

Faith Lutheran News

He is Risen

April, 2026 Page 1

Faith Lutheran Church

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 Contact Pastor for an appointment
 Tuesday and Wednesday
Church Council
 President: Kathleen Walsh
 Vice President: Wayne Earthman
 Treasurer: Susi Lewis
 Financial Secretary: Loretta Soracco
 Secretary: Carol Lagomarsino
 Worship & Music: Kaarn Egge Westerhoff
 Property Chairperson:
 KC Anderson
 Newsletter Editor: Kaarn Egge Westerhoff

Holy Week Worship

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 29

during regular 11:00 AM Sunday worship. Enter the sanctuary with palms. Follow Jesus to the trial before Pilate and to the cross.



Maundy Thursday, April 2 – Mountain Ranch LC, 5:30 PM,

soup supper; followed by worship service at 6:30 PM, with Holy Communion. Remembering our Lord’s Last Supper with his disciples and giving the “new commandment.”

Also: Maundy Thursday at Open Door UCC – 5:30 PM Agape meal followed by Communion and a Service of Tenebrae at 6:30 PM.

Good Friday, April 3 – at Faith, 7:00 PM. Tenebrae Service of Darkness, contemplating the crucifixion of our Lord and Jesus’ “seven last words.”

Also: Good Friday at Open Door UCC – Stations of the Cross, noon-3 PM.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Sunday, April 5

Festival Worship at Faith, 11:00 AM. A traditional service with Holy Communion. Invite your family and friends to this joyful celebration of Jesus’ resurrection!

Also:

Sunrise Worship Service, 7:00 AM, at Mountain Ranch Park, with Mountain Ranch Lutheran Church and Pastor Karen Johnson

Sunrise Worship Service, 7:00 AM, at Murphys’ Buena Vista Cemetery, with Open Door United Church of Christ and Pastor Gary Percesepe.



Congregational Meeting Notice – Sunday May 3

Faith Lutheran Church will hold its semi-annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 3, immediately following worship. This is our meeting to elect council members (vice president, secretary, worship & music chairperson) and receive the Annual Report. Please plan to join us for this important time of looking forward in ministry. The worship Zoom will continue for the meeting, for those who need that option.

Pastor's Message

*“[The risen Jesus] took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.
Then their eyes were opened...” (Luke 24:30-31)*

Dear Siblings in Christ,

We have come to the end of Lent, with the new life of spring all around us. How has this season been for you? How have you “opened your heart” to God’s presence and work in you, as we were encouraged on Ash Wednesday? Have you experienced renewal in spirit that this season is meant to bring? If not, what would be helpful of your spiritual life as we move into Easter? I would love to hear your thoughts.

April begins with the Great Three Days, the holiest days in the church year: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, leading to Easter Sunday and the joy of Christ’s resurrection. Maundy Thursday service will be at Mountain Ranch this year, and Good Friday Tenebrae service at Faith. You are encouraged to attend these services to contemplate the depth of the love of Jesus our Savior, the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep, and who commands us to love one another as he has loved us. We encounter the risen Jesus in word and sacrament and the community of faith, and this is a great time to invite your friends and neighbors to worship, and especially for Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season.

We are preparing to welcome Bishop Jeff Johnson of our Sierra Pacific Synod on Sunday April 19. As Dave’s second cousin, Bishop Jeff is family, and I have known him since the late 1980s. He is visiting in conjunction with the anniversary of my ordination, which he attended back in 2016 as Pastor Jeff. Bishop Jeff will preach, Mountain Ranch will worship with us, and we’ll have a luncheon together afterwards. Please plan to join us for that festive day!

Each week Christ reveals himself to us in the opening of the scriptures and the breaking of bread. May your hearts be filled with joy and hope in his presence in this Easter season – Alleluia!

In Christ,

Pastor Karen

Bishop Jeff Johnson is coming to Faith, Sunday April 19!

Mountain Ranch Lutheran will join us in worship that day, with Bishop Jeff preaching. Janet Skenfield is organizing the catered luncheon afterwards.



Council meeting – Tuesday, April 21 1:30 PM, in the narthex.

Synod Assembly – **Hold Fast to What is Good**

Our Sierra Pacific Synod will gather in assembly on **Saturday June 13 by Zoom**. Before that, **three in-person Regional Gatherings** are scheduled: May 9 in Redding, May 16 in Reno, and May 31 in San Jose – all Saturdays. **Anyone may attend** any of the regional gatherings to connect with others in our Synod, with worship, workshops, and speakers; registration closes April 27. Pastor Karen is going to the gathering in Reno. Thank you to Kaarn and Rob for stepping up to serve as our lay voting members this year.

Bible Study

Bible Study is on break until after Easter. Returns (tentatively) Wednesday, April 15, at 3:00 PM.

Murphys Food Pantry Fill the Red Barrel April 5

The first Sunday of each month is designated as “Fill the Red Barrel” day. You are invited us to bring in food for the Pantry’s red barrel in the narthex or make an extra monetary donation to the Pantry (make checks to “Faith Lutheran Church” with “Murphys Food Pantry” in the memo). Thank you for your generosity toward this ministry of caring for our community. Together we are making a difference!

Food Pantry On Going Needs:

Cereal, peanut butter, spaghetti noodles & sauce, tuna, chicken, soups, mac & cheese, noodles or rice mix, beans, corn, top ramen, granola bars, crackers.

Breakfast Fellowship – Tuesdays 8 AM

You are invited to gather with Faith folks for breakfast each week at Grounds for sharing food, fellowship, and faith. Check with Rob if you are coming for the first time, because occasionally the schedule changes.

Murphys Irish Day

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to KC, Kathleen, and all the crew for the Irish Day parking lot and bake sale fundraiser! It was a sunny day, with many helpers, many return customers, lots of joy and fun, and we netted over \$2800!



Pictures provided by Kathleen Walsh.

Happy Birthday

April Birthdays

Rob Westerhoff 17th

May Birthdays

Kaarn Westerhoff 9th

June Birthdays

Henry Ferguson 24th



Sunday Date	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
Theme	Easter Sunday	Second Sunday of Easter	Third Sunday of Easter	Fourth Sunday Easter
Reader/ Worship Assistant	Rob Westerhoff	Janet Skenfield	Liz Gilbert/	KC Anderson
Altar Care	KC Anderson	Annette Stout	Carol Lagomarsino	Kathleen Walsh
Counters	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff	KC Anderson	Kathleen Walsh	Carol Lagomarsino & Kaarn Westerhoff

Thanks for serving

Sunday Date	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Theme	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Pentecost Sunday	Holy Trinity Sunday
Reader/ Worship Assistant	Janet Skenfield	Kaarn Westerhoff	KC Anderson	Liz Gilbert	Rob Westerhoff
Altar Care	Annett Stout	None	Rob Westerhoff	Carol Lagomarsino	Kathleen Walsh
Counters	Kathleen Walsh	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff	KC Anderson/ Kathleen Walsh	Kaarn and Rob Westerhoff	Carol Lagomarsino and Kaarn Westerhoff

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*Do justice, love kindness, and
walk humbly with the Lord.
Micah 6:8*