

FOLLOWING FAITH NEWSLETTER

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2026



A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Friends of Faith,

We spent Lent and Holy Week watching.

We watched Jesus teach in life-changing ways. We watched him heal, watched people come alive around him — and watched others grow quietly, nervously afraid. His news of the new kingdom was a threat, and the people who benefit most from the “way things are always done” get anxious. Then, when people with power get anxious, they reach for their power as an answer.

But that power is not the end of the story. Even when that prideful power is our own, it is not the end of the story.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen.

What some tried to squash with death, God brings back to life. And what God reveals in that moment is that Love survives. Love exists beyond the reach of death. Love — stubborn, persistent, risen love — gets the last word. And even that is not the end. Love’s word is an opening. It is, as Jesus had been saying all along, the new kingdom arriving. Not in power and dominance, but in resurrection and return.

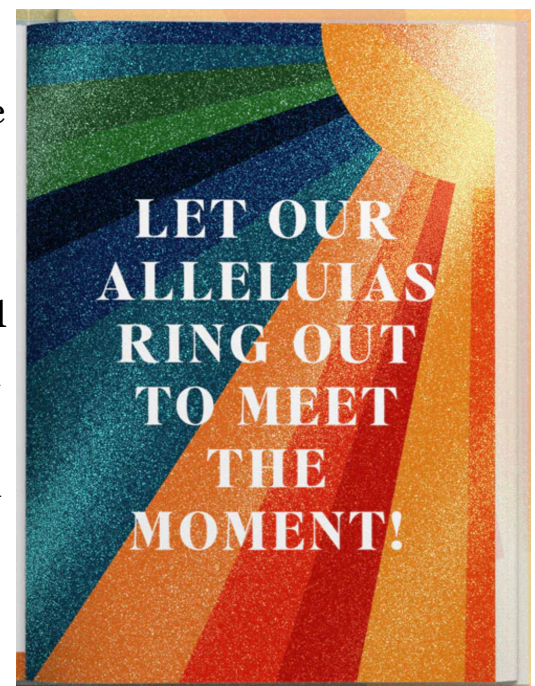
In Easter sermons we’ve met a fictional detective (Doug Noir) trying to understand what has changed/opened. He keeps showing up at the scene of resurrection, notebook in hand, looking for witnesses. And what he keeps finding is that the witnesses won’t stay witnesses. (Love’s word is an opening!) The Life is afoot and changing things. Folks who may have just been watching, they are suddenly in it. Spectators have become actors.

And that’s a key pattern to Easter’s real story with us: All of us who watched from a distance, all of us who stood at the edge, or who still stand there at the edges of Christian discipleship, Easter Life draws us in. It means to make actors out of spectators, because Love’s Word is an Opening. That’s where we are in May.

Easter behind us, Pentecost ahead. We’ve been found by the story, gathered in from the edges, and now — like every witness Doug Noir has ever interviewed — we find we can’t quite stay neutral about it. The kingdom was never just for the insiders. You are called a participant in the Love and Triumph of God’s mission.

May Easter life roll on!

+Pr Shaun



IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

Sunday, May 3rd - 5th Sunday of Easter

This season lasts for several more weeks. The readings unfold the meaning of the resurrection. Placed in John's gospel as a commentary on the crucifixion as constituting Jesus' glorification, John 14 is appointed during the Easter season as if the discourse applies also to the ascension, which is not recorded in John. On Sunday we see the Son in his body, and so we are seeing also the Father.

Pr Ruth Hanusa Preaches and Presides.



Sunday, May 10th - 6th Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day

We invite you to bring to worship your mother's favorite flower, or a flower you like or use to think of them or another woman in your life, as we build a bouquet table together their honor.

In our service together, as Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism, praying that our gathering around the Lord's table will transform us to be his body in the world.

Sunday, May 17th - 7th/Last Sunday of Easter

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name.

Sunday, May 24th - Festival of Pentecost

Without Pentecost the Christ-event - the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus - remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now.

-Henri Nouwen

So we celebrate the Spirit on this day!

***The Faith Choir Sings this Day**



Sunday, May 31st - Holy Trinity Sunday

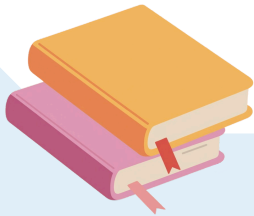
On this Sunday, we encounter the original community, the divine relationship of God the Creator, God the Son and God the Spirit. The lectionary texts for Holy Trinity Sunday speak to times of ambiguity. The creation story from Genesis illustrates what our God can do with chaos. The Trinity illustrates for us that the gift of community can be born in exile. When we choose hope over fear, we're in community. Any time we meet injustice with God's liberating power, we're in community. Whenever we choose love over hate, we're in community.

FAITH FORMATION



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.



**ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS!
YOU'RE INVITED TO TWO BIBLE
STUDIES THIS MONTH:**

* YOUNG ADULTS PUB THEOLOGY
EVERY 1ST THURSDAY AT 7PM AT **10
TORR ON MILL ST. NEXT EVENT MAY
7TH**

* YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY EVERY
3RD THURSDAY AT 7PM AT FAITH
LUTHERAN CHURCH. NEXT MEETING
WILL BE **MAY 21ST. DINNER WILL BE
PROVIDED!**

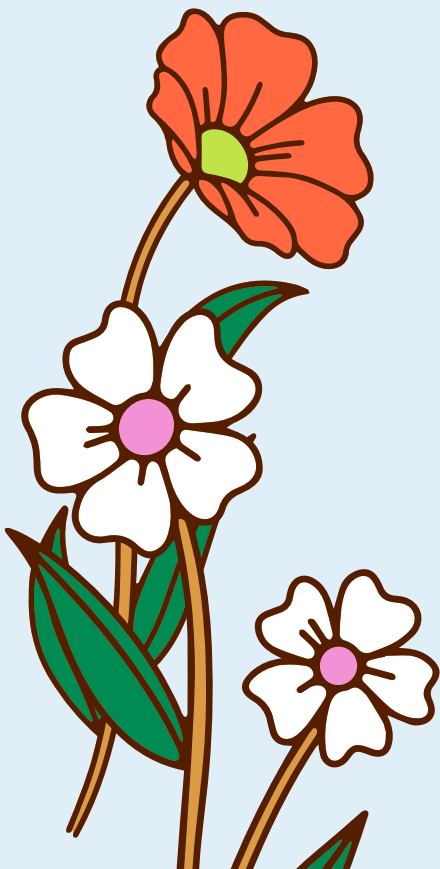
SEE SOPHIA OR SHAUN FOR
QUESTIONS OR DETAILS.



OUTREACH NEWS

The Outreach team will provide lunch for the teachers and staff at Elmcrest Elementary School on **May 7**.

Other activities for the end of the school year are planned. If you are interested in participating please talk to Pastor Shaun or Judi Hein.



FELLOWSHIP

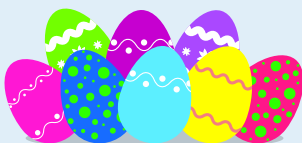


An Egg-cellant Day

On Saturday April 4 an Egg-storodinary event took place here at FLC. With a lot of prayer, faith, preparation & expectation we put on a community Easter Egg Hunt. And what a blessed surprise & joy when 35 children with their parents responded to our invitation. The morning was filled with fun, & laughter as we served hot chocolate & donuts while the Pastor led the families in stories & songs. Next the kids had Easter themed games to play, with prizes, and an opportunity to decorate Easter cookies baked by our own Linda Zimmerman. Then the Hunt itself, so many candy filled Easter Eggs covered our back lawn just waiting for the signal to GO! And go they did with Easter baskets in tow. A great time was had by all and we were able to connect with these families with invitations to return and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ with us.

Thank you's need to be given to the many who made this event possible & so successful, especially Linda & Amy Zimmerman who first believed we should have this event & invite the community.

Praise & Blessing be to God!



Faith's Supper Club | Thursday
 May 21st **Location: Casa Grande Mexican Restaurant**
 1655 Robb Dr. Time: 4:30

Come join us for good food and fellowship. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. See you in May!
 Jean C



BINGO
Faith Lutheran Church
Annual
Cinco De Mayo Taco & Bingo Event

Saturday, May 2, 2026
 4 to 6 PM

All Are Welcome

2075 W 7th St
 Reno, NV 89503

\$10 for Tacos & 3 Bingo Cards
 \$1 per additional Bingo Card
 Great Food & Great Bingo Prizes & Great Fun



Happy Father's Day
from
Faith Lutheran Church
Sunday, June 21, 2026
After Church
Ice Cream Social
Celebrating Dads

All are welcome



Council Meeting minutes are available next to the church office door. Feel free to stop by and pick one up.



Mother's Day is May 10th

Please bring a flower to honor your mother, grandmother or the motherly person in your life.



Isaiah 35: 1-2

"The desert and the parched land will be glad, the wilderness will rejoice & blossom. It will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. We will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of Our God."

Can we not relate? We live in the high desert of Nevada and when the desert bursts into bloom even the dry places give glory to God. Is that not how it is with us at times? Especially when we are going through our own personal wildernesses, our dry seasons? Yet even in the midst of barren times we can glorify our God with an offering of flowers.

Likewise, when we have abundant seasons of goodness, prosperity, and joy, what better way is there to thank God for His blessings than to offer a thanksgiving of flowers to adorn our worship space. This beautiful expression of love & thanksgiving not only enhances our worship but is pleasing to God.

The point: Our Flower Chart is woefully sparse.

The church depends on your generous offering of supplying this small yet lovely token to adorn our worship space and balance out the flower expenses in our budget. I encourage you to prayerfully consider signing up for this service.

