

Faith Lutheran Church

We warmly greet members and visitors in Jesus' name

Sixth Sunday of Easter

5 p.m., May 25, 2025



Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

Welcome to Worship at Faith Lutheran Church Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others 7750 Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL, 34238 | 941-924-4664 | www.faithlutheransrq.com

All who are baptized are invited to the celebration of Holy Communion, trusting that Christ is present in this sacrament for the forgiveness of our sin and the strengthening of our faith.

Minister Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen **Deacon Scott Rice Assisting Minister**

Director of Music Andi Zdrava

Greeters & Ushers Jerry Cooper, Eloise Dettmer, Dottie

> Gustavson, Grace Kaarre, Alf Kirkeeng, Gail Lidinsky, Judy Millard, Mark Nelson, Jan Phillips, Deacon Scott Rice, Jane Sanks, Joan

Searles, Dave Wardach

Media Team Kelly Ashlock, Greg Cooper, Kevin Fewell,

Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Mark Greenwood

Altar Guild Linda Fewell, Dottie Gustavson,

Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Mark Nelson,

Jan Phillips, Steve & Peggy Ragan

* * * * *

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen **Pastor**

Assistant to the Pastor Rev. Larry Wright

Retired Pastors in Residence Rev. John Hilficker

Rev. Marianne Powrie

Congregation Council Ann Greenwood, president; Joan Searles,

vice president; Lauren Wardach, secretary;

Anita Wooton, treasurer; Jane Sanks, assistant treasurer; Jerry Cooper; Quyen Dang; Julianne Geyser; Mark Nelson;

Peggy Ragan; Deacon Scott Rice

Executive Assistant Carrie Christenson

- Noted throughout the service P: Presiding Minister L: Lector C: Congregation
- Faith has a T-Coil-enabled hearing loop for those whose hearing aid(s) also are enabled.
- Smile! Faith worship services are live-streamed and recorded.

WE STAND

SONG: Come, Now Is the Time To Worship

Chorus

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come just as you are to worship.

Come just as you are before your God. Come.

Verse 1

One day every tongue will confess You are God.

One day every knee will bow.

Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now.

Chorus

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come just as you are to worship.

Come just as you are before your God. Come.

Verse 2

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives.

Willingly our knees will bow.

With all our heart, soul, mind and strength we gladly choose You now.

Ending

Come, just as you are, come.

Brian Doerksen CCLI Song #2430948 © 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #22316890

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

(pause for reflection)

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In + Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.
C: Amen.

SONG: Here I Am To Worship

Verse 1

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness, Opened my eyes, let me see beauty that made this heart adore You, Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus

So here I am to worship. Here I am to bow down. Here I am to say that You're my God, And You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me.

Verse 2

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above. Humbly You came to the earth You created, All for love's sake became poor.

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross And I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

L: A reading from Acts.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67

L: 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

C: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy.

L: 5 Let the peoples | praise you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you.

⁶ The earth has brought | forth its increase; God, our own | God, has blessed us.

⁷ May God | give us blessing,

and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

C: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy.

WE STAND

SONG: In Christ Alone

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song, This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace When fears are stilled, when strivings cease. My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe, This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save. Til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied, For every sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain. Then bursting forth in glorious day up from the grave He rose again. And as He stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me, For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Verse 4

No guilt in life, no fear in death - This is the power of Christ in me. From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand. Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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GOSPEL: John 14:23-29

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: 23 Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate,

the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

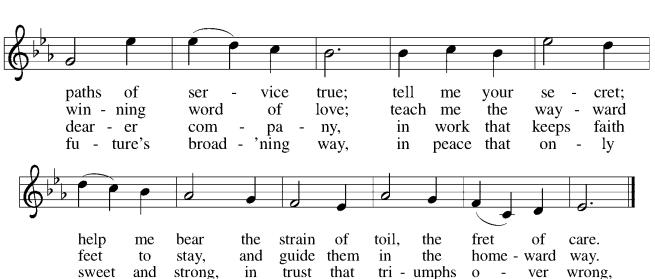
WE SIT

MESSAGE Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY O Master Let Me Walk with Thee ELW 818 We sing together





Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt. Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L: Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts (pause). Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in all places of war and strife, especially in Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Gaza. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you. Feel free to greet your neighbors with a word of peace.

