# Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

## 2022 May Banner

(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org 5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Special Church Music Sunday Followed by Retirement Celebration for Anne Ng Sunday May 22, 9:30 AM

#### **Pastoral** Article

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High (Psalm 92:1 NRSV)

This is what Anne Ng has done here at Faith-Lilac Way. She has led us all in singing praises to God.

I invite you to join me and the congregation on May 22 as we gather to give thanks for the music ministry of Anne Ng. It has been my delight to work with Anne in many different ways over the last 25 years. She has been an incredible colleague, always bringing a vast knowledge of worship and music, a gracious spirit and a thoughtful and insightful perspective to all that she does. During our planning, I cannot count the number of times that I asked her, "how does this song go?" Anne would graciously start to sing... and I admit that I never wanted her to stop! She made every song sound great.

Anne has brought excellence with her to all that she does, whether it is picking the right hymns, anthems or worship materials in our staff planning time or working with the children and youth on musicals or programs, or leading the choir. During the pandemic, Anne diligently researched the copyright information for us so that we could first pre-record our worship and then begin streaming. There is a lot more "behind the scenes" work than one would imagine! Although we are glad that she is able to retire, we are sad (for our own sake) to see her leave this position. However, we are thankful that she is not going away!

And so, again, we give thanks. We give thanks to God for Anne and her ministry and on this day - and on the days to come we will declare, "O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!"

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## <u>Vicar Article</u>

Holy Week at FLW was incredibly meaningful to me. After being online in 2020 and 2021 it was great to experience the liturgies of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday safely in the presence of other Christians. The liturgies of Holy Week bring the Passion story to life as we remember the love that Christ has for the world and this year was no different. On Easter Sunday grief turned into joy with a festive celebration of the Resurrection and it was great to see that so many people were able to be in church on Easter Sunday and that those who could not be with us in the building were able to be with us online.

It is easy to take a deep breath and relax after Easter, however Easter is not one day in the church year but it is a season of fifty days. In the Easter season I encourage you to carefully study the biblical stories of Resurrection just as we dove deeply into the Passion narrative during Holy Week. The Resurrection accounts in the Gospels total just five chapters and because they are not lengthy, a reader has the opportunity to study the details closely. I personally am intrigued by how the characters in the stories are slow to react to the new reality of Resurrection but when they realize that they have seen the Resurrected Jesus they react with very powerful emotions. Anyone who closely studies the Resurrection stories will be richly rewarded with new insights into the Risen Lord.

<u>A letter from Anne Ng</u>

Dear Faith-Lilac Way family,

I want to announce my retirement at the end of May. I started directing Choristers in 1997, Sunday School music about the same time, and Chancel Choir in May 2004, first as an interim director, then as the regular director in 2005. I cherish so many memorable experiences: anthems with many groups, Christmas programs with Sunday School and Chancel Choir, and special events. I have also enjoyed helping plan worship with Pastor Pam and the staff, including all the various interns. Thank you for your support and acceptance throughout.

Thank you also to all the musicians here at FLW: Chancel Choir, Ladies Ensemble, Men's Group, Choristers, Sunday School children, instrumentalists, musical casts, and Ann Marie Skoglund-Anderson, Nancy Shallcross and Dorothy Rosquist. I love making music with all of you.

If I have forgotten anyone, please know that I appreciate all the people I have worked with over the years. I am not saying good-bye. I have been a member of FLW for 50+ years and plan to stay. You will find me still singing and worshiping together with you.

Anne Ng

- Vícar Kyle Anderson

## Youth Mission Trip

The youth and Vicar Kyle would like to thank the FLW congregation for its generous support of our fundraising efforts for the mission trip to Arecibo, Puerto Rico. The Easter Breakfast, the weekly sales of baked goods, and the mission of the month have all been successful efforts which have helped to make this trip possible. The financial support of the youth mission trip from the FLW community has been amazing.

