

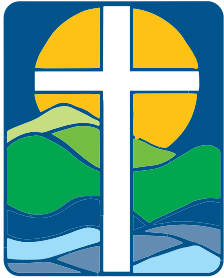
JULY 2017

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
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CONTENTS

Prayer List

Visitors

Council Report

Pastor's Message

Ask Zeke

Studies & Retreats

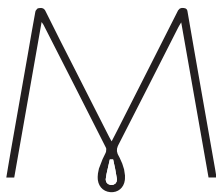
News & Events

"God's Work, OUR Hands"

Upcoming Dates

Financial Report

Join us Sunday at 9:30am for Summer Worship



MOPS

Did you hear the news?

With the blessing of the Council and the PACE (Pro-Active Community Engagement) Team, we are hoping to make Living Water Lutheran Church a site for a MOPS group this fall.

What is MOPS?

MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers. It is a group that meets approximately two times/month during the week and it is welcoming to all women who are moms of young children in our community. It includes Mentoring, Leadership Development, Honest Conversation, Speakers, Relevant Teaching, Creative Activities, and Childcare.

Why LWLC?

This is an opportunity to welcome young families on our campus and provide a loving, encouraging, and supportive environment. It can be a community where friendships and faith can grow, so moms don't have to feel isolated or alone in their fears or struggles.

How can you 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 if you are interested in being a part of a brand-new and exciting team at Living Water.



We Remember in our Prayers

- Adriana (Granddaughter of Myrna & Bob Ulland) - Recoving from severe jellyfish sting
- Family & friends of Janet Adamski (Sister of Rita Reamer) – Mourning her death
- Family and friends of James Christian (Friend of the Kilburn's) – Mourning his death
- Jadwiga (Friend of Julie Ann's living in Poland) - Diagnosed with cancer
- 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
- Liz Hopkins (Wife of a cousin of Marti Novak) - Health concerns
- Jim Jabanoski (Friends of Deb Bash) - Diagnosed with brain cancer
- Jeanne Jacobson (Mother of Jill Wehr) – Health concerns
- Stan Johnson – Recovery from hip surgery
- Family & friends of Sam Kalainov – Mourning his death
- Mia McGovern (Granddaughter of Jeanne Stemm) – Recovery from surgery
- David Olive (Pete Pritt's son-in-law) – Battling cancer
- Gene Perry – Successful results of a coronary intervention July 24 in Seattle, WA
- Dr. Glen Trigg (Friend of Larry & Linda Coutts) - Battling stage 4 melanoma
- Terry Waltz (Friend of Cindy & Ron Ophaug) – Health concerns
- Jill Wehr – Recovering from surgery



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

Welcome to our Guests

Amya Anderson
John & Brenda Berry
Pat Burns
Deb & J Dahl
Heidi & Tine Drier
Morgan Duran
Jerry Graunke
Walter G.
Jason, Stephanie, Ryan & Allison Handley
Lynn Hansen
Bob & Nancy Hutson
Stan & Katarina Johnson
Kelly Karsen
Joyce & Stan Kerber
Rebekah, Tracey & Patrick Kontz
John & Tamey Marshall

Bonnie Moore
Lainey Nguyen
Mario de La Perez
Steve & Nyla Rome
Sue Samlasha
Ken Shaw
Dawn Shields
Darleen & Ed Shipley
Steve & Kristin Smith
Kristin Stone
Brett Stone
Alyssa Vermillion

OUT OF AREA

Ruth Almen, Las Vegas, NV
Al Ingwerson, Manhattan, KS

Renee Azvala, San Diego, CA
Tor Jacobson, Flagstaff, AZ
Jon & Pam McGlocklin, Hartland, WI
Linda & Tom Snavely, Prescott, AZ
Kim Ulland, Benson, MN
Mary Zobrak, Alliquippa, PA
Ken & Claudia MacKay, Wheaton, IL

A Message from Pastor Rossman

I find them scattered about my house. They have come to rest in places they do not belong. They create tripping hazards in the dark and foment a general sense of frustration deep inside of me. They are in the way when it is time to clean and they create a general sense of untidiness within my household. And they are many. They are the shoes of Mason. Tossed about and seldom where they belong and quite often in the way.

