

Following Faith

December & January Newsletter

Advent Sundays

Blessed Advent, and Merry (approaching) Christmas! Let's let this newsletter guide us for two months. We'll give out a January calendar toward the new year.

But note, we're publishing weekly news in the emails and you'll find the most up-to-date connections in there. (Reach out to Dorothy if you aren't getting those emails each week!)

I hope you had a good thanksgiving and are managing the "Christmas Crazy" the world kind of moves into this month.

In worship, each Sunday we'll be **preaching the Psalms** as an Advent way of seeking a foundation, staying focused with the faithful, and finding the Joy and Peace that has sustained pilgrims on their journeys with God throughout time.

This is a busy season for the church—full of life and activity—and I've already been surprised by the grace that has come my way, Our Way! Church members have been stepping up in the past month: with ideas and creativity, with resources and time and energy, and with depth and blessing. It is a good reminder, even to your pastor, that we seek after God and we "wait" in Advent ... together.

(Continued...)



(Continued from pg 1) Our “after worship class” has been exploring baptism and our baptismal calling. How we all pitch-in to BE the church together. The way reformers liked to phrase it is as “the priesthood of all believers”—
meaning, we all do the work of love, sharing, teaching, serving, etc.!

And I find it's like a snowball effect. When some of us dream and work and give, and when we share about it because we feel God's Spirit guiding us in it, then we find God's Spirit prompts others to fulfill their role too, to shine their light too.

So I'm saying that I'm impressed that God has rolled a Holy Spirit Snowball through our church this Advent and Christmas. Whether it's giving out 35 pies at Thanksgiving, spending hours installing wires and technology in our building, people inviting friends to church, people driving musicians to church, people writing and playing and singing and teaching, serving on finance teams and the Altar Guild, and beyond.

It's only been the first Sunday of Advent thus far, but God shows me that the Hope we're praying for and seeking after is—in many holy ways—already with us, gifting us, blessing us.

In summary, consider wearing a ski jacket and helmet the whole time you're at church these days. There's a “priesthood of all believers” snowball barreling through the place. It isn't safe. But it's fun! And our God of gifts is good,
+Pastor Shaun

Advent & Christmas at Faith Lutheran
The Joy Of Every Longing Heart
Sundays: 9:30am
Wednesday Evening Prayer: 7pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight: 7pm
www.faithlutheranreno.org

PRESIDENT & COUNCIL NEWS

Merry Christmas from your Church Council. We've accomplished a lot this year beautifying our property and building. We thank everyone for sharing their talents to make our Worship Experience Great. I'm just amazed every Sunday new people stepping up and making everything come together. We will be nominating and electing people for the 2023 Council Positions. We have seven council members plus Pastor Shaun. Three of our council members have served one – two-year term and are eligible to serve another term. They are Amy Zimmerman, Kathy Wilson and Jean Carter. They have all expressed interest in serving another term.



I have completed my two terms and have served since 2019 so I will be replaced.

Our nominating committee is Tom Landis, Davyann Schalnat, Richard Scoggins and Paula Fisher. Please let us know if you would like to be considered for a council position. It is very rewarding to serve the church and keep our ministry growing.

The 35th Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly will be held September 15-17, 2023 in Burlingame, CA at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. I know this is a long way off but at our Annual Meeting we will elect two people to attend to represent our church so think if you would be available to attend on behalf of Faith Lutheran Church, Reno.

The Waldorf School Update: Barry Roe is the spokesman for the school. He reported to us they have had some problems getting the modulars up to code for NV. They do have two ready to move in, but then the property across the street at 2400 W. 7th Street came on the market so they are checking to see if they can purchase that property. If they are successful in getting that property, they will not be putting the modulars on our property and would be moving to the new location. It's where the Episcopal Church was. It's 3.75 acres so it would be a great location for them so keep them in your prayers.

December has arrived, Advent is here lots of festivities, food, fellowship getting ready for our Christ Child to arrive. Enjoy the festivities and have a Blessed Christmas Season!

