

September 2023

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/COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER
Jennifer Kelsh

FINANCE MANAGER
Stephanie McLean

CHOIR DIRECTOR
Marcie Donavan

PRAISE BAND DIRECTOR
Scott Sims

www.LWLCAZ.org

CONTENTS

Prayer List

Pastor's Message

Ask Zeke

Studies & Retreats

News & Events



*Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.*
Romans 12:12



9201 E Happy Valley Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85255



We Remember in Our Prayers

- Mary Ann Bartley—Health Concerns
- Bob Bliefernich (Barbara Brooks's brother)—Healing from Surgery
- Melissa Bloom (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Nelly Booty (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- Briden and Owen (Great Grandchildren of Maria Tillotson)—Premature Birth
- Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- Sue Dixon (Sister of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Michael Donavon—Health Concerns
- Kathy Duncan (Friend of Ron & Shirley Koch)—Cancer
- Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Joe Franch (Friend of Kathie Roenigk)—Health Concerns
- Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- Lourdes Gasparino—Health Concerns
- Vicki Grimsley (Mother of Mason Rossman)—Cancer
- Linda Hoenig—Health Concerns
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Sandy Kohlway (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Battling Cancer
- Ken MacKay—Hip Replacement
- Pete McLeod (Friend of Karen and Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Hadlee Miller (Friend of Pastor Shari)—Health Concerns
- Maryann O'Shea (Barbara Brooks's sister)—Health Concerns
- Prentice Powers (Marty Lindert's brother)—Health Concerns
- Rebecca (Melissa Freesh's sister)—Health Concerns
- Trisha Rios (Jennie Stemm Son-in-law's cousin)—Health Concerns
- Henry Roenigk—Health Concerns
- Del Rogge—Health Concerns
- Katie Irwin Ruff (Daughter of Barbara Brooks)—Health Concerns
- Ruth Schlesinger—Health Concern
- Gloria Shutter (Friend of Marilyn Nartker)—Battling Cancer
- Vince Spavale (friend of the Dawson's and Ulland's)—Health Concerns
- Michael Stevens (Friend of Michelle Brown)—Brain Tumor
- Sara Stevens (Friend of Michelle Brown)—Breast Cancer
- Maria Tillotson—Health Concerns
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Darcie Vandermate—Health Concerns
- Peter Vasiliades (nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Leslie (friend of Sue Stenehjem and Melissa Freesh)—Life Concerns
- Joan Martin (friend of Karen & Ron Roessler) - Health Concerns
- Skyler Thorne (grandson of Karen Roessler)—Health Concerns
- Family and Friends of Penny Kilburn
- Family and Friends of Dennis McCarthy (Stephen McCarthy's brother)
- Family and Friends of Pastor Larry Stiles
- Family and Friends of Peggy Torda (Sister of Susie Purewall)

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

A Message from Pastor Shari

Even though it was a few months ago, I remember that Saturday, April 29 was a great day here at Living Water! It was a day of conversations about a hopeful future for the church. Together, with the churches of the Northeast Valley Consortium, Living Water hosted Luther Seminary professor, Dr. Dwight Zscheile. With a book just recently published called "Leading Faithful Innovation," Dr. Zscheile shared ideas of how we might be able to tune into what God is up to amid the seismic changes the church and our culture are undergoing. Even though some people might hang their head and feel defeated, Zscheile suggested how it's important to open our eyes to the big picture of how our culture has shifted from an Age of Association (people voluntarily join membership organizations to find belonging and accomplish purposes in the world) to an Age of Authenticity (people look inward to discover and express their true identities apart from organizations). This shift has changed the way that people commit to belonging to a congregation, and therefore, it's important that we also shift our mindset in how we reach out to the people in our neighborhoods who aren't spending their Sunday morning in church.

With this mindset of an Age of Authenticity, Dr. Zscheile suggests that one of the first places for the people of the church to tune into what God is doing is to look to scripture. He uses a simple practice called "Dwelling in the Word," where we listen to scripture and allow God to speak to us through it. Some of the questions we can use with this practice include "What caught your attention?"; "What questions does this passage create for you?"; and "What do you think God might be saying to you or to us through this passage?"

The second place that Dr. Zscheile recommends that we turn to is "the world." "Dwelling in the world" is a simple practice of reflecting on God's movement in our daily lives. If we take the time to listen, reflect and share with others, we have a better understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit in and around us. We can ask questions, such as, "what might God have been up to there?" or "What might God want us to do?"