There is that saying in life that directs the reader not to judge another until they have walked in their shoes. Simply put, until we can live out the life experiences of another, we should refrain from judging them and their actions. It is advice that probably should be taken more often. We live in a world that is filled with folks who would be better suited looking into their own lives as opposed to the lives of the people they judge and condemn. But no matter what our level of empathy might be, or how much empathy toward others we might lack, we still find we live with a predilection toward judgment. We tend to critic the choices that others make without ever considering the possibility of how their shoes of life might fit on our feet.

But even if we chose not to walk in the shoes of others, there are moments in life that we find ourselves inexplicably placed in the shoes of others. Sometimes the shoes are those of people we know, sometimes they are the shoes of people in a defined group. More often than not, we find ourselves in the shoes of others, not because we are attempting to gain insight into their plight, but because we have been placed in a similar situation

In a little more than a week I will find myself at the Mayo Clinic, not doing the ministry of pastoral care to those who are patients within its' walls, but as a patient myself. Even though I am yet to wear these shoes, I can tell by looking at them that they do not fit me very well. They look too small, as if they will hurt, and I don't want to put them on. But as with many – if not all – who are forced to wear these shoes, none of them fit too well. They all cause a certain degree of pain and discomfort.

My hope is that in the end this will eliminate my pain and discomfort. As the surgeon rearranges the position of some of the vertebrae in my back and fuses them together, the goal is a relief from the discomfort which has beset me. But even with that hope, there are certain misgivings I have and those misgivings are based on a lack of faith – at least the lack of a fullness of faith – that I have concerning the medical world. It is not that I do not feel comfortable about my surgeon, but rather it is found with in the knowledge that I hold that things can go wrong. And so as the day draws closer the knot located in my stomach grows larger.

But what unties that knot and has the ability to loosen up all the binds me is my faith. It is not a faith based on accomplishments or standing. It is not a faith based on knowledge and understanding. It is solely a faith based on love – not the imperfect, inconsistent love I hold for God, but the perfect and never changing love that God holds for me. It is a faith that was placed in my life upon my baptism, and allows me to understand God's presence in my life. It is the faith of a child of God that long has allowed me to pray;

*Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray thee Lord my soul to keep
And should I die before I wake
I pray thee Lord my soul to take*

It is a prayer that speaks to the faith and trust we hold. It is a prayer that reminds us all, that when the shoes are ones which we chose not to wear and the knot in the stomach tightens it is God's presence in our lives remains strong and true. It is a prayer which reflects the faith in which we live.





Ask Zeke

Living Water's 24/7 office fish is eager to welcome newcomers as we step up the PACE of letting folks know who and what we are

Q. What is the role of the recently created PACE Team that was announced in May?

A. PACE stands for Pro-Active Community Engagement. It's a reconfigured approach to how we "market" ourselves.

Efforts to get the word out about Living Water have largely concentrated on mailings such as Christmas and Easter worship service announcements. While mailers will continue to land in local residents' mailboxes, PACE is pursuing a broader approach. It ranges from enhancing our curb appeal to ways we can meet community needs. The idea is to attract people by planning activities and initiatives that engage our neighbors and enable Living Water members to become outreach ambassadors.

This approach isn't new. You may recall the Bike Rider Welcome initiative when we were a rest stop for Tour de Scottsdale cyclists a couple years ago. Living Water also opens its doors as a polling place and provides meeting space for HOAs and other organizations. PACE is seeking to expand this sort of community engagement. One simple move was to install eye-catching bulletin boards near building entrances to inform HOA folks and other weekday visitors about our activities. Cutting back roadside vegetation to reduce fire danger has the added bonus of improved signage visibility and giving our campus a more inviting appearance.

