



Splash!

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

June / JULY 2022

Living Water
Lutheran Church



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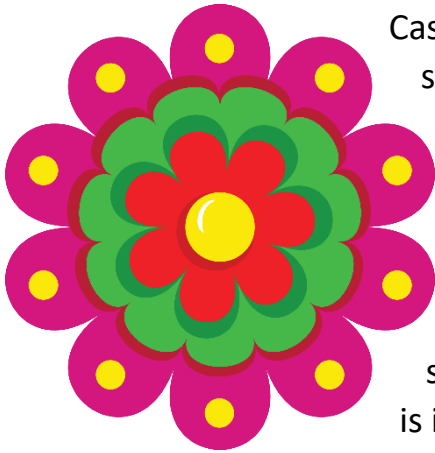
We Remember in our Prayers

- Mary Ann Bartley—Health Concerns
- Don Benson—Health Concerns
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- Larry Coutts—Health Concerns
- Kristina Decknick (Friend of Michelle Brown)—Battling Covid
- Sue and Dave Dixon (Sister of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Dominic and Megan (Friends of Deb Bash, Dominic Trauma Surgeon Air Force in Kabul)
- Vicki Dugas (Friend of Barbara & John Hannan)—Battling Cancer
- Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Joe Franch (Friend of Kathie Roenigk)—Health Concerns
- Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- Barbara Gunderson—Health Concerns
- Tyler Hornacek (Grandson of John & Sue Honacek)—Deployed
- Michael Koch (Grandson of Ron and Shirley Koch)—Health Concerns
- Hannah Lehrke (Granddaughter of Jay and Lois Lucas)—Health Concerns
- Mary (Friend of Larry Coutts)—Health Concerns
- Richard Reeder Sr. (Friend of Michelle Brown)—Health Concerns
- Henry Roenigk—Health Concerns
- Ron Roessler—Health Concerns
- Ruth Schlesinger—Health Concerns
- Bonnie Stemm (Scott Stemm’s Mother)—Health Concerns
- Jim and Carolyn Tonneson—Health Concerns
- Tori (Susie Purewal’s Daughter-in-law)—Health Concerns
- Gavin Vaughan (Nephew of Gordon & Marty Lindert)—Health Concerns
- Sumi and Celine (friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
- Bonnie Moore—Healing from broken bone in her foot
- Cole—Pat and Janet Guthrie’s grandson
- Lisa Squires (daughter of Bob Ulland)—Health Concerns
- Family and friends of Heidi Gerrish (Friend of Myrna and Bob Ulland)—auto accident
- Stephen and Katherine Gerrish and Justin (Friends of Myrna and Bob Ulland)—injured in an auto accident
- The family and friends of Paula Grimsley (grandmother of Mason Rossman)
- People of Ukraine

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

A Message from Pastor Shari

On the morning of April 25, I left my quiet, color-coordinated planned community, and travelled to a place very different. A place full of color, busy streets filled with people, and winding roads. It was an adventure that I will always remember. My adventure started out with picking up Retired Pastor Adele Resmer in Scottsdale, and then traveling to Iglesia Luterana San Juan Bautista in Tucson, AZ. When we arrived, we were welcomed by Pastor Mateo Chavez and his wife Annette. Mateo is the pastor of San Juan Bautista, and he and his wife are integral to the ministry of Cruzando Fronteras, which is a humanitarian advocacy group for people who live on the borders. Our mission was to deliver around 80 boxes and bags of rice, beans, flour, diapers and wipes to Casa de la Misericordia (House of Mercy).



Casa de la Misericordia is a shelter in Nogales, Mexico that provides shelter, safety and community for women, children and men who are waiting to be seek asylum the US. Because of COVID-19, which closed the border, 120 women, children and men have been waiting for 2+ years for their interview at the border. During that time, they have lived in Casa de la Misericordia. Sister Lika runs the shelter which is on 5 acres that contains buildings for meals and sleeping as well as an outdoor garden. Sister Lika sees that everyone is included in the care of the property inside and out: families sign up to cook meals each day, men provide security around the property, there are cleaning crews for inside the buildings and crews who care for the grounds. Children assist adults in the care of the garden. Women and young people weave and sew and care for the youngest children. While Sister Lika works with the Ministries of Education and Health to see to that teachers, nurses and doctors care for the residents of the shelter, there is a constant and ongoing need for food and supplies.

