

January 2019



# Splash!

*"Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst."  
John 4:14*

*Living Water*  
Lutheran Church



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Greysen West

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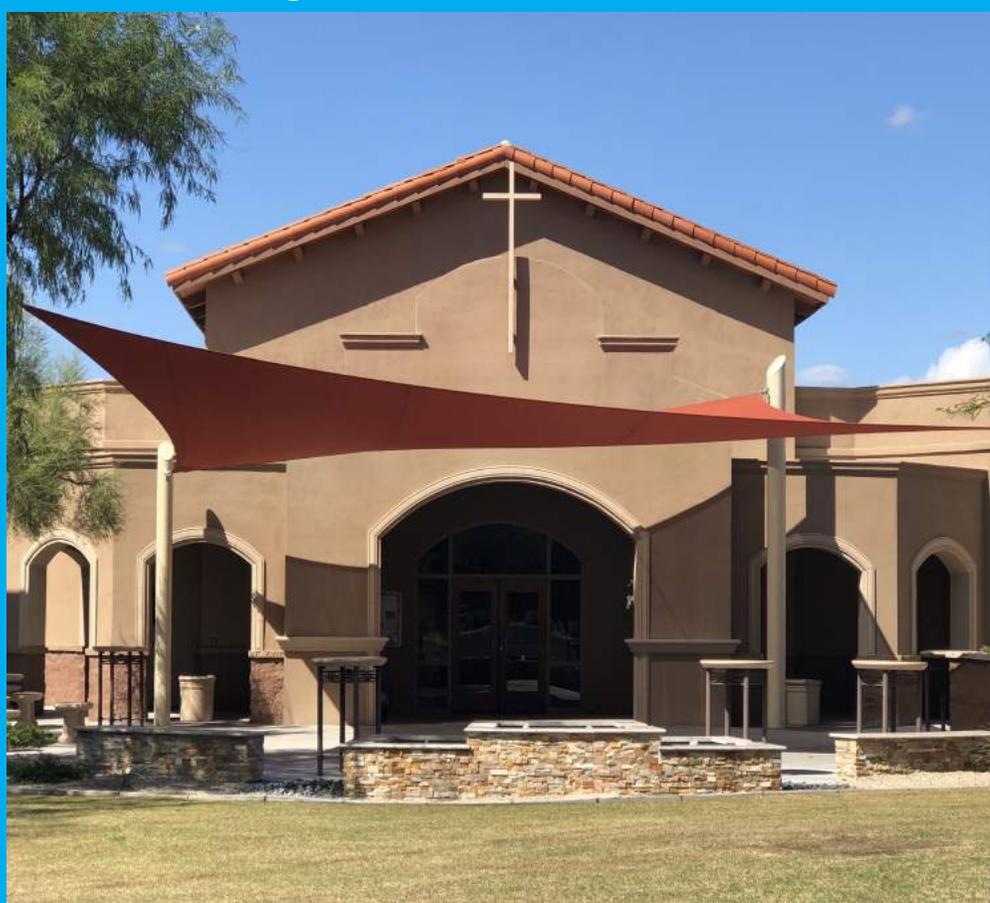
SEXTON  
Jakab Peter

[www.LWLCAZ.org](http://www.LWLCAZ.org)



Happy New Year from

Living Water Lutheran Church!



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**One service only @ 9:30 am on Jan 6**