PACE supports launching a MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) group. Stay tuned for more information. PACE is also exploring ways that existing ministry teams can be involved in the drive to inspire unchurched neighbors and other folks to check us out. One idea being floated is a movie night this summer. Another is a fall food truck event to pull in people living nearby. A proposed lecture series could be another draw. These activities would provide golden opportunities for us to invite our own friends and neighbors to our campus, as well.

Perhaps YOU have an idea. If so, please contact PACE Chair Lee Stenehjem or another PACER: Sue Stenehjem, Richard and Jill Wehr, or Doug and Doris Yock.

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 is taking a break for the summer and will resume on September 10 when we again have our two-worship service schedule. The Adult Forum will begin on September 10 with a three-week presentation by Richard Andersen on how we can serve God and be a blessing to people in the third chapter of life, followed by four weeks in October on the life, teachings, and ministry of Martin Luther 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.

To learn more about this opportunity, please attend the informational meeting on Wednesday, June 21: 12-1pm in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. Parents are also encouraged to attend the meeting. Please see Pastor Shari for any questions: pastorshari@lwlcaz.org





News & Events



A fun evening is in the cards on July 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, July 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).

Happy Birthday!

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

Marquardt, Kristin	7/31
Davis, Dylan Elle	7/21
Sloneker, Tyler Austin	7/5
Elliot, Ian	7/19
Ruff, William	7/19
Laudenschlager, Trace	7/15
Larson, Sophia	7/11
Bauer, Lindsay	7/6
Winter, Michael	7/21
Pura, Lauren	7/20
Patton, Michael	7/7
Leinweber, Eric	7/3



Moore, Laura	7/13
Liguori, Beth	7/14
Purewal, Susan	7/8
Hannan, John	7/16
Purewal, Sarge	7/21
Landon, Pam	7/25
Eilers, Gene	7/5
Brown, Karen	7/16
Nartker, Marilyn	7/8
Koch, Ron	7/15
Sell, Reed	7/15
Gavelda, Meghan	7/26

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

IMMORTAL WORDS

I think of the immortal words of Emma Lazarus, which were written in 1883 to help raise funds for the construction of the pedestal for the Statue of Liberty. In 1903 these words were engraved on a bronze plaque and mounted inside the pedestal's lower level.

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."



These words of Emma Lazarus remind me of the words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 11: 28 –

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Many times during the year, but especially on July 4, I give thanks to God for the great privilege of having been born here in the United States and being able to enjoy the blessings of living in this great country. Being so blessed, I want to be a good citizen and fulfill my responsibilities of being an American.

Even greater are the privileges of having been re-born into the kingdom and family of God and being able to enjoy the blessings of relationship with God, forgiveness of sins, hope for eternal life, and being able to be a part of a great Christian family. Being so blessed, even more do I want to fulfill my responsibilities of being part of the people of God. Which include living in Jesus' way, sharing Jesus' love, being involved in and supporting the work of His Church, and returning to Him a worthy portion of the financial blessings that He has entrusted to me.

Dennis D. Nelson



Financial Report

GENERAL FUND	1-Nov-16	Dec-16	17-Jan	February	March	April	May
Actual							
Income	45,312	79,301	33,600	36,863	45,076	53,135	53,687
Expenses	35,872	48,106	34,975	35,239	45,961	52,088	48,906
Net Income (Loss)	9,440	31,195	-1,375	1,624	-885	1,047	4,781
BUILDING FUND	1-Nov-16	Dec-16	17-Jan	February	March	April	May
Income	4,718	63,390	4,318	3,165	3,210	5,031	5,682
Disbursements	8,004	8,004	8,004	8,004	8,004	8,004	8,004

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office@lwlc az.org ~ 480.473.8400 ~ www.LWLCAZ.org

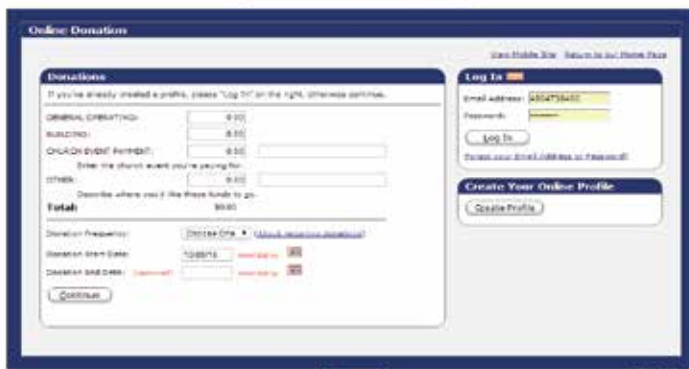
Living Water is a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Grand Canyon Synod.

