

Following Faith Newsletter

Special Edition

Faith Lutheran Church, Reno NV

October 2025

Friends in Faith,

This month I come to you still celebrating my recent wedding and celebrating the community at Faith Lutheran too! Amanda and I had an amazing time in Texas with family and friends, and I didn't quite know I would feel all the things I was feeling down there. Many of my own friends and family are still in that area, and some I hadn't seen in years. But they came out and celebrated and supported us and our adventure, and it gave us the gift of community.

But I know Amanda and I want to say thank you to you here in Reno as well. Thank you for your energy and welcome, your good wishes and blessings and gifts. You have given, and continue to give us, the gift of community.

With all that in mind, I mentioned in my sermon on Sunday that Fred Niedner had taught us about the gospel of Luke back in January at our "Bible Retreat." He said:

You and I are more like Luke's audience than those of the other gospels, and Jesus is inhabiting our story. Luke's Jesus travels around, and always stops for meals, and he tells parables in which we so easily find ourselves learning what the truest treasure of life is. The same thing Heaven treasures: People! Relationships! Friends. Which is all Jesus ended up with—his only treasure. He had no money, no institution, not even a home his estate could sell. He had only friends. That was his treasure, and our life works the same way.

Friends, I can see and feel and notice my life working in the same way. Even (or especially) fresh off of getting married last week.

I am so lucky to marry Amanda and that she said "I Do." And I know ... as excited as we are about being married, and making a life together, and opening wedding gifts, what we know we're already treasuring so much is that loving people are surrounding us. In marriage you're probably supposed to say that your partner is the "One Treasure" and that's got a truth to it.

But I'm fresh from the front lines, to report to you — it's about all of us. And it's about heavenly treasure! And it's people, relationships, friends.

So thank you for the lesson. But thank you most for the incarnation of community.

My wife and I treasure you,
+ Pastor Shaun





In Worship This Month



October 5th - 17th Sunday after Pentecost and Blessing of the Animals!

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly.

*Today we also celebrate this blessing for all living creatures and your friends and neighbors are all welcome! We'll have a Blessing of the Animals toward the end of the service. You can bring a pet and sit in the back or on the back patio until the end, or you can come at **10:30am** this day and you'll make it for the blessing. We do this near the Commemoration day of St. Francis (Oct. 4) — patron saint of Animals and Ecology.

October 12th - 18th Sunday after Pentecost

One turns back in thanksgiving for a miracle of Jesus, and they were a Samaritan. So we see, again, the foreigner is a vital presence among us. The foreigner is a reminder of the pain of displacement many of us have felt. The foreigner is a reminder that God's promises know no boundaries or borders, that God's grace will not abide by the arbitrary lines we draw between ourselves and others, that God consistently finds the most unlikely proclaimers of the good news as the best choice of all to announce God's will.



October 19th - 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Two characters step out of scripture today to teach us about persistence in prayer. One is Jacob, the devious brother who tricked his twin out of his birthright and their father's blessing, and Jacob was himself duped on his wedding night by his father-in-law, Laban. The other character, unnamed, is a widow acquainted with grief, one among many marginalized and vulnerable people, but a woman who dares to stand her ground in her quest for justice. On the banks of the river Jabbok, Jacob wrestles with the angel and limps away with a blessing and a new identity. The unnamed widow repeatedly appeals for justice and finally is vindicated. Many have known persistent prayer as a kind of wrestling with God. Many have pleaded with God for justice and mercy. Today God's grace and mercy is known in the blessing of baptismal remembrance and our identity as beloved children of God.

October 22nd Wednesday 7pm

Contemplative Worship night. We gather in quietness, for readings and songs and prayers. This is a communal enactment of being still before God. Friends and visitors welcome.



October 26th - Festival Day of the Reformation

Special music meets us this day!

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Daughters of Norway Events by Perralina Palm

The Scandinavian News Update

The Daughters of Norway Sonja Henie Lodge #29 is one of the groups that use the church. We use it two or three times a year.

The first time will be **Saturday, October 11th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall across from the Office. We are having our Rosemalling Class. Rosemalling is Norwegian painting.

The second time will be our cooking class, “Taste of Scandinavia” put on by Truckee Meadows Community College. We have been teaching this class for 36 years. We started at the TMCC kitchen, then the kitchen at St. Stephens Episcopal Church across the street, and when they closed we came to Faith. We use the back of the Sanctuary, the kitchen and the Fireside Room. The Faith Cookbook has some of our recipes. The college sends out the schedule to everyone in Washoe County. This is great free advertisement for the church. The class is **Saturday, November 8th**. If you are interested in more information, see me after church.