**Check out all of our upcoming events inside!**



# We Remember in our Prayers

- David Olive (Pete Pritt's son-in-law) – Battling cancer
- Michael Steele (Friend of the Coutts) – Battling cancer
- Maren McKay (Daughter of Lance & Carol Jacobson) - Health Concerns
- Larry & Linda Coutts – Praising God for a successful treatment for Larry
- Jon & Tamey Manalli – Health concerns for Jon
- Elsa Nelson (Daughter of Celia Giontzeneli) – Health concerns
- Everett Johnson (Great Grandson of Norb & Peggy Schroeder) – Health concerns
- Cody Kelker (Grandson of Ron & Karen Roessler) – Health Concerns
- David & Joy Gallimore – Health Concerns
- Joe Franck (Brother of Kathie Roenigk) – Recovering from surgery
- Michael Kieffer – Health concerns
- Rebecca Jensen (Friend of Barbara Brooks) – Recovering from hip replacement
- Jay Stemm (Brother of Scott Stemm) – Battling cancer
- Family & Friends of John Bliefernich (Barbara Brooks' brother) – Mourning his death
- Doris Groh (Mother of Kris Crow) - Battling cancer
- Joyce Coles (Friend of Donna Oats) – Battling cancer
- Family & Friends of Gordon Weber – Mourning his death

Send your prayer requests to [prayer@lwlcaz.org](mailto:prayer@lwlcaz.org) or fill one out at [lwlcaz.org](http://lwlcaz.org)

## Happy Birthday!

May you be gifted with God's blessings on your special day and always!

Henry	Ruff	1/5
Richard	Andersen	1/6
Cynthia	Ophaug	1/7
Jillian	Decker	1/8
Liz	Gilkey	1/9
Dave	Sleeper	1/10
Flynn	Shelmire	1/13
Judy	Tornowske	1/13
Erik	Laudenschlager	1/16
Kevin	Ruff	1/18
Donald	Pick	1/18
Jeffrey	Dorsch	1/19



Paula	Sturgeon	1/19
Joan	Halverson	1/19
Tana	Harlan	1/20
Steven	Smith	1/20
Karen	Syversen	1/21
Cherrie	Oglesby	1/23
Sandy	Moses	1/23
Tamey	Manalli	1/26
Eric	Sundquist	1/29
Mike	Freesh	1/30
Diana	Thompson	1/31

Please call the office if your birthday is not listed and we will make sure to enter it into our database.

# A Message from Pastor Mark

It is all about new beginnings, is it not? That is what we tout the first day of the first month to be all about – a new beginning. We make resolutions. We claim that we will modify our behavior in some manner or the other. We will either cease certain actions, or we will add certain actions to our daily routine. Quite often the subject in both those areas has to do with either eating and/or exercise. But we promise ourselves and others that this year will be different. We promise to be proactive.

But, alas, in the end, it usually is not. Our resolutions die out. Our ideas are modified and once again – despite the very best of intentions – we find ourselves reacting to the world around us. Our behavior may be change, but it is usually in reaction to the events of our lives. In fact, no matter how hard we may try, and no matter how diligent our efforts may be, what we find is that we are saddled with our past life experiences, the events which have shaped us as people, the good and bad of our lives – our baggage. No matter how hard we try, it is a reality for each of us, we carry with us the baggage of our past. And quite often it is the weight of that baggage that makes it next to impossible to change our lives. When it is all said and done, we return to our reactive ways.

In the waters of baptism, we find a new beginning, too. At our baptism we found the beginnings of our relationship with God and the promise of God's constant presence in our lives. Now that is a great and wonderful thing – but for many of us that was when we were not very cognitively aware. But even if we were baptized in our infancy, baptism is not a once and done event at a time in our lives which we canny recall – it is an ongoing part of our lives. You see in the waters of baptism is the forgiveness of God. When we take the time to return to centering our lives on the promises of God found in our baptism, when we proactively live our lives in light of our baptismal blessing, what we discover is the gift of forgiveness -- a gift which we can return to on a daily basis.

The difference found in this new beginning, as opposed to the new beginnings found in a new year is that there is no baggage to be carried, nothing to weigh us down. When we offer ourselves to God, when we turn to God and the promise of forgiveness found in the water of our baptism, what we find is our baggage is simply left at the curb – left there for good. With the promise of forgiveness comes the gift of a new life, a new beginning, a chance to try it all over again, a chance to live a proactive life as a forgiven child of God.

