



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

## Pentecost Sunday

### June 08, 2025

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#### What Does This Mean?

“What does this mean?” the devout ask (Acts 2:12). For those gathered in that house, the event meant the birth of sudden, surprising, unmerited new life. Filled with the Holy Spirit, they burst from the house with a story to share about God’s wonders. But what does this event of Pentecost mean for us, today, many centuries later? God is at work here, now, in the world. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, God is walking alongside as friend, truth-teller, comforter, and guide.

The writer of John’s gospel speaks of it in this way: the Advocate, the one whom the Father will send, will teach the disciples everything they need to know. God is not yet finished revealing who God is, and the disciples are not yet finished learning. Through the Spirit of truth, the disciples will do the work of Jesus, and his life will continue through them.

In holy baptism, the Spirit rests on the heads of young and old alike. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the baptized have an old, old story to tell of Jesus and his love—and a new, new story of how God is birthing sudden, surprising, and unmerited new life all around us, every day. God is at work, here, now in the world through the lives of everyday Christians. Jesus’ work continues through the lives of all the baptized. We discover meaning from this Pentecost story today, not only for our own sake but for the sake of the world that so hungers for this life.

- [Acts 2:1-21](#)
- *Filled with the Spirit to tell God’s deeds*
- [Genesis 11:1-9](#) (alternate)
- *God destroys the tower of Babel*
- [Psalm 104:24-34, 35b](#)
- *Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30)*
- [Romans 8:14-17](#)
- *The Spirit makes us children of God*
- [Acts 2:1-21](#) (alternate)
- *Filled with the Spirit to proclaim God’s deeds*
- [John 14:8-17 \[25-27\]](#)
- *The Father will give you another Advocate, the Spirit of truth*

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# Come Worship with Us



**Every Sunday we offer two ways to worship:**

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

**Online Worship** is also available through our website at  
[www.firstlutheranredlands.org](http://www.firstlutheranredlands.org)

We livestream our online services. You can watch it live at 9 am or  
anytime throughout the week on our YouTube Channel.

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## UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES



## Contemporary Worship Service June 15th at 9:00 AM

Our next Contemporary worship services will be held on June 15th 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 that they would be welcome to come and join us for worship!

*Our Contemporary worship services will be held every third Sunday of the month.*



Contemporary worship Service on May 18th highlighted our very own BB, Ernesto and Kim as the song leaders!  
We thank you for your gift of music!

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## FLC and Batak Combined Worship Service June 8th at 9:00 AM



To celebrate Pentecost, we will be having a combined worship service with the Batak Church on June 8th at 9:00 AM.

Please be sure to join us for this special worship and do not forget to wear red!

We will be having a light breakfast in the Parish Hall following the service. Items

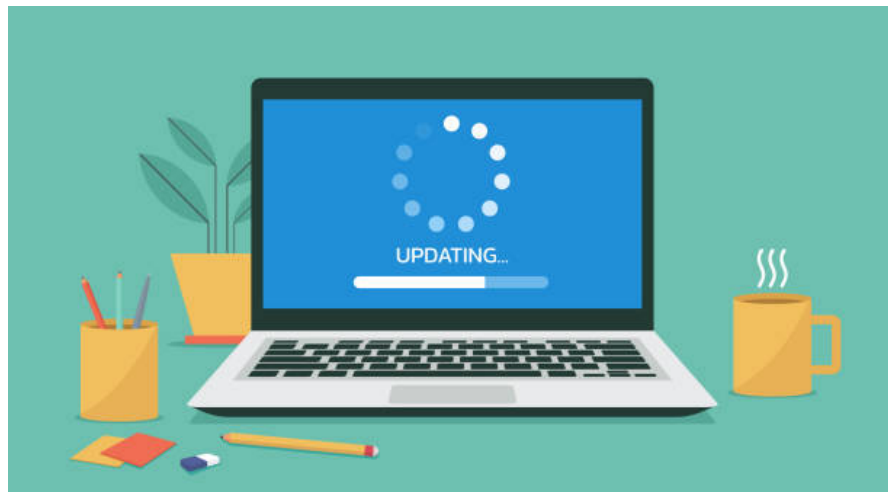
to donate would be muffins, pastries, bagels, and juice. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Thank you for your contribution!

