanne McGavran Lector: Valerie Holmes 9:30am Worship-ALL are Welcome!	10:00am Stewardship-In Person & Zoom 1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom					