

Splash!

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

Living Water
Lutheran Church



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Join the Fun! Vacation Bible School 2019

June 17 - 21
Register now at lwlcaz.org/vbs
More details on Page 7

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We Remember in our Prayers

- Doug Burnett (Friend of Phil & Nancy Rogers) – Battling Cancer
- Denny Carrow (Jennie & Scott Stemm's Brother in Law) – Battling Cancer
- Rev. John Cockram – Battling cancer
- Angel Cross (Friend of Susan & Steve Johnson) – Health concerns
- Pastor Michael Dubsy (Friend of Frances DeBruyn) – Health concerns
- Jeanne Folmer (Niece of Sue & Lee Stenehjem) – Battling cancer
- Joe Franck (Brother of Kathie Roenigk) – Recovering from surgery
- Joy Gallimore – Health Concerns
- Sharon Holland (Friend of Barbara & John Hannan) – Battling cancer
- Nancy Horrocks (Friend of Lois Lucas) – Health concerns
- Rebecca Jensen (Friend of Barbara Brooks) – Recovering from hip replacement
- Michael Kieffer – Health concerns
- Penny Kilburn – Health concerns
- Shirley Koch – Health concerns
- Jon & Tamey Manalli – Health concerns for Jon
- Maren McKay (Daughter of Lance & Carol Jacobson) – Health Concerns
- Lynne Mohr (Step-daughter of Carol Gasser) – Battling cancer
- Elsa Nelson (Daughter of Celia Giontzeneli) – Health concerns
- Terry Powers (Niece of Marty & Gordon Lindert) – Battling cancer
- Family & Friends of Mark Rogers (Friend of Frances DeBruyn) – Mourning his death
- Janice Rogers (Friend of Frances DeBruyn) – Mourning her husband's death
- Becky Schmidt (Niece of Barbara Brooks) – Health concerns
- Michael Steele (Friend of the Coutts) – Battling cancer

Send your prayer requests to prayer@lwlcaz.org or fill one out at lwlcaz.org

Happy Birthday!

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

Karen	Sherrin	6/3
Sarah	Shelmire	6/4
Nancy	Blazer	6/5
Ardie	Senft	6/5
Pam	Wilder	6/5
Michelle	Brown	6/6
Denny	Dumler	6/6
Janice	Moore	6/6
Terry	Nelson	6/6
Joyce	Bash	6/9
Richard	Gunderson	6/14



Sharon	Westergreen	6/14
Sam	Winter	6/16
Tamie	Miller	6/20
Vanessa	Alberti	6/23
Lynda	Cales	6/23
Ellen	Schoenbeck	6/23
Lou	Handley	6/25
Penelope	Kilburn	6/25
Missy	Laudenschlager	6/25
Sue	Boyd	6/30
Hunter	Brown	6/30

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 Shari

2019 Youthworks Mission Trip to Portland, Oregon

June 8-14



What are Youthworks Mission Trips?

YouthWorks provides Christ-centered mission trips for more than 20,000 teenagers and adult leaders in over 45 communities across the U.S. and beyond. These mission trip experiences positively impact the communities they partner with and the teenagers who are stretched and challenged through a week of service. One of those communities is in Portland, Oregon, which is where seven youth and two adults from Living Water will travel to this month.

Where will we stay?

We will stay with about 50 other middle-school and high-school youth from all over the country at Resurrection Lutheran Church, which is only 15 minutes from the Portland International Airport.

What will we do?

We will learn about issues that Portlanders face, such as homelessness, gentrification, historic and current racism and concern over environmental issues. We will also partner with local organizations to meet ongoing needs in the community. During the week, our students may serve all or part of the week at Oregon Food Bank, Portland Rescue Mission, Ronald McDonald House Charities, The Children's Book Bank, Metro Portland Parks and Recreation, and an organization called "Because People Matter."

Thank you

We are so grateful for all of you who have helped make this possible. We have the best church family! Please pray for us as we travel and encounter new experiences and people in the name of Jesus.

God's peace, Pastor Shari



Ask Zeke

Living Water's 24/7 office fish responds to a query about quilts

Q. I was bowled over when I saw the kaleidoscope of quilts in the sanctuary a few weeks ago. How many quilts were blessed that morning?