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A Hymn sing has been a time honored tradition here at First. It takes place during the Gathering Hymn time during worship. We are bringing it back on the following summertime Sundays: June 29, July 27, and August 31. Think of your favorite hymn and Kim, our amazingly talented organist will play a verse or two. We cannot wait to hear what hymns you have chosen!

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Have you checked out our new 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!!

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*Dear Siblings in Christ,*

*I have signed on with a group of concerned clergy in Redlands to a statement to the Redlands School Board in a show of support and affirmation of LGBTQ students. The statement expresses our belief that all were created in God's image and is meant to be a counter to those who are using Jesus' name to "discriminate, punish and condemn Queer students." It was signed by seven other pastors and was published in the Daily Facts online on June 3 and in print on June 4 along with a photo of the pastors. All seven churches posted the statement on their social media pages on June 3. In addition, I*



*and the seven clergy will be attending and leading prayer at a prayer vigil that will be held before the school board meeting on June 10. Jesus commanded that we love another and loving one another extends to LGBTQ+ children and adults.*

*Pastor Reeder*

**To the Redlands Unified School District Board,**

**We are a collective of pastors whose churches represent a wide and beautiful variety of worship styles, interpretations of scripture, traditions, demographics, and understandings of Jesus Christ. Our churches have served the community of Redlands for as long as 138 years, but also include recently founded church congregations who also love the people, the life, and the city of Redlands. While we have our differences, we consider ourselves to be one in the Body of Christ, working side-by-side to bring the Gospel into tangible action today.**

**Together, the eight of us pastors stand in the conviction that all people are created in the image of God and that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is good news for all people. We are committed to the full welcome, affirmation, and inclusion of transgender people, people who identify as gender non-binary, people of all gender identities, and people of queer sexual orientations within the full life of the church and the world, which includes the Redlands Unified School District.**

**Today, we stand for the right of people of all gender identities to live free from discrimination, violence, and every form of injustice in our schools.**

**While we know not every Christian in Redlands believes the same as our churches, the eight of us are deeply troubled by how the name of Jesus Christ is being used to discriminate, punish, and condemn queer students for simply being the person God created them to be. We firmly believe that if Jesus walked in the flesh among us today, then He would stand on the behalf of these students, affirm their humanity, and celebrate their inclusion in every facet of life.**

**At the very most, we want to encourage the school board to stand boldly in favor of programs and services which affirm the inherent goodness and existence of students of all genders and orientations in their district.**

**At the very least, we hope the school board can recognize that a large number of Christians and churches in Redlands strongly oppose using the name of Jesus Christ to sideline queer students.**

**God's love is unconditional for each one of us. Our work as ministers is to remind everyone we encounter that we are all God's children, and every one of us is worthy of love.**

**We want to thank each one of you on the school board for all for the hard work you are doing to provide the best educational experience for our children.**

**We want to let you know we are praying for your wisdom, discernment, and compassion during this contentious season.**

**And we want to remind all of our Christian siblings that we are called not to judge one another, but to love one another in prolific ways in the name of Jesus Christ.**

Sincerely,



The Reverend Bill Dunn  
Trinity Episcopal Church, est. 1886



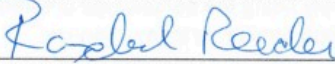
Pastor Shawn Zambrows  
The First Baptist Church of Redlands, est. 1887



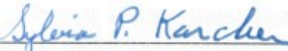
Pastor Cheryl Raine  
First Presbyterian Church of Redlands, est. 1887



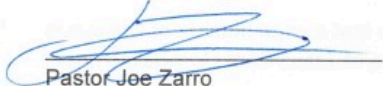
Pastor Darren Wesley  
Redlands First United Methodist Church, est. 1888



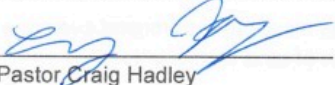
Pastor Rachel Reeder  
First Lutheran Church of Redlands, est. 1901



Pastor Sylvia Karcher  
Community Presbyterian Church, Redlands, est. 1913



Pastor Joe Zarro  
Redlands United Church of Christ, est. 1975



Pastor Craig Hadley  
Paradox Church, est. 2016



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
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### **Bishop Eaton Issues Statement on Fatal Shooting of Two Israeli Embassy Staff in Washington, D.C.**

CHICAGO (May 22, 2025) — We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America join our ecumenical and interreligious partners in expressing deep concern and sadness over the deadly shooting of two Israeli Embassy staff outside an event in Washington, D.C. This is yet another example of the rising, deadly scourge of anti-Semitism in our society.