Note that it does not always need to be in honor or remembrance of a loved ones, but one of celebration, thanksgiving or praise.

SERVING OTHERS



IMPORTANT PLEASE READ: Summer Changes for Worship Duties

Hello FLC friends; In our effort to make volunteering easier and more efficient your worship team will be trying a different way of volunteering for Sunday worship duties for the summer. This is called "Same Day Assignment". The positions of Greeter - Usher - Acolyte - Reader - & Cantor will be written on a flip-chart located in the Narthex as you arrive for worship. If you are able to perform one of these weekly duties you will write your name under the category and carry out that duty for the day.

Also the entire month will be posted so if you know that you can definitely do one of these duties you can also sign up prior, but you must commit as a reminder will not be sent out.

The other duties including Assisting Minister, Altar Guild, Tech Support, Musicians & Counters will continue to be assigned as usual.

This will begin June 7th. Questions? Contact Sharon Scagliotti, your Worship Team Chair.

Shared Harvest May 17th at Lord of Mercy Sparks 1pm

The needs are: **28 Canned Vegetables | 42 Cans of Chili | 42 Single pack of Saltine Crackers
42 Cans of Tuna | Unlimited powdered Laundry Detergent**



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

Contact Tom L. for more details.



May Worship Schedule 2026					
Task	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
Greeter	Richard S	Richard S	Kathy W	Judy C	Debbie H
Reader	Davyann S	Sigrun C	Kristine S	Pam S	Linda Z
*Asst. Minister	Sharon S	Todd M	Judi H	Erica W	Sam S
*Cantor	Sharon S	Todd M	Wes G	Juliana C	Matthew R
Usher	Tom L	Sam S	Eileen W	Debbie H	Amanda O
*Altar Guild	Eileen Kathy	Annette Diane	O'Reillys	Sophia G	Annette
Tech Support	Alex K	Eric W	Alex K	Eric W	Alex K
Musicians	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K	Heinz D Olivia K	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K
*Counters	Davyann Theresa	Alissa Sigrun	Sigrun Davyann	Linda Alissa	Theresa Sigrun
Coffee after Worship	Birthday Cake	Mother's Day	Sandmeier	Worship Team	Zimmermans

Faith Lutheran Church May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Sierra Shooting Stars Open House 4-5pm	Faiths Taco and Bingo Night 4pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	Bible Study 1:30pm	Lunch Bunch 12pm	Grief Support Group 10:30am Scouts 7pm Young Adults Pub Theology 7pm		Worship Team Meeting 10am Daughters of Norway 8:30am - 4:30pm
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	Bible Study 1:30pm	Memory Care Support 1:30 pm 4-H WhipStirs 6:30pm	Finance Meeting 12pm Scouts 7pm		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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		Grief Support Group 10:30 am Scouts 7pm Young Adults Bible Study 7pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	 ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	Bible Study 1:30pm		Faith's Supper Club 4:30pm Scouts 7pm		
31						
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TREASURY REPORT



Greetings, fellow members of Faith! Our First Quarter financial results are not quite what we'd planned for, unfortunately. Through the end of the first quarter, we are a bit behind our budgeted giving for 2026 and, as shown below, we are also behind where we were at this time last year. Our outage isn't only because our budget has increased in 2026: we were much closer to this year's budget with our Q1 2025 actuals!

Quarter 1 Actual 2026	Quarter 1 Budget 2026	Quarter 1 Actual 2025
\$46,752	\$51,507.51	\$50,966.64

At the end of February, we were below our budget by almost \$7,000. In March Giving exceeded its budget by ~\$2,000, which is promising but isn't enough to make up all the ground lost in January and February.

Through the end of the first quarter of this year (3/31/2026), our activities are as follows:

Total Inflows	\$	50,206	Total Outflows	\$	53,965
General Offering	\$	46,752	Operating Expenses	\$	48,872
Designated Giving	\$	2,993	Designated Fund Spending	\$	5,093
Interest Income	\$	461			

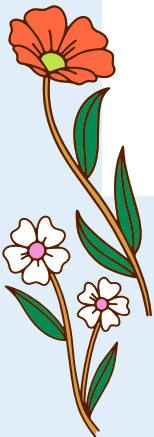
As you can see from the above, we're spending a tad more than we're bringing in so far in 2026. Most of the delta is due to intentional spend of historical savings accumulation.

Teams have been managing their budgets well and our expenses are currently trending under budget as well. However, they're not quite as under budget as giving. We've spent \$1,600 of savings to cover current expenses. As you see below, that's within our means for now.

Below is our Financial position as of March 31, 2026:

Assets		Liabilities and Retained Capital	
Bank Accounts	\$108,775.91	Current Liabilities	\$799.72
		Retained Capital	
		Unrestricted (Undesignated)	\$58,024.57
		Restricted Funds (Designated)	\$49,951.62
Total Assets	\$108,775.91	Total Liabilities and Retained Capital	\$108,775.91

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Erica Wilfrid. Thanks!



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