



Faith News

WELCOME

We are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace everyone as a whole person, with questions, doubts, complexities and all. We are moved by God's grace to welcome all who have ever felt marginalized, no matter your gender identity, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, marital status, or faith background. We welcome you as we worship, learn, and share Christ's love together.

Remember during this call process I shared how many openings there were in the ELCA for pastors in this synod. 42 openings out of 112 in our synod alone. I told you to have hope, trust the process and the call committee will do our very utmost to get the best possible fit. Thank you for your support and your prayers.



It is with this introduction that I am pleased to say the words that I have been waiting to say for over a year. We have locked in on a candidate couple that are beyond our wildest dreams of what we would be able to obtain. They are both Lutheran ministers and each have over 28 years' experience. They have co-pastored for the last 18 years and will continue that here. What a dynamic couple.

Both the call committee and the council have met them and unanimously approved them. You will have a chance to meet them via zoom on September 10th. We plan on setting up the big screen in the Atrium. Because they are actively preaching with their current congregation, the earliest we can do zoom that day is @ 2 p.m. that Sunday afternoon. I would encourage you to show up here at church @ 1:30 so we can give you some introductory information before meeting them.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

In-person & Live Streamed at 9:30am

Livestream: <https://streamlabs.com/faithlutheranchurchroseburg>

If you need rides to get back to church at that time, please let Jackie know (541-672-2231) ahead of time or call my cell phone (Nis 541-643-5237) and we will get it figured out. It is your only opportunity to see them before we have the vote.

Because of the amount of experience that they have, we will need to split the time with the Episcopalians. This last Thursday St. George's agreed to partner with us so we can move forward. We will have 75% of the time and 75% of the salary. Our share of the salary was already approved at our annual meeting. Even at 75% time we will have them approximately 40 hours a week.

The other date you need to lock in is September 24th which is when we have the congregational vote after the service. Please save that date as you cannot zoom in or do an absentee ballot. There will be a representative from the synod office to oversee and verify the vote. We need to have a quorum and a 2/3 majority to pass this measure. Then we can extend the official call to them. *So your presence on the 24th is absolutely critical.*

As always, I have shared what I can. Please respect that until we know they have shared with their present congregation that they are in the final stages of accepting a call elsewhere. We still need confidentiality for a little longer. We owe them that.

Thanks be to GOD that this process is working out! Thank YOU for your support and prayers.

Nis Jessen



September 10th meet pastoral candidates at 1:30pm on ZOOM in the Atrium

September 24th Congregational meeting with voting, followed with a Chicken Sunday meal.

Pastor letter

Dear Community in Faith-

Walking with and alongside you for the past 3½ months has been a joy. Knowing that you are well on your way to once again having regular pastoral leadership thrills me. Your strengths as a congregation give me hope as I journey along to the next steps along the way.

You have a voice in this community. Your presence with Pride events and your active support for persons in need are evidence that you hear the teachings of Jesus and can apply them in the world.

All too often congregations have lost their voice in the world and do most of their talking to themselves. Dwindling membership in the face of struggles to maintain ministry-based spending plans (budgets) continue to push congregations back into the corner of their crumbling buildings.

Into the face of all this flies Jesus' words from the gospel reading for September 10—the last Sunday that I will be with you.

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Yes, this comes from some of Jesus' teaching about conflict. Yes, these words end the paragraph from Matthew often referenced in congregational constitutions about how to appropriately discipline members who are troublesome. Yes, this passage is used too often to *prove righteousness* and misses Jesus' consistent teaching to be accountable to each other, to serve not for the good of oneself, but for the sake of the world.

Once again, as always, *faith is about who Jesus is.*

That is what calls us together in the Spirit. That is what sends us out to discover who really is our neighbor in creation. That is what brings us together to confess, pray, worship and be nourished to go back out again *in Jesus' name*. (And that is what reminds me, all too often, of my limitations, my inability to fully live the gospel as Jesus' taught, and my need to walk in the gift of confession and forgiveness.)

And that is what gives us voice. It is not our own wisdom or knowledge save but knowing we live as forgiven sinners.

My prayerful thoughts are with you as you move into your future. May you continue to uncover the blessings of God you have in this place. May "Faith" be always about *who Jesus is ...*

along the way,
Pastor Dan



Please join Ed, Alicia, and their family for a celebration of
LINDA COLE

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
(During fellowship hour)

This will be a small gathering per Linda's wishes. There will be coffee and sweets for all while we gather and share stories of love about Linda after Sunday's services on September 10th, during fellowship hour.



