

Following Faith

Summer Newsletter 2023



MAMA BEAR AND HER CUBS COOL OFF IN LAKE TAHOE

HAPPY SUMMER FAITH LUTHERAN!

Pastor Shaun is presently “on the road” so the “Letter from the Pastor” this month is actually the “Letter from the Church Office”. The theme, obviously, is “SUMMER” and it is my favorite time of year! As some of you may know, I recently sold my house and downsized to a one bedroom condo. One of the provisions of this change was that I would need a swimming pool in whichever community I ended up moving to! My new pool is beyond expectations, submergence in cool, turquoise water is the next best thing to Heaven in my opinion. I did want to share some of the ways I compensated prior to not having a pool right outside of my home. The Truckee River and Lake Tahoe; I keep a trunk full of provisions to enable me to enjoy the river or lake at any time with little, or no, notice. I have my trusty *River Rat* float, complete with drink holder and nylon ski rope (because I don’t actually want to raft, I just want to float, so I tie up), a pump to blow up the raft and a beach bag filled with towels, sunblock, waterproof phone holder, extra bottles of water, etc... And of course a short legged beach chair which I can use in or out of the water. I love the water and am Blessed to live in the Truckee Meadows with so much opportunity to enjoy! God provided us with so many splendid gifts! I hope you enjoy the rest of the Newsletter this month.

- Dorothy Barry, FLC Admin Asst

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings, Faith!

We're gearing up to have a special congregation meeting in the next month or so to address several different topics. The topic with the highest price tag and probably the most interest is the repaving of the parking lot. The council had originally hoped to hold the meeting on August 20th, just before the picnic, but we have been convinced that the discussions about such a large amount of money and the obligations the church will incur will take too much time and encroach on the time set aside for the picnic. We may still try to have a short meeting to vote on some "smaller" items. One of those smaller items is whether we should pay off the rest of the principal of the loan that paid for the roof repairs. There is just under \$40,000 left on the loan. The council would like to pay off the loan before we take on another.

Another item is the opportunity we have to "hire" our own Sarah Toney, MDiv, for the length of time she is with us as she waits for her first call. Sarah has a particular interest in how we as Christians enrich our interactions with Christ and Christianity, both inside and outside the church. Now some of you will say: that is well and good, but we would like to make Pastor Shaun full-time before we bring anyone else on the payroll. I understand that sentiment, but Pastor Shaun has stated that he is much more interested in collaboration than increasing his pay from the church at this time. I don't know if anyone believes this when I say/write it, but you can ask him if you doubt me.

One last thing I'd like to communicate: with the impending special congregational meetings upon us, I want to take the opportunity to remind you all that during these meetings the congregation itself is sovereign in these decisions. Neither Pastor Shaun, nor I, nor the rest of the council, rules or leads this congregation in these decisions. Regardless of what council members, or the council as a whole, think is best, it is the congregation that makes the decisions in the matters that are brought before it. Once the meeting is called to order, I am no longer president of the congregation council, but the chair of the congregational meeting, tasked with ensuring that the will of the congregation is discerned and voiced. If you have concerns or ideas, please speak to them, it is only by hearing all the ideas out there that we have the best chance of making the best decision. And while every voting member of the congregation has a right to speak and be heard at these meetings, I would ask you as a fellow member, to be mindful that we are speaking to our fellow children of God. We may strongly disagree with our fellow congregants, but we should not forget that we are called to be a community together. Not always of one mind, but always of one body. Be kind as you raise your concerns and voice your opinions.

That's enough from me for this month. Next time I see you I will probably be the father of one more child, so please forgive me if I'm not as attentive as I should be, it's probably sleep deprivation.

Be well.

- Benjamin Pesis, Council President

SUMMER FUN SHARED WITH YOU!

The Weldon Family Vacation

While vacationing in Arizona recently, Eric and Katie explored Page, AZ and shared this exquisite photo. Taken 50 feet below the rim of Antelope Slot Canyon. Eric stated, "I am reminded that no matter where I go, or how deep I find myself, God is always with me."



"I sketched this loose watercolor in church a couple of Sundays ago, summertime at Faith ..."