Dr. Zscheile reminds us that there are so many ways in which the Holy Spirit is active in our community, so we might ask ourselves, how can we tune into what God is already doing? By getting outside of the walls of our church, paying attention, and being open; the opportunities to serve and share God's love just might present themselves more than we ever would have expected.

Pastor Shari



Café is an online magazine and podcast for and with **young adult women** who identify as Lutheran or not.

Café shares stories written by bold young women who write about faith, relationships, advocacy and more. Readers and writers of Café include pastors, seminary and college students, and other young adult women who use Café as a Bible study resource individually or with a group. Although many women in their 20s and 30s contribute in every issue, Café can be used and shared by women of all ages.

It's free from Women of the ELCA, and available monthly to your email. You can access it anytime. Just go to boldcafe.org to sign up. Share this resource with your women friends, including daughters, granddaughters, nieces, college students!

Ask Zeke



September

Living Water's office fish shares the genesis and impact of the Northeast Valley Consortium

Q. I occasionally hear someone mention the Northeast Valley Consortium. What, pray tell, is it?

A. Three years ago the Grand Canyon Synod and the Dean of our conference approached Living Water and three other churches – Christ the Lord (Carefree), New Covenant (Scottsdale), and New Journey (Fountain Hills) – about exploring ways to work together. Recently, the group welcomed a fifth ELCA congregation, Ascension Lutheran (Paradise Valley).

The creation of the Northeast Valley Consortium (NVC) set the stage for these ELCA congregations to strengthen their relationships and mutually support one another in ministry. The NVC is especially valuable in terms of offering parishioners more ministry and fellowship opportunities. It also seeks to develop a stronger outreach presence in communities surrounding NVC churches.

Our pastors believe that joining forces makes us stronger together, particularly when Christian churches are experiencing overall membership and worship attendance declines. Pastor Shari views the NVC as an opportunity: “I love to think creatively about how we can reach out to more people and be an even stronger body of Christ.”

The consortium is a catalyst for sharing multiple gifts and strengths. LWLC, for example, has strong Bible study groups, Children and Youth Ministry (especially VBS), community service, and music and fellowship ministries. Our partners bring to the table strong music ministries, a preschool program, experience in interfaith relations and social ministries, and other assets. The NVC's mix of resources paves the way for an array of joint endeavors, such as parishioners from other churches gathering at LWLC for presentations by Luther Seminary professors.

The NVC has established an impressive track record since its formation in 2020. One recent example is our VBS Book Drive Mission Project. LWLC put the word out this year, and our partner congregations donated a boatload of books. To learn more about the NVC's impact, I highly recommend you view a short video created by Pastor Shari (<http://lwlcaz.org/northeast-valley-consortium/>).

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.



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. You donate right to ACSTO and specifically designate the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission Christian school. Donors can give up to \$1245/\$623 (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 \$1238/\$620. 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.

Family Sunday School



returns this fall with the curriculum entitled "Simply Loved." We will be exploring a Jesus-centered journey through God's story of Love. Our fall semester will focus on one simple Bible Point and Bible Verse:

*Bible Point - "Jesus loves everyone."

*Bible Verse - "So now I am giving you a new commandment: love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other." (John 13: 34)



- **Sunday, September 24, 9:00am** – Shepherds Hear about Jesus's Birth
- **Sunday, October 8, 9:00am** – Jesus Befriends Zacchaeus
- **Sunday, October 22, 9:00am** – Jesus Welcomes Children
- **Sunday, November 5, 9:00am** – Jesus Talks with a Samaritan Woman

We will meet in the Matthew/Mark classrooms in the Education Building. All families with children ages two through sixth grade are welcome to participate.



In Honor of David Garrett Beck

3rd Annual WINTER
CLOTHING DRIVE



Donations will go to:
Grace Lutheran Ministries
&
The Phoenix Rescue Mission

August 2nd ~ September 5th

Drop Off or Have Sent To:
Diane vanMaanen
4610 E. Red Range Way
Cave Creek, AZ 85331

Or I can pick up



WE ARE IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING GENTLY USED ITEMS:
Blankets, Coats, Hats, Sweats, Sweaters,
Thermals, Gloves, Hoodies, Socks
Toiletries
(men's, women's & children's)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

For questions contact - Diane @ 408-314-6671 or email dvan922@icloud.com

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO BE MYLE
the table Young Adult Gathering

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

The ELCA Youth Gathering is happening next summer... July 16-20, 2024, in New Orleans! All youth who are in grades 9-12 are eligible to attend. \$400/person covers registration, airfare, hotel, food, etc. Please see Pastor Shari for any questions: pastorshari@lwlcaz.org



Due date for registration and \$150 deposit is October 10.

