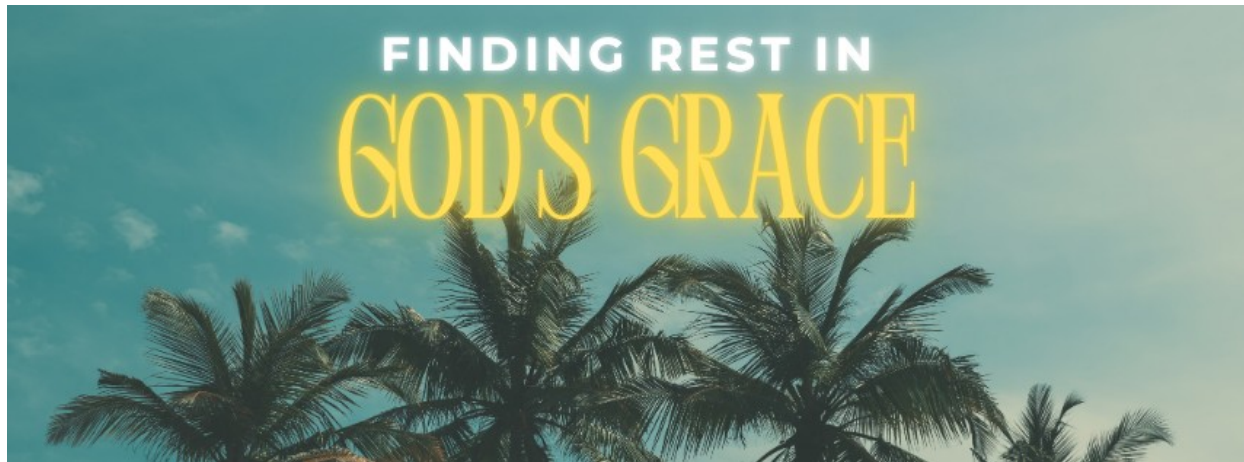




Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church * August 2026



Finding Rest in God's Grace

Martin Luther famously wrote that a person is not a Christian because they do a certain work, but because they are in the right relationship with God. Those words were revolutionary in Luther's day, and they remain just as comforting today. In a world that often measures our value by productivity, accomplishments, or how busy we are, God's Word reminds us that our worth is found in something entirely different. We are not loved by God because we have done enough, served enough, volunteered enough, or even believed perfectly enough. We are loved because Christ has made us His own. Our relationship with God is founded on His grace alone, received through faith alone, because of Christ alone.

From that relationship, our lives begin to change. Good works are not the cause of our salvation—they are the fruit of it. Luther often compared faith to a healthy tree. An apple tree does not become an apple tree by producing apples. It produces apples because it already is an apple tree. In the same way, Christians do not earn God's favor through acts of kindness, generosity, or service. Rather, because we have already received God's favor in Christ, those good works naturally grow from a heart transformed by the Holy Spirit.

That truth is especially important to remember during the summer months. While summer often brings vacations, family gatherings, and longer days, it can also become surprisingly busy. Calendars quickly fill with travel, children's activities, home projects, celebrations, and countless other commitments. Even our seasons of recreation can become so scheduled that we return from vacation feeling more exhausted than when we left.

Perhaps that is why summer also offers us a wonderful opportunity to rediscover the gift of Sabbath. The Bible's invitation to Sabbath is much more than simply taking a day off. It is God's gracious reminder that the world continues to turn without our constant effort. It is an invitation to stop striving, to rest in His provision, and to remember that He alone is the Creator while we are His beloved creation.

Whether you are unplugging at the beach, camping beneath a canopy of stars, hosting a neighborhood barbecue, tending your garden, taking an evening walk, or simply enjoying your

morning coffee on the patio, these ordinary moments can become holy moments. When we intentionally slow down, we begin to notice what our hurried lives often overlook—the beauty of a sunrise, the laughter of grandchildren, the songs of birds, the fragrance of flowers, and the quiet assurance that God is faithfully sustaining His creation. These simple gifts remind us that God's grace surrounds us every day.

Sabbath also gives us the opportunity to step back from the endless pressure to produce. Our culture often tells us that our value depends on our performance. We are encouraged to accomplish more, earn more, and stay connected every waking moment. Yet Jesus offers a different invitation: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." True rest is not merely the absence of work; it is the presence of Christ. It is the peace that comes from knowing we are already accepted, already forgiven, and already loved.

