

Following Faith Newsletter

Faith Lutheran Church, Reno NV

March 2026



March arrives in the Truckee Meadows, and this week it's been the slow, muddy business of snowmelt. The big snow we received recently is already disappearing — draining off rooftops; running in little rivulets down the gutters while the ice breaks up; then, soaking into the ground. It looks, from the surface, like subtraction. But things are doing more than just going away.

The water we needed is now headed somewhere. It's gathering in the mountains, finding its way into the Truckee River, and beginning a journey that has been happening in this landscape for thousands of years. When the river runs high enough — when the snowmelt does its quiet, invisible work — something ancient stirs at Pyramid Lake. The cui-ui, one of the oldest fish species in North America, a fish the Paiute people have depended on for centuries, waits for exactly this moment. It waits for the rising water. It holds, patient in the deep water, until the river calls it from the heavy salinity of Pyramid Lake. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe maintains hatcheries along the lake that remind us of this—mostly unseen—movement toward life and preservation that happens when the thaw comes.

Lent is like that snowmelt. From the surface, it can look like subtraction — fasting, simplicity, the long weeks before Easter. But our faithful way is not a “being toward death,” it is for life. Our finitude is not a sentence but a shape — the very contour makes us capable of receiving a life beyond our own making. Lent invites us to trust that. To believe that what looks like things draining away is actually life finding its way underground, gathering, moving toward something.

And we have a promise to anchor us in that trust. In our baptism, we were joined to Jesus in exactly this pattern — dying and rising, losing and finding, the water carrying us through rather than under. Paul writes in Romans that we have been buried with Christ in baptism so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too might walk in newness of life. That promise doesn't wait for Easter Sunday to be true. It is true now, in the middle of Lent, in the middle of the melt. The life is already moving underneath. We are already, even now, on our way to the river.

Easter is when the river runs full. It is when what has been percolating beneath the surface — in our prayers, our fasting, our quiet waiting — finally rises into the open. Not created from nothing, but revealed. Life was there all along, and that is our being. Be alive in the water, now! Even while we intentionally wait to jump and splash in the lively deep.

+ Pr. Shaun



IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH



March 1st - Second Sunday in Lent

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

Todd Mauldin Preaches on this day.

March 8th - Third Sunday in Lent

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.



March 15th - Fourth Sunday in Lent

The fourth Sunday in Lent continues the focus on baptism as a key to the Christian life. At least since the fourth century, the church has used the narrative of the man born blind as a picture of every believer's baptism, which in early centuries was commonly called "enlightenment." Our baptism has given us the light of Christ, by which we live, and with which we illumine the darkness in and outside ourselves. Along with the seeing man, we affirm our Lenten faith, "Lord, I believe." We too are sent by baptism to live a new life.



March 22nd - Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life.



March 29th - Passion/Palm Sunday

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

The choir and musicians help lead us today in a Cantata of Meditation on Christ's passion.

Fellowship

Faith's Supper Club | Thursday

March 26th Location: **Skipolini's**

Time: **11:30 AM**

We are a group of believers who gather for fellowship and a shared meal, enjoying each other's company. Please note that this will be our last luncheon – beginning in April, we will return to meeting at 4:30 pm.

Due to restaurant requirements for group sizes, attendance will be limited to 14 people. **BUT if the sign up sheet is full please talk to me if you want to attend.**

Jean Carter



Faith Family.....If you would like an updated **printed** copy of the directory please let the office know.

Thank you

The Communication Team

On Saturday, April 4th is an Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Communication Team beginning at 10:00 A.M. Invite your friends and neighbors to Faith's Easter Egg Hunt

Stay tuned for more information.

Amy Zimmerman



The **Lunch Bunch** meets on the first Wednesday of each month at noon for food and fellowship – though we will be taking a break in March. If you have any questions, please reach out to Eileen W.

And what a fun February we had! Our group enjoyed making Valentine Gnomes together, along with plenty of good food and great company.



