



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

October 5, 2025



The Righteous Live by Faith

Faith is the theme for today's readings, but not just any faith. It is a life-transforming faith, one that demonstrates the very presence of God moving, alive, and active in God's people. In response to Habakkuk's oracle, the Lord answered him that "the righteous live by their faith" (Hab. 2:4b). But just what does it mean to be righteous? It's a righteousness imparted by God, who creates and claims each of us as God's own sons and daughters, bringing us into this family by our baptisms and by the faith God gives us makes us holy children. Being part of this divine family gives us our worth, even at those times we may not think of ourselves as worthy. In 2 Timothy, the author writes a history of the faith in Timothy's family, beginning with his grandmother and then passed on to his mother and himself. This is how many of us were first brought into the family of God: we had faithful parents who knew of their own God-given righteousness and then passed this gift on to their children. But again, it's all God's doing! Finally, Jesus' disciples boldly ask their teacher to "Increase our faith" (Luke 17:5). They knew that faith was something needed, and Jesus explains that even a small amount of faith can do great wonders. What does it mean to have this sort of faith, a faith that can serve God's purposes here to truly be God's work and yet it's done with our hands? On this Sunday, help the assembly experience this faith that God has given us. It's a gift and connection to our God.

Readings and Psalm

- [Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4](#)
Wicked surround the righteous; wait for the Lord
- [Psalm 37:1-9](#)
Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord. (Ps. 37:5)
- [2 Timothy 1:1-14](#)
Guard the treasure entrusted to you: faith and love in Christ
- [Luke 17:5-10](#)
Faith the size of a mustard seed

This Week at First

Thursday	10/02	11:00 AM	Zoom Bible Study
		5:15 PM	Blessing of the Animals Service at Humane Society SBV
		7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Saturday	10/04	10:00 AM	SDA Worship - Sanctuary/PH
		6:00 PM	Caring and Sharing - PH
Sunday	10/05	9:00 AM	Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
		10:30 AM	Adult Forum - Chapel
		1:00 PM	BATAK Church - Sanctuary
Wednesday	10/01	10:00 AM	COMIC Quilters

Upcoming Dates

Oct 5	Believe Walk 6:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Downtown Redlands
Oct 12	New Member installation
Nov 14-15	WELCA Convention Gathering at Clairemont Lutheran Church in San Diego
Nov 23	Luther Glenn Farm and El Camino camp representatives
Dec 2	Nativity Museum Display in Parish Hall

Thursday Morning Zoom Bible Study

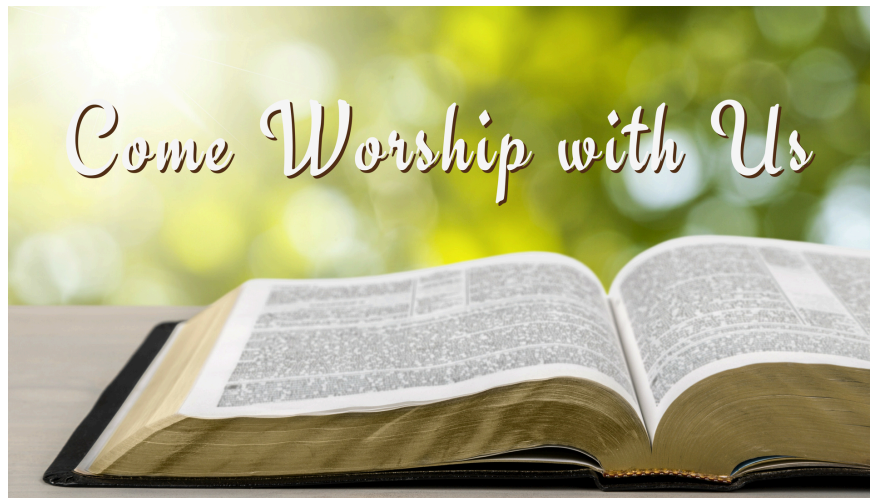


11:00 am on zoom.

Join us as we discuss the upcoming gospel reading.
Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89545663534?pwd=MVRNYzd0bnRmT2ZDdWtPclBBSTRlZz09>

NEW Zoom Meeting ID: 898 6088 6981 NEW Passcode: 739765



Every Sunday we offer two ways to worship:

In person worship each Sunday at 9am.
Large Print Bulletins available in the Narthex

Our Children's Church Program includes
bible story, snack, and a quick craft or coloring page that will reflect the bible story.
All children ages 1-8 are welcome to come!

