



FOLLOWING FAITH NEWSLETTER

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2026



Friends of Faith,

The wildfires rage again this summer. I hope you're staying safe and also still getting time outdoors and in nature. Amanda continues to learn about areas of the Truckee Meadows, and it's a bummer to have to explain some neighborhoods or towns by their proximity to certain ridge-lines of smoke.

"How close is Loyalton?" she'll ask. And how should I respond?! "Not close enough where we have to evacuate." But also, "Not far!"

We're homemaking in the wildness of fire season. Tending, untamed.

And while that wasn't Shaun's idyllic song to Amanda about what life in Reno was going to hold ... it feels ok because it feels true. Tending, untamed. Like naming the truth draws us closer to hope (and to each other) because of the clarity. Yes, clarity even in the smoke.

And clarity in the wildness of God, too. Like a nature writer I like, Belden Lane, puts it: "There is an unaccountable solace that fierce landscapes offer to the soul."

Is this some clarity for the Kingdom of Heaven alive and in our world too?

I think maybe it is. Because, in God's way, we are not aiming at an escape plan from the world we make together. We're setting tables inside of this fierce world.

Take the gospel for this coming Sunday: When the disciples tell Jesus that they are in a deserted place (or, for instance, a desert landscape on fire) and they all need to go home to eat, to get respite from the harshness of where they are, Jesus doesn't want to go away now. Instead he says: You feed these hungry people!

So, we set tables up. Jesus turns the fear and scarcity into abundance and joy. And I think the tables of our church keep aiming to do the same thing ever since.

Faith Lutheran Church in Reno, NV celebrates 70 years this year. And we'll celebrate together with worship and church BBQ on August 23rd! This building, and the people (who are the church) have been a table of Christ's body in Reno long enough to have weathered fire seasons before this one, long enough to have held funerals and baptisms and every ordinary Sunday in between.

A table of sustenance and welcome in this fierce world — that is the church. And we're still Proclaiming Faith Together, celebrating the faithful past and serving into the fierce future. Tending, untamed, by the call of God.

Thanks be to God for the table, for that ways that we are each served in the wildness of love, and for how Christ's love is tending to this fierce world with his ever-present grace, even through us.

Cheers to the years to come!

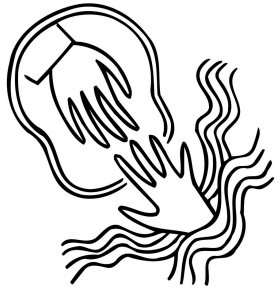
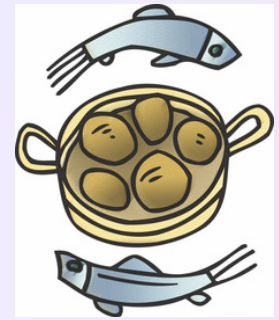
+Pr Shaun



IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

Sunday, August 2nd, 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus is able to feed us abundantly, even with scraps. He meets earthly needs by feeding the crowds and continues now to offer himself as holy meal, freely given to all, no matter their income or rank in society. Advertisers have trained us that what's proclaimed as "free" usually isn't. More often, it's a ploy to get our money for some other, larger, purchase. Today we are invited to trust and receive Jesus' free gift of love without mistrusting that he's got some scheme up his sleeve.



Sunday, August 9th, 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Sunday, August 16th, 12th Sunday after Pentecost

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.



"Proclaiming Faith Together"



Sunday, August 23rd, 13th Sunday after Pentecost - Anniversary Celebration

This Sunday's Gospel has Jesus asking his disciples: "who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answers, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And then Jesus says that he's building a church. And look, here we are!

We celebrate 70 years of ministry as Faith Lutheran Church, looking forward into God's future of grace! Bring some friends or old connections to our church. The Choir Sings this Day!

Sunday, August 30th, 14th Sunday after Pentecost

On a Sunday following our celebration of the church's anniversary, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. This is the way we begin again, together, to follow the savior. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.





FELLOWSHIP

Faith's Supper Club | Thursday at
Amici's Pizzeria/Italian
August 27th Location:
1141 Stamboat Parkway, Reno
Time: 4:30 PM

Come join us for good food and fellowship.
Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.
Hope to see you there!

Jean C



Lunch Bunch Returning!

Summer is winding down, time to get back in the groove. **Wednesday September 2** we will resume our lunch bunch fellowship and lunch. We meet at church at 12 noon. It is a potluck so bring a dish to share.

For more information contact
Eileen Way



Gather Together



Come Celebrate our Annual BBQ and
70th Anniversary of
Faith Lutheran Church!