A. Eighty-eight quilts were blessed on Sunday, April 28. That's a new high for Piecemakers Mission Quilting, a ministry team established five years ago to make 60" x 80" quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Piecemakers' initial 30 quilts were blessed in 2015, and the number has increased each year. Altogether, this team has made around 300 quilts, enough to cover 10,000 square feet. Woo-hoo!

LWR receives the majority of Piecemakers' quilts. Other recipients have included our graduating high school seniors, a refugee family, and California Lutheran University's outreach to local residents impacted by last November's wildfires and Thousand Oaks mass shooting.

These colorful 100% cotton quilts can make a significant difference for recipients. To quote our website, "First and foremost, recipients use their LWR quilts to shield against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding. But their versatility also makes quilts useful as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back."

This year's blessing of quilts – and 120 Personal Care Kits collected for LWR by another ministry team – featured free-will donation envelopes pinned to quilts. This low-key appeal to support LWR's shipping costs netted \$1,140. Of this, \$500 went to LWR. The balance serves as seed money for the next crop of quilts.

Piecemakers' quilt-making involves teamwork to carry out a laundry list of steps: purchasing materials, washing, ironing, cutting, sewing, assembling, tying, and binding. Though some Piecemakers quilters work on quilt squares at home, this 12-member team gathers twice monthly from October through May. Contact Myrna Ulland if you'd like to get involved (washing and ironing are perfect "entry level" tasks). She'll also happily provide Thrivent members with writing guidelines for requesting a Thrivent Action Team Grant for the purchase of batting and fabric.

Kudos to our quilting crew!

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





Bible Studies & Retreats

Summer Bible Study Opportunity for Tuesday Women
Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center

Join us for a special summer session of our Tuesday Women's Bible Study at Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center. Following our study, we'll have lunch. Mark your calendars now and look for a reminder from Myrna Ulland in early July. We'll need to confirm our lunch reservations by July 16th.



The summer issues of Gather magazine (June and July/August) feature a three-session study on the book of Esther, one of the latest writings of the Old Testament. Esther was perhaps written to inspire Jews who had been scattered in the diaspora. The narrative takes place in the court of the King of Persia, King Ahasuerus. Some think that it was written to explain and establish the Jewish festival of Purim. This three session-study is written by Kay Ward, a retired bishop of the Moravian Church who now lives in Watertown, Wisconsin. Kay was the first woman to be elected a bishop in the 541 years of the Moravian Church. We will use all three sessions when we meet on July 23.

Session one: For such a time as this: Esther the queen—Voices in the king's court

Session one sets the scene for the story of Esther and her adopted father, Mortecai. Esther and Mortecai are Jews living under the rule of the Persian king, King Ahasuerus. When Esther becomes the queen, her faith is tested. The Jews, those who have been carried off from their homeland, struggle with living as strangers in a foreign land. In this session you'll think about how our culture may challenge our faith.

Session two: For such a time as this: Esther saves the Jews—Finding our voices

In session two we learn how, when the Jews are threatened, Esther uses her strong faith and the love of her people to embolden her to act. Through some clever schemes, intelligence and a realistic assessment of her situation, Esther is able to save her people. "For such a time as this" is Mortecai's gentle reminder to Esther that God has placed her in the king's court to use her voice. How might God be reminding us of our need to find our voice as we live out our faith?

Session three: For such a time as this: Remembering Esther: Using our voices

In session three, we'll examine the last chapters of the book of Esther, which are full of hope for the future for the Jews. The defeat of their enemies is to be celebrated in a feast, the festival of Purim. Directions are given for the celebration of the festival. As women of faith, full of love for God and others, we will consider ways to find and use our voices in our present circumstances - "for such a time as this."

Note: Women's Bible Study will only meet on July 23.
Regular weekly sessions will resume in the Fall.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

SoulCafe

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

**ADULT FORUM & SUNDAY SCHOOL.
WILL RESUME IN THE FALL**



News & Events



A fun evening is in the cards on June 21

Former, current, and prospective bridge players of all levels are invited to a fun evening of party bridge at the home of Richard and Jill Wehr on Friday, June 21, starting at 7:00 pm. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Narthex. The Wehrs will email you directions to their home. For more information on this monthly fellowship opportunity, please contact Richard or Jill (480-515-4813).