Due to technical difficulties, our Online worship capabilities are not available at the time. Please stay tuned as we work to remedy this issue! We thank you for your patience!

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES



Contemporary Worship Service Sunday, October 19th at 9:00 AM

Our next Contemporary worship services is Sunday, October 19th , at 9:00 AM
in the Sanctuary. Connect with your faith in a fresh, engaging way.
Contemporary worship offers a dynamic setting to sing, pray, and grow together.
Please let your friends and neighbors know

they are welcome to come and join us for worship!

Our Contemporary worship service is every third Sunday of the month.



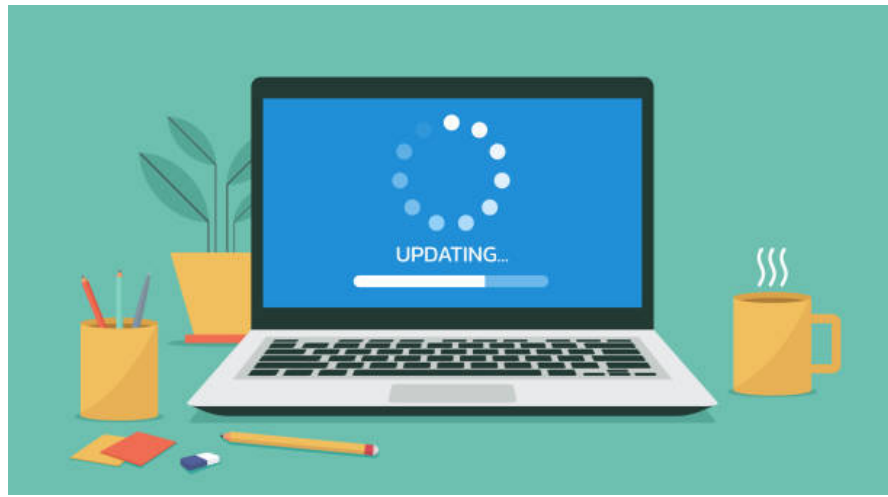
Praise band played at the contemporary service.

ELCA Big Bear Conference on Facebook



The Big Bear Conference of the Pacifica Synod, of which we're a part, has created a new Facebook page for all the congregations of the Big Bear Conference. We can post our events to that page and see other events in the conference. The Big Bear conference includes Banning, Barstow, Big Bear City, Fontana, Joshua Tree, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Victorville, and Yucaipa.

Look for ELCA Big Bear Conference on Facebook.



Have you checked out our website?

Please head over to <https://www.firstlutheranredlands.org/> and check us out!

On this website, you will find the weekly newsletter, the online bulletin and the online worship link. We also have a Google calendar on there for upcoming events! Take a look at it today!!

Living Lutheran is back in print!

Throughout the past few months, the staff of Living Lutheran has been working with a new fulfillment company for the print magazine, and we're excited to share our new subscription system with you. If you've already signed up to receive the print edition of Living Lutheran but have not yet set up your subscription, or if you are interested in subscribing, follow the instructions below to get started.

Visit livinglutheran.org/subscribe to choose an individual, group or gift subscription, or visit the [individual subscription page](#) directly to sign up. We are grateful for your patience while we developed our new system. Thanks to your loyal readership, Living Lutheran continues to share stories of God's people living their faith — online and once again, in print!



The Children's Church is for children ages 1-8 years old. Alison Schooley will be escorting children to the nursery just before the start of the sermon for a Bible story, snack and perhaps a quick craft or coloring sheet tied to the story. This will give caregivers an opportunity to listen to the sermon and the child an opportunity to take a break during the service. You are also more than welcome to come join us. If you have any questions — please see Alison Schooley or email her at alisonschooley@yahoo.com

Yehiel Curry to Be Installed as ELCA Presiding Bishop

CHICAGO (Sept. 26, 2025) — The Rev. Yehiel Curry will be installed as presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 2 p.m. Central time at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minn. Curry will be the first Black presiding bishop of the ELCA.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will preside at the installation and present Curry with the pectoral cross, the common symbol of the office of bishop in the ELCA.

The Rev. Kevin Vandiver, senior pastor of Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Washington, D.C., will deliver the sermon. Members of the ELCA Conference of Bishops and other invited leaders will participate in the processional.

In celebration of the ELCA's many partnerships, several ecumenical, interreligious and global partner representatives are invited, including the Rev. Henrik Stubkjaer, president of the Lutheran World Federation; the Most Rev. Sean Rowe, presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church; the Rev. Jihyun Oh, stated clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and the Rev. Larry Kochendorfer, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Music leadership for the worship service includes the National Lutheran Choir and musicians from St. Olaf College and the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod.