Church Council Highlights September 2023

Church Council is delighted to welcome two new additions to Living Water's staff: Christina Berlinger and Christina Hall. Christina Berlinger will be working with our Finance Manager several hours a week both on-site and remotely. Christina Hall is our new Music Director and will be fulfilling all the many responsibilities that job entails. She will start officially on Tuesday, September 5. Many thanks especially to Don Pick, Steve Umland, and Pastor Shari for all their work to bring Living Water this high level of talent and ability.

The "Stewardship for All Seasons" team of Denny Dumler, Dave and Ellen Schoenbeck, Diane Klumpp has added Rich Cote as a member. The team has had several meetings and is well on its way to introducing us to new concepts surrounding giving.

July was a good month financially for Living Water, according to Treasurer Steve Umland. Your generosity ensured repairs to the lift station that mean sweeter air throughout the church! The medical emergency on Sunday, August 6 emphasized our need to be ready to assist anyone at any time. To that end, Pastor Mark reports that Living Water will organize a small group to review and revise protocols for dealing with emergencies so we can help and guide folks in the best way.

Pastor Shari related that we are anticipating about ten participants for the ELCA Youth Gathering next summer; these major gatherings are held once every three years, and they offer participants a "unique and meaningful experience." This special opportunity will require fundraisers to cover the cost of over \$14,000.00.

Church Council members look forward to hearing your thoughts. Please identify us by our red name badges.

Get to Know Our Letter Writing Ministry

The Letter Writing Ministry has been around Living Water Lutheran Church for many years. There are seven of us on this ministry team.

Any one of our church members who would like us to send a card to someone who is experiencing health issues, has recently lost a loved one or to another member who could use a kind word, we encourage you to contact us directly.

Please use the following list if you would like to request a letter be sent to someone. Team members are designated alphabetically based on the last name of the letter recipient:

A, B, C: Sally Harris, 316-655-8410, sah.harris@gmail.com

D, E, F: Bonnie Moore, 480-320-9261, bvmor6@gmail.com

G, H, I, J, K: Patti Pick, 480-363-6148, pjpick@cox.net

L, M, N, O: Pam Landon, 480-239-5955, phlandon@gmail.com

P, Q, R: Donna Pettengill, 847-951-5775, drpettengill@cox.net

S, T, U: Mary Nyberg, 928-821-0479, cdmjnyberg@mac.com

V, W, X, Y, Z: Marge Miller, 937-206-4254, margemiller31@gmail.com



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT,
TOP ROW:
**DONNA, SALLY, PAM,
BONNIE, & MARY.**

FRONT:
PATTI

**MARGE
(NOT PICTURED)**

Bible Studies & Retreats

Dennis Nelson Bible Study

Published via our YouTube Channel

Wednesdays at NOON

Bible Study Outlines also available on our website:

lwlcaz.org.

Men's Bible Breakfast

We meet on Thursdays at 8:00am

Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center

7415 East Elbow Bend Rd.

Carefree, AZ 85377

\$7 for breakfast

Carpool leaves LW at 7:30am

SAVE THE DATES

Annual Picnic



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023

**McCormick Stillman Railroad Park
7301 E. Indian Bend Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85250-4513**

AND
Advent Dinner



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023

**SPIRIT IN THE DESERT
7415 E Elbow Bend Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85377**



Sunday, September 10, 2023

Living Water is joining with congregations from the NE Valley Consortium to create “celebration bags” for clients of Lutheran Social Services-SW. Our contribution: items to support Refugee & Immigration or Aging & Disability. Our goal: filling 50 celebration bags. A collection bin is in the church entryway. Bring your items through Sunday, September 10. If you want us to shop, make a donation to Living Water and note “GWOH” on your donation. We have also applied for a Thrivent Action Team Grant to support this project. Questions? Contact Lisa Moehn (fly13rufa@earthlink.net) or Myrna Ulland (myrna.ulland@gmail.com)