WE SIT

OFFERTORY



There is an offering plate at the entrance of the sanctuary. You also can give online by scanning the QR Code printed here or via the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com. We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.

WE STAND

SONG: This I Believe (The Creed)

Verse 1 Our Father everlasting, The all-creating One,

God Almighty, through Your Holy Spirit

Conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

Chorus 1

I believe in God our Father.

I believe in Christ the Son.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Our God is three in One.

I believe in the resurrection,

That we will rise again,

For I believe in the Name of Jesus.

Verse 2

Our judge and our defender suffered and crucified, Forgiveness is in You. Descended into darkness, You rose in glorious life Forever seated high.

Bridge

I believe in You

I believe You rose again

I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord

Chorus 2

I believe in life eternal.

I believe in the virgin birth.

I believe in the saints' communion And in Your holy Church. I believe in the resurrection when Jesus comes again For I believe in the Name of Jesus.

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OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

WE SIT

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

WE STAND

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

SONG: The Cross

Verse 1

You've been trying hard to bear the weight of all your shame. And if there's a God up there you're sure He forgot your name. When your steps are getting heavy, and hope looks all but lost, Just bring it all to the cross.

Verse 2

Who told you grace can't reach the messed up ones like you? Has the devil made you believe the lies he tells are true? When you're sure that you're the one who's wandered too far off, It's not too late, just come home to the cross.

Chorus

Come and see a Savior's love
That would die to make you new.
Nothing you have ever done
Can change what mercy's done for you.
And if you ever wonder
If you're worth so great a cost,
Look up and see the cross.

Verse 3

Everybody's got a list at least a mile long Of every scar and every sin from everywhere that we've gone wrong. But there's reason for rejoicing, and the reason is because That list was nailed to the cross.

Verse 4

He was wounded for your wounds pierced for all your sin By His stripes you are healed, died so you could rise again He let the blood and water flow and did it all to let you know You're the reason that He went to the cross Oh He's calling you to run home to the cross. Chorus

Come and see a Savior's love
That would die to make you new.
Nothing you have ever done
Can change what mercy's done for you.
And if you ever wonder
If you're worth so great a cost,
Look up and see the cross.

Anne Wilson, Jeff Pardo, Jonathan Smith, Matthew West CCLI Song #7233758 © BrentHood Music; Capitol CMG Paragon; Jacobs Story Music; Meaux Mercy; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; My Story Your Glory Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #22316890

BLESSING

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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POSTLUDE

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Welcome, Visitors!

We are so glad you have joined us for worship. Please let us know that you visited by signing our guestbook and/or filling out a Visitor Card located on the table near the entrance. Kindly give the card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

Join in Prayer and Bible Study

- **Adult Forum** meets between the two morning worship services in the conference room. Next week, the group will study lesson 5, *Transforming the Chaos*, in the "Cultures in Conflict" series.
- Men of Faith meet for breakfast and prayer at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. *This month* we will meet at Max's Table, 115 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey.
- G.I.F.T.S. (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible study meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays in the library to focus on "Leaning on Jesus: A Study of God's Strength." Can't attend in person? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 856 4792 4559, Passcode 408030. This week will be our last before taking a break for the summer. A new study will begin in the fall—stay tuned for more details!

- **The Prayer Support Group** meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel to pray for all in need, our community, nation and world, and to share Holy Communion.
- **The Bereavement Group** meets at 3:15 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you.
- **The Men's Study Group** will be taking a break for the month of May. Please stay tuned for information about June meetings.
- Women of Faith will not meet Monday, May 26. The next date will be Monday, June 9. Join us then for breakfast, prayer and camaraderie at 8:30 a.m. at Skillets, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, pastorp2.0@gmail.com.

