



# *Faith Talks*

*July 2020*

8:30am & 11am Live Worship, RSVP Seating Only  
Online Worship Sundays at 11am\*



**\*Worship times may change in the coming weeks. Visit [chicofaithlutheran.org](http://chicofaithlutheran.org) for more information.**

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**DONNA GARLAND, CHAR MILLER, and MARY OLD-KOOI** for making beautiful masks for our congregation

**KIM SCHWEDER and KAI McDERMOTT-PAPPANI** for helping with our A/V system

**MARY SCHWEDER** for organizing the Hospitality Table



**OUR WORSHIP LEADERS** for helping us readjust to in-person services

**OUR GRAD CARAVAN** for coming out to form a car parade in support of our Faith Lutheran graduates

And Roses to **FAYE JOHNSON** from Carl Johnson, for everything she's done to keep Carl alive and well.

## **STAFF AWAY TIME**

Colter will be gone starting Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> and will return for service on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. Luke will be gone starting July 27<sup>th</sup> and will return Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

## PASTOR'S ARTICLE: WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS



There are so many new aspects to our live as a congregation. We are learning new ways to worship online. We are practicing new ways to gather in-person that include wearing masks and having our temperature checked. We have new church management software. Our building has new signs. Since we cannot sing together, we are even taking up new (to us) ways of making music in worship! But of all that is new at Faith Lutheran, I am most excited for our new members. On June 21st , 14 new members joined Faith Lutheran Church. This is the largest class of new members in over a decade.

These 14 people new members have navigated not only learning to worship and take New Members' Classes online, but have also strived to make connections and build relationships in the congregation at a time when the usual settings for such things, coffee hour, potlucks, have been postponed indefinitely.

And so I am asking for your help. Membership has its privileges, but at Faith Lutheran those privileges rarely excite. Members are able to vote at congregational meetings and serve on the council. Like voting and serving in public office in our secular community, these are incredibly important responsibilities. But these 14 people didn't become new members so that they could vote. They have pledged to live out their faith in Jesus as a part of this congregation because they want to be part of a community that shares the love of God. They want to work along side you in God's vineyard. They want to pray with you in God's house. They want to break bread with you at God's table. And they want to heal the world with you in God's name.

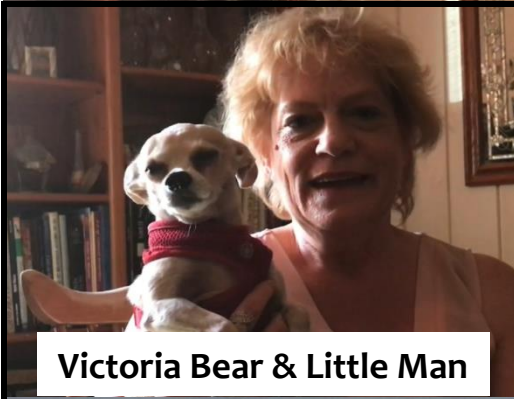
For these new members to do all this, they need to get to know you, and for you to get to know them. And so I ask you, when you see these people in worship, greet them! Introduce yourself and share the passions that God has put in your heart. And ask what God has been up to in their lives. If you see these people online, greet them in the comments. Let them know you are glad to be siblings with them in Christ. These new members have their contact information in the new directory. Consider writing them a card. And when it is safe to do so again, invite them out for some fun. And if you don't yet have a new directory, contact the office and we'll get you one.

And if you haven't already, I encourage you to watch the video of the new members introducing themselves and offering their prayers.

We are all facing so many challenges right now. But for this moment, I give thanks that in the faces of these new members, I remember the abundant blessings that God continues to shower on our community. And I rejoice that I get to share those blessings with you.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Pastor Ben Colahan