The third time will be our Bake Sale. That is Saturday, November 22nd. We have sheets for people to fill out and pay ahead of time so we know what to bake and how much. The people drive by and pick up their bags. We use the Entry way for that. Again if you are interested in more information, see me after church.

We are very thankful for Faith Lutheran working with us.

Mange Tusen Tukk (Many many thanks),

Perralina Palm

Click the link for more information about [Daughters of Norway](#).

Art picture author credit:

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A friendly reminder: It's almost time to turn our clocks back, Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time is on **Sunday, November 2, 2025**, at 2:00 a.m.



FALL BACK

Luther and Lutheranism

(Most are familiar with this story but since it is Reformation time I wanted to share it again. [Taken from the ELCA website.](#))

Martin Luther was eight years old when Christopher Columbus set sail from Europe and landed in the Western Hemisphere. Luther was a young monk and priest when Michaelangelo was painting the Sistine Chapel in Rome. A few years later, he was a junior faculty member at a new university in small-town Germany, intently studying the Scriptures, “captivated with an extraordinary ardor for understanding Paul in the Epistle to the Romans.”

In these days Luther was tormented by the demand for righteousness before God. “I did not love, yes, I hated the righteous God who punishes sinners, and secretly, if not blasphemously, certainly murmuring greatly, I was angry with God.” Then, in the midst of that struggle with God, the message of the Scriptures became clear, like a long-shut door opening wide. When he realized that a “merciful God justifies us by faith ... I felt that I was altogether born again and had entered paradise itself through open gates.”

What Luther discovered is the freedom of Christians trusting God’s mercy in Christ. As he later wrote, “Faith is God’s work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God. This faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing. It is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that believers would stake their lives on it a thousand times.”

This discovery set Luther’s life on a new course —both his own life and his public service as a preacher and teacher. When a church-endorsed sales team came to the Wittenberg area in October, 1517, Luther was concerned that the promotion and sale of indulgences undermined the promise of God’s unreserved mercy in Jesus and the faith that trusts that promise. His *95 Theses* or *Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences* became the first of a life-long stream of books, sermons, letters, essays, even hymns in which he expressed his confidence in this life-giving promise from God, the Gospel, and its liberating implications for all of life in church and society.

“Feelings come and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God--
Naught else is worth believing.

Though all my heart should feel condemned
For want of some sweet token,
There is One greater than my heart
Whose Word cannot be broken.

I'll trust in God's unchanging Word
Till soul and body sever,
For, though all things shall pass away,
HIS WORD SHALL STAND FOREVER!”

— Martin Luther

Martin Luther (1483-1546)



Keep your mind active

AARP offers free word games, [check it out here!](#)

Merriam Webster dictionary offers word of the day, learn a new word, [check it out here!](#)

Trivia anyone?

1. In 1863, what memorable speech did Abraham Lincoln give during the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery?
2. What pioneering English woman is considered the founder of modern nursing?
3. What president was a licensed bartender?
4. How long was the first Thanksgiving?
5. What is the tallest mountain in the world?
6. Located between Israel and Jordan, this body of water is known for its high salt content, making it uninhabitable for most life forms.

Answers are on the last page. Resource for the trivia question and answers: today.com

Outreach Opportunities

Join Faith Food Friends!

We need volunteers and donations for weekly meal delivery to our un-housed neighbors!



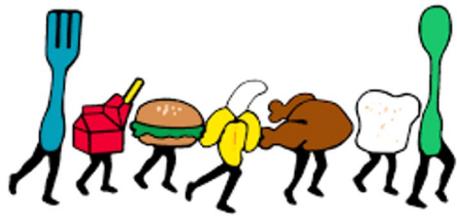
Faith Food Friends are forming to join "The Reno Posse," which delivers healthy meals once a week to food insecure friends throughout Reno. This complements our ongoing support of Shared Harvest — the Lutheran churches' initiative across Reno and Sparks.

How you can help:

- **Volunteer roles:** shoppers, remote cooks and bakers, baggers, and meal delivery volunteers
- **Weekly donation needs:** 150 juice pouches, 150 snack bars, and individual-serving baked goods (cookies, cupcakes, muffins)

Ready to join? Contact Judi Hein to sign up or coordinate donations.





THE LUNCH BUNCH

Join us **October 1st** for a Potluck at
Faith at **12pm.**

Bring something to share!

Saturday, October 4, 2025

Faith Lutheran Church

4:00 pm



Bratwurst & Buns will be provided. Please bring a German inspired dish to share. Appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert.

We will provide lemonade & water, BYOB. Please see sign up sheet provided in the narthex.