Worship to Go Needs You

Worship to Go needs additional helpers! You can participate at **10:30 a.m.**, **Tuesday**, **May 27**, at Aravilla Sarasota, 3251 Proctor Road.

Volunteers will meet in the chapel and can carpool to the facility (30 minutes prior). To join in, contact Pastor Eric directly, 716-352-0055, or show up at the chapel. No experience necessary!

Move to the Music During Zumba Class

Zumba begins at 6 p.m. Wednesdays in the Community Center (gym). All fitness levels are welcome! It is free for congregation members, and a voluntary donation from non-members is appreciated. Be there to move with the music and join in the fun!

Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith

What exactly do "we" profess to believe as ELCA Lutherans? How are we different and the same as other Lutherans, Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists? What beliefs do Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Bahái practitioners hold dear? What do we hold in common and where do we differ? Jesus calls us to love our neighbor and to do that to our fullest. We need to take time to understand the faith traditions of our neighbors. Join us for week 4 of this 5-week study on Wednesday, May 28, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the upstairs classroom. Can't be there? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 842 5446 3733, Passcode 979119.

Watch for Your Year-to-Date Giving Summary

Year-to-date giving summaries for January-April 2025 were:

- Sent May 2-3 via email for those who have opted in to use email communication. Check your spam folder if you do not receive a report. If you want a paper copy, contact the church office.
- Mailed May 3 to those without email addresses or those who have opted out of email communication.

If you have questions or want to update or make changes to your contact information, contact the church office, officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-924-4664, or Patty McKee, financialsecretary@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-921-3709.

Mary Circle Update

Mary Circle ended its "season" of meetings in May with a wonderful presentation by our Bold Woman, Linda Burton. Linda recounted her faith journey and how it led her to Faith LC. We are on hiatus for June and July and will return with lunch out in August. This has been a very productive year for the Circle. We were able to initiate conduct with Hope Seeds and helped to package seeds for worldwide distribution. We will be doing this in the future also. In April, Faith had the privilege of hosting the WELCA Spring Gathering for the Mid-Gulf region. One highlight of the meeting was a presentation by Al Ernst who infected us with his brand of Lutheran humor. Pastor Marianne also gave a heartfelt presentation on the work of Lutheran Services Florida. As a result of this talk, we were able to raise \$340.00 for the organization. We were also able to purchase a bench for the Memorial Garden with funds raised during the year. As always the Circle sponsored the adoption of LSF guardianship clients for Christmas. We have an ongoing mission to collect and pack supplies for Lutheran World Relief. This year we packed both personal care kits, school kits and fabric kits. None of this work could have been done without the help of you, the members of the congregation, who so generously donate when we ask for things. Thank you seems so inadequate a word to express our gratitude for all your continued support. All ladies of Faith are invited to attend a meeting, perhaps more than one. Look for our announcements in the upcoming church publications.

Faith Book Club Meets Tuesday, May 27

Faith Book Club will meet at 2pm on Tuesday, May 27 (note the different day due to the Memorial Day holiday) in the library. This month the group will read and discuss *The Last Year of the War* by Susan Meissner.

Andi Zdrava at Carnegie Hall

Please keep our Music Director, Andi Zdrava, in your prayers as he participates in a workshop and competition at Carnegie Hall in New York City this week!

Media Team Seeks New Volunteers

We're expanding and looking for volunteers to join our media team. No experience? No problem — volunteers will receive full training! If you're interested in video production and in helping Faith spread God's word through online channels, this is your opportunity to get involved. Contact Mark Greenwood at mgreenwood3@comcast.net.

Contact officeadmin@faithlutheransrg.com:

- If you or someone you know would appreciate a communion, hospital or home visit; to be contacted; or to receive a card in the mail.
- To add or remove a name from the Prayer List.

