

MARCH 2018

Splash!



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

**SOUP SUPPER @ 6PM,
LENTEN STUDY @ 6:30PM,
& LENTEN SERVICE @ 7PM**



**Wednesday
February 21 & 28
March 7, 14 & 21**

Living Water
Lutheran Church



PASTOR
Mark Rossman

PASTOR
Shari Bernau

OFFICE/BLDG MANAGER
Andrea Greer

FINANCE MANAGER
Greysen West

CHOIR DIRECTOR
Marcie Donavon

ACCOMPANIST
Scott Sims

SEXTON
Jakab Peter

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Join us for our special services:

MARCH 25

PALM SUNDAY (8:30AM & 11:00AM)

MARCH 29

MAUNDY THURSDAY (7:00PM)

MARCH 30

GOOD FRIDAY (7:00PM)

APRIL 1

EASTER SUNDAY (6:30AM, 8:30AM & 11:00AM)

APRIL 1

EASTER BRUNCH (9:45AM)



We Remember in our Prayers

John Bliefertnich (Barbara Brook's brother) – Health concerns
Fred Cummins (Friend of the Reamer's) – Cancer has spread
Angelika Dampf Stone (Relative of Brett Stone) – Suffering with Grand Mal Seizures
Eric Enlow (Son of Leila Burrus) – Health concerns
Joey (Judy Tornowske's sister's grandson) – Diagnosed with Leukemia
Mike Kieffer – Recovery from back surgery
Family & friends of Judy Koivisto (Friend of the Ulland's) – Mourning her death
Ralph Ochoa (Friend of the Jacobson's) – Complications after surgery
David Olive (Pete Pritt's son-in-law) – Battling cancer
Daniel O'Shea (Barbara Brook's brother-in-law) – Battling cancer
Jim Smith (Steve Smith's father) – In hospice care
Kristin Smith – Recovering from surgery
Joan Sprinkle – Recovery from knee surgery
Dick Tornowske – Recovery from heart cath



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!

Smith, Landry Nicole 3/23
Anderson, Cade 3/6
Harlan, Lauren 3/18
Correll, Thomas 3/23
Tripp, Justine 3/16
Mathews, Kristin 3/29
Land, LeeAnn 3/9
Yates, Julie 3/10
Pounds, Jeri 3/22
Hagstrom, Rev. Dennis 3/14



Manalli, Jon 3/17
Fankhauser, Sheila 3/2
Wachter, Valerie 3/3
Goesling, John 3/1
Brash, Eric 3/22
Nyberg, Mary 3/26
Swanson, Karen 3/25
Welnhofer, Karen 3/19
Netland, Joanne 3/3
Ulland, Robert 3/17

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

Lent: An invitation to experience spiritual renewal



“Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.” It is at baptism where it all begins, when we set out on our journey as a Christian in this world. And, it is the symbol of the cross that we carry on our foreheads throughout that journey, everywhere we go.

On Ash Wednesday, we are marked...once again, with that same cross, but this time it is made upon us with ashes. In this act, we are invited to reflect on anything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor, and we are reminded that we are dust and to dust we shall return. This is where the meaningful discipline of Lent begins every year.

This year, I encourage you to experience Lent in a new, and transforming way, and consider adding some of the traditional practices (with a new perspective) listed below to your 40-day journey. For it is through the discipline of Lent, we can find spiritual renewal, freedom and grace.

Spiritual Practices

- **Repentance**: Remember your Baptism each day when you rise and before you retire by placing a small bowl of water in your bedroom, dipping your fingers in it and making the sign of the cross while saying the Invocation: “In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”
- **Prayer**: We are drawn closer to God in contemplation and communication. Prayer is our half of a conversation with God. That means that prayer is not only speaking, but listening as well.
- **Fasting**: This does not necessarily mean giving up all food for a day. More frequently it is the giving up or limiting of a particular food or food group (sweets, desserts, chocolate, butter, fat, eggs, etc.).
- **Works of Love**: The intention of this part of the Lenten Discipline is to connect our faith in God's love for us with actions that are loving of others in the world.

As you consider which Lenten Discipline you will practice, I invite you to begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit for guidance in choosing those things that would best fit you. Prayerfully dedicate all your choices to God as a commitment for the 40 days of Lent, and ask that your Lenten Discipline move you closer to God and bring you spiritual renewal. And, may your journey bring you to a glorious Easter morning in which we long to hear, “He is Risen!”



Ask Zeke

Living Water's 24/7 office fish wistfully wishes he could experience two epic faith-forming events especially for young people

Q. The Great Living Water Auction last month was spectacular. Can you tell me more about how the proceeds from it will benefit Living Water youth?

A. The auction and Spring Cleaning Sale proceeds will enable 11 young people to attend spirited – and spiritually powerful – events: Quake 2018 and the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering.

Living Water will send 6 young people to Quake 2018, a regional event where teens (grades 6-12) encounter the Gospel. This April 20-22 weekend of praise, worship, and new friendships will focus on Jesus' declaration "I have overcome the world!" Activities will include workshops to discuss issues relevant to youth and a food-packaging service project to feed starving people.

Five teens are currently preparing for the ELCA Youth Gathering, a triennial event where 30,000 high school youth and adult leaders converge for a week of faith formation. The 2018 Gathering will happen in Houston June 27-July 1. Opportunities for prayer, Bible study, singing, service, fellowship, and fun will abound at this gargantuan national gathering. Our quintet of teens and their adult leaders will be on the go from 7:30 am to 11:00 pm daily. Activities will encompass five core program areas, including daily mass gatherings for all 30,000 attendees at NRG Stadium, the Houston Texans' home. Participants will also engage in interactive learning related to theology, justice-seeking, prayer, and fellowship in "smaller" groups of 10,000. A "God's work. Our hands." day will focus on service projects and advocacy.

Your generous support through the fundraisers is a blessing. While the drive from Living Water to Quake 2018 in Fountain Hills is less than 25 miles, our 2018 Gathering delegation will make multiple gas stops on the 1,200-mile journey to Houston. Fundraising proceeds will be used for this lengthy roundtrip plus Quake and Gathering participants' registration fees, hotel rooms, and all meals but one (lunch on the Gathering service day).

I can hardly wait to hear about everyone's adventures. Vaya con Dios!

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



Vacation Bible School 2018

Mark your calendars now for our next edition of Vacation Bible School on June 18-22 with our traditional Celebration Sunday Worship Service on June 24. This year we will be traveling to Babylon with Daniel. We will learn that Daniel was way more than the guy who survived a den of hungry lions! Children and volunteers will enjoy lively music, small group interactions in "Tribe Time", the Marketplace Shops, the Palace Playground, educational drama in "Daniel's Adventure's" and wonderful snacks. Registration will open in early 2018. 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! See you in Babylon!

Youth Sunday School

8th – 12th graders will be invited to the Youth Room for Monthly Bible Studies on Sundays at 9:45am on how we can live out our faith in Community, Justice, Advocacy, and Purpose.

- Sunday, March 18: Advocacy
- Sunday, April 29: Purpose

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)



JOIN US FOR ADULT FORUM

MARCH 4: A, B, C's of Hinduism

Come and learn the basics of Hinduism. We will learn what Hinduism is, and what it is not. We'll learn that Hinduism, like any other religion, is a way of life. It is more of a practice than a belief. Pastor Shari has introduced us to Dr. Bhasker Pujari who practices Hinduism and is willing to share his practices with us.. Dr. Bhasker Pujari, M.D.

MARCH 11: Lutherans and the Bible

What is the Bible? A textbook? A novel? A Map? How have Lutherans understood the Bible and what role does it play in shaping our faith? What did Martin Luther have to say about it? In the year of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, come join in a discussion of "Lutherans and the Bible". Rev. Jim Hanson

MARCH 18: Healing of Memories

An introduction to the Institute for Healing of Memories (IHOM). IHOM is a response to the emotional, psychological and spiritual wounds inflicted by war, human rights abuses and other traumatic circumstances. Michael Wold

MARCH 25: Faith Community Veteran Support

This presentation focuses on the important role that faith communities can play in the healing and reintegration of veterans. We will explore the topic of "moral injury" and the role of faith and spirituality in the healing process. Rev. Richard Andersen

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

All women are invited to join us at 10 am or 6:30 pm on Tuesdays to continue our study and fellowship together. We meet for approximately 90 minutes in the Fellowship Hall and the coffee and hot water for hot chocolate or tea is always on. Bring your Bible and invite a friend!

We'll interrupt our video series on the "Bad Girls of the Bible – And What We Can Learn From Them" for two weeks, to study the January and February sessions of the Gather magazine's Bible Study from Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell: "Multiple Meanings: Learning From Other Interpretations." Several of us heard Dr. Powell in person on February 10th and he shared great insight into his study. We hope to do him proud in bringing his message to you! We'll conclude his study in April.

March 6 and March 13: Gather Bible Study from the Jan/Feb issue of the Gather magazine. Bring your copy if you subscribe. Copies of the study material only will be provided if you don't have this issue.

March 20 and March 27: we'll return to the video series on Bad Girls of the Bible by Liz Higgs. Questions? Contact Myrna Ulland at myrna.ulland@gmail.com



News & Events

SPRING CLEANING SALE

Saturday, March 10: 6:30am - 11:30am

It's a great time for spring cleaning! We will be receiving donation items in the Living Water Parking Lot on Friday, March 9 from 3pm---7pm. Consider putting aside any furniture, housewares, clothing, bikes, books, etc, you might like to donate for our sale. Proceeds will go toward the Youth trip to ELCA Youth Gathering and Youth Quake.

