

**May - June 2026**

**Newsletter of Our Savior Lutheran  
Church, ELCA**

298 E. High St. PO Box 1396  
Quincy, CA 95971

# The Lamplighter



***We are a church family who worships together, serves our neighbors, and shares the love and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.***

## **Pastor's Letter**

Dear Church Family,

It is still the season of Easter, and this continues through May 17<sup>th</sup>. It is good to note that the season of Easter lasts longer than the season of Lent. We have more time to celebrate Jesus' resurrection than we do to contemplate his journey to the cross. Both seasons are important, but as humans, I think we have our share of troubles in this world. We definitely need the hope and joy that comes with Easter.

It helps that Easter comes during spring when the world also comes alive again. I rejoice at the sounds of different birds, colorful and fragrant flowers, spring rains, longer days, and so much more. Spring reminds me to be grateful to God for creating the world. Then, while I'm being thankful, I remember to be thankful for Jesus and the Holy Spirit as well.

For the past couple Sundays of Easter, we have been reading the "I AM" statements from Jesus who also says he is one with God. God was the originator of the "I AM" identity as far back as Moses and the book of Exodus. In the Women's Bible study we are currently doing, the author claims God is really saying, "I am who I am" and "I will be who I will be." She says these statements are a promise. God has always been and God will always be in the universe with us.

In the gospel of John, Jesus takes this "I AM" identity and gives us seven descriptions to help us further understand him and God. Jesus says, "I am the bread of life; the light of the world; the gate for the sheep; the good shepherd; the resurrection and the life; the way, the truth, and the life; and the true vine." Jesus is also more than these statements. Jesus is the "be-all" and "end-all" for us.

In the end, the primary goal is for us to fully dwell with God and in God and allow God to dwell fully with and in us. Jesus was "one with God" and that unity is one we are called to strive for as well. Of course, we will never be able to do this perfectly, but it is something to keep working toward. We will find much more peace in our lives the closer we are to God.

On Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> it will be Pentecost when we celebrate Christ sending the Holy Spirit to be with us forever. The Holy Spirit is one way we can encounter God in our world today. The Holy Spirit can be found in other humans, out in nature, in scripture, in music, and in many more ways. We will explore the concept of the Holy Spirit in the next few weeks during Sunday worship. Let us tune into God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit together.



-In Christ's love, Pr. Kendrah

**CALENDAR: May 2026**

**Sat. 5/9 Labor of Love volunteer project 9 am to Noon (with lunch after)**

Sun. 5/10 Church Council meets 10:30 am

**Tue. 5/12 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am**

Wed. 5/13 Community Supper at CUMC 6 pm

Sat. 5/16 Synod Assembly in Reno all day

**Tue. 5/26 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am**

Wed. 5/27 Community Supper at CUMC 6 pm



**May Birthdays**

**Marty Walters 13**

**May Anniversaries**

**Kari O'Reilly & Dax Albrecht 1**

**Toni & Tim Kelley 29**

**Lori & Marvin Simpson 30**



**Chair Yoga meets Wednesdays at 11 am in our Fellowship Hall**

**CALENDAR: June 2026**

Mon. 6/8 Dress-a-Girl meets in fellowship hall 1:30 – 2:30 pm

**Tues. 6/9 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am**

Wed. 6/10 Community Supper at CUMC 6 pm

Sat. 6/13 Synod Assembly online

Sun. 6/14 Church Council meets 10:30 am

Mon. 6/15 P.E.O. Women meet in fellowship hall Noon to 3:30 pm

**Tues. 6/23 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am**

Wed. 6/24 Community Supper at CUMC 6 pm

Sat. 6/27 Pride events



**June Birthdays**

**Susan Donald 7**

**Wayne Cartwright 7**

**Heidi Belnap 11**

**Diana Howard 15**

**Gina Rock 15**

**Toni Kelley 22**

**June Anniversaries**

**None**



## Financial Secretary's Report through April 2026 by Karla Burnworth

Month	Regular Plate Offering	Hall Rental	Recycling	ELCA World Hunger	Quincy Farmer's Market	Memorial Funds	Total
Jan.	\$ 4,087.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 15.62				\$ 4,119.62
Feb.	\$ 28,787.00	\$ 8.00					\$ 28,795.00
Mar.	\$ 6,913.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 15.41	\$ 270.00			\$ 7,205.41
Apr.	\$ 4,367.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 570.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 5,344.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 44,154.00</b>	<b>\$ 67.00</b>	<b>\$ 53.03</b>	<b>\$ 840.00</b>	<b>\$ 250.00</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>	<b>\$ 45,464.03</b>