This trip is truly a collaborative effort between three churches. There will be a total of ten youth making the trip with four from FLW, three from First Lutheran, and three from Valley of Peace. The three adult leaders, including Vicar Kyle from FLW represent all three churches. The chance to build relationships across churches is a tremendous growth opportunity both for the youth and the entire FLW congregation.

We will be leaving on Saturday July 16 and returning on Saturday July 23. We will be participating in relational service projects through Youth Works which is a company which FLW has traveled with in the past. In recent years the people of Puerto Rico have suffered natural disasters while experiencing economic decline and the impact of a public debt crisis. The youth are looking forward to learning more about the island of Puerto Rico and walking with its people as they build a community in which all of its citizens will prosper.

## Mission of the Month

#### Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church Ministries.

Most of the time, our mission of the month focuses outward. However, a couple of times during the year, we bring our focus back to the ministry that we do and ask for a love offering for your church. Your gift allows us to not only provide programming and worship to those who are able to attend, but to continue to provide online worship and worship materials to those who are unable to attend. We appreciate your on-going and generous support, especially as we head into the summer months.



#### <u>Prayers</u>

God of power and might, bring an end to war and violence. Provide safety for the people of Ukraine and give the Russian people eyes to see the harm being done to their neighbors so that they can advocate for a stop to the violence. In our country we ask for a stop to gun violence that kills innocent people, including children. Come Holy Spirit and lead us into peace and goodwill, and help us love and protect one another against the evil, violence, and abuse of this world.

Creator God, as the earth brings forth green shoots this spring, let us marvel at the beauty of the earth. Teach us to care for and protect the earth's ground, water, sky, and all the creatures, big and small.

Creative God, we give thanks for the gift of music and the music ministry of Anne Ng. May she and we continue to give thanks to you with the gift of song.

Healing God, may your healing touch be with all who seek health and wholeness, including from this congregation: Lois Anderson, Donna Benson, David Bjorkquist, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Larry Geer, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Margaret Pendzimus, Edith Thielmann, Lucas Wiste, Vic Woolgar and all those you know who need your care.

Eternal God, we give thanks for your Easter promises of life eternal and give thanks for the Saints who have gone before us. We pray in the name of the Risen Lord. Amen.

## <u>Healing and Wholeness</u>



6 MONDAYS, MAY 16 - JUNE 27 1:00 - 3:00 PM CRYSTAL COMMUNITY CENTER FOREST ROOM 4800 DOUGLAS DR N, CRYSTAL, MN 55429

The CAREGIVER HELPBOOK

The class is free, but registration is required. Please email us to secure your spot and receive a free copy of the resource workbook! info@normandalecenter.org

"My name is Elizabeth and I work at Normandale Center for Healing & Wholeness, a nonprofit that serves seniors and their caregivers that are in transition. We serve the entire metro area (through support groups, workshops, etc.) and in May, we will be hosting a popular class for caregivers called "Powerful Tools for Caregivers" at the Crystal Community Center. It is free to the public and it is geared towards family and friends that are caring for an aging adult but is finding the responsibility difficult. It's a role that is becoming very familiar for a lot of people, especially as we try to keep our loved ones living independently and out of assisted living for as long as possible. We would so love your help in sharing about this class with your congregation. We'd love to connect with you and with seniors that need our organization's support."

## Every Meal Benefit

This event is hosted by Faith-Lilac Way and our WIldfire Church Partners. Proceeds benefit Every Meal (formerly called KidPack), providing meals for school age children and their families because every child needs to be able to eat Every Meal. Volunteers are needed! Contact Linda Fernelius or Pastor Pam to find out how you can help!

## Acknowledgments



#### Luther Seminary

"Thank you for your recent gift of \$250 to Luther Seminary, which we received from Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church. We deeply appreciate your generous support, and the innovative impact that it makes on the church and the world. Through your gifts in the past year, 128 students graduated in the class of 2021 and were sent to do God's work in the world. %57 of them graduated with no student loans, freeing them to concentrate on the work that God is calling them to do instead of on the burden of dept. Almost all of our students received the 100% tuition Jubilee Scholarship! Thank you again for your generosity!"

#### Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

"Together, we are neighbors helping neighbors. Thank you for your generous gift of \$400 to support the services of LSS! From adoption, foster care, shelter and safety for youth experiencing homelessness to support for people with disabilities, LLSS impacts 1 in every 65 Minnesotans."



## Grief: Lessons on Loss, Healing and Hope

#### Wildfire Churches and other local churches are sponsoring an evening grief group!

"Grief: Lessons on Loss, Healing & Hope" will be on Wednesdays in May from 7:00-8:30pm. Hosted by Elim Lutheran Church of Robbinsdale and organized and sponsored by a collaboration of local churches, including Faith-Lilac Way and other Wildfire Churches. The event will include presentations by professionals in the field of grief and mental health. Each of these evenings include optional group discussions and closing prayers. Please contact Elim at 763-537-8481 or our faith community nurse, Jan Nelson-Schwartz, to clarify any details. Registration is at the door beginning at 6:45pm. This event is free!

## Wildfire Churches Resume *Respite for Caregivers* Program

Volunteers Needed! The Wildfire Churches are planning to start the Respite for the Caregiver program on June 7, 2022. The program meets the 1st and the 3rd Tuesdays every month year round. The purpose of the program is to provide a short period of relief to the caregiver from something stressful or difficult. The program offers a safe and enjoyable social opportunity to the care receiver while the caregiver has respite. The program also offers caregivers education and ongoing support. In order to do this, volunteers are needed. A program review/training is scheduled for Tuesday May 17 from 10 am to noon at House of Hope Lutheran in New Hope, MN. For more information or to participate, please contact program assistant coordinator, Shayne Vincent, at 612-390-0776 or program coordinator, parish nurse Debbie Haney at 612-408-2049.

## Adult Classes

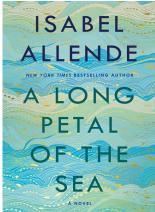
**Sunday, May 1 - WAR and PEACE** What does our faith say about war? What is "just war" theory? What does the ELCA say about war? A look into the ELCA social statement on war and peace.

**Sunday May 8 - Gratitude Practice!** Exploring ways to practice gratitude in your daily life

**Sunday May 15 - Spiritual Gifts.** What are they? Do you have them? How do we use the Spiritual gifts that God gives us? (It would be helpful to complete the Spiritual Gifts assessment tool before the class - it only takes about 10 minutes). **Sunday, May 22 - Celebration of Anne Ng's Music Ministry** 

## Book Club

This month both book clubs are reading: *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende. This historical fiction novel of hope, exile and belonging has plenty to discuss - and is oddly current in this time. Together we will ask, how do we read this story as people of faith? The story follows two young people as they flee the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War in search of a place to call home. The daytime book club meets weekly on Tuesdays at 2PM. See Pastor Pam or Vicar Kyle for the schedule. The evening book club will discuss the whole book on Wednesday, May 13th at 6PM.



May	Birthdays
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Linda Christensen	
Heather Lane	
Lea Hartjen	
Paula Lindgren	
Thommy Thompson	
James Anderson	

1stSandy Blackman1stDan Schumacher4thGina Swanson5thSandra Dolence6thWendy Blackman10thGayland Halter

11th	Ella Henkels	21st
11th	Ella Henkels Peter Olson Sandy Hanneman	22nd
12th	Sandy Hanneman	28th
14th 16th		
16th	Happy Birt	hday!
19th		6

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#### **Blood Drive** Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall 5530 42nd Ave North Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Thursday, May 19, 2022 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



## Faith-Lilac Way Hosts Red Cross Blood Drive

Did you know? Faith-Lilac Way hosts a Red Cross Blood Drive several times a year. Our next opportunity is Thursday, May 19th.

## Covid-19 Update

We are now in a green zone - which means a low transmission rate for Covid. You are welcome to wear a mask at your own discretion but it is not required.