ONLINE GIVING & TEXT GIVING

Every summer, we have faithful and generous members who diligently mail their contributions from their summer home or vacation destination to the church to support our ministry during the summer months. To assist and simplify the giving process, we have installed online & text giving software. Online and text giving platforms allow LWLC supporters to give wherever they are nationally within minutes...no envelope, check, or postage is needed.

So, how does one access online & text giving? We have three ways...

1. From a computer, one can simply click the **“Online Giving”** link on the LWLC website at www.lwlcaz.org.



2. From a smart phone, you can access the LWLC website and use the **“Online Giving”** link as in #1 above. Or, if you use an iPhone, you can download the **“Give+”** app. To obtain the **“Give+”** app, go to the **Apple App store** and search for **“Vanco Give”**. You will see the following option for **“Give+”** appear.



Click **“Open”** to download it. After downloading the app, open the app. The prompts for information will guide you through the giving process easily.

3. From a mobile phone, text your donation to **480-568-1120**, which is the text giving number assigned to LWLC. (Text a dollar amount and the name of the fund to which you would like to donate. Ex: **\$100 General Fund**; If you haven't used the text giving before, a link will be texted to you to enter your name, address, and payment info. Once you have entered all info., you will receive a texted and emailed confirmation of your contribution to LWLC. Please note that after the initial profile is set up for text giving, you will not have to do that again. The system will recognize your phone number and give credit to you.)

How safe is using the online giving and text giving software? The software that we use complies with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard. The Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) is a set of regulations established by the credit card industry that apply to companies of any size that accept credit card payments. (In order for a merchant of any size to process credit card payments, they must adhere to these standards.)

If you have any questions or if you need assistance, please see Lori Clark in the office or contact her at 480-473-8400 or at lori.clark@lwlcaz.org. She will be glad to assist you.

30th Annual Synod Assembly

"Hearing the Call to Lead"



June 9-10, 2017

Love of Christ, Mesa, AZ

Report from the 2016 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly

Together with Pr. Mark and Pr. Shari, we were your lay voting members from Living Water Lutheran to the GC Synod Assembly held on June 9-10 at Love of Christ Lutheran in Mesa. The synod assembly is the annual meeting of approximately 95 churches in the GC Synod, which includes all of Arizona, southern Nevada and St. George, Utah. Under the theme, "Hearing the Call to Lead," and gathering together in this 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we experienced many opportunities to reflect on what it means to be Lutheran. "It's not our culture or our behavior, it's our understanding of the gospel. We're always being formed and renewed as a church" (quoting Elizabeth Eaton, our ELCA Presiding Bishop).

Under the theme of Leadership Talks, we heard from several seminarians and interns who shared their faith journey as they discerned their call to become ordained. It was noted that our pastors are now described as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. We were challenged to be looking for, encouraging, praying and listening to those among us whom God may be calling into ordained ministry.

You may be aware that Bishop Talmage has resigned as our Grand Canyon Bishop, as of July 31, to accept a call as Senior Pastor of Love of Christ Lutheran in Mesa. He would have completed his second term as Bishop in June 2018, when a new Bishop will be elected. After accepting Bishop Talmage's resignation, the synod council decided to use these next months as an opportunity to discern what our synod profile looks like and to invite conversation with synod and congregational leaders and others. Our next Grand Canyon Bishop will be elected in 2018. ELCA Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, has appointed Rev. Lowell Almen to an Interim Bishop Role for us, beginning on August 1.

