

Following Faith

June Newsletter 2023



PHOTO CREDIT: RICHARD CARPENTER

Friends of Faith,

These summer months mean we've entered into the Season after Pentecost. I know, it doesn't sound very exciting. And it lasts so long! It's tough to get excited about a "season" that goes ALL. SUMMER. LONG.

But maybe we can look at it differently. (Why not?) Let's see this "season after pentecost" as a season of the life of the church! At pentecost we are gifted the comforter, advocate, encourager, companion — the Holy Spirit. And we know this Spirit is an instigator of life, breath, revival, and goodness. Which means this season of our life together sure could be quite meaningful after all.

"GOD'S MISSION is nothing less than the sending of the Holy Spirit from the Father through the Son into this world, so that this world should not perish but live. ... The sending of the Holy Spirit is the revelation of God's indestructible affirmation of life and his marvelous joy in life."

-Jürgen Moltmann, The Source of Life

See how the Source of Life keeps giving us the gift of life?! That's a helpful way to consider this summer season too. A gift for life.

The gift of warmth and relaxation. Maybe a family trip or a gathering or a trip to the lake. (My daughters will go to Texas. And in July we'll go to Monterey. And in August we'll go, for the first time, to Holden Village at Lake Chelan, WA. How about you??)

The gift of long days for walking the dog or reading or watching baseball. (Our dog Luka would be happy to get together and play in the church yard with your dog! Also, Go Texas Rangers!)

And the gift of being church together. (Sometimes this season of the church is called "Ordinary Time," but that's good for a family! And it's good for us. We get to share the gospel, pray, take care of each other, have fun, encourage each church to live life for all the seasons. For special times and for times more ordinary.)

This season, may you receive the indestructible affirmation of the life of God in the Spirit. And let's keep discovering it together: ordinary, abundant life!

Wishing you a cold drink and some shade,

†Pastor Shaun O'Reilly

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings, Faith!

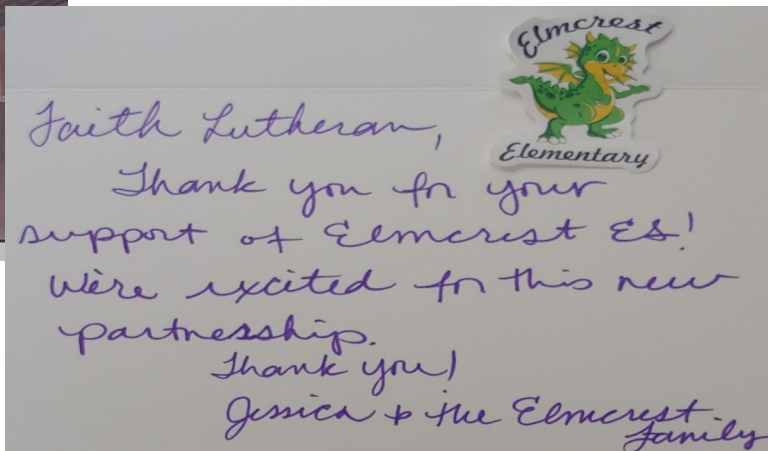
As some of you may recall, the council had a retreat back in March to identify and prioritize goals that we thought would benefit the church. Two of these priorities are the rehabilitation of the parking lot and the question of what we should do with the church's yard/memorial garden. To ensure that the council is working toward solutions that the congregation wants, members of the council will be facilitating conversations about how the congregation addresses these two concerns and the potential remodeling of the kitchen. These conversations will take place after Sunday worship services starting in June. Please bring your ideas, questions, and concerns with your coffee and refreshments and join us to talk about these issues!

- Benjamin Pesis, Council President



We delivered a lunch of sandwiches, chips, potato salad, drinks, and fruit to Elmcrest Elementary School on May 1 to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week. Kathy Wilson and Judi Hein shopped for the lunch with the Council's approval of a budget. The school was very grateful for their lunch and the card that the congregation signed to send their gratitude to the teachers and staff at our neighborhood school.

- Judi Hein, Outreach Chair



2023 FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Ben Pesis

Vice President: Eric Weldon

Secretary: Judi Hein

Treasurer: LindaLu Miller

Members at Large: Jean Carter, Sonja Dresbach,
Amy Zimmerman, and Pastor Shaun O'Reilly

IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

Jun 4 – Holy Trinity Sunday

The Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.



From the Augusburg Confession (1530):

“The churches among us teach [...] that there is one divine essence which is called God and is God: eternal, incorporeal, indivisible, of immeasurable power, wisdom and goodness, the creator and preserver of all things, visible and invisible. Yet there are three persons, coeternal and of the same essence and power: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

Jun 11 – **Healing Service** - Second Sunday after Pentecost



Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord’s day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth. On this particular Sunday we will offer prayer stations and prayers with oils for anointing. All are welcome!

Jun 18 – Third Sunday after Pentecost - Father’s Day

The choir sings an Anthem on Praising God.

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we all are anointed for ministry, sharing God’s compassion with our needy world.



June 25 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Patio/Garden Worship — Bring a Lawn chair and umbrella! Join us out back. We’ll sing with the birds to our neighbors! (Last Sunday of each month this summer).

CONGREGATION ACTIVITIES

Bible Study

Join us Tuesday afternoons, from 1:30p-2:30p, to read and discuss the Bible scripture for the following Sunday. This helps us prepare for the next Sunday's Service.