It was a wonderful experience to share the gifts that many of you (and members of the churches in our Northeast Valley Consortium) donated to all the people who are staying at the shelter. Many of these people have had traumatic experiences in their home country and therefore have fled for their safety. They are in good hands at Casa de la Misericordia, thanks to Sister Lika, and all the wonderful people who contribute to this ministry (which are many). Even though it was just one day of my life, I was blessed to see the work of the church in action, and God making a difference in the lives of so many faithful people.

Pastor Shari

Casa de la Misericordia Nogales, Mexico



Ask Zeke



Living Water's 24/7 office fish

ASK ZEKE

Living Water's 24/7 office fish provides a preview of the upcoming Youth Mission Trip to southern Colorado

Q. What exactly will the youth be doing in Alamosa?

A. On Saturday, July 2, four teens and two adult leaders (Pastor Shari and Aubrey Coutts) will set off on an approximately 600-mile journey to Alamosa, CO. After an overnight stay in Durango, they'll roll into Alamosa on Sunday afternoon and begin a life-changing week focused on the theme "For Real: Love Authentically" (Romans 12:9a).

As in previous years, Pastor Shari selected a mission trip coordinated by YouthWorks. This 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation has provided Christ-centered trips for thousands of teens and adult leaders for 26 years. YouthWorks partners with communities across the U.S. and beyond to provide a week of service that challenges and stretches teenagers.

Alamosa has a population of 9,360 (2020) and is located in southern Colorado's San Luis Valley. This valley's beautiful mountains draw many visitors, and tourism is a major contributor to the region's economy. But this area is also rife with rural poverty. The city of Alamosa's poverty rate exceeds 30%. YouthWorks aims to make a difference in this situation by partnering with existing organizations to meet ongoing needs. Service activities include working in gardens to ease hunger, doing home repairs, and operating a kids club for elementary-age youngsters.

YouthWorks' \$319 cost per participant includes pre- and post-trip tools, lodging (bring an air mattress!), 14 meals, attentive staff, service project materials, and evening activities. To cover this fee and travel expenses, the four teens each paid \$300 and helped with fundraising.

This Youth Mission Trip will undoubtedly make a difference in the lives of children and adults in the Alamosa area. It'll also make a difference for the four teens and their adult leaders. Pastor Shari hopes to post pictures on Living Water's Facebook page throughout the trip. She's encouraging all of us to follow them on their adventures throughout the week of July 2-8.

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.



#Serving Together in Faith #NEVC

Who We Are

The Northeast Valley Consortium (NEVC), established in late 2020, is an emerging partnership of five ELCA congregations located in the northeast part of Phoenix ***collaborating in ministry for the sake of the Gospel:***

- Ascension Lutheran (Paradise Valley)
- Christ the Lord Lutheran (Carefree)
- Living Water Lutheran (Scottsdale)
- New Covenant Lutheran (Scottsdale)
- New Journey Lutheran (Fountain Hills)

Why We Are

Many congregations around the United States are facing challenges. These may include: forming Christian community with members, children and neighbors and a disconnect between church practices and people's daily lives. The Northeast Valley Consortium is learning how to navigate these disruptive shifts in congregational life by ***collaborating in ministry for the sake of the Gospel.***

How We Are

We are team driven and organized around passion-informed projects in response to the needs in our communities and cities:

- Communications & Public Relations
- Caring for our Neighbors: Housing & Raising Funds for Afghan Evacuees
- Christian Education: Adult Vacation Bible School
- Spiritual Practices: Learning How to Follow Jesus in Daily Life
- Guest Lecturer Events such as "Faith Formation in the Secular Age" with Dr. Andy Root, March 2022

The Northeast Valley Consortium, partnered with the Grand Canyon Synod, is learning that together we can do ministry bigger and bolder, going further than we ever imagined. We are learning. And so far, we have learned that the best way forward into God's future is not on our own, but together. By God's grace, we are ***collaborating in ministry for the sake of the Gospel.***