Sunday, August 23rd after Worship
We will have a Guest speaker as well.





OUTREACH



Shared Harvest August 23rd at Lord of Holy Cross Reno at 1pm
The needs are: **28 Cold Cereal | 56 Canned Vegetables | 42 Powdered Milk Packets | 28 Peanut Butter | Unlimited Bar Soap**

Thank you for your generosity to those in need in our community!
Contact Tom L. for more details.



This August, our Outreach focus turns to Elmcrest Elementary School right around the corner.

We are Partners in Education with them! Throughout the year, we support their students and staff through volunteer hours, support for families in need and support for teachers.

As kids head back to school this month, it means we have two special opportunities to show up for them. On the morning of **August 4th** we'll be providing food for teachers during their training week — a small blessing as they prepare for a new school year.

Can you help us bless teachers?

Then, on Thursday, August 6th from 5-7 pm, we'll host a Welcome Table at the school's Back to School Night, offering a friendly, faithful presence at their open house.

Can you join us that night and be present to kids and families and teachers? We hope you'll join us in this effort to care for our neighbors outside these walls — contact Judi Hein to get involved this month!



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!

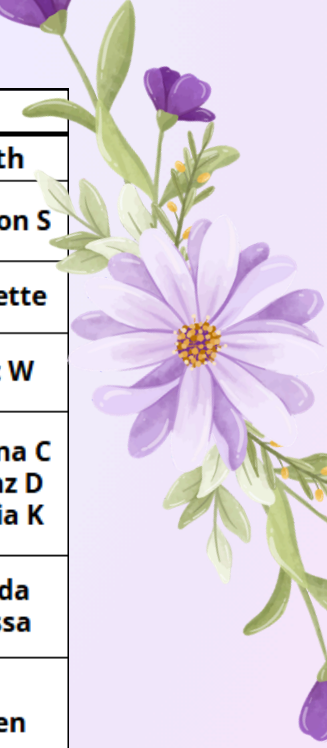
YOU'RE INVITED TO TWO BIBLE STUDIES THIS MONTH:

* YOUNG ADULTS PUB THEOLOGY EVERY 1ST THURSDAY AT 7PM AT 10 TORR ON MILL ST. NEXT EVENT
AUGUST 6TH

* YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY EVERY 3RD THURSDAY AT 7PM AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH.
NEXT MEETING WILL BE **AUGUST 20TH**.

SEE SOPHIA OR PASTOR SHAUN FOR QUESTIONS OR DETAILS.





August Worship Schedule 2026					
Task	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
*Asst. Minister	Judi H	Todd M	Matthew R	Sam Sykes	Sharon S
*Altar Guild	Eileen Kathy	Sharon Diane	Annette	O'Reillys	Annette
Tech Support	Alex K	Eric W	Alex K	Eric W	Eric W
Musicians	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K
*Counters	Alissa Sigrun	Davyann Theresa	Sigrun Davyann	Theresa Sigrun	Linda Alissa
Coffee after Worship	Zimmermans	open	open	Annual BBQ and 70th Anniversary	open

Please pray with us:

with Perralina Palm for her friend's son, Dylan, undergoing chemo for brain cancer.

with Lynn McClellan for Terese and her sons and all after the sudden death of Terese's husband. Also, prayers for Sam (6) for healing and permanent remission from brain cancer.

with Katie Weldon for continued health as she receives treatment for cancer

with Bob Miller and family as they grieve the loss of LindaLu Miller. A Memorial for LindaLu Miller will be held on Saturday, August 8th at 11am here at Faith with lunch afterward.

with Nancy Pugh for Artha, healing for continuing heart issues.

with the Chaney family for guidance.

with Sonja Dresbach for her health, for the health of her son-in-law, Chuck, and for her daughter-in-law's mother, Kathy, recently admitted to hospice.

with Cole Powell, that she may know God's presence and strength through her cancer treatments

We Pray with and for those who are home bound.

If you have a prayer request please reach out to the church at:

prayers@faithlutheranreno.org





All Together in One Place

July 28, 2026

Choosing Reconciliation Over Division in a Multifaith America

Dear church,

From its earliest days, the United States has been shaped by religious diversity. Indigenous peoples sustained diverse spiritual and religious traditions long before the nation's founding, and successive waves of settlers, including Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and others, brought a variety of beliefs that helped define the nation's unique and vital religious landscape.