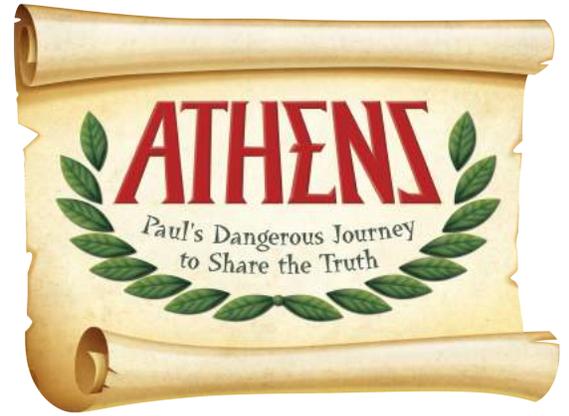
Join the Fun!

Vacation Bible School 2019

June 17 - 21
Register now at lwlcaz.org/vbs

Mark your calendars now for our next edition of Vacation Bible School on June 17-21 with our traditional Celebration Sunday Worship Service on June 23 at 9:30 am. This year we will be traveling to Athens with Paul. We will learn that Paul left a life of privilege and power to face angry mobs, painful imprisonment and chain-breaking earthquakes – all to spread the life-changing truth of God's love! Children and volunteers will enjoy lively music, small group interactions in "Oikos Time", interesting and creative crafts in the Marketplace Shops, fun-filled activities in the Arena Games, educational drama in "Paul's Adventure's" and delicious snacks.

Registration is open for all children age 4 and up at lwlcaz.org/vbs. Be sure to tell all of your family, friends and neighbors about Living Water's Vacation Bible School with no registration fee and a free t-shirt for every child!



We need many volunteers to bring our VBS program to life. Please see Kris Crow or Janice Moore if you can lend a hand with the set, help us out during the week of VBS as a small group leader, craft, snack shop or games assistant or maybe do some behind the scenes work. Volunteer training will be held on Sunday, June 2 at 10:45 am. Brunch will be served.

See you in Athens! Kris Crow – kcrow737@gmail.com &
Janice Moore – jlb.moore@yahoo.com



Our annual Diapers and Dollars drive to support the Alleluia Lutheran Diaper Closet concluded on Mother's Day. Once again, through the generosity of this congregation, and with a \$250 Thrivent Action Team grant, we were able to deliver more than 3,000 diapers and more than 7,000 diaper wipes to Alleluia Lutheran on May 14th. In addition, \$800 was received to assist Alleluia Lutheran in purchasing diapers/wipes. This ministry serves an average of 140-150 children with distributions twice a month. Alleluia estimates they need 11,000 diapers each month to support the babies and toddlers served by "A Better Chance" diaper closet. This ministry has revitalized the small congregation of Alleluia Lutheran in Avondale and they appreciate our support! You can learn more about this life-changing ministry from this link: <http://www.alleluiachurch.org/diaper-closet.html>

PENTECOST READERS NEEDED

PENTECOST, the 50th day after Easter, commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus as described in the book of Acts. This year it will be celebrated on Sunday, June 9. We are looking for individuals who can read and speak a language other than English on the two services that day. A printed reading will be provided. Interested? Please contact Joyce Bash at 480-473-2034 or kbash@cox.net

POOLSIDE GET TOGETHER FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 5-12

Come and relax with friends, enjoy a pizza dinner, talk about faith and life,
and then jump in the pool!
Please bring your swimsuit and towel.

Where: The home of the Ruff family
When: Thursdays, June 6 and 20 from 5-8pm



VBS BOOK DRIVE 2019

Help us support this year's VBS Children's Book Drive! For the fourth year, our VBS Mission Project is once again a book drive for the purpose of helping improve literacy in the Phoenix core area.

Books for elementary aged kids are our focus during VBS but we always accept any book donations. Books should be new or gently used (meaning no rips, tears, writing or worm holes!) Last year, we collected 917 books during this drive. Can we meet or exceed this in 2019?