As we enter this New Year, let us attempt to do so with a different twist. Let us make this the year that our resolution is simply this – that in all we do and all we say, our new beginnings will all start and end with God and the promise of forgiveness that he offers us. When we do that, when we resolve to start this year in this manner, what we will discover is that the resolution is one that will always be kept – for the promises of God are powerful, real, true and forever with us.

God bless us all as we enter into this New Year of 2019.

Pastor Mark



# Ask Zeke

## *Living Water's 24/7 office fish explains how to fish for info on Ministry Teams*

**Q. As a relative newbie here, I'm amazed by all that happens in this congregation, especially in terms of fellowship and programs to help folks less fortunate than us. I'd like to get involved in some way, but I don't know where to start. Any suggestions?**

A. Getting involved in doing God's work is a win-win proposition: An extra pair of helping hands is always a plus, and interaction with fellow parishioners is a terrific way to get to know them.

As you likely heard during your new member orientation, Living Water has more than five dozen active ministry teams. Pretty impressive, huh? The newest addition is the Campus Crew. You may have seen announcements about this new volunteer opportunity in our monthly newsletter SPLASH! or in CONNECTIONS, the information-packed insert in your Sunday morning worship bulletin.

I wasn't around during Living Water's early years. But I imagine there were initially only a handful of committees. Now, 21 years after our first Sunday worship service (Jan. 3, 1998), Living Water has a boatload of committees, which we refer to as Ministry Teams. They're organized into seven Mission Groups: Caring, Fellowship, Giving, Learning, Service, Witness, and Worship and Music. The largest group is our Service Mission Group, which has a whopping 20 or so teams!

The choices for getting involved are bountiful and diverse. Some are ongoing while others are seasonal. You can explore your options by visiting Living Water's website ([www.lwlcaz.org](http://www.lwlcaz.org)). Select the heading "About and Contact Us" and then click on "Ministry Teams." You'll see a list of Mission Groups, their Ministry Teams, and team leaders.

If something intrigues you, return to "About and Contact Us" and click on "Annual Report." Its Mission Groups and Ministry Teams section describes each team's activities. Or pick up a printed copy of the 2018 report, which'll be available before the upcoming annual meeting. When you spot a team – or teams – that piques your interest, give it some prayerful consideration and then dive in by contacting the team leader. What a cool way to start a new year!!

*Do you have a question for Zeke? E-mail it to him at [AskZeke@cox.net](mailto:AskZeke@cox.net) or contact his writing partner, Jill Wehr, at 480-515-4813.*





# Bible Studies & Retreats

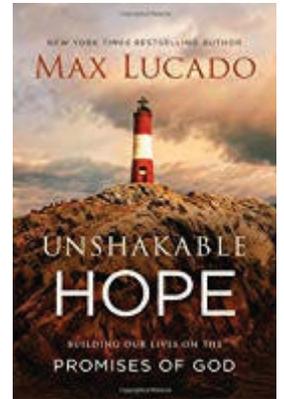
## MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

Join us each Thursday at 7:30am at Soul Cafe  
(Pinnacle Peak, 7615 E Pinnacle Peak Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255)



### **Tuesday Women's Bible Study** **Every Tuesday @ 10 am in the Fellowship Hall**

We resume our regular Tuesday morning study on January 8 at 10 am with a new video study from Max Lucado, "Unshakable Hope, Building Our Lives on the Promises of God." Life is filled with problems. God's Word is filled with promises. Hope is hard to come by these days. There are so many reasons to be overwhelmed. In a world of instability, we need the definitive declarations of our mighty and loving God. Join us for this brand new release from Max Lucado as he takes a closer look at Scripture's unbreakable promises and shows us how to live with unshakable hope.



The book is recommended but not required. You can purchase the book from Amazon (Kindle version is \$9.99). I will also have 10 hard cover copies of the book available to purchase from me (\$15.86).

