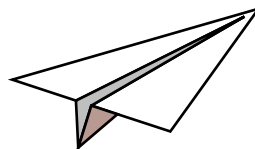
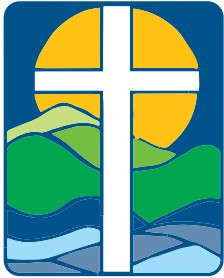


Splash!



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

Living Water
Lutheran Church



PASTOR
Mark Rossman

PASTOR
Shari Bernau

OFFICE/BLDG MANAGER
Andrea Greer

FINANCE MANAGER
Lori Clark

CHOIR DIRECTOR
Marcie Donavon

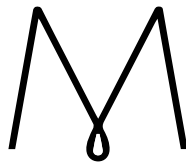
ACCOMPANIST
Scott Sims

SEXTON
Jakob Peter

www.LWLCAZ.org



Join us Sunday at 9:30am for Summer Worship



MOPS

Have you heard of MOPS?

MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers. MOPS International began in 1973 and now has grown into thousands of groups all over the world that are encouraging and equipping moms of young children to realize their potential as mothers, women and leaders, in relationship with Jesus, and in partnership with the local church.

Did you know that Living Water will become a site for MOPS starting this fall?

We are excited about this opportunity to welcome young families two times/month on our campus and provide a loving, encouraging, and supportive environment. We are hoping that it will become a community where friendships and faith can grow, so moms don't have to feel isolated or alone in their fears or struggles.

We need your help.

Would you like to join the MOPS Team so that we can provide the best MOPS group around? We're looking for volunteers with gifts of hospitality, taking care of little ones while the moms meet, and mentoring for the moms. Please contact Pastor Shari and/or attend our first meeting on Tuesday, August 8 at 10am in the Fellowship Hall if you are interested in participating in this new ministry.

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THE NURSERY WILL BE OPEN STARTING THIS FALL!

We want families to have a wonderful nursery experience as we partner in their little one's faith development. We hope our nursery will be a place where each child feels safe and parents feel comfortable leaving their precious little one. Would you like to help with cleaning, painting and/or decorating the Nursery to get it ready for the Grand Opening? Please let Pastor Shari know if you can help.



We Remember in our Prayers

Family & friends of Liz Bernau (James Bernau's mom) – Mourning her death
Jackie Curdy (Gene Perry's sister) - Diagnosed with cancer. Continued success of chemotherapy.
Krista Gullickson Ghiara & husband Abehay (Family of Joan Halverson) – Krista is battling cancer and strength for her husband
Jim Jabanoski (Friends of Deb Bash) - Diagnosed with brain cancer
Family & Friends of Jeanne Jacobson (Mother of Jill Wehr) – Mourning her death
Komperda family – General concerns
Pam Landon - Recovering from fall
Family and friends of Liz (Martha Novak's cousin) – Mourning her death
Sandra Malmquist (Niece of the Roessler's) – Cancer surgery
Sharon McGovern (Friend of Julie Ann Walker) – Hip surgery in August
David Olive (Pete Pritt's son-in-law) – Battling cancer
Gene Perry – Successful results of a coronary intervention July 24 in Seattle, WA
Pastor Mark Rossman – Recovery from back surgery
Norb Schroeder - Recovery from knee surgery
Madeline Stark (Friend of Celia Giontzenelia) – Battling cancer



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

Welcome to our Guests

Steve & PJ Borauicz
Crissa Marie Clark
J Dahl
Abbie Dalton
Maria Hussein
Jade & Dodd
Kevin, Natasha, Alex & Sophia Stuck
Jim Lyells
Ted & Kim Morris
Stacia Novak
Lori & Jerry Poffenroth
Peter & Mary Beth Reis

Van Drew family
Brad & Randi Ven Hieizen

Out of Area

Kathy Anderson, Omaha, NE
Dan & Kay Bonar, Payson, AZ
Stephen & C. J. Bororvice, Toledo, OH
Betsy Hansen, Jonesboro, AR
Jim Moreland, Moreland, TX
David Perry, Anderson, SC

Happy Birthday!

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

Decker, Andrea	5-Aug
Denekamp, Jeff	21-Aug
Donavon, Marcie	6-Aug
Freesh, Melissa	25-Aug
Gunderson, Barbara	23-Aug
Horrocks, Nancy	15-Aug
Jacobson, Carol	19-Aug
Manseth, Nancy	15-Aug
Mathews, Chase Robert	29-Aug
Moehn, Lisa	5-Aug
Olson, Annabelle	11-Aug



Roessler, Karen	8-Aug
Ruff, Caroline	20-Aug
Sabia, Turid	4-Aug
Sauer, Kevin	9-Aug
Sauer, Konner William	7-Aug
Schindler, Emma Jean	22-Aug
Sleeper, Adena	22-Aug
Smith, Grant	9-Aug
Syversen, Kjirsten	13-Aug
Ulland, Myrna	24-Aug
Winter, Kristi	23-Aug

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

What can I find at www.LWLCAZ.org?