Continued on next page

How to Connect with Us

Connect with us when:

- You have a ministry project or passion and are seeking support from church leaders in the NECV.
- Your faith community is interested in ***collaborating in ministry for the sake of the Gospel.***

Contact us at

- Ascension Lutheran Church (Paradise Valley) contact information :
office@alcpv.org
- Christ the Lord Lutheran Church (Carefree) contact information:
admin@ctlcarefree.org
- Living Water Lutheran (Scottsdale) contact information:
office@lwlcaz.org
- New Covenant Lutheran (Scottsdale) contact information:
office@newcovenantaz.org
- New Journey Lutheran (Fountain Hills) contact information:
NewJourneyLutheran@njlc-fh.org

CONFIRMATION

Starting in the fall:

Confirmation classes for students in grades 6-8 will be held two Sundays each month from 6:30-8:00pm.

This is a two-year program, and we will be learning about the Old Testament, New Testament, Lutheran History, Catechism and Lutheran Living. So far, we have seven students who are registered to attend the class, and we look forward to a fun and relationship-building learning environment!

Please let Pastor Shari pastorshari@lwlcaz.org know if you (or someone you know) are interested in joining the class.

Men's Bible Breakfast

Thursdays at **8:30AM**

Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center

7415 East Elbow Bend Rd.

Carefree, AZ 85377

Carpool leaves church @ 8:15AM

\$7 for breakfast



La Sagrada Familia Lutheran Food Shelf Needs Our Help!

Your support of non-perishable food items for our neighbors at La Sagrada Familia in northern Phoenix is appreciated, and there is a continuing need. Items needed most frequently are noted on the “shopping list” in the grocery cart that is set out each Sunday morning. For the safety of our

friends at La Sagrada, please do not donate expired or “close-to” date items. Please continue to be generous in remembering our neighbors in need.





Eastern Europe Crisis Response

The Situation:

On Feb. 24, Russian forces invaded Ukraine, launching land, sea and air attacks. Russia has launched air strikes across the country, including on the capital of Kyiv and other major cities. Millions of people fleeing the violence of Russia's war against Ukraine and are moving toward Ukraine's western districts and such neighboring countries as Poland, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter and such basic necessities as food, water and toiletries. Care for people also includes pastoral and psychological support to address the trauma they've endured.

Our Response:

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as this Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis created by Russia's war against Ukraine. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has joined other religious leaders from Europe and around the globe in issuing an interfaith call for peace in the region.

What you can do:

Pray:

Please pray for those in Ukraine, Russia and neighboring countries that have been affected by the war in Ukraine. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

Give:

Your gifts designated for "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region. To donate online, go to <https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response>

AZ TAX CREDITS

Arizona permits taxpayers to claim multiple credits for contributions to charitable organizations and schools. This means that you can claim credits for donations to Habitat for Humanity (a charitable organization), and to a public school and to ACSTO (a private school tuition organization). For more information, visit <https://azdor.gov/tax-credits>.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Preparations are now underway to build another Habitat home with Lutheran churches starting in 2022 in the Greater Phoenix area. We need to raise our fair share to pay for the out-of-pocket costs that Habitat incurs to build these homes. Our goal is to raise \$4000.

AZ law provides a tax credit for contributions made to qualifying charitable organizations. Habitat is one of the qualifying organizations. So, if you are going to be paying income taxes to the State of Arizona, you can claim a credit on your income tax return. Taxpayers filing as "single" and "head of household" and "married filing separate" may claim a maximum credit of \$400. Taxpayers that file as "married filing joint" may claim a maximum credit of \$800. You may do this even if you don't itemize deductions.

You can either send your check directly to Habitat of Central AZ or hand your check to Greysen West, Financial Manager or to Marilyn or John Goesling. If you send your check directly, please note on your check that it applies to the Northeast Lutheran Coalition-Living Water Church. If you need additional information, contact Marilyn or John Goesling. And, if you are interested in working on the build next spring, a signup sheet will be available in the narthex once details are confirmed.

Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission Christian School

Here is another AZ Tax credit opportunity. This is through the Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO). One of the schools helped by this tax credit is the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission Christian school in Rock Point. This school needs financial help. We currently help the school with the collection of box top labels. We have found this brings in very little income for the school. This would be more helpful to the school. With this one, you donate right to ACSTO and specifically designate the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission Christian school. Donors can give up to \$1221/\$611 (married/single) towards the original tax credit. Any donation above this amount will then go towards the Overflow Tax Credit, up to a maximum of an additional \$1214/\$608. It is clearly explained at the ACSTO website which is <http://acsto.org>. They walk you through the donation process right there on the website. The website also provides the tax reporting instructions and documents needed if you participate in this unique tax credit opportunity. Also, note that donations can be made in early 2022 if it is before the April tax deadline.

A big thank you

to the crew who served 190 plates of pancakes on Sunday, June 5 at Grace Lutheran Church in Downtown Phoenix.



Did you know?

Grace Lutheran Church is the Mother Church of the Grand Canyon Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Grace, founded in 1914, has given birth to five other Lutheran congregations in Phoenix over the years. It is housed in one of the few examples of Gothic architecture in the state of Arizona, and has a recently remodeled sanctuary with beautiful stained glass windows and newly renovated pipe organ, which dates from 1928.

It is known as "The Pancake Church" and it is located across the street from Margaret T. Hance Park. Every Sunday morning at 7:30 am, they serve a pancake breakfast to people who are experiencing homelessness. Their goal is to invite the community into the deeper fellowship of their congregation. They continue this outreach ministry throughout the week with the Monday Morning Grace Room, Wednesday Evening GLOW, and Summer Heat Respite.

HEAT RESPITE 2022

Heat respite will begin Monday, June 13 and conclude Friday, August 26 with program hours of 9:00 am-4:30 pm. If you would like to help, they can use packaged snacks, backpacks, men's gently used tee shirts, men's gently used jeans, water, juice boxes, and sack lunches. You are welcome to drop them off Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm by entering Hope Hall through the double doors and speaking with the Welcome Volunteer. Until their summer outreach coordinator begins, if you would like to volunteer with the program or serve a meal, please reach out to the outreach chairperson Solveig Muus by emailing her at outreach@graceinthecity.com or Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@graceinthecity.com.

The Heat Respite program helps to prevent heat related deaths by providing hydration, respite and wellness checks. And, it also aspires to reach out to not only the physical needs of all those who come through the doors, but to their fullness as human beings.

June 1, 2022
Living Water Lutheran Church -

We are staying in our cabin in
Tine, AZ for the summer. However,
we continue to watch the worship
services on YouTube and contribute
to the church. We thank you for your
prayers for our grandson Cole.

Sincerely,
Pat & Janet Jettie



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

June 2, 2022

Thank You

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

Dear Living Water Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$525.00 to ELCA World Hunger.

*Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy
(ELW 328).*

This is a season of reflection and sacrifice, but also a season of hope. As we walk the 40-day journey of Lent, we know that we are walking toward Easter and the promise of renewal. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA are bringing that promise and hope to your neighbors around the world.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed.

You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robin Brown
Director, Congregational Generosity

P.S. Please see the reverse side of this letter for your receipt.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Response to the School Shooting in Uvalde, Texas

5/26/2022 8:15:00 AM

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid" (John 14:27).

Gracious God, news of the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, has ripped our hearts and torn our souls. We are walking through the valley of the shadow of death. In the depths of pain and anger, we come before you, O God, our rock and our refuge. You are our only comfort. You are our only hope. Merciful God, you know the depth of our suffering. We have only begun to mourn those we have lost.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America grieves with the families of the 19 students and two teachers killed in Tuesday's mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas. Mass shootings in this country over the past two weeks have deepened the wounds of grief and sorrow. This follows the racially motivated shooting of 10 people in Buffalo, N.Y.; the shooting in Laguna Woods, Calif.; and the 27 other school shootings that have occurred in 2022. Many of the shooters have targeted children and older adults — some of the most vulnerable in our society.