We meet for approximately 90 minutes every Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your Bible (hard copy or electronic version) and bring a friend. The coffee is always on, as well as hot water for tea/hot chocolate. Questions? Contact Myrna Ulland at [myrna.ulland@gmail.com](mailto:myrna.ulland@gmail.com)

**Questions: contact Myrna Ulland at [myrna.ulland@gmail.com](mailto:myrna.ulland@gmail.com) or 218-340-6735**

# **Adult Forum - December Schedule & Topics**

**January 6 - No Adult Forum**

**January 13, 20, 27 @ 9:45 am in the Education Building**

## **Sunday January 13 "The Pain of Broken Relationships"**

The first class will focus on the mental and physical effects of death and illness.

*The class will be led by Dr. Jay Lucas*

Dr. Lucas is a member of Living Water and sings in our choir. He received his PhD in Clinical Psychology at the University of Portland OR. Jay taught psychology at high school and university levels. He was the owner and director of the Lucas Psychological Clinic in Rochester, Minn. for 28 years and President of the Minnesota Psychologists in Private Practice. He hosted two radio talk shows in Minn.: "Psychology Answers" at KROC and "Couch Talk" at KWEB. He was a member of the American Psychological Association for 30 yrs and its Division for Exercise and Sports Psychology for 12 years. Jay is currently a Forensic Consultant in Maricopa County for the offices of Legal Defender and Legal Advocate. Awards: "Who's Who in the Midwest" (6 times) and "Who's Who in America." Fifty of his articles have been accepted for publication in Consumer and Literary magazines.

## **Sunday January 20 "The Pain of Broken Relationships"**

The second session will address troubled and changing interpersonal relationships such as marriage, family and friends.

*The class will be led by Dr. Jay Lucas.*

## **Sunday January 27 "Ethical Wills"**

Writing an Ethical Will: It is simply a way to document and share your values, beliefs, faith, life's lessons, hopes and dreams, love and forgiveness for family, friends and community.

*The class will be led by Rev. Richard Andersen*

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## **JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Sundays - between services from 9:45-10:45am in the  
Education Building**

**Kids Sunday School (Weekly) —3 years through 7th grade  
Youth Sunday School (Monthly)- 8th through 12th grade—  
January 27, February 17, March 31**

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON JANUARY 6  
SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 13**



# News & Events

## Are you a Saint or a Sinner?

*It doesn't matter, all are welcome, and you don't have to tell which one you are*

## SAINTS & SINNERS KICK-OFF PARTY JANUARY 19

### Welcoming a fun new year!

The annual kick-off party will be at Wayne and Leila Burrus' house on Saturday, January 19, 2019, from 5-8pm. Wayne and Leila's address is 26000 N. 107th Way, Scottsdale, 85255. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.



The purpose of the Saints & Sinners is to bring "Small Groups" (9 to 11 people in each group) together to welcome new members, visitors, and prospective new members combined with members of the Church into a relaxed, fun, and friendly social setting outside of the Church to get to know one another. In addition to the kick-off party there will be small group activities in February and March.

If you plan to attend the party, please sign up on the yellow "sign up" sheet " in the narthex. If you cannot attend the party but want to be involved in the small groups, just put your name, email address and phone number on the same "sign up" sheet or e-mail Wayne Burrus at [wlburrus@earthlink.net](mailto:wlburrus@earthlink.net)

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MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, and by preschoolers we mean kiddos from birth through kindergarten. MOMSnext is the next step with school-aged kids. A MOPS & MOMSnext group is an open, accepting place for all mothers to experience authentic community, personal growth, practical help, and spiritual hope. Every year MOPS comes up with a concept that will guide the year. This year, we're digging deeper into the idea of finding your fire.



MOPS & MOMSNEXT

We meet from 9:30-11:30am on the First and Third Thursdays of the Month: January 10 & 24, February 7 & 21, March 7 & 21, April 4 & 18. Consider joining us, and/or inviting your friends and neighbors!

