

Faith Lutheran News

Happy Thanksgiving

November, 2024 Page 1

Faith Lutheran Church

65 Mitchler
Murphys, CA 95247
(209) 728-2041
Faithlutheranchurch@att.net
www.flcmurphys.com

Facebook:

Faith Lutheran Church, Murphys

Pastor Karen Johnson

KarenWJohnson@sbcglobal.net

707-696-5947 cell

209-890-7682 home

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

*"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever." (Psalm 136:1)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The year is moving toward its close. November is a time when signs of our mortality loom in nature here in the northern hemisphere – the days grow shorter, the nights grow longer, the wind grows colder, and trees stand bare, as leaves lie decaying on the ground.

Mortality and endings loom in our liturgy this month, as well – remembering those who have died and the great communion of all the saints; looking toward the end of time and Christ's visible return; proclaiming Christ, the King who gave his life for us. In a season that can feel somber, we rejoice in the assurance that God promises to swallow up death forever, wipe away all tears, and feed us at his heavenly banquet.

I hope you will join us for "mini-banquet" potluck on November 10, following worship. It has been many months since we've had a potluck meal together, and it is always a joy when we gather, with great food, conversation, and laughter. I encourage you to come for this time of fellowship.

We have an important election this month. The root meaning of "politics" relates to citizenship and how we live together. As people of God, we are blessed to be a blessing; and as followers of Jesus, we live as salt and light in the world, loving all our neighbors and embodying the grace of God in all our words and deeds, in every political season and every administration.

It is also the month of Thanksgiving. At a Pastor's Renewal Retreat last month, we reflected on joy in our ministries and in our lives, that sense of well-being, hope, and delight. We were reminded that gratitude is an essential practice in cultivating joy. Some people record one gratitude each day in November, so that there are 30 "gratitudes" to give thanks for at the end of the month. Have you ever done this? I am so grateful each day to be in ministry with you. Thank you for your faithfulness, your love for one another, and your love for this congregation. Thanks be to God for all of you!

In Christ,
Pastor Karen



Martin Luther statue in Germany

Special Upcoming Events

All Saints Sunday – November 3. We will light candles in remembrance of loved ones who have died, and name aloud those who have died in the past year. For family and friends who have died since about mid-October, 2023, please send the name and date of death (if known) to the office



faithlutheranchurc@att.net by Oct. 30, or sign up in the narthex.

Daylight Savings Time ends – November 3. Turn your clocks *back* one hour and enjoy an extra hour of sleep!

Election Day – November 5. Be sure to vote!

Christ the King Sunday – November 24, the last Sunday of the church year.

Thanksgiving Day – November 28.

Advent begins – December 1. Prepare the way of the Lord!

Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24. Candlelight worship at 7 PM.



Potluck November 10

Join us for a potluck lunch following worship on Sunday November 10, with fellowship and conversation around our ministries here at Faith. Sign up in the narthex (or email the church) to let us know what you can bring.

This is also **Commitment Sunday**, when we are invited to return our time, energy, and financial commitments for the coming year. Letters of invitation will be arriving soon in the mail.

New Member Sunday

On November 24, we will receive Kyle Johnson and Annette Stout as members of Faith Lutheran Church! Join us

Harvestfest

All who attended the worship service at Ironstone Vineyards on October 6th had a wonderful time. We not only worshiped in the grand ballroom but we also were served a wonderful lunch. We were entertained with a very talented duo singing country and pop song. Next page has more pictures.



Bible Study – “Genesis”

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.” We meet **Wednesdays at 3:00 PM, no meeting Nov. 27.**

Pictures from Harvestfest



From clockwise starting at the top left. Liz and Al Armstrong, Sharon Greed. Kaarn and Rob Westerhoff Annette Stout, KC Anderson, Kathleen Walsh, Chris Wallace, Bethany Lund. Pastor Karen, Gail and John Kautz, and Pastor Heath. Pastor Karen reading the lessons. Annette Stout, KC Anderson and Kathleen Walsh. In the center, Janet and Mike Skenfield and Bethany Lund.

Murphys Food Pantry Needs Help!

The first Sunday of each month is designated as “**Fill the Red Barrel**” Sunday. 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). **November 3** will be Red Barrel Sunday this month. Thank you for your generosity toward this ministry of caring for our community. Together we are making a difference!

Food pantry needs: “Think Thanksgiving” – packaged potatoes & stuffing, canned veggies & fruit, canned pumpkin, green beans and mushroom soup, cranberry sauce, canned pineapple.



Breakfast Fellowship

You are invited to gather with Faith folks for breakfast each week, **Tuesdays at 8 AM**, a time of food, fellowship, and faith. We are tentatively alternating meeting at Grounds on even numbered days and Murphys Hotel on odd numbered days. Check with Rob if you are coming for the first time, because occasionally the schedule changes.

Turkey Trot – Thanksgiving Day

The annual Klassen Turkey Trot will take place bright and early Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 28. Registration in Murphys Park begins at 8 AM; a food donation for the Murphys Food Pantry is the only entry fee. Races of 2.5 and 5 miles begin at 9 AM.

Council meeting – Tuesday, November 19 3:00 PM, in the narthex.

Saturday, November 16 – Christmas Child packing party



Interested in Helping in Worship?

Our worship services have many opportunities for leadership and assistance; perhaps you would like to help! Especially needed are helpers for altar care (setting up communion), counting offerings, and providing fellowship. And we always need readers, acolytes, ushers, and worship assistants. Training is available! If you are interested, please talk to Kaarn or Pastor. Thank you to those helping already, and to Kaarn Westerhoff for coordinating our worship helpers.

We are beginning to plan for Advent and Christmas. If you have suggestions for the season, please talk to Kaarn or Pastor.

November Birthdays

Wayne Earthman	12 th	Dan Lagomarsino	23 rd
Annette Stout	16 th	Kristine Stretars	23 rd

December Birthdays

Pat McKee	1 st	Carol Lagomarsino	14 th
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Happy Thanksgiving



Sunday Date	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
Theme	All Saints Sunday	25 th Sunday after Pentecost	26 th Sunday after Pentecost	Christ the King Sunday
Reader/Worship Assistant	KC Anderson	Vivian H./Robert Westerhoff	Kathleen Walsh	Janet Skenfield
Altar Care	Kathleen Walsh	Carol Lagomarsino	Rob Westerhoff	Kaarn Westerhoff
Counters	Kaarn Westerhoff	KC Anderson	Kaarn Westerhoff	Carol Lagomarsino/ Kaarn Westerhoff

Sunday Date	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 24	December 29
Theme	First Sunday in Advent	Second Sunday in Advent	Third Sunday in Advent	Fourth Sunday in Advent	Christmas Eve	First Sunday in Christmas
Reader/Worship Assistant	Rob Westerhoff	Janet Skenfield	Liz Gilbert/KC Andersson	Vivian Hansten/ Robert Westerhoff	Janet Skenfield	Kathleen Walsh
Altar Care	KC Anderson	Kaarn Westerhoff	Carol Lagomarsino	KC Anderson	Kaarn Westerhoff	Kaarn Westerhoff
Counters	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff	KC Anderson and Rob Westerhoff	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff	Carol Lagomarsino/ Kaarn Westerhoff	Rob Westerhoff/Wayne Earthman	Rob and Kaarn Westerhoff

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

65 Mitchler
Murphys, California 95247

Phone: (209)-728-2041
Email: Faithlutheranchurc@att.net

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