This kind of rest renews more than our bodies. It refreshes our souls. It reminds us to spend time in God's Word, to gather regularly for worship, to pray without rushing, and to simply enjoy the relationships He has placed in our lives. Sabbath teaches us to trust that while we rest, God continues His work. His kingdom does not depend upon our endless activity. Instead, we have the privilege of joining in the work He is already accomplishing.

As we are refreshed by God's grace, we find ourselves returning to our daily responsibilities with renewed purpose. We serve our neighbors, care for our families, and fulfill our vocations not because we are trying to earn God's approval, but because we have already received it. The Christian life is never about striving to become someone God could love. It is about living each day as someone God already loves in Christ.

So, this summer, embrace the gift of holy rest. Set aside moments to unplug from the noise and distractions that so easily consume our attention. Sit quietly with Scripture. Watch a sunset. Share a meal with friends. Take a walk and marvel at God's creation. Laugh with your family. Offer thanks for the blessings that often go unnoticed. In these simple moments, God gently reminds us that His grace is sufficient, His mercies are new every morning, and His faithfulness never fails.

May this season become more than a break from routine. May it become a season of renewal—a time to remember that before we are workers, volunteers, parents, grandparents, employees, or retirees, we are first and always beloved children of God. And from that secure relationship, established by Christ and sustained by His grace, every act of service becomes not an obligation, but a joyful response to the immeasurable love we have already received.



Sunday School resumes on August 9th! Bring your kids, your grandkids, your kids' and grandkids' friends, your neighbors...invite everyone you know!

Sunday School is every Sunday immediately following the Children's Chat...and it's for ALL ages! ALL are welcome!

Bring your backpacks to church on the 9th for a special blessing for the new school year!



Dear Faith Family,

Let us daily: "Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good,
Sing praise to God's name for God is gracious."
(Psalm 135:3)

Summer is here and the year is half over. My, how time flies when you are having fun.

Fellowship and fun are in abundance at Faith. With our many activities we are also encouraging many of our friends and neighbors to join us, and to learn what we are all about.

During the month we have Food with Friends, an evening ice cream social, a movie in the afternoon, bingo, Menifee Reads book club, daytime and evening bible study groups, 4 Plus 1 Group, morning quilting group, coffee and fellowship after Sunday worship and various committees. Something for everyone. Pick something you might like and come and join us.

Your council and various committees are hard at work to improve our worship and live streaming for those who are unable to join us on Sunday morning. We have a new church website, improved lighting in the sanctuary and outside on our cross. Improvements in our restrooms with the installation of motion sensor lights. These are just a few of the changes and improvements that make the time that we spend at church more safe, efficient and enjoyable.

Even though I and my husband, Dick, are back at our summer home in Minnesota, during the summer months, I am still involved with the work of the church. We miss you all and look forward to seeing you in early October. God's blessings are with you all.

-Bea Olsen, Faith Lutheran Council President

ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD

The Endowment Fund Board met after on church on July 26, 2026 to make some decisions according to the Church Constitution. "Income from this Endowment Fund shall be distributed annually and when necessary and/or feasible to enhance the outreach mission of Faith Lutheran Church."

We decided to give \$5,000 to MilVet to ship boxes of military care packages to our veterans overseas. We also decided to give \$5,000 to Lutheran Disaster Response and a \$2,500 to the Menifee Women's Shelter of Domestic Violence.

I want to thank the members of the Endowment Fund Board for their service and the members of Faith Lutheran Church for your generosity. The Holy Spirit is at Work.

-Dave Moe, Chair of the Endowment Fund Board



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Communion Servers	Power Point	Ushers
2nd: Roderick	2nd: Diane M.	2nd: Karla	2nd: Mike	2nd: Annie
9th: Candy	9th: Lorna	9th: Freddericka	9th: Bill	9th: Gina
16th: Roderick	16th: David M.	16th: Diane S.	16th: Candy	16th: Becky
23rd: Ken	23rd: Robert P.	23rd: Debbie	23rd: Bill	23rd: Karla
30th: Joanne	30th: Danielle	30th: Diane M.	30th: Mike	30th: Diane S.
Attendance	Greeters	Altar Guild	Sound	Live Stream/Video
2nd: Kandie	2nd: Bev	2nd: Kandie & Diane	2nd: Madeline	2nd: Maddie
9th: Shirley	9th: Dave F.	9th: Kandie & Diane	9th: Madeline	9th: Maddie
16th: Connie	16th: Walli	16th: Kandie & Debbie	16th: Madeline	16th: Maddie
23rd: Diane M.	23rd: Bev	23rd: Kandie & Debbie	23rd: Madeline	23rd: Maddie
30th: TBD	30th: Sandy	30th: Kandie & TBD	30th: Madeline	30th: Maddie



Hunger Never Rests!