**Please contact Pastor Shari for more information: [pastorshari@lwlcaz.org](mailto:pastorshari@lwlcaz.org)**

## PLEASE SAVE THE DATE- Epiphany Sunday Brunch, January 6, 2019

Members and Friends of Living Water are again invited to celebrate The Epiphany and New Year together with brunch at Spirit In The Desert following ONE SERVICE at 9:30am. This is always a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a fabulous meal at the Spirit In The Desert campus and continue our partnership as a Covenant Congregation.

There will be a charge of \$15 per adult for the brunch, which will need to be prepaid before Wednesday, January 2, and made out to Living Water (memo: NY Brunch).



**Sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex**  
**Contact persons are Carol Jacobson and Judy Tornowske**

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### Why not give bridge a whirl in 2019?

Are you an ex-bridge player? A newbie? A bridge buff who can help others improve their skills? Players of all levels are invited to participate in an enjoyable evening of casual party bridge at the home of Ed and Penny Kilburn on Friday, Jan. 18, starting at 7:00 pm. Please add your name to the signup sheet on the kiosk in the Narthex. The hosts will email you directions to their home. For more information on this monthly fellowship opportunity, please contact Richard or Jill Wehr (480-515-4813 or [jillajw@cox.net](mailto:jillajw@cox.net)).

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## Great Gatherings SAVE THE DATE!!!! Sunday – February 10 – 5:00 pm

Handlebar J will be the place for food, fellowship and LINE DANCING!

More details to follow, but expect to enjoy a Southwestern Buffet, good music and dancing for those who wish to learn.

All are welcome! Boots & Hats optional.



# NEW MEMBER



## January 26 @ 4pm

Sign up in the Narthex or online at  
[lwlcas.org/signups/newmember](http://lwlcas.org/signups/newmember)

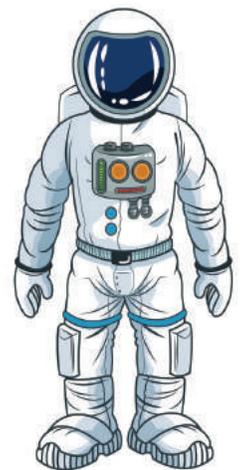
## SAVE THE DATE

### Mission: Space Exploration

### An out-of-this-world presentation by an ASU professor

Stay tuned for details on this evening event  
on February 21 (Thursday)

*Presented by PACE (Pro-Active Community Engagement tea*



## THANK YOU!

“THANK YOU” to all who donated the Poinsettias for enhancing the sanctuary for this years Christmas season! A big “THANK YOU” to Jay Lucas for building the two poinsetta tree stands. His time and talents are truly a “labor of love”. The following individuals who helped with this years Liturgical Arts Christmas display are:



Jay & Lois Lucas  
Lynda & Gerry Cales  
Lourdes Gasparino  
Bob Frantz  
Wayne & Leila Burrus  
Mark Anderson  
Sharon Westergreen & Penny Priest  
Marty & Gordon Lindert  
Terry Nelson  
Sue & Lee Stenehjem

**We appreciate “YOU”!**

## Piece-Makers Mission Quilting in January

Join us again in January to continue our ministry of making mission quilts for LWR. Gather with us to tie quilts that have been assembled at home. Imagine the comfort and care you feel when you snuggle under a comforter or wear a piece of clothing made or worn by a loved one. That's the feeling being shared through a LWR Mission Quilt. Useful for shielding against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding, quilts can also be purposed as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back. In a simple combination of fabric and thread, you reach out to people in their time of greatest need with a strong message of hope: you are not alone. Come and tie quilts with us! We meet in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, January 9 and again on Wednesday, Jan. 23, 9 am to about noon. The coffee and hot water for tea/hchocolate will be on. Many hands make light work! Questions? Ask Cindy Ophaug, Lynda Cales or Myrna Ulland.