Prayer List

Lucy Abbott, sister-in-law of Judy Millard Dick Allender, cousin of Gerri & Terry Copper

Billy Bajor

Stephanie Bollinger, friend of Marlene Radesk

Gail Brown

Dee Burlingame

Rick Chauncey, son of Wess Chauncey

Jerry Clancy

Linda Craley, sister-in-law of

Dick & Jetty Zarfos

Lindsey Dacey

Doug Dahlquist, father of Hannah Boyd

Nancy Dandino

Tyeann Dillon

Ken Dixon, online worshipper

Janet Dullard, friend of Bev Hungate

Mark Evan

Beth and Maggie Farmer, daughter & granddaughter of Lynn & Jerry Clancy

John Robert Flower, son of Bob & Catherine Flower

Marty Friedman, friend of Marlene Radesk

Travis Galyon, cousin of Bev Hungate

Anatoliy Gurov

Becky Hilton Heeps, friend of Lisa Olsen

Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of Jon & Anita Wooton

Pete Inkrott

Bruce Katz, friend of Nancy Flanagan

Leonard Kotwitz, brother of Janet Falk

Ruth Levy, sister of Joan Hirsch

Juli & Eli Maresch, niece and grand-nephew of Patty McKee

Dick Mejchar, brother-in-law of Patty McKee

Judy McMahon, friend of Kristine Ordman

Family & Friends of Judi Melander

John Millard

Bob Miller, friend of Bill Greenaway

Dulce Mogan, friend of Nancy Flanagan

Valerie Nicolls, mother of Pastor Ashley Nicolls

Kathy Ocker, friend of Lisa & Pastor Eric Olsen

Sue Ostrom, friend of Marlene Radesk

Heather Schott, daughter-in-law of Les Lorenz

Kathy Schilio

Stephanie Sebastyn, friend of

Carolyn Winemiller

Family & Friends of Rev. John Spittal

Norman Stoll, brother of Dottie Gustavson

Leigh Tarantino, friend of Marlene Radesk

Melissa Thompson, cousin of Lisa Olsen

Darren Thomsen, son of John & Tricia Thomsen

Jessica Uebel, cousin of Adele Smith

Carol Wambold

Dorothy Wolfe, cousin of Adele Smith

Jon Wooton

Rev. Melvin Younger, friend of Bill Greenaway

Mike Zuba, friend of Marlene Radesk

Worship and Service Calendar

Sunday Worship Services

8 a.m., 10:15 a.m. & 5 p.m. in person. Morning services live streamed and recorded at www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service and at facebook.com/faithlutheransrq.

Sunday, May 18

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Online views	167
8 a.m. in person	30
10:15 a.m. in person	108
5 p.m.	7

Next Sunday, June 1

Acts 1:1-11 Jesus sends the apostles

Psalm 47 God has gone up with a shout

Ephesians 1:15-23 Eyes to see the risen and ascended Christ

Luke 24:44-53 Christ present in all times and places

This Week at Faith

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day Observance

Tuesday, May 27

8:30 a.m. Men of Faith Breakfast, Max's Table 9:30 a.m. G.I.F.T.S. Women's Bible Study, library (last of the season) 10:00 a.m. Worship to Go Prep, chapel 10:30 a.m. Worship to Go, Aravilla Senior

Living

2 p.m. Reader's Club, library

5 p.m. Congregation Council, conf. room

Wednesday, May 28

9:30 a.m. Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith,

upstairs classroom

10:30 a.m. Prayer Support Group, chapel 3:15 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel Zumba, community center

Thursday, May 29

9 a.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall 4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall

5 p.m. Food Pantry Distribution

Friday, May 30

8 a.m. Jazzercize, community center

Saturday, May 31

8 a.m. Jazzercize, community center 9 a.m. Diakonia, conference room