As a church, we have declared that “we recognize in anti-Semitism a contradiction and an affront to the Gospel, a violation of our hope and calling, and we pledge this church to oppose the deadly working of such bigotry, both within our own circles and in the society around us” (“A Declaration of the ELCA to the Jewish Community,” 1994).

We are profoundly disturbed that these killings occurred in the context of an event hosted by the American Jewish Committee that featured speakers from the Multifaith Alliance and the humanitarian organization IsraAID. These speakers were discussing avenues for ensuring that humanitarian aid reaches Gaza, precisely the kind of collaboration that is needed, and that the ELCA supports, as the people of Gaza face starvation and intentional mass displacement.

We join in praying for the families, colleagues and communities of Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim, for the Jewish people in our communities who live in fear, and for the people of Gaza, who desperately need

humanitarian aid to stay alive. We continue to call for a ceasefire, for the release of hostages and those being detained, for access to humanitarian aid, for rejecting violence as a means of solving the ongoing destruction of the Holy Land, and for recommitments to dialogue, reconciliation and humanization. Above all, we pray for God's peace and justice to prevail for all people.

*Elizabeth A. Eaton*

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## Youth Forum June Meeting!!!

There will be a Youth Forum meeting on June 22nd  
after church.

We will meet in the Youth Room at 10:30 AM.  
See you there!

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## 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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89545663534?pwd=MVRNYzd0bnRmT2ZDdWtPclBBSTRlZz09)

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

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## Redlands Bowl Ushering Volunteer Opportunity



On July 18th, the Redlands Bowl will feature  
the group, Naturally 7 (A Cappella) for the  
evening.

We need 10 - 15 people to help with  
ushering. All ushers will meet at 7:00 p.m. on  
Eureka Street in front of Mission Gables

house to receive bowls, ushering assignments, and a group photo. The program begins at 8:00 p.m. and intermission may begin any time between 8:45 and 9:00p.m.

Please see Allan Griesemer if you would like to help with ushering that evening.  
You may also sign up on the sign up sheet or call the office.

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### This Week at First

Thursday	06/05	11:00 AM	Zoom Bible Study
		7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	06/07	10:00 AM	SDA Worship – Sanctuary/PH
		6:00 PM	Caring and Sharing - PH
Sunday	06/08	9:00 AM	Combined Worship with BATAK Church – Wear <b>RED</b> for Pentecost
Wednesday	06/11	10:00 AM	COMIC Quilters

### Upcoming Dates

- |         |   |   |
|---------|---|---|
| June 07 | - | Family Service Association of Redlands Hunger Walk & Run  |
| June 10 | - | Book Club meets reading <i>“The Paris Architect”</i> - 6:30 PM - Fireside Room  |
| June 12 | - | Last Choir Rehearsal for the year – Frozen Yogurt Party!  |
| June 15 | - | Contemporary Worship Service<br>66er’s Baseball Game Day! Ticket money and final signups are due June 8 <sup>th</sup> !<br>Hymn Sing at the beginning of worship! |
| June 29 | - | Adult Forum 10:30 AM in Chapel  |
| June 30 | - | Monthly Council Meeting 6:00 PM Conference Room<br>(There will not be a Council meeting in July)  |
| July 18 | - | Redlands Bowl <i>Naturally 7 (A Capella)</i> Ushering Event<br>7:30 PM  |

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## Let's Celebrate our June Birthdays and Anniversaries!!