**Victoria Bear & Little Man**



**Julie Carter**



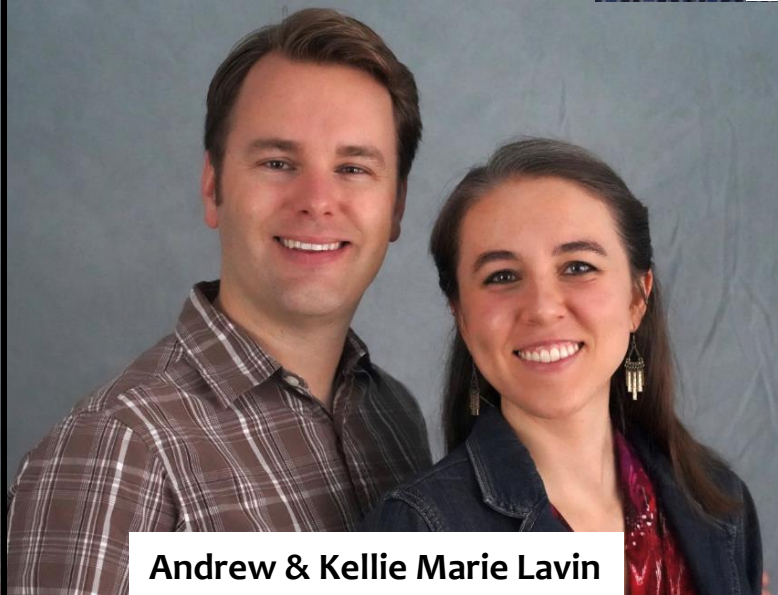
**Stephen Kathriner**



**Matt & Kelsey Reed**



**Dawn, Jon, & the Stafford Family**



**Andrew & Kellie Marie Lavin**



**Ted & Charlaine Sandberg**



**Carol & Steve Hall**



**Adelio & Giovanni Havens**



## THE TRIP REPORT: GRADUATE CAR PARADE

Welcome to the fourteenth edition of *The Trip Report*, a monthly briefing on youth and intergenerational events. This month, I will share about a parade of cars gathered together to celebrate and honor Faith Lutheran's 2020 graduates.



Margaret McMillan came prepared. When she pulled her white car up at the home of Lily and Mason Massa, there was a box of noisemakers in her passenger seat, ready to be handed out to fellow Faith members. Dianna and Pat Snyder had several balloons taped to the outside of their car, and Pastor Ben and Annalisa Colahan had big signs to congratulate each graduate on our parade route. With everyone prepared for celebration, it was time for our car parade to begin.

Lily and Mason led us on a loop around a portion of their farm. Both Lily and Mason have been promoted from 8th grade. Lily will attend Inspire and Mason will attend Chico High next year. I followed them as they drove their Gator farm vehicle, as did the rest of the cars, and I saw them smiling and having a great time. Our car parade was fairly large, and as we made a small U-turn to head back towards their house, each car shouted and honked their congratulations.

From Lily and Mason's house, our next stop was Sebastian Riggins. Sebastian finished Kindergarten this year! His family stood with him in the yard, and once again, I saw the proud, smiling face of another Faith graduate, surrounded by his loving community. The sounds of Pomp and Circumstance blasting at full volume from my car stereo faded as I drove away from their house, and we continued on to the next.

Over the course of our parade, we stopped to celebrate Kendall Stafford (8th grade grad), Julian Randolph (8th grade), Alex Van Dusen (Kindergarten), and Abby Bentler (our only high school grad in the group). We managed to keep our group of cars relatively grouped together as we drove from house to house, a small miracle considering some of the intersections we had to navigate. It was honestly just an absolute blast to drive around and be goofy in celebration.

As we pulled away from our final stop and waved to all of the folks who joined in our small parade, I was filled with pride at our Faith Lutheran community, who values academic success and knows the importance of a good celebration. From the many milestones we celebrated this year, to many more we will celebrate in the future, I am glad to call my Faith Lutheran family my siblings in Christ, and especially when we get to celebrate together. Here's to celebration.



Have an adventure-worthy idea for an upcoming youth/intergenerational event? Interested in becoming involved with Faith Lutheran's youth? Colter would love to hear from you! [colter.g.murphy@gmail.com](mailto:colter.g.murphy@gmail.com)

# ASYLUM TEAM UPDATE

Hello, all, and thank you for your support of the Asylum Fund. Since Faith Lutheran began this fund, with the goal of raising money to sponsor someone legally seeking asylum, we have been able to raise over \$6,000! Way to go!

As the team moves forward, we are working to continue to build connections with fellow communities of faith here in Chico. Our fundraising subcommittee is busy planning our team's first community-wide fundraiser, so stay tuned for more details on how you can participate.

We are also still accepting any offers of potential housing for an individual or a family. If you have housing you would be willing to offer, such as a mother-in-law unit or even a working trailer with hookups, please email Colter at colter.g.murphy@gmail.com.

In addition to the fundraiser and our search for housing, we are seeking long-term, sustaining donors who can support our efforts through regular, recurring giving. The legal process of being granted asylum and obtaining a work authorization permit can be quite lengthy. As a team, we are committed to fully supporting whomever we sponsor through the entire process, with the end goal being complete self-sufficiency for the asylum seeker. We anticipate the possibility of walking alongside these siblings in Christ as sponsors for up to two years as they navigate the legal process and figure out their new lives in Chico. Through your weekly, monthly, or bi-monthly donation, you are sending a message of steadfastness and hope to those we will sponsor.

