

# Faith Lutheran News

Joyous Pentecost

June, 2024 Page 1

## Faith Lutheran Church

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Faith Lutheran Church, Murphys

**Pastor Karen Johnson**

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Office Phone number

728-2041

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

## Pastor's Message

*“[T]he kingdom of God... is like a mustard seed which...grows up and becomes the largest of all shrubs...” (Mark 4:30-32)*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Summer is here, with warm days, and a slower pace in the church. We are in the “long green season” of Time after Pentecost, with no major church festivals until Reformation in late October. It is the season for simply following Jesus in his ministry and growing deeply in faith and discipleship.

One way to grow is through studying scripture together. We will begin a new Bible study this month on Genesis, with insights from Terence Fretheim, Old Testament scholar from Luther Seminary, and Marilynne Robinson, author of *Gilead*. I invite you to join us if you are able; and if the time doesn't work for you (Wednesdays at 3:00), let me know and we'll try to figure something out.

June brings another Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly, only nine months since the last one. I always enjoy synod assemblies – seeing friends and colleagues from around the synod, meeting new people, being inspired in workshops, and hearing about other congregations' ministries. This year, the assembly will elect new Synod Council representatives from each conference and voting members to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly. Rob has been nominated to attend that Churchwide Assembly!

If you are traveling this summer, I encourage you to visit a local worship service wherever you are. It is good to hear the gospel proclaimed in a different voice and different setting, and helps us to grow in our connection as the body of Christ in the world. May you be blessed with rest, renewal, and growth in faith this summer.

In Christ and his love,

*Pastor Karen*



Martin Luther statue in Germany

**Pastor Karen will be away** for a couple of times over the next month: June 7-9, synod assembly; and June 28-July 5, vacation. We will welcome back Pastor Bob Nicholus to preach and preside at our Sunday worship services on June 9 and 30. Thank you to everyone who is stepping up to leadership in this time.

## Congregational Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended the congregational meeting on May 19. Council members were elected, and we had a yummy potluck afterwards, a time to relax in fellowship. Elected to a new two-year term: Wayne Earthman, vice president; Carol Lagomarsino, secretary; and Kaarn Egge, worship & music. Continuing for another year in their term: Kathleen Walsh, president; Susi Lewis, treasurer; and KC Anderson, property. Thank you for serving as leaders among us! We will install the council during worship on Sunday June 2.

## Synod Assembly 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 and follow all the info here: <https://www.spselca.net/2024synodassembly>

## Murphys Senior Center 15th Anniversary

This year marks the 15th Anniversary of the founding of the Murphys Senior Center, started by Faith Lutheran Church and Pastor Doug Merritt back in 2009. As part of a year-long celebration, Steve Shetzline and the MSC staff and volunteers hosted a Tea Party on April 27 for the major supporters the Senior Center. Kathleen Walsh and Pastor Karen attended as representatives of Faith Lutheran. It was a beautiful, delicious, and informative event. The Senior Center offers classes and activities five days a week, supporting the physical and emotional/social health of seniors in our community, as well as running the Murphys Food Pantry and the Murphys Thrift Store. We give thanks for the wonderful work of the Murphys Senior Center!



## Bible study – “Genesis” coming in June

The stories in Genesis are foundational to the whole of scripture, setting out who God is – the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – and what God has always intended for humans and the world – “be fruitful and multiply” and “in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Join us as we rediscover the God revealed “in the beginning” in Genesis. **Wednesdays at 3:00 PM, beginning June 19; no class July 3.**

## ELCA “Generation-Zero Hunger”

The world produces more than enough food to feed every person, yet the number of people who are hungry has grown since 2019. More than 2 billion people around the world aren’t sure where their next meal will come from, and for more than 800 million people, that next meal won’t come at

all. **Together, we can be the generation that ends hunger.** We are invited to join ELCA World Hunger and the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering and commit to being part of the generations taking action together to usher in a world without hunger, and futures filled with hope. **Right now, all gifts will be matched dollar for dollar, until \$250,000 is reached.** Donate at: [www.elca.org/GenZeroHunger](http://www.elca.org/GenZeroHunger)

**Council meeting – Tuesday, June 18, 3:00 PM**

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



### June Birthdays

Liz Armstrong	2nd	Henry Ferguson	24 <sup>th</sup>
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### July Birthdays

Vicky Burita	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sylvia Martens	31 <sup>st</sup>
Isaak Walsh	29 <sup>th</sup>		

<b>July Anniversary</b>	<b>Pastor Karen and David Johnson</b>	17 <sup>th</sup>
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Sunday Date	June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
Theme	<b>Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Third Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b>
Read/Worship Assistant	KC Anderson	Vivian Hansten/KC Anderson	Kathleen Walsh	Janet Skenfield	Robert Westerhoff
Altar Care	Kathleen Walsh	Kaarn Westerhoff	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

Sunday Date	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 22
Theme	<b>Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>
Read/Worship Assistant	Robert Westerhoff	KC Anderson	Janet Skenfield	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

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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