A new aspect of this year's assembly was Conference Caucuses, where each of the nine (9) conferences within our synod broke into discussion groups to consider what our greatest hope is, as well as what gives us the most anxiety, as we proceed toward the election of a new Bishop in 2018. The next opportunity for discussion for our Conference, Northeast Valley, will be on Saturday, December 2. The location for that meeting has not yet been determined.

We participated in the business (plenary) sessions that elected Synod leaders including a new Vice President, adopted several resolutions including welcoming a new congregation, Crossroads Lutheran Church in San Tan Valley and establishing a Companion Church Partnership with L'Eglise Luthérienne du Senegal. Voting members also reviewed and approved the financial reports of the Synod. The synod's finances remain stable and are within budget.

Our churchwide report was delivered by the Rev. Mark Olsen, Associate Director for the ELCA Fund for Leaders. We were reminded that we are church, we are Lutheran, we are the church together, and we are church for the sake of the world. We are encouraged to visit two websites from churchwide: www.elca.org/future and www.elca.org/leaders for information and resources for leadership. Rev. Olsen shared the ELCA Strategic Directions 2025, intended to guide congregations and members to the church we are becoming:

- A thriving church spreading the gospel and deepening faith for all people.
- A church equipping people for their baptismal vocations in the world and this church.
- An inviting and welcoming church that reflects and embraces the diversity in our communities and the gifts and opportunities that diversity brings.
- A visible church deeply committed to working ecumenically and with other people of faith for justice, peace and reconciliation in our communities and around the world.
- A well-governed, connected and sustainable church.

In his report, our GC Synod Bishop, Rev. Stephen Talmage, noted that a retirement tsunami is upon us. By 2019, there are expected to be 6,800 churches who could afford to call a pastor, and there will be 5800 pastors available. How can we respond? Consider support for and personal involvement in the lay academy through the diakonia Program; affirm that “we are church together,” read Luther’s Small Catechism during this anniversary of the Reformation year, develop recruiting skills and plan to resource those hearing the call to ordained ministry, support a time of discernment for those considering the ministry, and create individual learning plans for seminary students. He encouraged us to connect our faith with real world issues. The worship offering was directed to the Grand Canyon Synod’s Seminary Scholarship Fund.

On Friday evening, a celebration dinner was held to honor and thank Bishop Talmage and his wife, Barbara, for 11 years of leadership in our synod. Bishops from our Region 2 were also in attendance.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Living Water Lutheran along with your pastors. Next year's synod assembly will be held at Resurrection Lutheran in Tucson on June 14-16, 2018.

Bob and Myrna Ulland



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 & VBS registration, photo gallery, sermons, columbarium information, prayer list and online request and much more!!

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.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

You purchase a columbarium niche from the Church. You can place up to two urns in each niche. Upon purchase, the granite faceplate will be engraved showing the first name, middle name, family name, and date of birth. As soon as possible after inurnment, the date of death will be added to the faceplate. The Church provides the urn, faceplate, and engraving. The Church will maintain your niche and its surroundings. Your family and friends will be comforted by your final resting place.

PURCHASING A NICHE

A copy of the application, niche inscription order form with purchase price of a niche, and the rules and policies of the columbarium are all available from the Church office. Once the application is approved, a certificate covering inurnment ownership rights will be sent to the purchaser. If you purchase a niche and decide not to use it, the Church will repurchase the niche for the original selling price only. Once the niche has been used, no refund will be made. A niche cannot be sold or transferred and may only be used by those listed on the original purchase. The purchase of a niche includes the urns, the plaques inscribed with name and dates of birth and death, the opening and closing of the niche for inurnment, and perpetual care. Each niche is designed to hold two urns. Niche assignments are allocated in accordance with the desires of each applicant on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Contact the church office or go to www.lwlc.org for a purchase form.



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Pinterest



Publication Deadlines:

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



Have you recently had a change of address or phone number? If so, please let the office know so we can keep in touch with you. Email: office@lwcaz.org