**The Menifee Valley Community Cupboard
is in need of oatmeal for August!**

Most of us have not experienced food insecurity, but many locally do experience it, both seniors and families. Let's remind ourselves to do all we can to help those in need here in Menifee! As you are able, be Christ in action, add the monthly item to your shopping list and add it to the collection bin by mailboxes!



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

August 2	Mardene Miller
August 4	Ron Biggs
August 5	Jackie Culp
August 14	Tom Brosz
August 14	Pam Heinz
August 22	Eileen Johnson
August 26	Judy Brosz
August 29	Sandy Chandler



ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

August 5	Robert & Becky Ackley
August 9	Bryant & Valerie Holmes
August 13	Rich & Sandy Chandler
August 13	Ray & Pat Olson



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please notify the church office so we can add you to our list!

Christmas in July

Our Faith Lutheran Church Family has generously donated \$1,000 in Target and WalMart gift cards for the Menifee Women's Shelter Residents!

Thank you for sharing your love with the residents of this shelter. Giving is Love in Action!

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!



FINANCIAL REPORT

June 30, 2026

1. Comments

- a. June 2026 Member giving was below budget by 10.92%. YTD Member giving is above budget by 22.27%*.
- b. Expenses continue below budget. While we budgeted for a half-time Pastor (currently vacant), our Pastoral expenses continue to include payment for Supply Pastors only during the Call processes
- c. While our overall budget will likely run a surplus due to the low Pastoral Expenses, **the Congregation should pay attention to Member Giving as a measure of our overall financial health.** It is possible that we would continue to see monthly surpluses even as Member Giving runs under budget. If so, this would result in an unhealthy trend that could adversely affect our Church once we fill our vacant Pastoral position.

2. Financials Review

- a. **Offering Envelopes**
 - i) **For the month**, below budget at 89.08% (\$9,850 vs \$11,058).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, above budget at 122.27% (\$85,685** vs \$70,077).
- b. **Total Income**
 - i) **For the month**, close to budget at 99.43% (\$15,386 vs \$15,474).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, above budget at 158.11% (\$182,550* vs \$115,459).
- c. **Expenses**
 - i) **For the month**, below budget at 85.77% (\$15,208 vs \$17,730).
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, below budget at 87.90% (\$95,239 vs \$108,348).
- d. **Net Operating Income** (Total Income minus Expenses)
 - i) **For the month**, a surplus of \$178 vs the expected deficit of \$2,256.
 - ii) **Year-to-date**, a surplus of \$87,311* vs the expected surplus of \$7,111.
- e. **Bank balances**
 - i) **Total Balance at Month-end** is \$679,996.11.
 - (1) Provident Bank General Checking - \$187,815.90
 - (2) US Bank General Checking – \$281.07
 - (3) US Bank Property Sale - \$248,073.35
 - (4) ELCA FCU Savings - \$33.26
 - (5) ELCA FCU Property Sale CD1 – \$87,693.20
 - (6) ELCA FCU Pastor Reserve Fund CD - \$81,031.26
 - (7) ELCA FCU Property Sale CD2 - \$65,021.93
 - (8) Thrivent Bank CD - \$10,046.14**Previous Month-end balance** was \$678,378.20.

*Includes gifts from Jan Williams Estate: FLC General Fund-\$66,406.48, FLC Endowment-\$66,406.47, WELCA-\$14,757; **Trinity Lutheran, Hemet-\$18,000.

3. Property Sale Funds by Bank Account:

US Bank Savings Account	\$245,000.00
ELCA Federal Credit Union CD1	\$86,264.00
ELCA Federal Credit Union CD2	\$64,407.11
Total Property Sale Funds	\$395,671.11

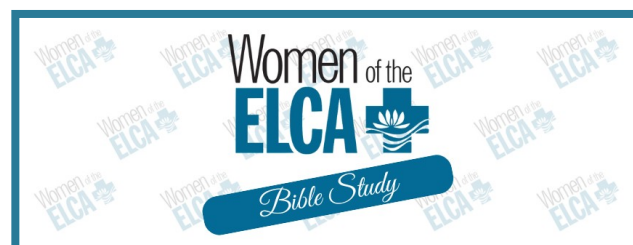
4. Council Approved Items/Projects Completed in June:

- a. **Smart Thermostat for Office Hallway** –Replace existing manual thermostat outside Lynn’s office with a Nest Smart Thermostat.
- b. **Outside Cross Light Replacement** –Non-working light removed, new dawn to dusk light installed on 7/21/2026 by Greentree Electrical Services.