If you are interested in becoming a sustaining donor, you can easily do so on our website. Go to [chicofaithlutheran.org/give](http://chicofaithlutheran.org/give), click the "give online now" button, and then be sure to select "Asylum Sponsorship Fund" from the dropdown menu. Then, you can click the "recurring giving" box, and choose how frequently you would like to donate. To give you an idea of how your dollars will be spent, the team has drafted a sample monthly budget. We share this budget with you in hopes to illustrate the anticipated ongoing, monthly needs of this project. Colter would be happy to address any questions you have about the budget, email him at colter.g.murphy@gmail.com.

## Single 1 Bedroom

Monthly Expenses	Budget	Church Responsibility	Asylum Seekers Responsibility	Income/Donations	
Rent:	\$894			Family:	
Utilities:				Church:	
Gas:	\$13			Other:	
Electric:	\$76				
Water:	\$10				
Cell Phone:	\$40				
Transportation:	\$100				
Medical:	\$300				
Other:	\$100				
Sub-Total:	\$1533				
Food:	\$468				
Total Expenses:	\$2001			Total Income	

Asylum Seekers Sample Monthly Budget

## Family 2 Bedroom

Monthly Expenses	Budget	Church Responsibility	Asylum Seekers Responsibility	Income /Donations	
Rent:	\$1144			Family:	
Utilities:				Church:	
Gas:	\$16			Other:	
Electric:	\$89				
Water:	\$10				
Cell Phone:	\$80				
Transportation:	\$100				
Medical:	\$500				
Other:	\$100				
Sub-Total:	2039				
Food:	\$866				
Total Expenses:	\$2905			Total Income	

## **A LETTER from LUKE: ADJUSTING to the RETURN of LIVE WORSHIP**



And just like that, here we are! June has nearly come and gone, Summer has officially started, and it's already warm out (at least the humidity is low, haha!)

June has been a challenging month for music and worship. At the beginning of the month we got the green flag to begin the reopening process at church under strict guidelines from Governor Newsom, the Butte County Health Officials and the CDC. One of the main challenges that we faced was coming back to worship and not being able to sing or create music in that way. A committee and I met and discussed/brainstormed ways that we could make music that required

no congregational or choral singing- a concept that is very counter-intuitive especially to our faith which draws much of its musical traditions from singing! Many of the ideas of the committee included more instrumental music such as drum circles, bells, use of the Orff instruments, instruments that don't require human made wind to sustain them, and much more.

Another big challenge that we've been facing is the continuation of livestreamed services even after it's safe for all to return to in-person worship. Throughout this difficult time, the online ministry has reached many people who haven't been able to worship with us due to a number of reasons such as health, distance, and other factors.

Throughout the last several weeks Kim Schweder and I have been working on ProPresenter 7. This is a program that will give us the ability to stream the service live and to hold in-person worship simultaneously. This program also gives us the ability to load in text for bible verses and songs. ProPresenter 7 also allows to store the hymns, songs, and liturgies that we use throughout the year so that we can quickly recall them if need be. We hope to be unveiling this program by the end of June/beginning of July so that we are able to make worship, both in-person and online, a smooth experience.

This is a very exciting time for us all! Despite the unknowns, we've got so many opportunities to reach to our community through music, technology and so many other ways. Ways that will draw us closer together and bring about a greater sense of community.

Blessings for another month,  
Luke Nicolay- Director of Worship and Music

**To sign up for worship leader roles, contact me at [lukenicolay1@gmail.com](mailto:lukenicolay1@gmail.com). I will also be putting an article in the E-blast with descriptions for the team member positions.**

## A LETTER from KAGITUMBA

*Dear all Friends at Trinity and Faith Lutheran Church in Sierra Pacific Synod I greet you all in Jesus Name and Savior.*

*I write to express our gratitude towards your support made possible by the existing companionship between sisters and brothers of Kagitumba and your respective communities. Your support has enabled us to continue our construction project of the worship place. covid-19 has affected much of regular church life but the spirit continues to lead heart to be even more united even when we are apart and we hop to join our efforts again and see that we put up remain layers of bricks and a roof before the rains comes back in october. covid-19 has affected all travers between districts.*

*We continue to be sheltered in place and we don't know when we get back to normal. We pray for God's guidance throughout the uncertain times. We thank God for your lover that surpasses these difficult times that you continue to support us. Stay blessed and we look forward to communicate regularly and see where the spirit leads us together as one body of Christ.*

*Grace and peace,  
Pr Mukama Eddy Santos Kagitumba*

## ZOOM and FACEBOOK EVENTS

Our schedule is subject to change on a week by week basis due to the turbulent nature of quarantine. Make sure you're connected through our E-blasts to receive the most up-to-date information on scheduling.