All are welcome!

**Visit our website at faithlutheranreno.org to join Zoom
- via phone or video -**

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

May Schedule

- **Jun 06**/for 06/11: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26; Psalm 50:7-15; Hosea 5:15-6:6Romans 4:13-25
- **Jun 13**/for 06/18: Matthew 9:35-10:8 [9-23]; Psalm 100; Exodus 19:2-8a; Romans 5:1-8
- **Jun 20**/for 06/25: Matthew 10:24-39; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Jeremiah 20:7-13; Romans 6:1b-11
- **Jun 27**/for 07/02: Matthew 10:40-42; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Jeremiah 28:5-9; Romans 6:12-23

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

Sunday Worship Live - Online via YouTube

To join with video, go to our website and follow the video link (www.faithlutheranreno.org) or find us on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@faithlutheran-reno>

Be sure to click on the "LIVE" tab once in YouTube

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.

Prayer Requests

Please send any prayer requests to the prayer team at:
prayers@faithlutheranreno.org

Online Giving

For your convenience we offer an online option at our website:
faithlutheranreno.org
Click on "Support Faith" at the top right of the page.

CONGREGATION ACTIVITIES

Adult Faith Formation Forum - "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible"

Wednesdays in June at 6pm in the Fireside Room

Adult Faith Formation begins again on Wednesday nights at 6pm. Join us!

Starting in June we will walk through "*How Lutherans Interpret the Bible*" with Mark Allen Powell. Powell is a Lutheran scholar that put together video presentations years ago, and Pr Stan Pesis will host the group interacting with these ideas. Bring your questions and your experiences as we explore topics like "the Word of God," "Where the Bible Comes from," "Bible in Context," "Determining Right from Wrong," "The Many Meanings of the Bible," and ... whatever else comes up along the way!

Beginning on June 7th @ 6pm

Bring a bible and join us!



Make plans to help honor our fathers on **Sunday, June 18** after the Worship Service.

Enjoy Father's Day Ice Cream Social during the Fellowship time.

Various flavors, toppings, cones, bowls and the ever popular "Stan's Shake Machine" will be present. (Courtesy of Rev. Stan Pesis).

Brought to you by your Fellowship Team.

SHARED HARVEST

Items needed for the June 2023 assembly are as follows.

- ◆ **19 Boxes of Mac & Cheese**
- ◆ **Small tubes of Toothpaste, small Hand Lotions, small Hand Sanitizers, Dental Floss, and other small hotel hygiene items, in any quantity are welcome!**

Our assembly will be @ 1pm on June 25th, at Lord of Mercy, in Sparks. Thank you to all who have donated!

-Sonja Dresbach, Shared Harvest

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS



There is a story about the exiled people of Israel.

And like a bag of rice spilled, the people have been scattered among different nations and different countries.

A people lost to sinful ways with hearts of stone that beats not for a living God but that of false idols.

And idle is God, not.

No, God is always at work, like an architect, who sees vulnerabilities in their structure, God too sees the cracks within our spirit.

But God is a living God, one who will cleanse the people of all their uncleanness and restore within them the spirit.

A God who does not look away in disappointment but instead embraces the people with arms open wide and restores to them a heart of flesh that will beat once more.

And like the grains of rice that lie scattered from here to there, God does not fret but carefully collects each grain of rice and plants them in the soils of their own land made rich by the cleansing waters of God's own hands.

The spirit will dwell within them, and the heart will not descend to the depths; the people will be moved to obey God's commands and God will say to them, "with me you are loved and to me you belong and I my dear children, I belong to you."

-Lukas Butterfield

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS



A little humor from Pat Porter...

Q: What do you call a book club that's been stuck on the same book for years?

A: Church

Food, Fellowship and Fun, what a combination! With more than 40 people attending, Taco/Bingo night was an amazing success. Our thanks to everyone who attended. Thanks to Annette Warner and Betty Thompson for calling the Bingo game. My special thanks to the Fellowship Team for setting this event up, making the yummy food and providing awesome gifts for our winners. The Lord has blessed us all with wonderful Faith Friends.

Blessings,

- Pat Porter, Fellowship Team Chair

[Who are these wonderful people of whom she speaks?? Jean Carter, Kathy Wilson, Sharon Scagliotti, Cheryl Vought, Lee Ann Morrell, Eileen Way, Amy Zimmerman... that's who!]



BINGO!



June 2023

Faith Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:30am Worship Holy Trinity	5 11am Food Pantry	6 1:30pm Bible Study	7 12 Noon LUNCH BUNCH 6pm Adult Faith Formation Forum	8	9	10
11 9:30am Worship Healing Service	12 11am Food Pantry	13 1:30pm Bible Study	14 6pm Adult Faith Formation Forum	15	16	17 10a Worship Team
18 9:30am Worship Father's Day ICE CREAM SOCIAL	19 No Food Pantry JUNETEENTH	20 11:45a NARFE 1:30pm Bible Study	21 12 Noon Finance Team 6pm Adult Faith Formation Forum	22	23	24
25 9:30am Worship	26 11am Food Pantry	27 1:30pm Bible Study	28 6pm Adult Faith Formation Forum	29	30	
				Weekly Group Meetings in the FLC Space <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 		