Following Faith April 2022



Friends in Christ,

Once, a while back, when I made waffles for my daughters' breakfast, the conversation opened my heart to mystery. They were finishing their plates, scraping their forks for leftover syrup, both licking their fingers. Then Maeve said, "you know what daddy? I realize you can't have ALL of something. As much as you try you'll never get all of it."

She sent another finger swishing across the plate for rogue syrup that lingered on edges. Then she continued, "Just like washing your hands. Even if you wash them super-Duper-super good you still don't get all the bacteria off of your hands."

And so, that morning, our simple breakfast time left me in wonder around existential questions. What does it mean that we strive, but still do not get "all" of something? What does it mean that what we intend to fulfill or understand still leaves bits undone, like unanswered questions?

Also, how are we supposed to know when to "call it quits" when it comes to the syrup on the edges of the plate?!

These are life's big questions.

Ok, but the sense of not getting the "all" of something—well, that's theological too. And for me—and I hope for you—quite hopeful.

(continued on next page)

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For instance, we read stories like the Prodigal Son, or read Psalms like Psalm 126, or we pray the Lord's Prayer. And the reason we can (and do) do this over and over again is because—you can't have ALL of something. As much as you try you'll never get all of it.

And here we are again, arriving at the familiar story of Christ and Holy Week and Easter. We keep telling the story of the suffering, crucified God. There is a fullness there. And there's more too. The God who bears the weight of sin is also the Living God, the One making all things new. There is a fullness there, for sure.

Crucifixion as fullness; Resurrection as fullness.

They are the two sides of the presence of Christ—a mystery that challenges and enlivens us.

We're invited into this life and death story, this community and this joy. We bring ourselves and enter as we are, and that's the beautiful part! The pressure is off; there's no one right way to respond to the Good News. It's too good and God is too unfathomable for us to sum it up and call it "done."

What grace! Sometimes it's perfectly fine to lick what we can off the plate, and in satisfied gratitude say: *"As much as you try you'll never get all of it."*

Thanks be to God!

+Pastor Shaun

2022 Church Council

President: Eileen Way Vice President: Amy Zimmerman Secretary: Jean Carter Treasurer: LindaLu Miller Members at Large: Sonja Dresbach Judi Hein Kathy Wilson Pr. Shaun O'Reilly

Team Leaders

Communications: Amy Zimmerman Fellowship: Sonja Dresbach & Pat Porter Finance: LindaLu Miller Personnel: Linda Zimmerman Property: Sonja Dresbach Stewardship: Pat Porter Worship: Judy Carlin

Church Staff

Accompanists: Karon Felten & Derek Friend Admin Assistant: Dorothy Barry Custodian: Eileen Way Newsletter Editor: Dorothy Barry

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings from Your President & Council

Hello Spring!

Spring is always an uplifting time of year. The trees bloom, the spring flowers pop out of the ground.

We say "Goodbye!" to Grace and "Welcome!" to our new administrative assistant, Dorothy, and look forward to getting acquainted with her.

We've enjoyed our Lenten Services and soup suppers. April 6th will be a Potato Supper with toppings. We look forward to Palm Sunday and the Procession and the Passion Reading.

Then the Resurrection of Easter. We've heard a lot about second chances. Easter is a second chance to put Jesus first in our lives and spread His Good News.

Happy Easter!

Your friend in Christ,

Eileen Way, President

March Food Pantry Report

I made a mission statement for our Pantry;

We strive to provide daily bread to those suffering hunger. Give us today our daily bread. Matt 6:11



We had four Food Pantry Mondays for March. We served:

- 244 people from 192 households.
- 139 Adults, 72 youth and 33 seniors
- 134 women and 110 men
- We served a total of 559 people for the month.

On February 18th Fernando from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada did a monitor visit of our pantry. They check every year to make sure we are complying with safe food handling regulations. We need to keep logs for the refrigerator and freezer; thus we have them on our refrigerator and freezer in the kitchen.

We gave out 10,441 pounds of food. 2000 pounds were Pepsi products from Catholic Charities. We thank our 18 faithful volunteers who show up each week to make this possible. We had quite an increase for March with the high gas prices, rent and food in grocery stores more are relying on food pantries to feed their families and try to make ends meet.

God's Work Our Hands Eileen Way, President

Community News & Connections

EASTER BRUNCH!

Volunteers are still needed for the Easter Brunch. There is a sign up posted in the Narthex.

- Jean Carter, Church Council





Sprucing Up Our Property

The Property team and Council are looking at bids to fix our roof as it has leaked for years, and paint the outside of our building. We are also looking into an unsecured loan from Mission Investment to fund this Capital Improvement.