Linda was a large presence here at Faith Lutheran Church. Her smiles and good deeds were inspiring for all who knew her. All of us at Faith Lutheran will miss her presence but we will always remember her for her wonderful cheerful spirit!

While enduring the last few months, Linda was, and remained, a fine example of a Christian lady. Her deeds, words, and heart reflected God's love daily. Thank you Linda, you are missed.



If you would like to make donations in her memory please donate to the American Cancer Society, this is a charity that was very important to Linda.



COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS...

Faith Lutheran Church has many committees to do good deeds in a variety of ways. Here are what some of them have been up to...



August 25, 2023

Faith Lutheran Church
820 West Kenwood Street
Roseburg OR 97471

The Roseburg Senior Center would like to thank you for your contribution to the cooling center. Your donations were greatly appreciated by our members and by those utilizing the center.

We assisted 134 unhoused people and served 188 meals.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Lewis'.

Stephen Lewis
Chairman RSC

Our **Outreach Committee** has been very busy with finding ways to help our neighbors. In addition to bringing cake and sweats to the Veterans for Veteran's Day, they have delivered and donated water, popsicles, and fresh fruit to The Roseburg Senior Center to assist with their cooling center needs. They have many things brewing... Watch for what they are up to next....

The **Women Of Faith** had their bake sale 2 weeks ago, August 20, and raised over \$130!! Way to go WOF!!

There is an annual convention for the Oregon Women of the ELCA October 20th ~ October 23rd in Bend, Oregon.



*Oregon Synodical
Women of the ELCA*



**ANNUAL CONVENTION
OREGON WOMEN OF THE ELCA
October 20th - 23rd, 2023, Bend Oregon**

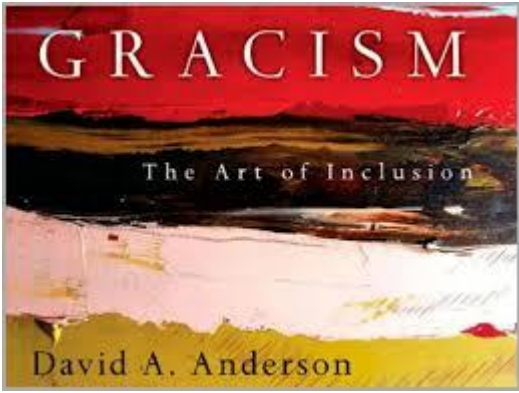
Oregon Women of the ELCA will meet in convention October 20th -- October 23rd, 2023. for the purpose of conducting Synodical business primarily to elect OR Synodical Women's Organization Board members

Registration begins September 10, 2023.

Each congregation unit of Women of the ELCA in the Oregon Synod is requested to send a voting member to this Convention. Those units who are affirmed as active participants in Women of the ELCA will have a voice and vote. Inactive units may send a non-voting member who shall have a voice only. To be considered active, units must meet all the following criteria:

- 1. Agree with and support the mission and purpose statement of Women of the ELCA**
- 2. Come together for study, support, and action.**
- 3. Participate in the ministry of Women of the ELCA beyond the Congregation**
- 4. Support financially the total program of Women of the ELCA (contribute)**
- 5. Designate leadership that shall be in communication with the Synodical and Churchwide women's organization**

**Abundant Blessings,
Stephanie Kistler, OR SWO President**



During the month of September, the **Embracing Diversity** group invites you to read "Gracism; The Art of Inclusion" by David A. Anderson. "When people deal with color, class or culture in a negative way, that's racism. But we can't ignore these as if they don't matter. Instead, we can look at color, class and culture in a positive way. That's gracism."



Pastor David Anderson responds to prejudice and injustice with the principle of gracism: radical inclusion for the marginalized and excluded. A Christian alternative to secular models of affirmative action or colorblindness, gracism is an opportunity to extend God's grace to people of all backgrounds.

We are planning a date at the end of the month when we can get together and discuss this book.

If you want to order a book, please talk to Jennifer Reida and she can order you one for \$12.

In-Reach Committee

One of the goals of the In-Reach Committee is to generate stronger connections within our Faith community and increase communication. The In-Reach committee is creating a weekly prayer chain

If you would like to be a part of this exciting communication tool or have questions about it, please call Cindy Kent (541) 430-6163 or Jackie (541) 672-2231

Special Needs

PLEASE let the church know if there are any needs or concerns that you may have. Like groceries picked up, prescriptions picked up, etc. You can call 541-672-2231 or email: office@faithroseburg.org

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Corner

The wheels are turning fast now for the hopeful hiring of our new Pastors! The call committee made a recommendation to extend a call to the pastoral candidates and the council unanimously agreed to extend the call. Specifics are still being worked out and will be shared as they are more set.