Submitted by Madeline Puccio, Treasurer

Explore Scripture Together!!

*a ministry of Women of the
ELCA (WELCA)



What have you done to understand the nature and love of God, and Jesus Christ? A key way to do that is to study his Word, the Bible. All of us are called to be in a relationship with and know God. Studying with other believers can be more enlightening and helpful than reading Scripture alone. Here at Faith, WELCA gives you opportunities to study God’s Word in a community of believers, a safe space to question, learn and grow.

- **Mary’s Circle** uses studies from Gather Magazine. The study for August is “I am worthy”, a concept many of us struggle with. The group meets on the second Wednesday of the month (August 12th) at 10:00 am.

Come when you can and let’s grow in faith together! All are welcome!

Menifee National Night Out



Menifee National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4, 2026 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm and will be held at Audie Murphy Ranch Sports Park!

Faith’s Outreach team will have a booth at the event. Backpacks are given out to the first 500 kids and all participating organizations hand out some type of school supplies to help fill the backpack. We will use a Thrivent card for the erasers we are committed to hand out.

Additionally, we will hand out lots of flyers on events at Faith!

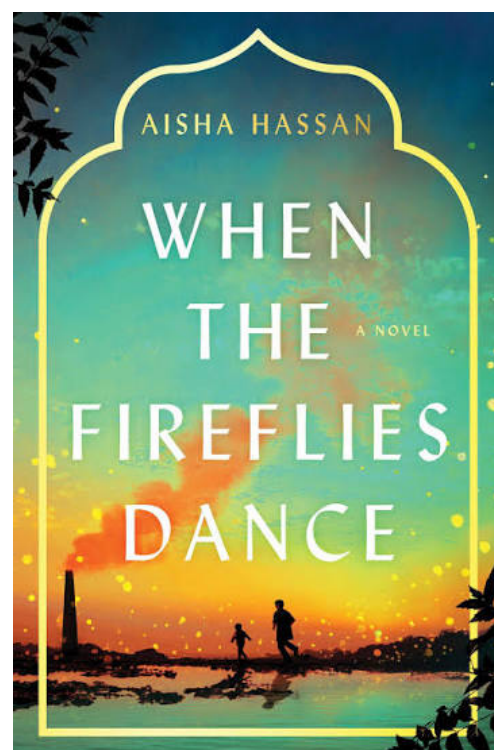


Meniffee Reads! (a book club) is reading "When the Fireflies Dance" by Aisha Hassan.

On the outskirts of Lahore, Pakistan, a large yellow moon hung low in the sky when the men came with dogs and guns and cricket bats. In front of his family's small hut on the edge of a looming brick kiln, Lalloo's brother was murdered.

Unable to escape the memory of that horrible night, Lalloo's parents and sisters remain trapped, the kiln chimney churning black smoke into the sky as the family slave, brick by brick, to pay off their debts. To rescue them, Lalloo must free himself from his past and carve out his own destiny.

Meniffee Reads! meets on Wednesday, August 19 at 7pm and Thursday, August 20 at 2pm. See you there!



The Gospel of John

A graphic for a Bible Study session. It features a laptop with an open Bible on the screen, set against a dark background with warm, glowing lights. The text "BIBLE STUDY" is in large, gold, serif capital letters, and "via Zoom!" is in a smaller, gold, script font below it. At the bottom, it says "Led by Pr. Ken Puccio" and "2nd & 4th Thursdays" in gold, sans-serif font. Below that, "7:00 pm on Zoom" and "hopegiver@aol.com" are in gold, sans-serif font. In the bottom left corner, there is a small, gold, script font that says "for more info:".

BIBLE STUDY
via Zoom!

Led by Pr. Ken Puccio
2nd & 4th Thursdays
7:00 pm on Zoom
hopegiver@aol.com

for more info:

We have a few more of Jesus' "I Am" statements to examine, so we can see what those statements from our Lord can mean in our relationship with God. The class has just begun unpacking "I am the vine. You are the branches." How do you **abide** with Papa? Are you part of a **family of faith**?

