

Living Water Lutheran Church



PASTOR Mark Rossman

PASTOR Shari Bernau

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> FINANCE MANAGER Stephanie McLean

CHOIR DIRECTOR Marcie Donavon

PRAISE BAND DIRECTOR Scott Sims

www.LWLCAZ.org

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August 2022



The joy of the Lord is my strength.
Nehemiah 8:10





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- Cole (Pat and Janet Guthrie's grandson)
- Larry Coutts—Health Concerns
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# A Message from Pastor Mark

I was there in 1983. I walked down the streets they road through. I was in the cemetery they had hid in, I was at the town square where they sang. In 1983, I was in Salzburg, Austria, the town in which the *Sound of Music* was filmed. More significantly in musical circles, is the fact that Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in the very same town. In fact, one of the places in Salzburg I did visit was the church in which Mozart was baptized.

Music is a very important part of our lives. There is now a day that goes by that there is not music involved. We have it playing in our homes, in our cars, at our offices, in stores and even elevators. There are those times in life that we even wake up with music echoing in our brains leaving us mystified as to where it was that song came from.

As many of you know the late Robin Williams starred in a comedy a while back called *Mrs. Doubtfire*. Since Mrs. Doubtfire was Robin Williams dressing as an older woman, it was more than appropriate that one of the songs in the movie was Aerosmith's *Dude Looks Like a Lady*. There was a time that *Mrs. Doubtfire* was my children's favorite movie. Many years ago, I was driving around with the kids in the car with the radio playing. As the station began to play a new a song, I was barely paying attention, but that is not uncommon. There was another noise that soon followed and that did catch my attention. It was the sound of Mason and Emma belting out as loudly as they could their very best rendition of *Dude Looks Like a Lady*. For me that afternoon drive pointed out that music is very large part of who we are as people. It is just about everywhere we go, so much so that sometimes we fail to notice its presence.

Music has been a very important part of worship life in the Judeo-Christian tradition for as long as its history has been recorded. The Psalms are early examples of hymns of praise. We have an opportunity to witness the music program here at Living Water continue to grow and flourish. There is only one thing that is missing. For us to be able to enjoy the rich history of music within the Christian Church, for us to be able to experience this rich history in a variety of ways, we need to take on the role of participant – yep, the role of one who sings, the one who plays, the one who even hums. For our music program to be as rich and diverse as it could be the music ministry needs the help of everyone. The challenge here is to take the risk, do your part, join that fun loving group which makes up music ministry here at Living Water. Take on the challenge and see what you might be able to do in adding to richness of musical gifts.

Choir practice will be returning soon. With this comes a variety of special music programs throughout the year. That will give you plenty time to chat with our music ministry experts Marcie Donavan and Scott Sims about where you can best share your gifts. Music is a vital part of our everyday life. It is also a vital part of worship experience. Let us all see what we might do to make our worship experience as rich and full as it can possibly be – lend a hand, share your voice. If you allow that to happen, you will truly be surprised at what joy can be found in the *Sound of Music*.

Pastor Mark



July 22, 2022

LIVING WATER LUTHERAN CHURCH 9201 E. HAPPY VALLEY RD. SCOTTSDALE AZ 85255 U.S.A.

Dear Navajo Lutheran Mission Friends and Supporters:

Thank you for your recent donation of \$274.50 to the Navajo Lutheran Mission.

On behalf of the Navajo Lutheran Mission, Navajo Mission Preparatory School, Hozho Café, our students, and our community of Rock Point, we express our sincere gratitude for your contribution. Your ongoing support is tremendously important to us. These funds will provide much needed support for programs at the Mission. We are truly grateful for your generosity. Blessings to you and your family from everyone at Rock Point, Arizona!

The Mission continues to serve Rock Point and surrounding communities by celebrating and sustaining Indian culture, creating opportunity and renewing hope. With ongoing support, the Mission will be able to continue to enrich the lives of hundreds of Navajo people of all ages.