- **Please drop off items on Friday, March 9 only between 3pm and 7pm.**
- If you are unable to transport your items to the church, please call or email Pastor Shari: 480-473-8400 or pastorshari@lwlcaz.org
- We can really use volunteers to help with set up/organization on Friday, and assistance at the sale on Saturday. Please sign up in the narthex to help.
- If you have a large truck or SUV and are able to help with donation "pick up" on Friday, March 9, please let Pastor Shari know.

Being a mom is beautiful and hard and we get that sometimes you just need a safe place to breathe. A place to get some encouragement that what you are doing matters. Consider stopping by and joining us on the First and Third Thursdays of the month from 9:30am-11:30am. Pre-registration is not necessary. Childcare is free.



Even though MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, we are a combined MOPS and MOMSnext group, which means that we welcome moms of infants up to high school. Discussions will be tailored to the different groups, meeting the needs of moms in different stages of parenting.

See more on our website at <http://www.lwlcaz.org/mops/>
SCHEDULE (2018)

March 1 and 15, April 5 and 19, May 3 and 17



Join us in making Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief

Once again, we will collect items for Lutheran World Relief's (LWR) Personal Care Kits as part of LWR's "Project Promise" during Lent. **Our collection begins on Sunday, March 4 and ends on Sunday, March 25.**

Project Promise Personal Care Kits are shared with people who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence. We can give hope through

- 2 bars of soap,
- a lightweight bath towel,
- 1 tooth brush, in its original wrapping,
- 1 **wide-toothed comb**, and
- 1 metal nail clipper, with our without a nail file attached

Bath towels should be light or medium weight (no heavy, fluffy towels, please) and the **preferred size is 52" x 72."** The minimum size is 20" x 40" and it should NOT be a hand towel.

We ask that you bring in the items for a complete kit if you can. There will be a collection bin in the church entryway. The kits will be assembled after Easter and blessed on Sunday, April 8. They will be picked up by the LWR Ingathering truck at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran in Phoenix on Saturday, April 14.



Calling all bridge players...

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, March 16, starting at 7:00 pm. Simply add your name to the sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Narthex. For more information on this monthly fellowship opportunity, please contact Richard or Jill (480-515-4813).

Piece-Makers Mission Quilting in March

The ministry of mission quilting for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) continues, because the need for the quilts we make continues. Recipients may use their quilts to shield against the cold and rain, or 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.



We'll meet twice in March, on Wednesday, March 14th and again on Wednesday, March 21st. We meet from 9-noon in the Fellowship Hall to tie quilts that have been assembled. All interested women are welcome to join us. If you can tie a simple tie using crochet thread and a needle, we need you! We have lots of quilts assembled that need tying!

You can also support this ministry by:

- contributing fabric and matching thread for a quilt top or bottom or both. We need 3.5 yards of 100% cotton fabric preferably 44-45" wide (no religious symbols, U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or reference to armed forces, including camouflage). New fabric is preferred but we can also use flat sheets that are in good condition with no stains, obvious wear or holes, 100% cotton preferred, and a low thread count.
- picking up a packet of pre-cut squares with instructions to assemble a quilt top at home on your own sewing machine
- getting instructions to make your own quilt top at home, using LWR's guidelines, and
- supporting LWR's Quilt and Kit shipping costs at \$2.25 per quilt

The coffee is always on and we get to know each other as we pray over and tie quilts. Last year, our group made 50 mission quilts!

God continues to bless the work of our hands! Questions? please ask Myrna Ulland. You can also find information on LWR's quilt ministry at <http://lwr.org/get-involved/quilts>



Living Water is one church in the Northeast Coalition of Lutheran Churches that helps build homes for Habitat for Humanity. The home being built in 2018 is for the Villalobos family. The location is in Tempe, in same area as last year. This will be the 18th home Living Water has helped build. The next work date for Living Water is Saturday, March 10. The signup sheet is in the narthex. If you have questions, please contact John Goesling at 480-310-1699 or at jmgoesling@msn.com.