Come join us on Zoom at 7:00pm on August 13th and 27th. Prior attendance is not necessary. Please see Pastor Ken over coffee in the Fellowship Hall after worship, or contact him for login information at hopegiver@aol.com.

God's work. Our hands.

September 13
2026

God's Work Our Hands is coming up...September 13th! Your Outreach Team has chosen the San Bernardino Community Wellness Campus (men's shelter) to be the recipient of our church day of service. The items needed are as follows:

Single-use razors

Toothbrushes

Travel toothpaste

Deodorant

Small size shaving cream

Gallon-size slider zip lock bags

Laundry detergent pods (any brand, any size)

We will begin collecting these items soon! Our goal is to have 100 of each item, so we can help 100 men! A box will soon be available in the Narthex for your donations, as well as more information.

We will assemble the hygiene kits on Sunday, September 13th after our church service.

Please join together to do God's work with our hands!

News From the Kitchen

First things first...thank you to everyone who steps up to help in the kitchen! Your time, efforts and generosity are truly appreciated!

Next, we have a new set of knives that are fabulous, actually cut and the scissors really do the job (NOT dishwasher safe)!!!

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE

If and when you drop items off in the kitchen, please remember to label the item with your name and what the item will be used for. This is a must, mainly because we do not read minds and we want your item to go to the correct group or meeting it was intended for! Thank you!



-The Kitchen Mouse

Donation Drop Location at Faith!

Share on Facebook and Help Spread the Word!

The next Donation Drop Off day is Saturday, **August 1st, from 9:00 – 12:00**. On the first Saturday each month we are open from 9-12 noon, and the public has access to drop off contributions. We are accepting donations of:

- ❖ **(new)** homemade blankets (for Project Linus)
- ❖ eyeglasses (for Lions Club)
- ❖ used towels and blankets (**no batting**) (for Animal Friends of the Valley)
- ❖ gently used or new shoes (for Soles4Soles)
- ❖ Non-perishable food items (for Menifee Community Cupboard)
- ❖ 100% cotton fabric (for Snip 'N Stitch quilts made by Faith Lutheran Church)

There is a 2026 signup sheet in the Narthex for helpers. We need 2 people to be on site each Donation Day to accept donations. (it's a pretty easy job and you can sit most of the time)

Please share the information with friends and neighbors. Flyers are available in the narthex.

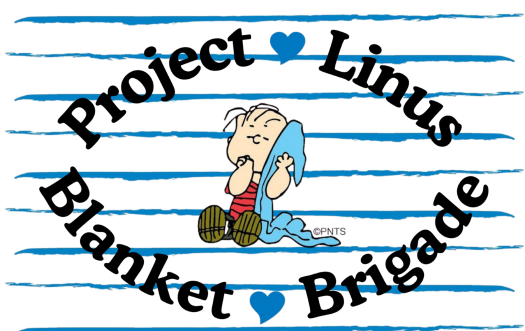
Project ♥ Linus



Providing
Security
Through
Blankets



SOLES4 SOULS



Thanks to everyone for checking out fleece blankets, the new format for the Project Linus Blanket Brigade is flourishing!

Each week you can check out one (1) fleece blanket to take home and knot at home as you have time. No trying to squeeze another thing into your calendar. Complete the knot tying at home while watching TV and bring the completed blanket in the following week. Only one blanket

can be checked out at a time. When returning the blanket, it must be checked back in. Instructions are provided.

Check-in your completed blankets and checkout new ones in the Narthex after Worship. We could also use 2 or more volunteers to handle the check-in/checkout process on Sundays after church.

FOOD WITH FRIENDS

SEPT 23

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
WEDNESDAY SEPT 23
5:00PM - 6:30PM**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**saturdays are
for bingo!**

**October 17th
3:00 - 5:00**

**Faith Lutheran Church
28200 Portsmouth Dr.
Menifee, CA
(951) 679-1518**

get ready to shout "bingo!"
and win some amazing prizes
at this free fun-filled event!

**WHAT'S
HAPPENING
AT FAITH?**

**thursdays are
for bingo!**

**September 3rd
December 3rd
4:00 - 6:00**

**Faith Lutheran Church
28200 Portsmouth Dr.
Menifee, CA
(951) 679-1518**

get ready to shout "bingo!"
and win some amazing prizes
at this free fun-filled event!