Contact Eileen Way if you have questions:

Phone: 775-560-3248

Email: eileen4575@gmail.com



Fellowship Dinner -

October 23rd Location is TBD

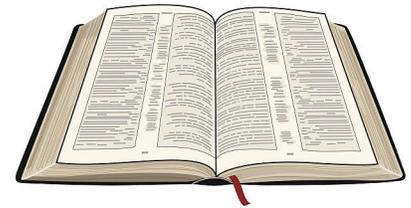
The signup sheet is in the Narthex and will have the location, it will also be in the bulletin. We've had wonderful turnouts for our recent dinners with delicious food and lively conversation. If you're new to these gatherings, we'd love to have you join us!

With time and weather changing November and December will move to Lunch at 11:30am - 2pm (weather permitting) and will be on the 3rd Thursday since the holidays land on the 4th Thursday.

For more information please contact Jean C.



Tuesday Bible Readers meets Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 pm at Faith to read the lectionary scriptures for the following Sunday. We meet in the back of the sanctuary or you can join on zoom. There is a schedule of the readings in the narthex and it has the zoom meeting information.



For questions contact Eileen W.

2025 CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Your Worship Team is in the process of organizing Faith Lutheran Church's 2nd Annual Christmas Concert. All you musicians, singers, inspirational speakers, kids, and family groups who would like to participate, please start looking for pieces you'd like to perform for this year's concert. We are looking at the weekend of Dec 13th or 14th in the afternoon - we'll confirm the date as we decide which date works the best for all. In the meantime, start looking for that special piece that you'd like to share with our church family and community to celebrate this Christmas Season.

Contact Sharon Scagliotti for questions or details. Phone: 916-230-4530 or Email: sharonscag@gmail.com



December 7th Christmas Cookie Palooza! Bring a dozen or a batch of your favorite homemade or store-bought Christmas cookies to share. We'll gather for coffee and cookies during Coffee Fellowship after Worship. Plus, you can take home any leftover treats! Please bring festive, holiday-themed cookies to make the day extra merry!



Trunk or Treat - Save the Date

Elmcrest Elementary will host a **Trunk or Treat** at the school in the late afternoon of **Thursday, October 23rd**. We are invited to come set up cars and give out treats and say HI to families and kiddos. You can bring your own candy and such, or we have candy and supplies available as well! Contact Judi Hein to sign up or if you have questions.



Family Fun Night

Families join us for Dinner, Fun, and Pumpkin Carving! We'll start with a prayerful rhythm and then play some games and get artsy together. And, pumpkins! Join us at the church, **Friday, Oct. 24th, 6pm!**

Sierra Pacific Synod Flyer



Women of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America
16th
Biennial Convention

**GOD IS SPEAKING -
ARE YOU LISTENING?**

October 17, 18, 19 2025

**Christ the King Passionist Center
6520 Van Maren Lane
Citrus Heights, CA**

GUEST SPEAKERS

BISHOP GUADALUPE CORTEZ
2nd Bishop & 1st Woman Bishop to
El Salvador Lutheran Synod

BISHOP JEFF JOHNSON
Sierra Pacific Synod Lutheran Synod

PASTOR CHRISTIAN CHAVARRIA
Assistant to the Bishop, El Salvador
Lead Pastor Resurrection Lutheran Church

VICAR MEAGAN KIM
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

**Registration - 2 nights/5 meals = \$225 Each,
double occupancy - Registration by QR code or Form
Attached**



Shared Harvest

October 26th Pick Up

Contact Tom Landis for Questions

Thank you to everyone who contributes and helps those in need through this ministry:

28 boxes of cold cereal

42 cans of fruit

42 cans of Chicken Noodle Soup

42 cans of Tuna

[unlimited Shampoo]



OCTOBER

BY [ROBERT FROST](#)

O hushed October morning mild,
Thy leaves have ripened to the fall;
Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild,
Should waste them all.
The crows above the forest call;
Tomorrow they may form and go.
O hushed October morning mild,
Begin the hours of this day slow.
Make the day seem to us less brief.
Hearts not averse to being beguiled,

Beguile us in the way you know.
Release one leaf at break of day;
At noon release another leaf;
One from our trees, one far away.
Retard the sun with gentle mist;
Enchant the land with amethyst.
Slow, slow!
For the grapes' sake, if they were all,
Whose leaves already are burnt with frost,
Whose clustered fruit must else be lost—
For the grapes' sake along the wall.