The installation is a public worship service, open to all who wish to attend. The service will also be available via [livestream](#).

Curry was elected to serve a six-year term as presiding bishop on July 30, during the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix. He has served as bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod since 2019 and previously served as mission developer (2009-2012) and pastor (2012-2019) of Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, Ill. Curry's first day in office will be Oct. 1.

Curry received a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., in 1995 and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) in 2013. LSTC is one of seven ELCA seminaries.

WELCA WOMEN NEWS!



Mission Statement

To mobilize women to act boldly
on their faith in Jesus Christ.

Pacifica Partners



Karen Ronchetti, Editor

September 2025

Volume 35 Issue 5

SAVE the DATE—November 14-15, 2025

*Pacifica WELCA Convention & Gathering
at Clairemont Lutheran Church, San Diego*



Convention Registration form, Scholarship Form, Nomination form
for SWO Board, 2026 Triennial Convention Nomination Form, and
much more exciting news is enclosed in this issue of the
Pacifica Partners.

SAVE THE DATE

Please mark your calendar for the 37th Annual Pacifica Synod Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Convention and Gathering, to be held at Clairemont Lutheran Church in San Diego on November 14-15, 2025.

Theme: Here I am, send me (Isaiah 6:8)

Join women from across the synod for a banquet dinner, guest speakers, business meeting, silent auction, bible study, and workshops.

For more information or any questions, please contact Stephanie Gasca by text or phone at 951-662-6467. You may also use this link to access the newsletter and registration forms:

<https://tinyurl.com/42hz3w46>.

Eyeglasses and Cases Recycling

If you have eyeglasses or eyeglass cases that you no longer need, please consider donating them. Stephanie Gasca is coordinating the collection of these items to be delivered to the Annual Pacifica Synod Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Convention and Gathering, scheduled for November 14-15. Details regarding the event will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

During the Convention, eyeglasses and cases collected from churches throughout the Synod will be donated to the Lions Club Eyeglass Recycling Center. This initiative provides an excellent opportunity to support the

community.

To contribute, please meet with Stephanie at church on Sundays or contact her by phone or text at 951-662-6467.

Let's Celebrate! October Birthdays

October 8
Bethel Andom

October 14
Bill Olinger

October 21
Susan Johnston

October Anniversaries

Jim and Sue Lehner October 1 28 years

Mark and Diane Wolkenhauer October 8 31 years

Richard and Kristin Thibedeau October 21 53 years



Youth Hope Meal Delivery

First Lutheran is happy to support Youth Hope Ministries. Our “God’s Work, Our Hands” project of donating ponchos was greatly appreciated. In addition, in cooperation with Plymouth Village, we pick up meals they have prepared, and deliver them to the Youth Hope facility (on Redlands Blvd). This simple service happens about once a month. If you would like more information or you are interested in participating, please contact

Karen Frederickson or Lauren in the church office.

Next delivery is October 23rd and 29th



REMINDER

On Sunday, October 5, 2025, Downtown Redlands will be filled with nearly 10,000 walkers, runners, and volunteers. Although safety is our priority, our team will make every effort to ensure that churches in the area will have as minimal impact as possible.

Please remind your congregation



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025

6:30 AM to 12:00 PM

- Allow extra drive time to church
- Use alternative routes, see enclosed alternative route sheet
- Please have patience with volunteers as they manage the crowd and traffic

**FUNDS RAISED THROUGH THE BELIEVE WALK GREATLY IMPACT LIVES OF
CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THIS REGION!**

Thank you for your continued support,
Stater Bros. Charities & Inland Women Fighting Cancer