We’ll join together after the worship service on September 10 to fill the bags! Here is what’s needed:

REFUGEE & IMMIGRATION

- Prayer mats for their Muslim clients
- American candy, especially chocolate
- Any small household item for their new home, such as a picture frame or kitchen towels
- \$10 Amazon or Walmart gift cards
- BPA-free water bottles
- Chapstick

AGING & DISABILITY

- Non-slip socks
- Nonperishable treat, such as cookies
- \$10 Amazon or Walmart gift cards
- Body spray
- A card or encouraging note to the client



April 21, 2023

Living Water Lutheran Church
9201 East Happy Valley Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Dear Living Water Lutheran Church,

THANK YOU!

We appreciate your generous donation of \$442.00 to Scottsdale Community Partners-SCP, (formerly Concerned Citizens for Community Health-CCCH). Your support and financial gift help provide youth, families and seniors in our Scottsdale community with the assistance they need.

SCP is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that supports the work of Vista del Camino Community Services, Via Linda Senior Center and Granite Reef Senior Center. SCP works closely with the City of Scottsdale Human Services Division, to directly support programs and services that help to:

- Assist residents in a crisis situation and help prevent homelessness
- Increase self-sufficiency
- Provide stability in meeting basic needs such as reducing food insecurity (Vista del Camino Food Bank, Brown Bags for seniors, Healthy Packs for students)
- Offer economic assistance through seasonal programs such as Back-to-School (BTS) and Holiday Adopt a Family / Senior (AAF / AAS)

Your trust and kind generosity are invaluable to Scottsdale Community Partners (SCP). Your donation allows us to continue our mission to support our fellow Scottsdale residents and let them know they are not alone. We look forward to your continued support. If you would like to learn more about our organization or become a volunteer visit our website at SCPAZ.org

With warm regards and deep appreciation,

Jenny Adams
Executive Director, Scottsdale Community Partners (SCP)
Qualifying Charitable Organization (QCO) #20340
Federal Tax Identification Number (FEIN) #95-3416943
Website: SCPAZ.org
Facebook: Scottsdale Community Partners



Dear Living Water Lutheran Church,

On behalf of Peter, and everyone at Peter's Hope, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your recent donation. Your generous contribution of \$250 will help educate more than 140 children at St. Peter's Maintain Children's Center.

Your support will also enable the Bambari Women's Empowerment Center to educate local women in sewing, beauty, and beading skills. These marketable skills will allow the women to support their children or grandchildren.

Once again, thank you for your generous support. We are truly grateful for your contribution, and we hope to continue working together to make a difference for the women and children of Peter's Hope.

Warm regards,

Christine Ayaya

Administrative Assistant, Peter's Hope

BACK TO SCHOOL





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>



Lutheran Disaster Response: Earthquake in Turkey and Syria

Lutheran Disaster Response and its partners are prepared to accompany our neighbors impacted by these earthquakes. One hundred percent of your gifts to "Middle East Crisis" go to supporting earthquake survivors and other people affected by disasters in the region.

Lutheran Disaster Response has been active in this region for several years, partnering with ACT Alliance, the Lutheran World Federation and the Middle East Council of Churches to accompany Syrian refugees and internally displaced people with food, water, shelter, health services and sanitation support. By standing with earthquake survivors in Turkey and Syria, we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.

Your gifts designated for "Middle East Crisis" will be used entirely (100%) to provide long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by disasters in the region. GIVE THROUGH LIVING WATER (by check or online) AND INDICATE "MIDDLE EAST CRISIS" IN THE MEMO.

September Birthdays

Sue	Stenehjem	9/1
Scott	Sims	9/4
Bill	Harris	9/7
Mark	Anderson	9/11
Scott	Donars	9/13
Charlie	Boyd	9/13
Jill	Wehr	9/14
Pastor Mark	Rossman	9/14
Lee	Stenehjem	9/16

Ron	Roessler	9/19
Gene	Perry	9/20
Linda	Coutts	9/22
Stephen	McCarthy	9/22
Diane	VanMaanen	9/22
Gary	Fjeld	9/24
Sarah	Dorsch	9/30
Jay	Lucas	9/30
Ginny	Alexander	9/30

Happy Birthday!



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

Publication DEADLINES:

Connections Newsletter - Every Tuesday by noon

SPLASH! Newsletter - The 20th of each month by noon



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

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