Calendar of events, online signups for events, serving & flowers, youth news, bible studies, mission programs, SPLASH!, Connections, Sunday School registration, photo gallery, sermons, columbarium information, prayer list, online request and much more!!

Publication Deadlines:

Connections- Every Tuesday by noon
SPLASH! - The 15th of each month by noon



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Pinterest

A Message from Pastor Shari

"I knew we were starting to get somewhere when my six-year-old son was rattling off who he wanted at his birthday party. There were as many adults as kids on that list."

A pastor recently shared this story as part of an emerging conversation about intergenerational ministry and the positive results of this new movement throughout the church. This one little story carries with it the hope of keeping kids engaged in the church into adulthood.

For those of us who have watched a decline in church attendance (especially with our young people) this is refreshing to hear. This is refreshing, because many of us have not only heard about the decline but we have personally witnessed kids and grandkids fall away from the church. And, therefore we are not surprised to hear the results of research done by Mark Holmen (much of it based on studies done by the Search institute) showing that "60-90% of children enrolled in church programs will disengage from the church when they become young adults."

Why is this?

Pastor Tim Wright says, "Admittedly, there are many reasons why each generation in our culture is increasingly distanced from the church. Some have to do with societal shifts that have nothing to do with the church. Some have to do with the inability of the church to articulate the Gospel in compelling ways. But perhaps one of the reasons has to do with the Sunday School shift (that happened back in the 60's and 70's)...as we shifted kids out of the main worship experience, enculturated them in their own program, and robbed them of any touch points with the rest of the body of Christ. Another way of saying it: by segregating our kids out of worship, we never assimilated them into the life of the congregation. They had no contact points. They had no experience. They had no connection with the main worship service – its liturgy, its music, its space, its environment, and its adults. It was a foreign place to them. And so...once they finished with the kids/or youth program, they left the church."

What is the answer?

These findings influenced the conversation and implementation of intergenerational ministry programs all throughout the church. Dr. Kara E. Powell and Dr. Chap Clark report that "The closest our research has come to that definitive silver bullet is this sticky finding: for high school and college students, there is a relationship between attendance at church-wide worship services and Sticky Faith."

How can Living Water participate in this new movement and keep our kids connected, and enrich our own faith lives?

First of all, I have witnessed many of you already engaging the children and youth, and building relationships in worship and many of the programs. Thank you! You are a tremendous blessing. And, the fact that we have an Education Hour between services (versus *during* services) is also a wonderful blessing! Yet, I think we can still do more. Here are a couple of things I would like to invite you to try:

#1: Consider that being "Intergenerational" is a way of life. Making such a shift requires overcoming the individualistic mindset that is so strong in our culture and developing a community mentality in which all generations and ministry departments are valued and involved with each other in significant ways throughout the church body. Cross-generational valuing must become an integral part of the congregation's collective story.

#2: Participate in the event on Sunday, November 12 (between services), which will include activities designed to connect all generations of the Living Water community together on a deeper spiritual level. Please mark this on your calendar. Hope to see you there!

God's peace,

Pastor Shari Bernau



Ask Zeke

Living Water's 24/7 office fish gleefully reports on 2017 VBS numbers

Q. Were there really more than 3 dozen children at our Vacation Bible School in June?

A. Yep! There were **38 attendees: 34% from LW** and **66% non-members** (14 friends, cousins, and grandkids of members; 7 previous VBS program participants; and 4 with no known LW connection).

This year's increased attendance springs from multiple factors. Kudos to LW members for inviting youngsters to attend VBS. We also welcomed back kids who'd enjoyed our VBS program before. The waiver of registration fees this year – and the lure of a free t-shirt – further boosted attendance.

Two fins up for the **57 dedicated VBS volunteers**, including non-members, who shared God's love with the VBS kids! Planning and preparations required a whale of a lot of work. During the 5-day program, adult and teenage volunteers ensured that VBSers had a fun, safe, and faith-filled week as they learned about and experienced God's love through group time, visits to Paul in the Underground Church, games, dramas, and crafts plus nourishing snacks. The presence of two fully engaged pastors was another bonus.

Kudos as well for the overwhelming tide of congregational support! Along with a LW family's gift that enabled free registration, oodles of LW members graciously donated food and other VBS supplies.