believewalk.org

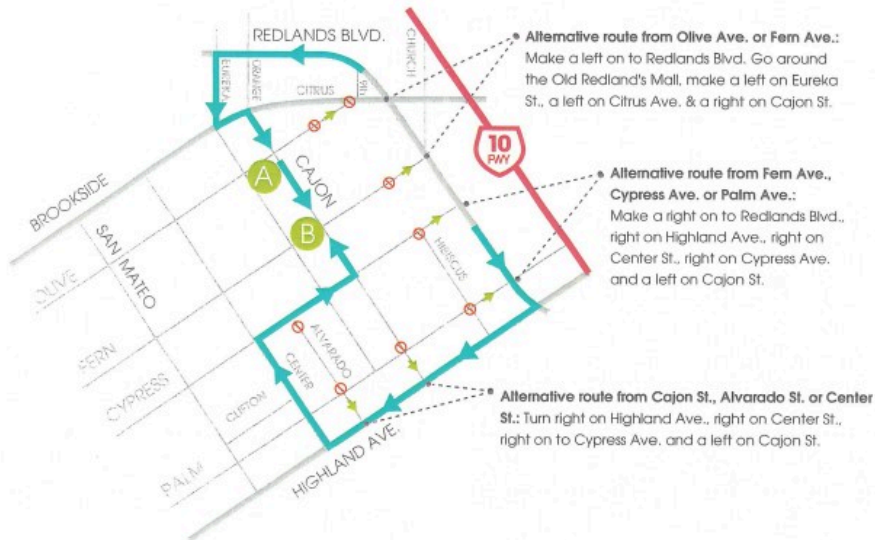


5K Church
HOLY NAME OF JESUS
 115 W. Olive Ave.
 Corner of Olive Ave. & Eureka St.
 Service Times: 8:00 & 10:00 AM

5K Church
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 419 S. 4th Street
 Corner of Fern Ave. & Fourth Street
 Service Time: 8:00 & 10:15 AM

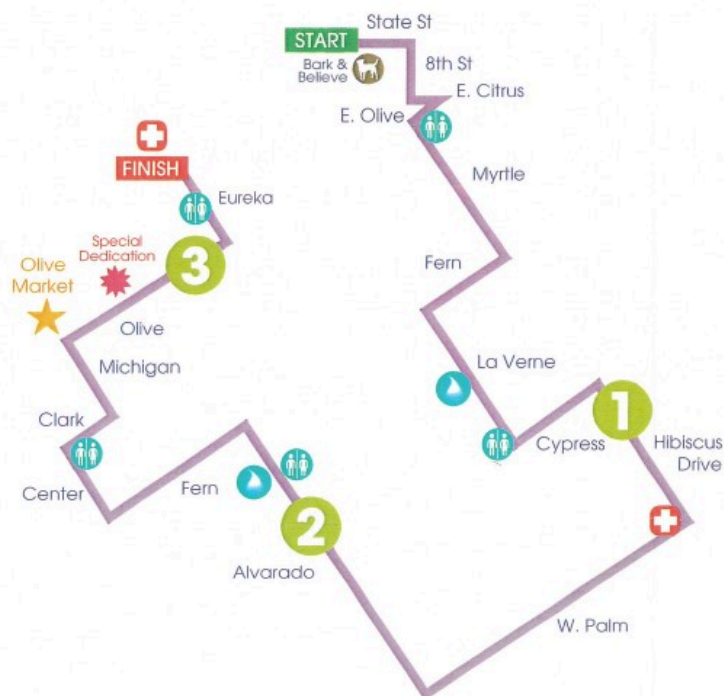
Believe Walk Alternative Route To Churches

Follow the **blue** arrow routes to churches





5K ROUTE



Follow PINK ARROWS and MILE MARKERS



Luther Glen Farm and El Camino Pines to visit FLC!

We at Luther Glen Farm and El Camino Pines are excited to visit your congregation and engage with your community on **November 23**. We are honored to bring camp to your worship service! What does this mean? Thank you for asking!

Camp looks like...
Smiles, joy, and laughter

Unabashed singing and dancing
Meaningful relationships and conversation
Honest and authentic spiritual connection

If you haven't heard of us before, we invite you to spend a Sunday experiencing and sharing in our ministry. We will share our worship style as well as have some announcements for upcoming events and programs for you to look forward to. Bring your best dance moves – see you there!

QUARTERLY Treasurers Report

as of July 31, 2025

We are deeply grateful for your faithful tithing. Your generosity is a blessing to our church and enables us to serve our community.

YTD Sunday Offerings are DOWN 12% from budget

\$127,447 Actual vs \$143,430 budget

YTD budgeted Expenses are UP 6% from budget

\$213,077 Actual vs \$200,334 budget

BENEVOLENCES (April-June) 14% of Sunday Offerings

\$4700 – Pacifica Synod

\$1000 – Redlands Family Services

\$1000 – San Bernardino Community Wellness Center (aka CCLM)

\$1000 – Luther Glen Retreat and Conference Center

Suggested:

\$1000 – The Blessing Center

\$500 – Unforgettable Foundation

\$200 – Meals on Wheels, Assistance League, or Other?

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS (paid with non-budgeted designated contributions received, unused funds are held in fund for future projects)

Funds received paid for:

☒ Church front door repair

☒ Concrete gaps repaired (please note: as things settle, the contractor will come back and adjust things)

☒ Sanctuary concrete walls with stain glass squares cleaned, sealed, and painted.