Fellowship

Faith Lutheran Church Sunday, April 5th at 8 am

Join us for Easter Morning Breakfast! Ham will be provided – simply bring a dish to share, whether that's a Breakfast Egg Casserole, Sweetbreads, or your favorite Easter treat!



We're creating something special in the narthex this year – an ongoing "**Pets of Faith Lutheran**" bulletin board celebrating all the beloved creatures in our church family! Pastor Shaun invites you to share a photo of your pet along with their name and a little something that makes them special. Whether it's your dog's goofy personality, your cat's favorite napping spot, your parrot's vocabulary, or your hamster's love of sunflower seeds, we want to celebrate the joy and companionship these precious animals bring to our lives. Please drop off your photos at the church office (there is an envelope for you to place them in the Narthex by the calendar) or email them to office@faithlutheranreno.org, and we'll make sure your furry, feathered, or scaly friend has a place of honor on our board throughout the year. Let's fill that space with the love and laughter our animal companions bring us every single day! See Shaun or email Ginny for details or questions.

Faith's Council Officers for 2026:

President: Matthew Rhiley

Vice President: Tom Landis

Secretary: Ben Pesis

Treasurer: Erica Wilfrid

Eric Weldon

Wes Gray

Sharon Scagliotti

Pastor Shaun O'Reilly

Dear Family of Faith Lutheran Church,

It is an honor to serve as President of our Church Council. At a time when many congregations are navigating seasons of change, I am grateful that our church continues to grow and build a strong, loving community — one rooted in Lutheran tradition, grounded in scripture, and expressed through meaningful worship.

As we move into the year ahead, I warmly invite your voices and ideas on how we can continue to grow in faith and serve one another. Our shared journey is made richer by the contribution of every person, and I look forward to walking together as we live out God's mission in our community.

Serving Him with you,

Matthew Rhiley

Serving Others

Happy New Year Friends; It's that time of year again for new beginnings, new healthy habits, and new goals. If you're making new year resolutions I encourage you to consider sharing your time and talents with your church. How, you ask? Join the **Altar Guild**. one of the first organized ancient practices in the church, which consists of preparing the altar and worship space for weekly services and communion OR join the **Usher team** who serve a vital yet many times unrecognized service, but keep the flow of the service on track.

But I don't know how? No worries we, your worship team will be happy to show you how to perform these essential duties at your convenience.

So please prayerfully consider joining these teams and you can let me know or get a message to me through the office.

Serve the Lord & your Church in 2026.

Sharon Scagliotti, Worship Chair



The Outreach team has voted to send \$2500 to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada. This money comes from the monthly donation percentage that infuses our mission to care for our community and the world! Thanks to all of you for feeding hungry people in our community.

This Lent, we invite you to join us in giving to Lutheran World Hunger.

However you choose to give this season, we hope this might be one way we give *together*. *Pick up a Lenten Calendar in the narthex — it includes daily prayers and prompts, along with creative ways to participate in this global hunger initiative.*



Check out our improved online ELCA Good Gifts catalog experience!



[ELCA.org/goodgifts](https://www.elca.org/goodgifts)

Shared Harvest Assembly Date March 22nd at Good Sheperd- Reno 1pm

March needs are:

28 Peanut Butter jars

42 cans of Chili

42 boxes Mac & Cheese

Unlimited toothpaste and tooth brushes

Thank you for your generosity to those in need in our community!

Contact Tom L. for more details.



Faith Formation

Attention Young Adults! Sophia G invites you to two Bible Studies this month:

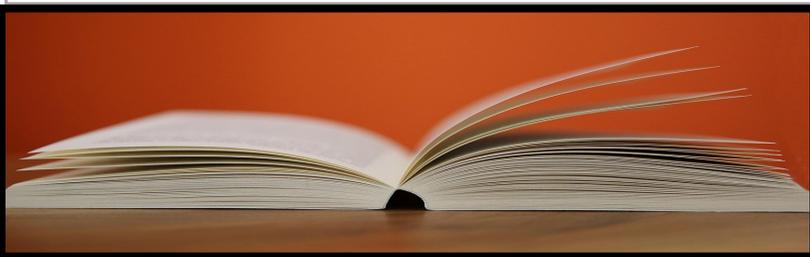
* Young Adults Pub Theology every 1st Thursday at 7pm at **10 Torr** on Mill St. Next event March 5th.