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## Gather Bible Study Event for Women in the Grand Canyon Synod

Join us on Saturday, January 12, 2019, to meet the author of our 2019 Winter-Spring study from the Gather magazine, Rev. Julie Kanarr. She'll be with us to review this four-session study on the **"Gospel of John: Meetings with Jesus."** Rev. Kanarr is from Belfair, WA and is excited about visiting Arizona in January to give us a deeper insight into this upcoming study. It's a one-day event: Saturday, January 12, 2019. 9 am to 3 pm. Registration deadline is Monday, January 7, 2019. Questions? Ask Myrna Ulland.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church  
1500 W. Maryland Ave, Phoenix AZ 85015  
\$35.00 Registration includes continental breakfast and lunch

Registration forms are on the counter in the church entryway.

Or, register and pay online from this link:

<https://grandcanyonsynodwomen.regfox.com/2019-gather-bible-study-event>

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## LWLC BOOK DRIVE—ALWAYS ONGOING

Whenever you're finished with a book or magazine (babies through adults) remember there are needy families who welcome these small treasures. Please deposit your donations in the Book Drive basket in the narthex. If you have warehoused a great number of books and would like a pick-up, please contact Sue and Eric Brash email: [suebrash7@gmail.com](mailto:suebrash7@gmail.com), or 602-317-9444.



# California Lutheran UNIVERSITY

November 27, 2018

Dear Myrna Wells-Ulland and the Piece Makers Quilting Group,

Thank you for your generous gift to the Cal Lutheran community. After the tragic events of the past few weeks, these quilts and blankets are able to provide a bit of love and support to our campus community in this time of need.

Blankets, quilts, and prayer shawls provide a feeling of warmth and being wrapped in love in a way that nothing else can. And for community members that lost loved ones, homes, or are healing emotionally from the Borderline shooting, fires, and evacuations, that feeling of warmth can make all the difference in their path to recovery.

Again, thank you. The warmth and healing that you are helping to provide to our campus is invaluable, and we appreciate the love and support that you are sharing with us.

Blessings in this holiday season,

*Melissa*

Melissa Maxwell-Doherty  
Vice President, Mission and Identity

*It was a tender and moving experience to share your quilts with our students and staff. Your witness to God tethers us to the community of saints during this time of trauma. I am grateful for your witness.*



November 2, 2018

Living Water Lutheran Church  
9201 E Happy Valley Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255-2228

Dear Pastor Mark,

On behalf of ICM Food and Clothing Bank, I would like to thank you and Living Water Lutheran Church for the recent donation of \$436.50 which we received on 11/2/2018. Because of this contribution, we will be able to continue our mission of providing immediate resources for basic human needs to our community. Please allow me to share what that support means to our families.

*A volunteer checked in a mother, Ann, who needed food for her family. Ann asked if we would have cleats for her 8-year-old daughter who wanted to play soccer at her school. The volunteer told the mom to look, but it was unlikely. About 20 minutes later, the little girl ran to the volunteer with cleats in her hands. "Look what I got! I can play after all!" Ann couldn't thank the volunteer enough for helping make the girl's dream come true.*

If at any time you would like to visit and see firsthand how your support is helping, or learn more about our volunteering opportunities, we would be more than happy to welcome you. We are always looking for volunteers - contact Abby Loza at 602-254-7450 x4 or email [abby@icmaz.org](mailto:abby@icmaz.org) to learn more!

Sincerely,

Beth Fiorenza  
Executive Director  
ICM Food and Clothing Bank  
[beth@icmaz.org](mailto:beth@icmaz.org)

**Like us on Facebook, follow on Twitter, & follow on Instagram.**

*ICM is a 501c3 Nonprofit Agency: your gift is completely tax deductible. Cash contributions to ICM of up to \$800 for married couples - \$400 for singles - can be reclaimed in full as a tax credit on your Arizona Income Tax. No goods or services have been received in return for this donation. EIN# 86-0401223 State Qualifying Charitable Org #20385*