**Ginger Close**  
**06/03**

**Thomas Hester**  
**06/08**

**Dianne Wolkenhauer**  
**06/11**

**Michael Greaney**  
**06/12**

**David Griesemer**  
**06/13**

**Bob Martus**  
**06/13**

**Lauri Egertson**  
**06/18**

**Ellie Tooke**  
**06/18**

**Marilyn Pace**  
**06/19**

**Harley Raumin**  
**06/20**

**Debbi McFatter**  
**06/26**



Roger and Kathy Swenson	June 02	41 years
Allan and Nancy Griesemer	June 06	66 years
Carol and Robert Smethers	June 16	46 years
David and Susan Griesemer	June 28	34 years
Theron and Marilyn Pace	June 30	63 years



Join us for our **11th Annual** Hunger Walk to help alleviate food insecurity in our community and bring awareness to this critical issue. With increasing inflation, the low-income clients we serve are increasingly vulnerable to food insecurity and hunger.

This family-friendly 5K walk & run takes place on the University of Redlands campus and all proceeds benefit our food pantry and breakfast program. In 2024, we served almost 23,000 meals, distributed over 1,250 community food boxes and provided food assistance to over 3,500 families.

We invite you to either walk or run the 5K. Runners begin at 7:45AM. Walkers begin at 8:00AM.

#### EVENT INFO

**Date:** Saturday, June 7, 2025

**Time:** 7:45a.m. (Runners), 8:00 a.m. (Walkers)  
(registration opens at 7:00 a.m.)

[University of Redlands](#)

[Near Ted Runner Stadium](#)

1215 E Brockton Ave, Redlands, CA 92374

Between Grove & University Ave

#### Ticket Prices

[Individual & Family Pricing](#)

Adults (13 & over) – \$45

Children (12 & under) – \$15

Team Pricing – 10 or more people

Adults (13 & over) – \$40

Children (12 & under) – \$15

Registration Opens April 20th.

**Pre-Registration Ends May 23rd.**

Onsite Registration Available June 7th.

Register [here](https://tinyurl.com/muwxr5cp): <https://tinyurl.com/muwxr5cp>

Paper registration forms for mailing can be found [here](https://tinyurl.com/47cawnvn): <https://tinyurl.com/47cawnvn>

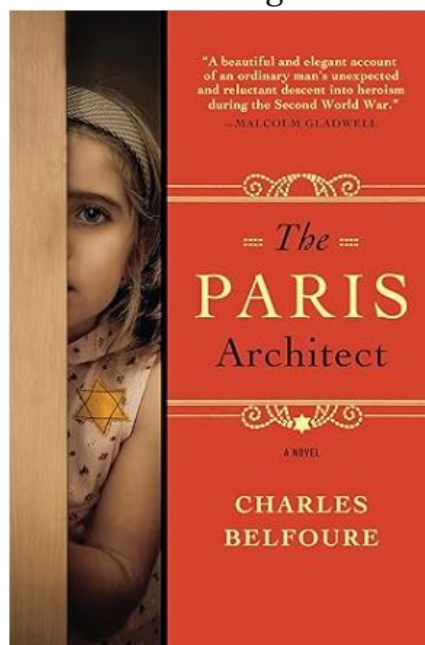
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## Book Club Meeting

June 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Fireside Room

We will be reading the book,



### ***THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER!***

An extraordinary book about a gifted architect who reluctantly begins a secret life of resistance, devising ingenious hiding places for Jews in World War II Paris.

In 1942 Paris, architect Lucien Bernard accepts a commission that will bring him a great deal of money—and maybe get him killed. All he has to do is design a secret hiding place for a Jewish man, a space so invisible that even the most determined German officer won't find it while World War II rages on. He sorely needs the money, and outwitting the Nazis who have occupied his beloved city is a challenge he can't resist.

Soon Lucien is hiding more souls and saving lives. But when one of his hideouts fails horribly, and the problem of where to conceal a Jew becomes much more personal, and he can no longer ignore what's at stake.

"A beautiful and elegant account of an ordinary man's unexpected and reluctant descent into heroism during the second world war."—Malcolm Gladwell

Book clubs will pore over the questions Charles Belfoure raises about justice, resistance, and just how far we'll go to make things right.