Living Water Lifts Up the ELCA's 40 Days of Giving During Lent 2018

Once again, we're participating in the ELCA's 40 Days of Giving campaign to fight against hunger and poverty, both locally and globally, during Lent. Here's how:

- **Each Sunday during Lent, we invite you to bring in non-perishable food items for the La Sagrada food pantry.** Items needed include rice, pinto beans, black beans, applesauce, canola oil, and maseca flour. Place your items in the grocery basket in the church entryway.
- **Continue to fill the Hunger Jar with your coins and bills.** All gifts received during Lent will be split 50/50 between ELCA World Hunger and the Vista del Camino Food Bank. Let's make some noise with those offerings each Sunday!
- **Learn more about hunger issues at our Soup Suppers during Lent.** Table tents will be available each week to help us understand how we walk alongside our neighbors as hunger is addressed in local and global communities.
- **50% of our Soup Supper offerings will go to La Sagrada Familia Lutheran church,** our sister congregation here in the Northeast Valley Conference of the Grand Canyon Synod.
- **"ELCA World Hunger Sunday" was Sunday, February 18.** There was a special offering envelope in the bulletin that Sunday. If you've made your gift, thank you. If not, let's continue our history of generously supporting the ELCA's World Hunger initiative. You can make your check payable to Living Water and note "40 Days of Giving" in the memo line. Or make your check directly to ELCA World Hunger and note "40 Days of Giving" in the memo line. Put your check in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. You can also make your gift directly online to ELCA.org/40days.
- **Learn more about the ELCA's 40 Days of Hunger initiative** from these sites: www.elca.org/hunger, facebook.com/ELCAWorldHunger, Twitter.com/ELCAWorldHunger, or Instagram/ELCAWorldHunger.



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!!

Dates to Remember

MARCH 1	MOPS (9:30AM)
MARCH 7	SOUP SUPPER, STUDY & LENTEN SERVICE (6:00PM)
MARCH 10	SPRING CLEANING SALE (6:30AM-11:30AM)
MARCH 14	PIECE MAKERS (9:30AM)
MARCH 14	SOUP SUPPER, STUDY & LENTEN SERVICE (6:00PM)
MARCH 15	MOPS (9:30AM)
MARCH 15	SPLASH! DEADLINE
MARCH 16	BRIDGE (7:00PM)
MARCH 21	PIECE MAKERS (9:30AM)
MARCH 21	SOUP SUPPER, STUDY & LENTEN SERVICE (6:00PM)
MARCH 25	PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 29	MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE (7:00PM)
MARCH 30	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (7:00PM)
APRIL 1	EASTER SERVICES (6:30AM, 8:30AM & 11AM)
APRIL 1	EASTER BRUNCH (9:45AM)



Weekly Events

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Tuesday 10am or 6:30pm (FH)

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

FRIDAY MORNING CLUB
Friday 10:00am (FH)

Publication Deadlines:

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



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Pinterest

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

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY MESSAGE

We know that Lent is the 40-day period before Easter Sunday, which for Christ-followers is time set aside for soul-searching, repentance and preparing our hearts for Easter. For many of us, Lent means fasting and the "giving up" of something we enjoy as a reminder of Christ's ultimate sacrifice on our behalf.

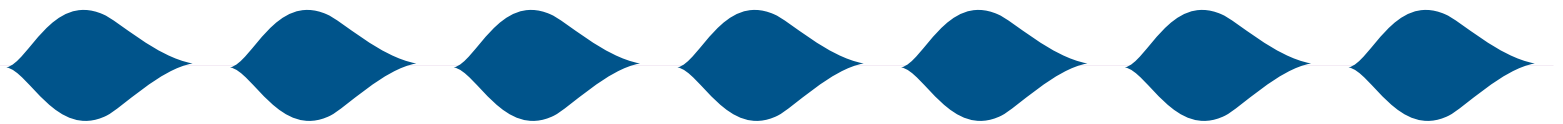
But, did you know that Lent can also mean "to increase"? Some basic research of the word Lent indicates that it comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," which means Spring. And that, in turn, relates to the fact that in the Northern Hemisphere, our Spring daylight hours are lengthening (lencten), or *increasing*. One can then conclude that Lent can mean either *giving up* or *giving more*.

What better way to honor Christ than through the *giving up* of certain things and alternatively, through *giving more* by adopting new practices of stewardship!

Giving up something that we enjoy can help us focus on Christ and the sacrifice He made on the cross. By foregoing something daily, such as maybe caffeine or sweets or social media, our thoughts and focus can instead be centered on prayer and scripture reading, and to reflect on our relationship with God and others.

Giving more to others by serving in new ways can help us spread the Good News of Christ through new relationships. Every day, there are new opportunities to love others and to reach out to those in need. Choosing to intentionally give to others in some way is a great way to keep our hearts centered on Jesus in remembrance of all He has given -- and continues to give -- to us.

So, whether we choose to honor Christ by giving up something we truly enjoy, or by increasing our service to others -- or by doing both! -- let's make a sacrifice of significance that will last far beyond Lent. Just as Jesus has done for us.



SHOP FRY'S & AMAZON AND GIVE TO LIVING WATER!



Did you know you can support Living Water just by shopping at Fry's? It's easy when you enroll in Fry's Community Rewards! To get started, sign up with your V.I.P Card at www.frys-food.com and select Living Water (43662). Once you're enrolled, you'll earn rewards for Living Water every time you shop and use your V.I.P Card!



On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization (Living Water) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.