## Treasurer's Report through April 2026 (Budget vs. Actual) by Kathy Osher

GENERAL EXPENSES:	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	April 2026	YTD Spent	BALANCE	YTD %
	Bank Check Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
	Household Expenses	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	100.00%
	Insurance - church building	\$4,500.00	\$4,438.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,438.00	\$62.00	1.38%
	Office Expenses (includes web	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$91.04	\$91.04	\$1,408.96	93.93%
4% of regular offerings	Sierra Pacific Synod (Tithe)	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	100.00%
Registration for 2 people	Synod Assembly	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$130.00	\$130.00	\$70.00	35.00%
	Taxes	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	100.00%
	\$75 per)	\$4,875.00	\$300.00	\$375.00	\$675.00	\$375.00	\$1,725.00	\$3,150.00	64.62%
	Worship Supplies	\$750.00	\$14.94	\$359.00	\$20.59	\$23.49	\$418.02	\$331.98	44.26%
<b>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$15,675.00</b>	<b>\$4,752.94</b>	<b>\$734.00</b>	<b>\$695.59</b>	<b>\$619.53</b>	<b>\$6,802.06</b>	<b>\$8,872.94</b>	<b>56.61%</b>
<b>PASTOR COMPENSATION</b>		<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>66.67%</b>
	Salary (+\$7,812.40 Pastor's	\$30,025.00	\$2,516.82	\$2,516.82	\$2,516.82	\$2,516.82	\$10,067.28	\$19,957.72	66.47%
<b>TOTAL PASTOR COMPENSATION</b>		<b>\$45,025.00</b>	<b>\$3,766.82</b>	<b>\$3,766.82</b>	<b>\$3,766.82</b>	<b>\$3,766.82</b>	<b>\$15,067.28</b>	<b>\$29,957.72</b>	<b>66.54%</b>
		<b>\$52,618.50</b>							
<b>PASTOR EXPENSES</b>	Continuing Education	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$29.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29.00	\$71.00	71.00%
	Mileage (.7250/mile)	\$1,000.00	\$18.90	\$28.28	\$59.81	\$60.90	\$167.89	\$832.11	83.21%
(Health, Dental, Retirement)	ELCA Portico (includes \$7,812	\$26,000.00	\$2,163.64	\$2,163.64	\$2,163.64	\$2,163.64	\$8,654.56	\$17,345.44	66.71%
	Substitute Pastor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
<b>TOTAL PASTOR EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$27,100.00</b>	<b>\$2,182.54</b>	<b>\$2,220.92</b>	<b>\$2,223.45</b>	<b>\$2,224.54</b>	<b>\$8,851.45</b>	<b>\$18,248.55</b>	<b>67.34%</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>	Electricity	\$1,600.00	\$186.38	\$162.86	\$144.17	\$94.91	\$588.32	\$1,011.68	63.23%
	Garbage	\$400.00	\$21.67	\$21.67	\$21.67	\$21.67	\$86.68	\$313.32	78.33%
	Heating	\$3,000.00	\$356.31	\$441.74	\$341.95	\$217.32	\$1,357.32	\$1,642.68	54.76%
	Telephone	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	
	Internet	\$1,400.00	\$109.00	\$109.00	\$109.00	\$109.00	\$436.00	\$964.00	68.86%
	Water & Sewer	\$900.00	\$68.89	\$67.55	\$67.55	\$67.32	\$271.31	\$628.69	69.85%
<b>TOTAL UTILITIES</b>		<b>\$7,600.00</b>	<b>\$742.25</b>	<b>\$802.82</b>	<b>\$684.34</b>	<b>\$510.22</b>	<b>\$2,739.63</b>	<b>\$4,860.37</b>	<b>63.95%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$95,400.00</b>	<b>\$11,444.55</b>	<b>\$7,524.56</b>	<b>\$7,370.20</b>	<b>\$7,121.11</b>	<b>\$33,460.42</b>	<b>\$61,939.58</b>	<b>64.93%</b>





## **Women's Bible Study for May - June 2026**

At the end of April, we started a Bible Study called “**I AM: God's Holy Name and Promise**” by Rev. Hannah Hawkinson. It is in three sessions as follows: 1) Bread, Vine and Light: Abiding with Us, 2) Gate and Shepherd: Guiding and Protecting Us, 3) Resurrection and Life: Leading Us into Abundant Life. The dates for May and June are: May 12<sup>th</sup>, May 26<sup>th</sup>, June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup>. We'd love to have more women join us! We have great discussions.

### **The Power of Joy by Lyn Walters**

I once wrote this tiny poem:

Maybe the stars could have  
Predicted this if I had drawn  
Up a chart and not let the cat  
out after dark. But he was  
A giddy kitty and the moon  
Was full and my prayers of protection  
Didn't have as strong a pull  
On the heart of God  
As the wild and hungry cry of the fox.



And it happened just this way. I let my wonderful orange kitty out one night and he never returned. My neighbors lost pets too and said they'd seen a large mountain lion roaming around. I was mad at God. He'd taken my son and my husband just a few short months ago. Could He not just let me keep my little cat who didn't harm anyone and who gave me such pleasure? Was even this too much to ask?

A few weeks later, after really missing my cat I said, “Well darn it God, I can't bring back my husband or my son, but I sure can get another cat.” I went to PAWS with my friend Lorrie and found three rather matronly cats to choose from.

They had very few cats since they were shutting down for a remodel. I was a little disappointed but still determined to leave with a cat when from out of the back room came dashing two twin beautiful gray and white cats. They were so handsome and romantic. Big luminous eyes, petite faces and long narrow bodies. They were teenagers.

“Do I dare take both of them?” I asked Lorrie. They could only be adopted together. What sealed the deal was that they were inside cats. They never lived outside a house and wouldn't stand by the door and cry like my orange kitty did if I wouldn't let him out.

Since I've had them home, they have been so fun. They sleep in the attic and manage to jump on the highest perches possible. I've named them Jimmy and Jack. Jack makes it a habit to perch on the top of the fish tank. Jimmy plays with the dog. Their personalities are quite opposite. Jack is the adventurer and Jimmy is the love bug.

When I leave the house I still have a feeling like I'm leaving it in the hands of Dr. Suess's Thing One and Thing Two, but I know they mean no harm. And I am particularly glad to see them when I come home. They have given me a sense of joy, and the theologian Karl Barth says, “Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.” Thank you God.