Recipe of the Month From the Faith Lutheran Heavenly Dishes

Ginny's Potatoes (not in this book, maybe next years) 😊

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. of yellow potatoes
- 1 red bell pepper diced
- 1 green bell pepper diced
- 1 sweet yellow onion sliced big or small your preference

- Salt
- Pepper
- Dill
- Smoked Paprika

Preheat oven to 475 F.

2 lbs. of yellow potatoes washed and cut into 1 inch cubes

Put potatoes in a bowl, a little oil goes a long way, sprinkle **1/4 tsp pepper, 1 tsp salt, 2 tsp dill and 2 tsp smoked paprika**, mix well, adjust seasonings to your liking.

Put on covered baking sheet (I use a cooking mat). On middle rack bake for 30 min.

While that is baking....

Sauté: Bell peppers and onion with a sprinkle of salt, pepper, dill and smoked paprika till tender.

Once done baking, mix all baked and sautéed ingredients and serve.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2025

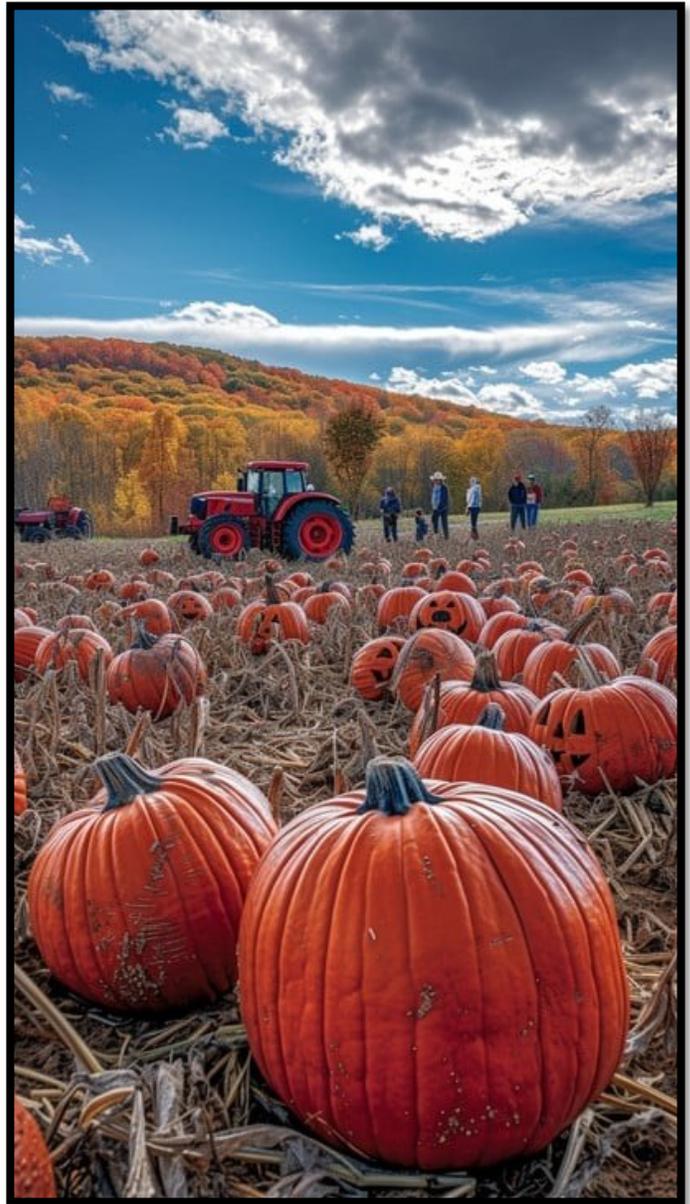
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Lunch Bunch 12pm	Grief Support Group 10:30am Scouts 7pm		Oktoberfest 4pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	Bible Study 1:30pm	Memory Care Support 1:30pm	Finance Meeting 12pm Scouts 7pm		Worship Team Meeting 10am Daughters of Norway 8:30- 4:30 (Fellowship room)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	Bible Study 1:30pm	4-H WhipStirs 6:30pm	Grief Support Group 10:30am Scouts 7pm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm Council Meeting 6pm	NARFE 11am Bible Study 1:30pm	Contemplative Worship Night 7pm	Dinner Fellowship 4:30pm Scouts 7pm	Family Fun Night 6pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Reformation Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	Bible Study 1:30pm		Grief Support Group 10:30am Scouts 7pm	Reformation Day! 	

Ecclesiastes 3: 1, 2

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born and a time to die;

a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;



Trivia Answers:

1. The Gettysburg Address
2. Florence Nightingale
3. Abraham Lincoln
4. Three days
5. Mount Everest
6. The Dead Sea

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Please send any prayer requests to the Prayer Team at:

prayers@faithlutheranreno.org