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JOIN IN ON THE EL CARMELO AUXILIARY

# RAFFLE CONTEST

WIN THE  
GRAND PRIZE

GRAND  
PRIZE

**SAIL BOAT**

(Comes  
with  
trailer!)



JUNE 14

**2025**

5:00 PM

**BUY TICKETS \$20.00**

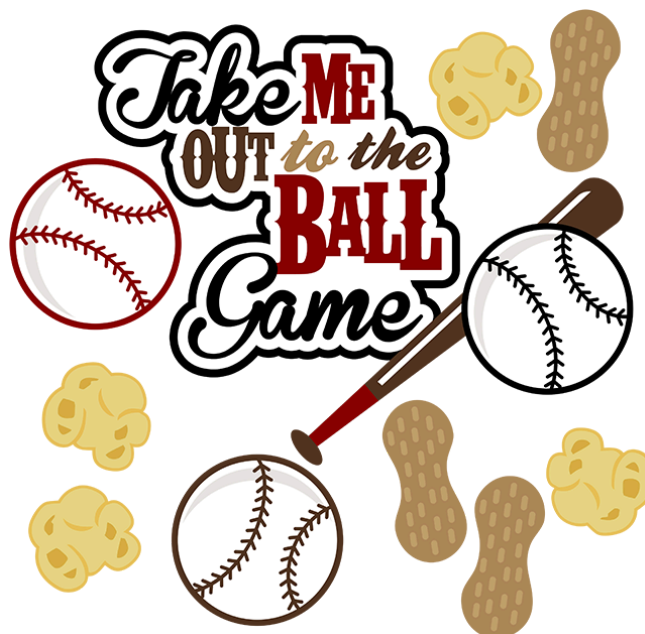
AT EL CARMELO GIFT SHOP M-F 909-792-1047

**EL CARMELO  
AUXILIARY  
PRESENTS:**

**GENTLY USED  
RUMMAGE  
SALE**

**JUNE 14, 2025  
8AM - 4PM**

**EL CARMELO RETREAT HOUSE  
926 EAST HIGHLAND AVE.  
REDLANDS, CA 92374**



**June 15th - Father's Day at the Inland Empire 66er's Game!**

We have been invited to celebrate Father's Day at the IE 66er's ball game.  
It will be \$12.00 a ticket and get this ..... we are in the Club Levels seats which are in the shade!!

Bring your friends, neighbors and family members to join us! We have tickets reserved for our group.

The ball club is going to recognize us on the Leader Board!

It will be a great event –

***Th last day to order and pay for your tickets will be June 8th. Please place your ticket order and money in an envelope and place it in the offering plate. Please mark the envelope "Baseball tickets"***

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### **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, Sue Lehner or call Lauren in the church office.

***Next delivery is June 25th***

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### **Church Property News**



**Update on what’s been happening around the church property!**

Why all the sprucing up?

***Next year we will be celebrating our 125 Anniversary!!***

Ways YOU can help?

1. Join in planning the celebration, please contact the office if interested.
2. Make a designated contribution beyond your regular tithing to property improvements.
  - a. Please make a special note to designate the contribution as property.
3. Helping hands for projects, please contact the Kim Hudson if interested.

The property footprint is so large and despite members efforts, the costs continue to rise. To reduce future maintenance, costs, we are looking for ways to lower up

keep by looking at different landscape materials, and still improve the church’s appearance.

***! Great is our Thankfulness for these gracious gifts !***

Thank you to those who have already stepped up to help with the Property improvement!!

- ☒ Tree removal near neighbor's block wall that proposed potential damage....\$475.
  - o Install DG to clean up area next to church building on east side and back....Quote \$3700.
  - o Repair office cracks in ceiling, around door, texture, and paint.....Quote \$1800.
  - o Repair front door of church.....Quote \$750.
  - o Hazard: The concrete construction gaps need repair as the wood deteriorates.....Quote TBD
- Hands-on-member projects (Things that we can do ourselves with your help)
- ☒ The bollards and parking light poles require painting.