VBS kids themselves demonstrated God's love in action by contributing to this year's VBS mission project: a book drive to benefit financially challenged families in the Phoenix metro area. Their impressive total of **675 books** topped last year's figure. Plus, Thrivent funds enabled the purchase of **109 additional books**. Moreover, this year's VBS program once again featured a water drive. A total of **2,112 bottles of water** (88 cases) are now helping Grace Lutheran Church's Heat Respite Program keep the homeless hydrated in central Phoenix.

Thanks, folks, for your faithful commitment to LW's annual VBS program. Your support and generosity sent an important message to VBS participants.

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

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FORUM

The Sunday morning Adult Forum will resume on September 10 when we again have our two-worship service schedule. The Adult Forum will begin with a three-week presentation in September by Richard Andersen, executive director of Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center, on how we can serve God and be a blessing to people in the third chapter of life. The month of October will feature five weeks on the life, teachings, and work of Martin Luther, and the introduction of Lutheranism to America, as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

Join us each Thursday at 7:40am at Soul Cafe
(Pinnacle Peak, 7615 E Pinnacle Peak Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255)



ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH:

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity you won't want to miss!

The ELCA Youth Gathering is happening next summer (June 27-July 1, 2018) and all youth entering grades 8-12 this summer are eligible to attend.

If you missed the informational meeting in June, feel free to see Pastor Shari for any questions. The deadline to register is Sunday, October 1.





News & Events



A fun evening is in the cards on August 18!

Former, current, and prospective bridge players of all levels are invited to a fun evening of party bridge at the home of Bob and Myrna Ulland on Friday, Aug. 18, starting at 7:00 pm. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Narthex. The Ullands will email you directions to their home. For more information on this monthly fellowship opportunity, please contact Richard or Jill Wehr (480-515-4813).

MEMORIAL COLUMBARIUM

The columbarium of Living Water Lutheran Church (9201 E. Happy Valley Rd, Scottsdale, AZ) is a memorial garden designed as a resting place for the ashes of deceased members and their families. A columbarium is a permanent structure with niches or compartments designed to hold the urns containing the ashes of loved ones. Our columbarium is located on the far south end of our campus.

Our columbarium allows our members and their families the opportunity to have their final resting place within the shadow of the Church that has been a central part of their lives. This sacred site of beauty and dignity is a place where loved ones can visit and meditate.

The columbarium eliminates the pressures of choosing a burial site, casket, vault, and monument. Planning the inurnment and memorial service will be much simpler since it can all be done at the Church. The cost of cremation and a niche in the columbarium are significantly less than the cost of a casket, burial site, and marker. This area emanates dignity and peace among the beautiful Arizona desert landscape in which it resides. The design reflects the dignity, beauty, and tranquility appropriate for the resting place for those who have died.

It fulfills the Church's mission to oversee the spiritual life of its congregation from baptism through life to death. These facilities are not intended to compete with commercial cemeteries, but are for the convenience of the Church members, ministers and immediate families.



To purchase a niche, or for more information, contact Andrea in the church office.

As we enter the 2nd half of 2017, it is a good practice to sit down and evaluate our progress to see if we are on track to meet the full year goals. This may include family time, volunteer time, health, professional, and financial goals and commitments. With respect to the latter, these financial goals may include saving for child's education, saving for retirement, and our charitable and giving commitments.

With respect to our charitable giving for 2017, there are a number of reasons why addressing these prior to the end of the year may be beneficial. (Over 50% of charitable donations made to organizations are typically made in November and December every year). Here are a few of those reasons;

- The best charitable giving decisions are made without the pressure of time. These decisions about amount and grantees are best made prior to the fourth quarter.
- The time to donate stock or other assets may have a greater tax benefit to the donor earlier than November/December or when recommendations to sell a stock may be initiated. In particular this year, pending tax changes coming out of Washington could make it more beneficial now, if tax rates were to drop in the future.
- Many donors like to include family in their charitable decision making. If so, trying to accomplish this during the busy holiday season can be difficult to accomplish. Addressing this during the summer so that it can be completed during the fall can make it more effective.
- For those individuals taking required minimum distributions(RMD's) from their IRA's at year end, review taking the amount on a monthly basis , as well as taking advantage of the tax law permitting these distributions be given to the church without having to declare the income (with some limitations).

Think about making a legacy gift . We recently have initiated steps to implement the Endowment Fund which has existed here at LWLC for a number of years. Robert Winter heads up that committee and can fill you in on methods to accomplish this

Frank Stock



Financial Report

Will be in the September Newsletter

9201 E. Happy Valley Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255
office@lwlcaz.org ~ 480.473.8400 ~ www.LWLCAZ.org

Living Water is a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Grand Canyon Synod.