**Ice Cream
Social**

Wednesdays at 6:30pm

**August 5th
September 2nd**

You're Invited

A Morning of Gratitude and Connection



The Menifee Interfaith and Community Service Council invites you to join us to celebrate **you** - our faithleaders, nonprofit partners, and community service organizations

Your compassion, kindness, and willingness to serve make Menifee a stronger, more caring community. Whether you minister to those in your congregations, provide hope through your organization, or quietly serve those in need, **you make a difference.**

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1
8:30 - 9:45 A.M.



Elevation Church 28250 Bradely Rd Menifee, CA 92586

PLEASE ALLOW US TO SIMPLY SAY:
THANK YOU!

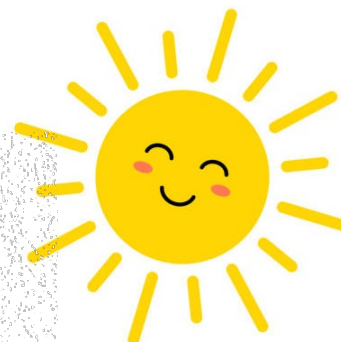


Join us for a morning of appreciation, fellowship, light refreshments, and inspiration as we recognize the countless ways you help strengthen our community

rsvp to: menifeeinterfaith@gmail.com

To help you plan ahead, this is a list of the events that recur each month:

- **Snip 'N Stitch:** 1st and 3rd Thursday at 9:00
- **Worship & Music:** 1st Tuesday at 10:00
- **Hymn Planners:** 2nd Tuesday at 10:00
- **Outreach Team:** 2nd Tuesday at 2:30
- **WELCA Bible Study:** 2nd Wednesday at 10:00
- **WELCA Board:** 2nd Tuesday at 12:30
- **Meniffee Reads!:** 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 and the Thursday following the 3rd Wednesday (either the 3rd or 4th Thursday) at 2:00pm
- **4+1 Group:** 3rd Tuesday at 10:00
- **Fellowship Team:** 3rd Tuesday at 2:00
- **Stewardship Team:** 3rd Friday at 10:00
- **Finance Team:** Thursday before Council meets at 11:00
- **Council:** Last Monday of each month at 11:00
- **Cheer Team:** 2nd Thursday at 4:00
- **Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study:** 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 7:00
- **Food with Friends:** 4th Wednesday at 5:00
- **Al-Anon:** Every Friday at 10:30



Faith Lutheran Church

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Meniffee, CA 92586

Office Phone: (951) 679-1518 | **Email:** FaithLutheranMeniffee@gmail.com

Website: www.faithlutheranmeniffee.com

Church Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm | Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

August 2026

August 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
2 9:30am Worship-Pr. Rex 12:30pm Grace&Mercy	3 9:00am FLC Deposit 10:00am Worship & Music-Zoom 5:00pm Menifee National Night Out	4 9:00am FLC Deposit 10:00am Worship & Music-Zoom 5:00pm Menifee National Night Out	5 6:30pm Ice Cream Social	6 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch	7 10:30am AI-Anon	8
9 Sunday School! 9:30am Worship & Backpack Blessing-Pr. Shane 12:30pm Grace&Mercy	10 9:00am FLC Deposit 10:00am Hymn Planners-Zoom 12:30pm WELCA Board 2:30pm Outreach Team	11 9:00am FLC Deposit 10:00am Hymn Planners-Zoom 12:30pm WELCA Board 2:30pm Outreach Team	12 10:00am Mary Circle Bible Study	13 4:00pm Cheer/Eucharistic Team 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	14 10:30am AI-Anon	15 6:00pm Big Band Rehearsal
16 9:30am Worship-Pr. Shane 12:30pm Grace&Mercy	17 9:00am FLC Deposit 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group 2:00pm Fellowship Team	18 9:00am FLC Deposit 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group 2:00pm Fellowship Team	19 7:00pm Menifee Reads! Book Club	20 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch 2:00pm Menifee Reads! Book Club	21 10:00am Stewardship 10:30am AI-Anon	22
23 Forecaster Deadline 9:30am Worship-Pat Adams 12:30pm Grace&Mercy	24 9:00am FLC Deposit 6:00pm Call Committee	25 9:00am FLC Deposit 6:00pm Call Committee	26 11:00am Finance Team	27 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	28 10:30am AI-Anon	29 4:00pm Grandmas Just Wanna Have Fun
30 9:30am Worship-Pr. Shane 12:30pm Grace&Mercy	31 11:00am Council Meeting	Sep 1	2	3	4	5