We reaffirm our commitment in calling for greater gun safety, including preventing easy access to assault-style weapons and strengthening our federal system of background checks for all gun sales. As people of faith, we hold on to our belief in caring for our neighbors and striving for justice and peace in all the earth. We ask for continued support for all first responders that arrive at a moment's notice and place their lives in harm's way for the sake of others. We ask for continued support for those providing medical, mental and emotional support as we grieve over this tragedy. We lament for those who have perpetrated violence against others. We thank the leaders of the Southwestern Texas Synod responding to the shooting in Uvalde and for ecumenical and interreligious partners committed to accompanying this community for the long term.

The ELCA social message "[Community Violence](#)" (1994) calls on our church to continue partnering with other religious and community groups in anti-violence initiatives that offer vital spiritual and moral resources, and that replace the fear and violence plaguing our homes, schools, communities and nation with hope and reconciliation. We join with others in pushing to stem the proliferation of guns in our streets, schools and communities, and to end the culture of violence that pervades our media and society.

About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

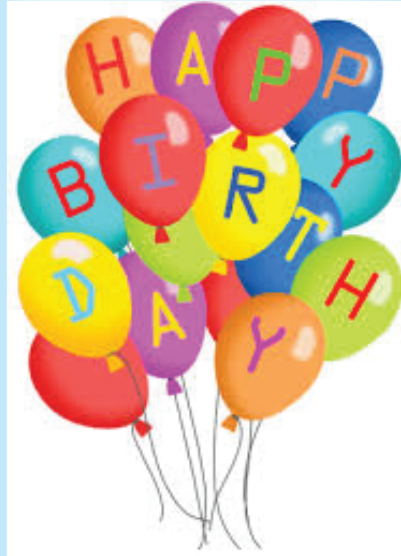
The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with more than 3.3 million members in more than 8,900 congregations across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of "God's work. Our hands," the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer Martin Luther.

For information contact:
Candice Hill Buchbinder
Public Relations Manager
773-380-2877

Candice.Buchbinder@ELCA.org.

JUNE Birthdays!

Virginia	Conrad	6/1
Karen	Sherrin	6/3
Sarah	Shelmire	6/4
Ardie	Senft	6/5
Madison	Wanek	6/5
Pam	Wilder	6/5
Janice	Moore	6/6
Michelle	Brown	6/6
Denny	Dumler	6/6
Bonnie	Moore	6/6
Terry	Nelson	6/6
Joyce	Bash	6/9
Richard	Gunderson	6/14



Sharon	Westergreen	6/14
Sam	Winter	6/16
Erica	Cole	6/22
Vanessa	Alberti	6/23
Lou	Handley	6/25
Hunter	Brown	6/30
Penny	Kilburn	6/25
Lynda	Cales	6/23
Ellen	Schoenbeck	6/23
Mark	Heisler	6/24
Missy	Laudenschlager	6/25
Sue	Boyd	6/30

JULY Birthdays!

Eric	Leinweber	3-Jul
Judy	Nerison	4-Jul
Kristen	Pounds	4-Jul
Gene	Eilers	5-Jul
Lindsay	Bauer	6-Jul
Ed	Shipley	6-Jul
Michael	Patton	7-Jul
Marilyn	Nartker	8-Jul
Susan	Purewal	8-Jul
Linda	Snavely	9-Jul
Donna	Ingram	11-Jul
Sophia	Larson	11-Jul
Laura	Moore	13-Jul
Beth	McCarthy	14-Jul
Ron	Koch	15-Jul
Trace	Laudenschlager	15-Jul



Karen	Brown	16-Jul
John	Hannan	16-Jul
Jim	Attwood	17-Jul
Carol Ann	Attwood	17-Jul
Ian	Elliot	19-Jul
William	Ruff	19-Jul
Shannon	Land	20-Jul
Sarge	Purewal	21-Jul
Ann	Sadler	21-Jul
Michael	Winter	21-Jul
Lourdes	Gasparino	22-Jul
Tom	Kelland	24-Jul
Pam	Landon	25-Jul
Paul	Evenson	27-Jul
Steve	Umland	27-Jul
Kathy	Heisler	28-Jul
John	Oujiri	29-Jul

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

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



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