Below is a tentative schedule for Zoom and Facebook.

~~~ ZOOM PASSWORD IS 667 ~~~

### COVID-19 PRAYER GROUP DAILY 1pm

Join us if you can with Bill Augros as our host. Please call between 1:00-1:05pm. Dial 1-669-900-9128 (a San Jose number) and enter the meeting ID 884 029 41 999# (make sure to enter # at the end.) Enter the password 229 181# (make sure to enter # at the end.) You will hear Bach radio. State your first name. Please be silent in meditation until the music stops at about 1:05pm. If you can't get in, please call Becky (897-0699) or Barbara (592-7367). When the host reads your name, you can say or read a poem, state a concern about COVID-19, ask for a prayer for yourself or someone else, or pass (just listen.) We will start over and continue until everyone passes. If you call in late, that's okay, just interrupt us and state your first name. If you have any questions, please call Bill Augros at (530) 895-9229 or email him at [billaugros@gmail.com](mailto:billaugros@gmail.com).





**SUNDAY WORSHIP** – Sunday worship will take place in person, RSVP seating only, at 8:30am and 11:00am. Online services will continue each Sunday at 11:00am until further notice. These worship times may change during the month of July. If you'd like to RSVP, call the office at (530) 895-3754 or go to [chicofaithlutheran.org](http://chicofaithlutheran.org).

**TUESDAY 4PM CENTERING PRAYER** - Could you use some time to center yourself and connect to God in prayer? Centering prayer consists of a brief spiritual reading, followed by a 20 minutes of contemplative silence, followed by a reading of the gospel and a voluntary naming of what stood out to each listener. There is instruction available for newcomers. This week we are doing it online, so if you've never had a chance to join before, this is a great time to check it out! Go to <https://zoom.us/j/5308953754> to log in or call 1 669 900 6833 with the meeting ID number 5308953754 (which is our church's phone number.)

**TUESDAY 5PM BIBLE STUDY** - Each week Pastor Ben leads a Bible study on the passages of scripture that he'll be preaching on the following Sunday. This week he'll do it online, so now's a perfect time to check it out! To speak, you'll need a microphone on your computer, but you can also just listen. Go to <https://zoom.us/j/5308953754> to log in or call 1 669 900 6833 with the meeting ID number 5308953754 (which is our church's phone number.)

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BOOK STUDY 7PM** - Join us as we discuss Pastor Lenny Duncan's book *"Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S."* As George Floyd's death in Minneapolis ignites debate, demonstrations, and violence across the country, this book offers us a chance to step back and listen to a range of perspectives and voices about race relations both in our country and our denomination. Go to <https://zoom.us/j/5308953754> and use the password 667.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR SUPPORT FOR FAITH LUTHERAN** - We aren't able to pass the offering plate right now, but we continue to serve Christ in Chico and beyond, and our expenses continue as well. Please mail checks to the church office at 667 E. 1 st Ave, Chico, CA 95926. We also accept online giving at [chicofaithlutheran.org/give](http://chicofaithlutheran.org/give).

## **MINISTRY of the MONTH: WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

How often do you stop and think of how blessed we are as a congregation?

In this time of quiet, stay at home, we especially want to reflect and thank all of the people and ministries whose many hands are doing God's work.

This month we want to celebrate some of the Women's Ministries. During this time of sheltering in place the quilters/sewers have been making masks. They have made them for our congregation, for doctors' offices, for the Project Roomkey guests.

The Women's Ministry makes beautiful quilts for Camp Fire survivors, members, events, and more. But they do other wonderful work too, like hosting bake sales that bring joy to all sweet-treats fans! The money made from these bake sales helps buy bus tickets for those who need rides to church, and gives scholarships to our youth going off to college or trade school. They also have two Bible study groups that meet once a month. So ladies, this is just a tiny taste of what God is asking of us. If you would like to join these happy hands, please check the church office about who to call.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Faith Lutheran Church General Fund Finances as of 05/31/2020

|                                             | Budget<br>To Date   | Actual<br>To Date         | Percent<br>Of Budget |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| TOTAL INCOME                                | \$387,181.14        | \$380,352.50              | 98.24%               |
| TOTAL EXPENSE                               | <u>\$391,603.67</u> | <u>\$379,579.84</u>       | 96.93%               |