It is through your prayers, passion for the Mission's work and financial support that the Mission and the School will continue to shine into the lives of the Navajo people.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and community, please accept our heartfelt thank you. We pray for your continued partnership. Together we trust God will guide us to accomplish more than we could ask or imagine.

Thank you for your dedication to creating such lasting, powerful hope for our Navajo relatives.

Please check out Facebook for most recent events. (Online donation available on our website www.nelm.org by clicking "Give a gift now" button).

Thank you for sharing our vision.

Sincerely,

Kate Adelman, Executive Director

Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission

One Mission Lane, P.O. Box 354, Rock Point, AZ, 86545

Official Receipt for Income Tax Purposes

Registration # 86-0166564

Date Received: Jul 14, 2022

To: LIVING WATER LUTHERAN

Receipt #: 42991

Amount Received: \$274.50

CHURCH

Issue Date: Jul 22, 2022

9201 E. HAPPY VALLEY RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255

No Goods Or Services Were Recieved In Exchange For Donation.

Kate Adelman Executive Director Authorized Signature

Website: www.nelm.org Fax: (928) 659-4255



# Living Water's friendly 24/7 office fish recommends four no-brainer, hassle-free ways to donate your gently used goods

Q. Instead of doing spring cleaning when there's great weather outdoors, I wait until scorching summer days best spent indoors. I've unearthed a bumper crop of stuff to donate. Any suggestions for where to take it?

**A.** You're in luck. Living Water has several channels for ensuring your gently used books, clothing, furniture, and other items will find new owners. Thanks to the four options below, drop-offs are a breeze and also save gas. Just put your items in the appropriate donation baskets in the narthex before entering the sanctuary on a Sunday morning. You can also schedule a home pick-up for heavy items. Either way, your donations will truly make a difference for grateful recipients and the environment.

#### Grace Lutheran Church Homeless Project/Grace Room

Your donations of used clothing help supply the Grace Room at Grace Lutheran Church. Toiletries and clothing put into the Grace Lutheran Homeless Program basket are delivered periodically to this ELCA sister church in downtown Phoenix.

#### LWLC Book Drive

You can put your reading material in the Book Drive basket. This year-round program collects new and gently used books for babies through adults. Magazine donations are also appreciated. Contact Sue and Eric Brash if you have questions.

#### Medical Lending Library for La Sagrada Familia Church

Donations of walkers, rollators, canes, crutches, and other medical equipment are accepted twice a year. The next collection for this ELCA church's largely Latino congregation will be in the fall. Contact Steve McCarthy for more information.

#### Refugee Resettlement Program (LSS-SW)

Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest needs your gently used furniture and other household items to furnish apartments for refugees. LSS-SW cleared out our chock-full storage unit earlier this summer. According to team leaders Dave and Liz Gilkey, "We're back in business!" Contact them to arrange a pick-up.

Thanks for generously supporting these four donation ministries!

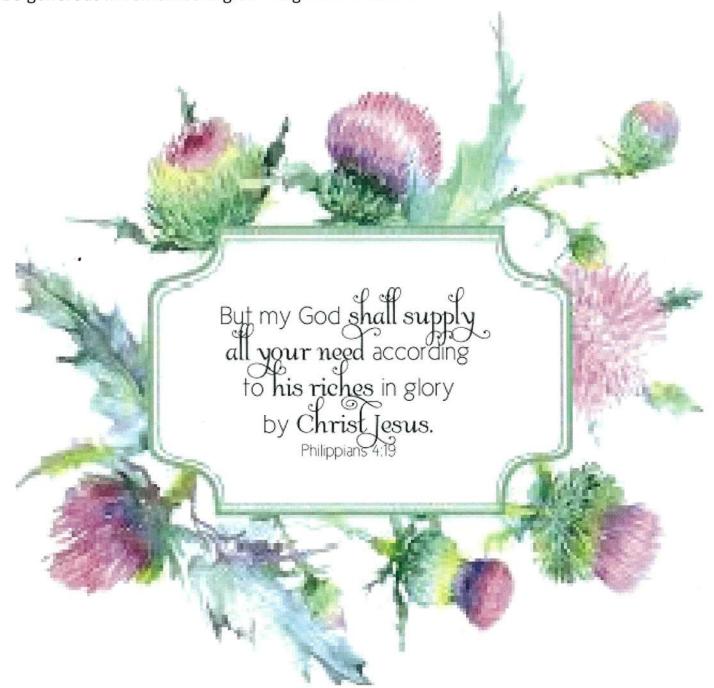
Do you have a question for Zeke? E-mail it to him at AskZeke@cox.net or contact his writing partner, Jill Wehr, at 480-710-4506.