**These are the projects that we have completed:**

- ☒ Eagle Scout preparation, removal of over grown ivy behind the church.....\$1200. (Completed)
- ☒ The concrete squares that encase the stained-glass windows, clean and repaint...\$1600.(Completed)
- ☒ Neighbor's share to remove the large tree and stump close to her brick wall....\$475.(Completed)
- ☒ Repaired preschool fascia covered by FLCC Covid Tax Refund.....\$10,000.(Completed)
- ☒ Repaired all glass door weather stripping on campus.....\$100.(Completed)
- ☒ Replaced office lighting with LED (Wattage: old 1408, new 264).....\$150. (Completed)
- ☒ Front of church weed barrier, and mulch.....\$1200.

**Good News!**

- ☒ We are delighted to share that John Davenport, Larry and Kathy's grandson, has asked the church for an Eagle Scout project. He will be creating a prayer garden behind the church.
- ☒ Our antique copper apple butter pot is pending possible purchase from the Oak Glen Apple Growers Association. This serves a better purpose than collecting dust in storage. They have invited volunteers to participate in their November Apple Butter Festival, utilizing the pot for stirring. They will provide the apples and cider; church volunteers are welcome to assist with stirring, jarring, and soliciting donations for the jars. In the past this was a great social event for the members here at the church.
- ☒ We were able to replace a very old PC for the Administrator with profits from garage sales.

*Kim Hudson, Treasurer/Property*



**CHANCEL CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENT**

- **Our choir will be on hiatus until September.** If you were considering joining them to sing on Sundays – please watch the newsletter and bulletin for updates as to when they will return. All voices will be welcomed!!



- We would also like to thank the Chancel Choir members for providing special music this year which enhanced our worship. Thank you for providing such wonderful music! Special thank you to Kim and Ernesto for their leadership!



### ***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.

Questions: Contact Mitch (909-798-3320)

***Thank you for your contribution!***

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As part of our ongoing ministry at First Lutheran we will be sending cards out to members for their Birthday or Anniversary. We 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.

Peace,

Alison Schooley

[alisonschooley@yahoo.com](mailto:alisonschooley@yahoo.com)



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**C.O.M.I.C.**

(Cloths of Many Incredible Colors)

## Quilters Group News

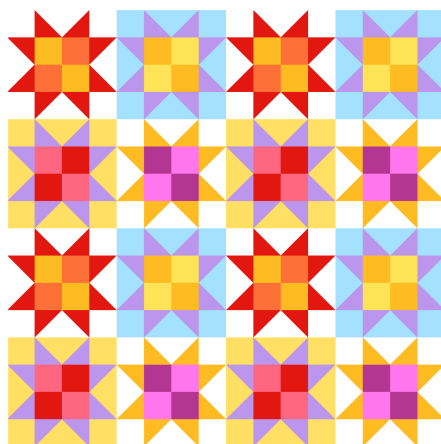
Our meetings are held on Wednesday mornings at 10 am in the Fireside Room (right across from the Pre-School building.) We welcome all women and men who want to share in the fun & camaraderie in learning and sharing quilting skills. No experience is needed. I have learned so much from all the more experienced 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 CCLM (Central City Lutheran Mission) Men's shelter.

All are welcome...

Come & check us out!

Sue Lehner

(909)798-7925



## Quarterly Finance update

Benevolences are based on 14% of Sunday Offerings. 7% to Pacifica Synod and 7% divided amongst other Charities.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Benevolences Given (2024 Oct-Dec offerings)

Pacifica Synod (7%)	\$5000
Central City Lutheran Mission	\$1000
Redlands Family Service	\$1000
Youth Hope	\$1000
Luther Glen Retreat Center	\$1000
ELCA Disaster	\$1000

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Benevolences Given (2025 Jan-Mar offerings)

Pacifica Synod (7%)	\$3100
Central City Lutheran Mission	\$650
Redlands Family Service	\$650
Youth Hope	\$650
Luther Glen Retreat Center	\$650
Global Refuge	\$500



## 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.



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## 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).

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Please Note that our 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!

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**First Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
1207 W. Cypress Ave.  
Redlands, CA 92373  
Tel: (909) 7932267

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