| NET INCOME/(LOSS)                           | (\$4,422.53)        | \$772.66                  |                      |
| Beginning General Fund Balance as of 7/1/19 |                     | \$29,053.42               |                      |
| Net Revenue through 05/31/2020              |                     | <u>\$772.66</u>           |                      |
| Ending General Fund Balance                 |                     | <u><u>\$29,826.08</u></u> |                      |

In an effort to be transparent and keep the Faith Lutheran Community up to speed and in touch with the finances of the Church, this report will be posted in Faith Talks on a monthly basis.

The above figures show that as of the end of May the General Fund was in the Black by \$772.66. It should be noted that the expenses include a little over \$7,000 for Employee search costs and approximately \$15,000 for building improvements to the office building, that were not included in the original budget. Taking that into account, the financial operations of the Church continue to be strong.

Thank You All for your continued support.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact:

Mark Kimmelshue

530-520-8228

[kimmelshue@armcorice.com](mailto:kimmelshue@armcorice.com)

## COUNCIL MINUTES

**Tuesday 9 June 2020, 6:15 p.m. Zoom**

Present: Colahan, Zimbelman, Sample, Kimmelshue, Heinz, Kimball, Knight, Homesley, Kampf, Woods. Absent: None



1. Devotion- Encompassing prayer by Joel
2. Opening Prayer—Pr. Ben
3. Approval of minutes from last meeting - Motion made by Diane, seconded by Sky and motion passed.
4. Setting service times and logistics. Tentatively set for June 21, 2020. Reviewed on line RSVP for Sunday services each week. Will as send out an email tomorrow with information on how to sign up for services. On line services will continue in perpetuity for those that cannot attend. There will also be a link to Elvanthro for the Faith community to sign up to assist with services. Example: sanitizing, usher, service preferences, etc. Responses for preferences currently are as follows:
  - a. 40 for the 8:30 service
  - b. 13 for the 11:00 service (on line service streamed from this service)
5. Asylum program issues and liability- Pr. Ben. Request: can the committee join under the FLC umbrella? Instead of partnering with NVCF request the committee to form their own accounting group and run the asylum program completely under FLC. Will also request regular updates from the committee once underway.
6. Financial Report- Mark Kimmelshue. Joel made motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Susan. Motion passed.
7. 2020/2021 Budget:
  - a. Decided to Increase the budget by \$1,000 for seminary scholarship assistance.
  - b. Software budget Increase to \$1,500 from \$1,000 per year.
  - c. Motion to approve the budget with the above changes approved by Susan and seconded by Sherrill. Motion carried.
8. Annual Meeting for June 28, 2020 on line—Agenda reviewed and amended.
9. Stewardship and Capital Campaign update presented by Joel. Sherrill stated that there is an on line senate stewardship workshop this Saturday. Pastor Ben will send out the link to all council members.
10. Updates
  - Signage, going in now.
  - Sound/AV System, bid coming in this next week.
  - Comcast internet, connection expected by August.
  - Roofing contractors coming in to give an assessment.
  - Landscaping & painters coming in this week.
11. Other
  - a. Directories to be passed out on beginning on June 21st
12. Upcoming meetings
  - a. Executive meeting on June 18th @ 8:30
  - b. Constitution & budget Q&A meeting on June 21 @10:00 am
  - c. Executive meeting June 25th @ 8:30
  - d. Annual meeting June 28th @ 12:00 on Zoom
  - e. Council meeting on July 14th @ 6:30
13. Closing Prayer
14. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted, Diane Knight

**Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m. July 14**

**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**667 East First Avenue**  
**Chico, CA 95926**

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**Faith Lutheran Church Council**

**President:** Joel Zimbelman

JZimbelman@csuchico.edu

**Vice President:** Sky Sample

skysample@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Mark Kimmelshue

kimmelshue@armcorice.com

**Secretary:** Diane Knight

dianeknight396@gmail.com

**Council Members:** Sherrill Heinz, Meredith Woods, Susan Kimball,  
Tricia Homesley, Cynthia Kampf

To leave a phone message for any staff or council member, contact the office at (530) 895-3754

**SUNDAY SERVICE at 8:30 & 11am**

**ONLINE SERVICE at 11am**

**OFFICE: (530) 895-3754**

**HOURS: Mon-Thu 10 AM-3:30 PM**

**EMAIL: [faithlutheraninchico@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheraninchico@gmail.com)**

**WEBSITE: [www.chicofaithlutheran.org](http://www.chicofaithlutheran.org)**