We will have a meet and greet by zoom on September 10th in the atrium for those who are able to attend. If you would like to be part of the zoom, but are unable to attend, access is being worked on and information will soon be available. It is suggested that you arrive by 1:30 for a short introduction. The candidates will begin the zoom connection at 2:00.

There will be a congregational meeting on September 24th. During this time, the congregation will be voting to approve to extend this call. It is very important that you are there to vote. You must be present for your vote to count. If you are in need of a ride to church, call the office and we will set up some rides and get pick up information for you.

September 24th was also to be the neighborhood picnic. It was decided by council that this would be a chicken Sunday potluck for just the congregation due to the importance of this day. With all that will be happening in September in the life of the congregation, the God's Work Our Hands Sunday on September 10th, will have to be canceled this year.

There is a Day of Learning on September 23rd put on by the synod, if you are interested there will be more information provided in the newsletter.

September promises to be a very busy, important and exciting time in the life of our church!

Keep your thoughts and prayers focused on this busy month.

Submitted by Debby Russell



Have you signed up for 2023 Day of Learning?

This rich day of online workshops designed at nurturing hearts and minds, churches and communities is open to everyone!

September 23, 9:30 am-3:00 pm

Additional session topics include:

- From the Community of Corinth to COVID
- Sacred Encounter as Deep Listening
- We are RIC (Reconciling in Christ), Now What?
- Basics of Supporting Vitality in Congregations
- Exploring the "Three Pathways" or "Four Options" for Congregations with Decreasing Resources
- Racial Affinity Space for BIPOC Leaders

September 23, 9:30 am-3:00 pm

- Live on Zoom
- \$35 for adults over 21 (cost is per screen)
- Under 21's are free
- Scholarships available

2023 Oregon Synod Day of Learning

Nurturing Authentic Spiritual Friendship and Healthy, Vital Faith Communities through the Gift of Sacred Encounter

September 23
9:30 am to 3:00 pm

Storytelling and Relational Fundraising

Help your congregation build more capacity for fueling its ministry and mission



Led by Rev. Tim Brown and Karen Kretschmann



Storytelling and Relational Fundraising

Led by Rev. Tim Brown, director for congregational stewardship support at the ELCA churchwide offices and Karen Kretschmann, ELCA coordinator for storytelling engagement, this workshop will help you develop skills for inspirational and concise storytelling as you help your congregation build more capacity for fueling its ministry and mission. Practices like listening deeply, articulating mission, speaking authentically, and studying scripture collectively will all be front and center in this practical workshop.

Sacred Encounter Across Privilege

How do we begin to nurture relationships of solidarity across privilege?



Led by Rev. Melissa Reed and Rev. Chris Dela Cruz.



Sacred Encounter Across Privilege

Society is organized to weaponize identities and privilege some people over others, particularly in areas of race, class, language, gender, sexual identity, age and ability. When the ground we relate to one another is uneven, how do we encounter one another without harm? How do we begin to nurture relationships of solidarity across privilege? We will dive into these questions through practice, reflection and wisdom sharing. Led by Rev. Melissa Reed and Rev. Chris Dela Cruz.

Some important updates **cancellations:**

“God’s Work, Our Hands” is cancelled this year. It is typically held in September and this year it is the same day we meet the pastoral candidates.

We will re-join this fantastic deed next year.

The annual neighborhood picnic is cancelled this year as we will be having our special congregational meeting to vote on extending the pastoral call that day, and since it will be on a Chicken Sunday – guess what we’ll be having??



Ministerial Staff

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Sharon Muck, -President

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Musicians

Gwen Soderberg-Chase, Pianist

Rey Wanamaker, Pianist

Crossroads Contemporary Music Group

Office Info:

The church office hours are:

Tuesday thru Friday

10am til 4pm

CHURCH COUNCIL Members

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Find us on these platforms:

FELC Website: www.faithroseburg.org

YouTube: Faith Lutheran Church, Roseburg

Find us on Facebook: Faith Lutheran Church ELCA

Livestream: <https://streamlabs.com/faithlutheranchurchroseburg>



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Office Info:

The church office hours are:

Tuesday thru Friday

10am ~ 4pm.