# 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.



We are back home from our mission trip to Alamosa, Colorado! Joined by many new friends, our work party was able to make a real difference for this community.





















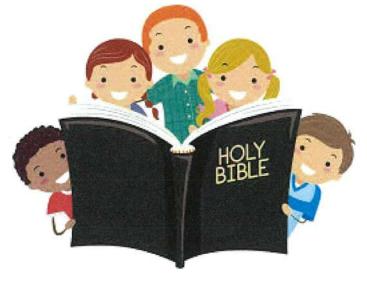
# CONFIRMATION

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 <u>pastorshari@lwlcaz.org</u> know if you (or someone you know) are interested in joining the class.



### 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 2, 2022

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

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

Robin KBrown

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



July 8, 2022

Pastor Mark Rossman and Pastor Shari Bernau Living Water Lutheran Church 9201 East Happy Valley Road Scottsdale, AZ 85255

#### Dear Pastors:

Please extend our thanks to all who were involved with your recent Vacation Bible School session. We are so grateful for the donation of 1,659 books to benefit our philanthropic programs! Our volunteers have already placed a bookplate into each of the donated books, that features the Living Water logo.

As with your generous donation last summer, many titles have already been directed to the Creighton District's Title I schools which are holding July summer classes for more than 900 K-8 students. Also, this week your books will help fill needs at UMOM New Day Centers' chapel and their periodic Read to Me nights.

We also appreciate Pastor Shari's support for arranging a Thrivent grant which has been utilized to obtain wonderful books from First Book and Treasures4Teachers. Please extend our sincere gratitude with the VBS attendees and your entire congregation.

With Deep Gratitude,

Aimee Runyon

CEO

Cc: Sue Brash, Book Gifts Chairman

Mank Von!



### 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.

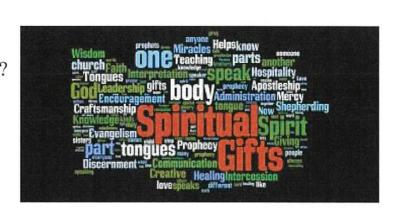
#### Give:

Your gifts designated for "<u>Eastern Europe Crisis Response</u>" 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

## Exploring Your Spiritual Gifts Retreat Sponsored by

Grand Canyon Synod Growing in Faith: The Diakonia Program
August 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> 2022
9am-12noon via Zoom

What does God want of me?
What kind of ministry is God calling me to?
How am I to serve God?
Do I have a spiritual gift?
What is it?
How am I to use it?



Perhaps you have asked yourself these questions.

To help you answer them we are sponsoring a retreat called Exploring Your Spiritual Gifts. Through a series of exercises and conversations you will be guided in a process of discernment about your gifts. By the end of the retreat you should know the gifts God has given you and begin to understand how God wants you to use them.

Our retreat leader is Rev. Stewart McDonald. A long-time Diakonia instructor, he is leader of two courses in the Tucson and Grand Canyon Synod Online cohorts: Images of the Church in the Bible and Beyond; and Daily Life of a Christian. He has led this Spiritual Gifts retreat a number of times. Participants have found this process to be very enlightening and practical as part of their faith development journey.

So come join us on this adventure of discernment and answer the questions you have been asking yourself. All are welcome!

Register at https://www.diakonia.education >Home Page >Events/Retreats
Zoom Link will be provided

Questions - Contact: Kim@diakonia.education

#### **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.

# 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







LUKE 1:37

#### August Birthdays



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