Your President,

Eileen Way

Attention! Annual Meeting

Save this date: **January 22, 2023**, we will hold our Annual Business Meeting following the Worship Service. We'll have a Pot Luck Lunch following the meeting. We need a quorum to conduct our business so plan to stay and participate in this important event.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



I am happy to be returning to worship here at Faith Lutheran. I was born in western Michigan and grew up at St. Luke's evangelical Lutheran church. I studied at U.C. Berkeley for my teaching credential, and Cal State Hayward, for my masters degree in education. I taught for 40 years in the bay area as a Resource Specialist, working with students who have learning disabilities, which transformed my life. My son, Eric, is a police officer in the bay area and his wife, Helena, a realtor.

My oldest grandson, Dillon, just started University of the Pacific in Stockton and Devin is a senior at Galileo high school in San Francisco. My writing of poetry is an expression of my faith and my love for God. I retired here in Reno and am in awe of the Sierra Nevada mountains and the kind and generous people I found here. Being at Faith Lutheran is like coming home for me.

Welcome Judith!

COMMUNITY NEWS & CONNECTIONS

LUNCH BUNCH: Wed, Dec. 7th. We meet for a potluck at noon in the back of the sanctuary. Bring something to share if you can, but come along and feast with us!

BIBLE STUDY: Join us Tuesday afternoons from 1:30-2:30pm. We read the scriptures for the upcoming lectionary Sunday and we discuss and share. Everyone's welcome, and we're on zoom that hour too!

Join via the link on the homepage of the website, and/or contact Eileen to get in!
helenflc@hotmail.com or 775-560-3248

Be in touch with Louis Ling or Pastor Shaun to join in. Practice is scheduled for 4pm Monday Dec. 12th.



FLC Stewardship!

These connecting forms have been available in the Narthex. If you haven't filled one out, please feel free to use this and turn in to the office.

Thanks! - Stewardship Team

TIME AND TALENT 2022- THANKS BE TO GOD

PLEASE PRINT: Name: _____ DOB: (month/date) _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

There are many different ways in which to serve our Lord at Faith Lutheran Church. We invite you to check your areas of interest. If you are currently volunteering in a particular ministry, please check it again so we know that you are willing to continue.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Team (event planning) _____ After church service fellowship _____

Set up and take down tables & chairs for events _____

FINANCIAL

Offering counter (each Sunday after service) _____ Assist Church Treasurer _____

OFFICE

Office Volunteer _____ Substitute Secretary _____

Assist with Shepherd's Staff Computer Program _____

OUTREACH

Assist with Shared Harvest _____

Help with Food Pantry _____

TECH SUPPORT

Assist with operation of sound system and ZOOM for worship services/special events _____

WORSHIP

Altar Guild _____ Choir _____ Usher _____ Greeter _____ Acolyte _____

Scripture Reader _____ Assisting Minister _____ Cantor _____

Instrumentalist _____ (what instruments) _____

YOUTH



Sunday School _____ Vacation Bible School _____

I have other talents that I would like to offer to Faith Lutheran Church: _____

Thank you for your dedication to Faith Lutheran Church. Your compassion and kindness toward others is an inspiration to all members of our congregation.

December 2022

Faith Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Weekly Group Meetings in the FLC Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ACA; Mondays at 5:30pm ◆ Sierra High Notes; Wednesdays at 6:45pm ◆ 4-H WhipStirs; 2nd Wednesday at 6:30pm ◆ Scouts; Thursdays at 7:00pm ◆ NARFE; 3rd Tuesday at 11:45a </div>				1	2	3
4 9:30am Worship Greening of the Tree and Cookie Palooza!	5 11am Food Pantry	6 1:30p Bible Study	7 12 Noon LUNCH BUNCH 7pm ADVENT	8	9	10 10am Worship Team on ZOOM
11 9:30am Worship	12 11am Food Pantry	13 11:45am NARFE Holiday Luncheon 1:30p Bible Study	14 1pm Finance Team 7pm ADVENT	15	16	17
18 9:30am Worship	19 11am Food Pantry 6pm Council Mtng	20 1:30p Bible Study	21 7pm ADVENT	22	23	24  7pm Christmas Eve Service
25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9:30am Worship 	26 <i>CHRISTMAS DAY Federal Holiday (OBSERVED)</i> Food Pantry Closed	27 1:30p Bible Study	28 12 Noon Finance Team	29	30	31 New Year's Eve
----- Pastor Shaun on Vacation -----						