☒ HVAC preventative maintenance

☒ Ivy behind the church was removed (to make way for the up-and-coming Eagle Scout project)

☒ New lighting for the church office

Future projects:

☒ DG planned for the east side and back of the church (this will need to be requoted once the Scout project is finished)

☒ Office ceiling and door frame repair (damage caused from water leaks on hold until we determine that leaks are fixed)

☒ Parish Hall – new counters/sinks in bathrooms and coffee area

(quote needed)

May God bless you abundantly as you have blessed our church!

With God's Love,
Kim Hudson, Council Treasurer



2025 Altar Flower Ordering Information

We love it when flowers grace the worship space!
Please reserve your bouquet by following the process below:

—Reserve your date

by writing your name AND phone on the Flower Chart on the date(s) you select.

—Fill out a reservation form at the same time as your reservation on the chart.

The forms are located next to the chart and should then be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

The flowers will be ordered for you.

—Please pay the church \$55 during the month of your reservation. Please note with your payment the date of your reservation.

—Notify the office of the reason for the flowers (in honor of, celebration of, in memory of...) Office phone number is 909-793-2267 or office@FirstLutheranRedlands.org

Available dates are: October 5, 12, November 9, December 7, 14, 21, 28

Questions: Contact Mitch (909-798-3320)

Thank you for your contribution!

As part of our ongoing ministry at First Lutheran Alison Schooley will be sending cards out to members for their Birthday or Anniversary. She would also like to send a card for support if there is a need (sympathy, serious illness). A card will be sent

through regular mail or by email if necessary. Please contact the Church Office or Alison Schooley directly with the information needed to send a card. We want everyone to know they are thought about and that their Church family cares.

alisonschooley@yahoo.com

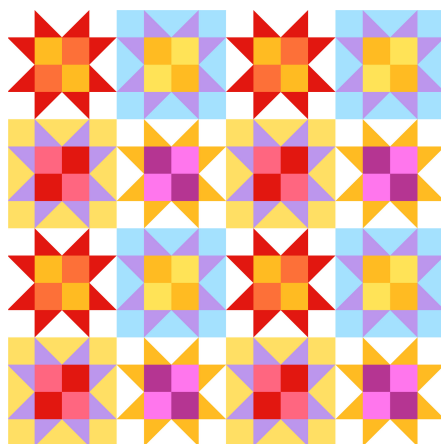


C.O.M.I.C.
(Cloths of Many Incredible Colors)

Quilters Group News

Our meetings are held on Wednesday mornings at 10 am in the Fireside Room (right across from the Pre-School building.) We welcome all women and men who want to share in the fun & camaraderie in learning and sharing quilting skills. No experience is needed. I have learned so much from all the more experienced quilters, who so generously share their knowledge & skills. The COMIC Quilters not only make quilts for special events, but we also work on some very simple quilts for the Lutheran Social Services San Bernardino Community Wellness Campus Men's shelter.

All are welcome...
Come & check us out!
Linda Constant (909.261.5928).





WAYS to GIVE to our CHURCH

Pew Envelopes – Cash or check. Please write your personal tithing number on the front.

Online giving through ServantKeeper .

Scan the QR Code below and it will take you to our website where you can find the Green Give button.

Many members do not use tithing envelopes anymore,
because they are tithing either online or by bank bill pay.

If you are one of those members and would not mind changing your number at the beginning of the year, we would love to be able to save your printed envelope for new members and issue you a new number for 2025. Please let us know if you are interested in doing this via email or a note in the offering plate.



Meet your 2025 Church Council Members!

Introducing Your Church Council and the Unsung Heroes

We want to take a moment to introduce you to the dedicated individuals who serve on our Church Council, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make our church thrive. These unsung heroes play a vital role in fulfilling our mission and creating a vibrant worship and community experience for all.

Council meetings are held at 6:00 PM on the last Monday of the month in the Conference room adjacent to the Office.



**Pastor Rachel Reeder (Pastor); B.B. Quinones(Member at Large), Larry Davenport (President);
Jerry Bean (Vice President), Richard Thibedeau, (Member at Large), Kim Hudson
(Treasurer); Roger Swenson (Member at Large), and Alison Schooley (Secretary), Abraham Dree
(Member at Large).**

**Church Office hours are
Monday - Thursday
12:30 pm - 5:00 pm**

**The Church office is closed on Fridays.
Pastor Rachel's days off are Friday and Saturday.
However, she is available by phone or text!**

Redlands, CA 92373
Tel: (909) 7932267

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