

Faith Lutheran News

Joyous Pentecost

May, 2024 Page 1

Faith Lutheran Church

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Faith Lutheran Church, Murphys

Pastor Karen Johnson

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Office Hours:

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

Director of Worship & Music:

Kaarn Egge Westerhoff

Property Chairperson:

KC Anderson

Newsletter Editor: Kaarn Egge

Westerhoff

Congregational Meeting Notice And Potluck Sunday May 19

Faith Lutheran Church will hold its semi-annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 19, immediately following worship. This is our time to elect council members (vice president, secretary, worship & music) 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.

That day is also Pentecost, so wear **red** to worship. We will have a potluck lunch together afterward. Please sign up in the narthex, or send an email to the church.

Pastor's Message

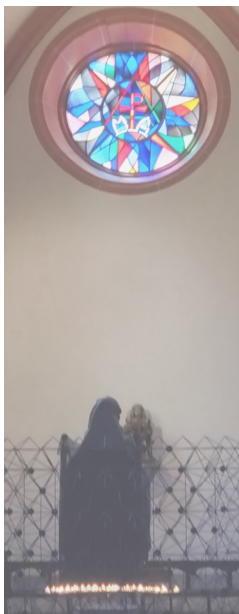
"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak...as the Spirit gave them ability" (Acts 2:4)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Although the world has moved on, the church is still celebrating Easter, Christ's victory over death, and the newness of life we have in our risen Lord. This new life can lead us to some surprising places!

Last month, in my capacity as Dean of our Sierra Central Valley Conference, it was my great joy and honor to participate in the installation of Rev. Nelson Rabell-González at

Iglesia Luterana Santa María Peregrina. The congregation is mostly Latino, and I did my part *en español!* Who would have imagined that I would have this amazing privilege, especially in the presence of two



retired Latino ELCA bishops, who are native speakers of Spanish? Truly, the wild Holy Spirit of God moves us and pushes us in surprising ways!

What might the Spirit be doing among us here at Faith Lutheran? We have a congregational meeting coming up on May 19, when we will hold elections for council members. Leadership in the congregation is essential to our existence, not to mention to our ministries, and I so appreciate working with our council. In a small congregation, people know that they have to take multiple turns at serving on council. Please pray for our nominating committee – Rob Westerhoff, Vivian Hansten, and Carol Lagomarsino – and for those being called to serve in this time, and for our openness as a congregation to the wild Spirit’s leading into “ventures of which we cannot see the ending” (*ELW*, 317). May God give us faith to go out with good courage!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pastor Karen

Worship in May

We are still in the season of Easter in May. On May 12, in addition to being Mother’s Day, we will observe the Ascension of Our Lord, remembering Jesus’ ascension into heaven forty days after his resurrection, according to Acts 1. Ascension always falls on a Thursday, but is often celebrated on the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

The last Sunday of Easter is Pentecost, celebrating the pouring out of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. Pentecost is May 19 this year, fifty days after Easter Sunday. We dress the church in **red** as a symbol of the fire of the Spirit, the “tongues as of fire” that appeared on the disciples at Pentecost. You also are invited to wear red that day.

The First Sunday after Pentecost (May 26) is always Holy Trinity Sunday, contemplating the mystery of God as Three in One and One in Three. We go forth to baptize and make disciples in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Karen will be away for several weekdays and Sundays over the next couple of months: May 13-16, continuing education; June 7-9, synod assembly; and June 28-July 5, vacation. Thank you to everyone who is stepping up to leadership in this time.

Synod Assembly coming June 7-9

The Sierra Pacific Synod will meet in Assembly Friday-Sunday, June 7-9, at the Convention Center in Fresno. Thank you to Kathleen Walsh and Rob Westerhoff, who will be serving as voting members from Faith.

Find all the info here: <https://www.spselca.net/2024synodassembly>

Breakfast Fellowship

You are invited to gather with Faith folks for breakfast each week, **Tuesdays at 8 AM at Grounds** in Murphys. Hope to see you there for this time of food, fellowship, and faith. Check with Rob if you are coming for the first time, because occasionally the schedule changes



Bible study – Wednesdays at 3:00 PM

We are studying “Holy Places” from *Gather* magazine, reflecting on “the places where God’s story and our story connect.” No meeting May 15. In an interesting connection, the author of this study, Pastor Meghan Johnston Aelabouni , was just elected to be the next bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod!

May Birthdays	Kaarn Egge	9 th
May Anniversary	Kim and Tom McCarthy	25 ^h
June Birthdays	Henry Ferguson	24 th

Council meeting – Tuesday, May 21, 3:00 PM, in the narthex.

Sunday Date	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Theme	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Ascension Sunday	Day of Pentecost	Holy Trinity
Read/Worship Assistant	Robert Westerhoff	KC Anderson	Kathleen Walsh	Janet Skenfield
Altar Care	Kaarn Westerhoff	Kathleen Walsh	Carol Lagomarsino	Kathleen Walsh
Counters	Kathleen Walsh/Wayne Earthman	Carol Lagomarsino and Kaarn	KC Anderson and Kathleen Walsh	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff

Sunday Date	June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
Theme	Second Sunday after Pentecost	Third Sunday after Pentecost	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Read/Worship Assistant	KC Anderson	Vivian Hansten/KC Anderson	Kathleen Walsh	Janet Skenfield	Robert Westerhoff
Altar Care	Kaarn Westerhoff	Kathleen Walsh	KC Anderson	Carol Lagomarsino	Kaarn Westerhoff
Counters	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff	Carol Lagomarsino Kaarn Westerhoff	Kathleen Walsh/Wayne Earthman	KC Anderson and Kathleen Walsh	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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