This will call for a special congregational meeting when we have all the information.

- Eileen Way, President

Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly

Volunteers still needed for the June 1-4, Pacific Synod Assembly being held at the Nugget in Sparks. Volunteers may sign up using the online link.

https://www.spselca.net/volunteer-at-synod-assembly

The online portal provides good information on the different types of volunteer opportunities and the "work shifts" . The portal is easy to use, however, in my congregation I have found that some prefer assistance in signing up. I am happy to help sign up any volunteers if needed.

Peace and blessings,

Diane Torry, Volunteer Coordinator, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 775.747.0976

Katharina's Garden

Katie Colling has managed Katharina's Garden located on the west side of our property for five years. She is now going to operate at the Hampton House in Reno with Soil Solidarity. It is a program to expand her gardening and



composting expertise to include tiny homes to help people in need to garden and have an affordable place to live. We wish her well in Following her Dream.





Special follow up THANK YOU...

...to Dan Powell for the beautiful shelves he made to go up in our Narthex and help us hold welcoming things together for people.

Dan,

Your work is beautiful!

-Pastor Shaun

Weekly Group Meetings in the FLC Space

- ACA; Mondays at 5:30pm
- Sierra High Notes; Wednesdays at 6:00pm
- 4-H WhipStirs; 2nd Wednesday at 6:30pm
- Scouts; Thursdays at 7:00pm
- NARFE; 3rd Tuesday at 11:00am

Online Giving

On our website (faithlutheranreno.org), anyone now has the option to donate online. Faith Lutheran utilizes Tithe.ly, a secure online giving company, that is associated with the ELCA.

Sunday Worship Zoom Information

Visit our website faithlutheranreno.org to join Zoom via video

Join Zoom via Phone

Dial: 1 669-900-9128 Meeting ID: 97416357933 Password: 303457

If you feel so moved, you are welcome to set aside a designated space to worship. You are invited to light a candle, add a flower vase, or perhaps cover the space with a special cloth; whatever aids you in centering for worship.

LUNCHBUNCH

April's Lunch Bunch will be April 6th at noon in the back of the sanctuary. It's a potluck so cook up or purchase something to share. Our hostess is Connie Anderson and Eileen Way will be helping her. Eileen Way, President

April Food Pantry

April 4th	OPEN
April 11th	OPEN
April 18h	OPEN
April 25th	OPEN

Recipients are asked to remain in their vehicles while Food Pantry volunteers distribute pre-bagged food in the parking lot.

Prayer Requests

Please send any prayer requests to the prayer team at

prayers@faithlutheranreno.org!

Bible Study

Join us Tuesday Afternoons 1:30-2:30 to read and discuss the Bible scripture for the following Sunday. This helps us prepare for the next Sunday's Worship Service. All are welcome, join us as we share and learn from each other.

To join us on Zoom, follow these instructions:

Call: 669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 81034813266

Password: 430175

April Schedule

- April 5: Luke 22:14-23:56; Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11
- April 12: Luke 24:1-12; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Acts 10:34-43; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
- April 19: John 20:19-31; Psalm 118:14-29; Acts 5:27-32; Revelation 1:4-8
- April 26: John 21:1-19; Psalm 30; Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]; Revelation 5:11-14:16-21

For more information contact Eileen Way at <u>helenflc@hotmail.com</u> or 775-560-3248.

Shared Harvest

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped assembly bags last month! Below are the requested items for April's Shared Harvest.

Bags will be assembled on April 24th at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Cold Cereal	28 packages		
Canned fruit	42 cans		
Chicken Noodle Soup	42 cans		
Tuna	42 cans		
Shampoo	unlimited		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30am Worship 5 LENT	4 11am Food Pantry	5 1:30pm Bible Study	6 12pm (noon) Lunch Bunch 4:30pm LENT Worship/Soup	7	8	9 10am Worship Team
10 9:30am Worship PALM SUNDAY	11 11am Food Pantry	12 1:30pm Bible Study	13 4pm Finance Team	14 7 pm Service MAUNDY THURSDAY	15 7 pm Service GOOD FRIDAY	16
17 9:30am Worship EASTER DAY	18 11am Food Pantry	19 11:30pm Bible Study	20	21	22	23 All Day Christian Bikers Parking Lot SALE!
24 9:30am Worship	25 11am Food Pantry 6pm Council Meeting	26 1:30pm Bible Study	27 Waldorf Evening Presentations in Sanctuary	28	29	30 11am Memorial Service for Bea Myers

Faith Lutheran Church

April 2022