- Todd Mauldin

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

August Schedule

- Aug 01**/for 08/06: Matt 14:13-21; Ps 145:8-9, 14-21; Isa 55:1-5; Rom 9:5
- Aug 08**/for 08/13: Matt 14:22-33; Ps 85:8-13; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Rom 10:5-15
- Aug 15**/for 08/20: Matt 15 [10-20], 21-28; Ps 67; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Isa 56:1, 6-8
- Aug 22**/for 08/27: Matt 16:13-20 ; Ps 138; Isa 51:1-8; Rom 12:1-8
- Aug 29**/for 09/03: Matt 16:21-28; Ps 26:1-8; Jer 15:15-21; Rom 12:9-21

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 August - 6pm in the Fireside Room

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

Continuing through August 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!

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

Until August 13th we are still collecting these school supplies for our partnership with **Elmcrest Elementary School**. These items will help children have a successful start to the next school year. Elmer's style white, liquid glue is still needed, as are Expo dry erase markers/erasers, colored pencils, index cards, crayons, glue sticks, and paint brushes.

- Judi Hein, Outreach Chair



SHARED HARVEST

Items need for August are:

- COLD CEREAL / 28 BOXES
- CANNED FRUIT / 42 CANS
- PEANUT BUTTER / 28 JARS
- BAR SOAP / UNLIMITED QUANTITIES

Thank you to everyone who have already donated. You make a difference!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS & more summer fun!

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER...

Committee members who have made purchases for the church requiring reimbursement should use the "green" form, located in the office. The slot box is clearly labeled "CHURCH PURCHASES". This form should be used to request a reimbursement ONLY. Attach the receipts to the form and write in the complete description and total of all receipts. Purchases should only be made with the permission of the Committee Chair, who can then confirm there is money enough in the budget. For any other purchases paid for via church accounts or church business credit cards, receipts should be attached to 8 1/2" X 11" sheet of paper with a full description of what the purchase was made for, and put into the Treasurer's mail box, also located in the office. The same conditions; i.e., purchases must be approved by your chair committee BEFORE the purchase is made. If you need further clarification, speak with your Treasurer, LindaLu Miller, or leave the info with Dorothy in the office.

LindaLu and her husband, Bob

took a trip to Lassen, CA this summer and stopped in Vina, CA to visit *the Abbey of New Clairvaux* nestled on a vineyard first cultivated in 1846 by Peter Lassen, and later transformed by Leland Stanford.



The photo above represents the beautiful 15th century style architecture of the Abbey.

The photo to the left the Virgin Mary holding the baby Jesus who holds his arms out welcoming all who enter the chapel.

Today, Trappist-Cistercian Monks dedicate their lives to personal and communal prayer, and manual labor (wine-making).



A SWEET FAREWELL

We said "Bon Voyage" to FLC member Sharon Walker...



August 2023

Faith Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 NO LUNCH BUNCH 6-7:30p HOW LUTHERANS INTERPRET THE BIBLE	3	4	5 PR SHAUN OUT
6 9:30am Worship	7 11am Food Pantry	8 1:30pm Bible Study	9 6-7:30p HOW LUTHERANS INTERPRET THE BIBLE	10	11	12 10a Worship Team
PASTOR SHAUN OUT - AUG 5th - 12th						
13 9:30am Worship	14 11am Food Pantry 6pm Council Meeting	15 11:45a NARFE 1:30pm Bible Study	16 12p Finance Team Meeting 6-7:30p HOW LUTHERANS INTERPRET THE BIBLE	17	18	19
20 9:30am Worship CHURCH PICNIC 	21 11am Food Pantry 6pm Council Mtng	22 1:30pm Bible Study	23 6-7:30p HOW LUTHERANS INTERPRET THE BIBLE	24	25	26
27 9:30am Worship Outdoor Worship	28 11am Food Pantry	29	30	31		
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Weekly Group Meetings in the FLC Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ACA; Mondays at 5:30pm ◆ Sierra High Notes; Summer Break thru August ◆ 4-H WhipStirs; 2nd Wednesday at 6:30pm ◆ Scouts; Thursdays at 7:00pm </div>						