* Young Adult Bible Study every 3rd Thursday at 7pm at Faith Lutheran Church.

Next meeting will be March 19th.



See Sophia or Shaun for questions or details.



Our Adult Forum, 11am-12noon, continues in March.

Lent with a learning Video Series from theologian James Alison's "Jesus the Forgiving Victim." It's an invitation to discover something deep: that we are loved far more than we know.



Through readings, videos, and conversation, we'll explore how the crucified and risen Christ approaches us not with condemnation but with forgiveness, calling us away from false securities and anxious goodness into the freedom of being held by God's grace. We'll reconsider what it means to be church together—not as insiders versus outsiders, but as forgiven people learning to receive our identity from the Forgiving Victim in our midst.

Sundays after worship! All are welcome.



**Tuesday Bible Readers
by Eileen W.**

This group meets on Tuesdays at 1:30 in the back of the sanctuary. We read and discuss the lectionary for the following Sunday. You can also join this group on zoom. This is a good way to read the Bible daily and prepare yourself for Sunday.

To find the Lectionary passages Augsburg Fortress puts them in a book Bread for the Day 2026. It is a daily Bible Reading and Prayer Book. You can purchase it from Augsburg Fortress or from Amazon.

Join us in Lent for

Wednesday Soup Suppers

at 5:30 pm and

Evening Prayer at 6pm

February 25th-March 25th

If you would like to bring a soup and/or bread there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	2 ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	3 Bible Study 1:30pm	4 Soup Supper 5:30pm Evening Prayer 6pm	5 Grief Support Group 10:30am Scouts 7pm Young Adults Pub Theology 7pm	6	7
8 9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum 	9 ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	10 Bible Study 1:30pm	11 Memory Care Support 1:30 pm Soup Supper 5:30pm Evening Prayer 6pm	12 Finance Meeting 12pm 4-H WhipStirs 6:30pm Scouts 7pm	13 Bible Study 10:30-12pm	14 Worship Team Meeting 10am
15 9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	16 ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm Council Meeting 6pm	17 NARFE 11am Bible Study 1:30pm 	18 Soup Supper 5:30pm Evening Prayer 6pm	19 Grief Support Group 10:30 am Scouts 7pm Young Adults Bible Study 7pm	20	21
22 9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	23 ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	24 Bible Study 1:30pm	25 Soup Supper 5:30pm Evening Prayer 6pm	26 Faith's Supper Club 11:30am - 2pm Scouts 7pm	27 Bible Study 10:30-12pm	28
29 Palm Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	30 ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	31 Bible Study 1:30pm				





It is that time of year to set our clocks forward 1 hour on **Sunday, March 8th at 2am.**

Why at 2am? Instead of adjusting the clocks at midnight, as might be expected, we officially change the time at 2 a.m. because of railroad schedules. When DST was introduced during World War I, it was one of the few times when there were no trains traveling on the tracks. "Sunday morning at 2 a.m. was when they would interrupt the least amount of train travel around the country," Michael Downing, author of *Spring Forward: The Annual Madness of Daylight Saving Time*, explained to *Time*.



Excerpt from: [Readers Digest](#)

Faith Lutheran Church

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Send prayer requests to:

prayers@faithlutheranreno.org

March 29th Palm Sunday



Holy Week begins March 30th, we will have special services:

- April 2nd Maundy Thursday at 7pm
- April 3rd Good Friday at 7pm
- April 5th Easter Day Worship at 9:30am (8am Breakfast)

A sign-up sheet for Holy Week volunteers is available in the Narthex — we would love to have extra help on April 2nd and 3rd. If you are unable to serve on Easter Sunday, please let Ginny know as soon as possible so she can plan accordingly. Thank you for your faithful service during this special season.