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P.O. Box 2225  
Phoenix, Arizona  
85002-2225

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS**  
501 S. 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
4 blocks south of  
Jefferson

602-254-7450  
FAX 602-257-1837  
[www.icmaz.org](http://www.icmaz.org)

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2  
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Operations

Since 1983, a food and clothing bank for the Valley's most needy  
[www.icmaz.org](http://www.icmaz.org)

# Dates to Remember

DECEMBER 24	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES (5 PM, 7 PM & 10 PM)
DECEMBER 24,25,26	OFFICE CLOSED
DECEMBER 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS!
DECEMBER 30	LESSONS & CAROLS - WORSHIP SERVICE (9:30 AM)
JANUARY 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY - OFFICE CLOSED
JANUARY 6	WORSHIP SERVICE (9:30 AM Sanctuary)
JANUARY 6	SPIRIT IN THE DESERT EPIPHANY BRUNCH
JANUARY 6	YOUTH ROCK CLIMBING EVENT (3:30 PM at AZ on the Rocks)
JANUARY 8	READ TO A CHILD EVENT (6 PM UMOM NEW DAY CENTER)
JANUARY 9	PIECE-MAKERS (9:00 AM FH)
JANUARY 10	MOPS/MOMnext Meeting ( 9:30 AM FH)
JANUARY 13	CONFIRMATION CLASS (6:45 PM Youth Room)
JANUARY 14	COUNCIL MEETING (6 PM ESTHER)
JANUARY 15	SPLASH! DEADLINE
JANUARY 18	BRIDGE (7:00 PM Kilburn's Home)
JANUARY 19	SAINTS & SINNERS KICK-OFF PARTY (5 PM Burrus' Home)
JANUARY 23	PIECE-MAKERS (9:00 AM FH)
JANUARY 24	MOPS/MOMnext Meeting ( 9:30 AM FH)
JANUARY 26	NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION & DINNER ( 4:00 PM FH)

## Weekly Events

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
Tuesday 10am (FH)

CHOIR REHEARSAL  
Wednesday 7pm (Psalms Room)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
Thursday 7:30am (Soul Cafe)

FRIDAY MORNING CLUB  
Friday 10:00am (FH)

ADULT FORUM & SUNDAY SCHOOL  
Sunday 9:45am

WORSHIP  
Sunday 8:30am (Liturgical Worship)  
Sunday 11am (Praise Worship)

# STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY MESSAGE

It would have been hard to have not heard about the recent passing of our 41st President, George H. W. Bush. Regardless of one's political preference, President Bush's inauguration speech delivered to the nation on January 20, 1989 is worthy of reading, particularly as it relates to stewardship. Included in that speech is a truth that followers of Christ will surely agree on: Our responsibility to pass on the legacy of stewardship to future generations.

Below is an excerpt from President Bush's speech.

"And I am speaking of a new engagement in the lives of others - a new activism, hands-on and involved, that gets the job done. We must bring in the generations, harnessing the unused talent of the elderly and the unfocused energy of the young. For not only is leadership passed from generation to generation, but so stewardship. And the generation born after the Second World War has come of age.

"Have we changed as a nation even in our time? Are we enthralled with material things, less appreciative of the nobility of work and sacrifice? My friends, we are not the sum of our possessions. They are not the measure of our lives. In our hearts we know what matters. We cannot hope only to leave our children a bigger car, a bigger bank account. We must hope to give them a sense of what it means to be a loyal friend; a loving parent; a citizen who leaves his home, his neighborhood, and town better than he found it."

"And so, there is much to do; and tomorrow the work begins. I do not mistrust the future. I do not fear what is ahead. For our problems are large, but our heart is larger. Our challenges are great, but our will is greater. And if our flaws are endless, God's love is truly boundless."  
George H.W. Bush was of a generation that understood what could be accomplished when individuals and families sacrificed for the collective good. I think you will agree that there is much left to do.

*Frank Stock*