Throughout the church today, many are struggling with debates regarding the religious identity of our nation. While religious diversity did not begin with the Constitution, the Constitution's framers recognized an important truth: the future of our nation could not be tied to a single religious identity. By rejecting religious tests for public office, the Founders created space for people of any or no faith tradition to participate in public life together. That commitment continues to be foundational to our nation's vitality, especially at a time when people are tempted to identify love of the nation, or the government itself, with a single religion. No one faith tradition should rule the United States, just as the framers desired.¹

As the apostle Paul writes, God has given us "the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18). Reconciliation involves living in God's future — including through renewed interreligious relationships.

Religious diversity is the reality of the world we live in. Recognizing this, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which affirms that mutual understanding with other faith traditions can deepen our own faith. Through encountering neighbors and working side by side in shared commitments to love and compassion and community, our own Christian faith is strengthened. This conviction means that through my call as presiding bishop of the ELCA, our church develops and maintains relationships with Jewish, Muslim and many other faith communities. Like personal friendships we hold, these relationships do not require us to set aside Christian faith. Rather they reaffirm that in a nation as diverse as ours, being a good neighbor across religious differences is not optional. It's a part of the shared American experience. It is an experience we can support as everyday Lutherans in God's call to reconciliation.

"The ELCA will explore and encourage inter-religious friendship, accompaniment, and partnership with all who seek justice, peace, human wholeness, and the well-being of creation (ELCA Constitution, Chapter 4.03.f)." —"A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," p. 10

"The ELCA will defend the full participation of all in our religiously diverse society, 'strengthening public space as a just place for all' regardless of religion or worldview ('The Church in the Public Space: A Statement of The Lutheran World Federation,' 2016)." —"A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," p. 11

The ministry of reconciliation is both local and national. God invites us to love one another across differences. Trusting in God's grace, we boldly form relationships with neighbors of all faiths who share a commitment to justice, peace and the flourishing of all creation. I encourage you to engage in this essential ministry, which offers a powerful opportunity to heal divisions, deepen respect across differences and strengthen the bonds of our common life.

In Christ,

The Rev. Yehiel Curry

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

[1] The ELCA social statement Faith and Civic Life, Seeking the Well-being of All states, "The Establishment Clause is cut from the same cloth as the Constitution's prohibition against religious tests for public office. Government is not the church, and the church is not the government. The intent of the Establishment Clause clearly is that government must not promote a particular faith or religion in general" (45).

Faith Lutheran Church August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm	Elmcrest Teacher Appreciation Breakfast am Bible Study 1:30pm	No Lunch Bunch	Elmcrest Back to School Event 5-7pm Grief Support Group 10:30am Scouts 7pm Young Adults Pub Theology 7pm		Worship Team Meeting 10am
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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- 3pm 4-H Whipsters 6:30pm	Finance Meeting 12pm		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm Council Meeting 6pm	Bible Study 1:30pm		Grief Support Group 10:30am Scouts 7pm Young Adults Bible Study 7pm		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum 70th Anniversary and Annual BBQ	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm Pastor out 24th-27th	Bible Study 1:30pm Pastor out 24th-27th	Pastor out 24th-27th	Faith's Supper Club 4:30pm Scouts 7pm Pastor out 24th-27th	Bible Study 10:30-12pm	
30	31					
9:30am Worship 10:50am Kid's Place 11am Adult Forum	ACA 5:30 - 7:45pm					



Dear Friends,

Unfortunately, my time here is coming to an end earlier than expected due to life circumstances. I will be leaving Faith Lutheran the last week of August and moving to Arizona, where my sister lives.

I have enjoyed working with you all and getting to know you. Lunch Bunch was a highlight of my month — if you haven't made it yet, I highly recommend giving it a try!

Thank you for your kindness, laughter, and open arms.

Kind Regards,
Ginny



Printed Directory is available on request. Please call or email the church office if you would like a printed copy, must be a member of Faith Lutheran Church. If you have any questions please ask the church office admin or Pastor Shaun.

Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 7:15-25a

Usually in Paul the Greek word translated as “you” is plural, but in this section, Paul admits to the personal daily struggle of the baptized life. Aware of this “war” within our very selves, we gladly come to the gospel’s word of rest in Christ.

Resource: sundaysandseasons.com/Home/DayResources/2026-7-5/0



We would like to add a section in the Newsletter each month to recognize Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries, but we have some gaps. There will be a large sheet with names on it, please review it for your information and either change or add it.

Thank you so much!!

Feel free to pick up council meeting notes if you are interested. They are located in the pocket next to the church office.



Faith Lutheran Church

2075 W 7th St Reno NV 89503

Office phone: 775-747-3246

Email: office@faithlutheranreno.org

Website: www.faithlutheranreno.org

Send prayer requests to:

prayers@faithlutheranreno.org