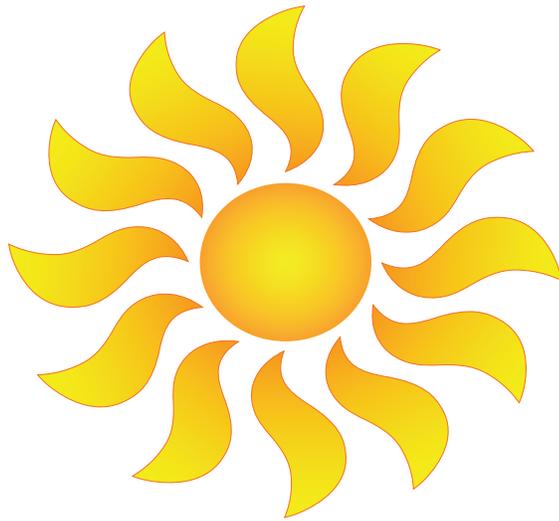
Through our church's relationship with the Assistance League of Phoenix, these books find their way to several different agencies in our community, including K-8 students in Title I schools where 90% of the children qualify for free and reduced lunches, ICM (Interfaith Cooperative Ministries) Food & Clothing Bank and UMOM New Day Center. We have received another Thrivent Action Team grant of \$250 to help purchase new books for this drive, which we will do through our connection with First Book.



Bring your new or gently used books to the church through June 23rd. Watch for the special display area as VBS begins to take shape! Help us support our VBS kids mission project and share the importance of a book in the hands of a child.

Dates to Remember

JUNE 2	VBS VOLUNTEER TRAINING (10:45 AM FH)
JUNE 6	YOUTH POOLSIDE GET TOGETHER (5 PM RUFF FAMILY HOUSE)
JUNE 9 - 14	YOUTH MISSION TRIP
JUNE 16	FATHER'S DAY
JUNE 17	COUNCIL MEETING (6 PM ESTHER)
JUNE 17 - 21	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WEEK (9 AM TO 12 PM DAILY)
JUNE 20	SPLASH! NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
JUNE 20	YOUTH POOLSIDE GET TOGETHER (5 PM RUFF FAMILY HOUSE)
JUNE 21	BRIDGE GROUP (7 PM WEHR'S HOUSE)
JUNE 23	VBS CELEBRATION SUNDAY (9:30 AM SANCTUARY)



Weekly Events

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

FRIDAY MORNING CLUB
Friday 10:00 am (FH)

WORSHIP
Sunday 9:30 am Summer Worship (Sanctuary)

Publication Deadlines:
Connections- Every Tuesday by noon
SPLASH! - The 20th of each month by noon

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY MESSAGE

Here at Living Water Lutheran Church, we are fortunate to have a diverse and talented congregation who greatly contribute their time, talent and financial resources to the many events and causes which we undertake. Although there are many needs and opportunities to serve, it may be hard for one to know how they can actually help or what their "special gift" is. Oftentimes, that special gift is not even discovered until they actually become involved in the act of serving. We sometimes need to remind ourselves that whenever we serve others in any way, we are actually serving God. So, if you're not quite sure if there's a place for you to serve at Living Water, please read the following "Open Letter" to a congregation member from a pastor of another church. It may make the who, what and how of serving more clear.

Open Letter to Jane Ordinary

Dear Jane:

I am writing to help you shake this feeling of uselessness that has overtaken you. Several times you've said that you don't see how Christ can possibly use you. The church must bear part of the responsibility for making you feel as you do. I have in mind the success-story mentality of the church. Our church periodicals tell the story of John J. Moneybags who uses his influential position to witness for Christ. At the church youth banquet, we have a testimony from All-American football star, Ox Kick-offsky, who commands the respect of his teammates when he witnesses for Christ. We are led to think that if you don't have the leverage of stardom or a big position in the business world, you might as well keep your mouth shut. Nobody cares what Christ has done for you.

We've forgotten an elementary fact about Christian witness, something that should encourage you: God has chosen what the world calls foolish to shame the wise. He has chosen what the world calls weak to shame the strong. He has chosen things of little strength and of small repute, yes, and even things which have no real existence to explode the pretensions of the things that are, that no man may boast in the presence of God.

When Jesus Christ chose His disciples, He didn't choose Olympic champs or Roman senators. He chose simple people like you. Some were fishermen, one was a political extremist, another was a publican, a nobody in that society. But these men turned the Roman world upside down for Christ. How did they do it? Through their popularity? They had none. Their position? They had none. Their power was the power of Christ through the Holy Spirit.

Jane, don't forget that we still need the ordinary in the hands of Christ to turn the world upside down.

–Letter from a pastor in Arlington, Virginia, published in a church bulletin

