

October 2023

Splash!

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

Living Water
Lutheran Church



PASTOR
Mark Rossman

PASTOR
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Jennifer Kelsh

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OF MUSIC
Scott Sims

www.LWLCAZ.org

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Autumn Blessings!

Mark Your Calendars:
October 29th
is Reformation Sunday



9201 E Happy Valley Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85255



- Melissa Bloom (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Nelly Booty (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- 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 and Lourdes Gasparino—Health Concerns
- Vicki Grimsley (Mother of Mason Rossman)—Cancer
- Janet Guthrie—Health Concerns
- Linda Hoenig—Health Concerns
- Robert Hutson—Health Concerns
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Sandy Kohlway (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Battling Cancer
- Leslie (friend of Sue Stenehjem and Melissa Freesh)—Life Concerns
- Marty Lindert—Health Concerns
- Joan Martin (friend of Karen & Ron Roessler) - Health Concerns
- Pete McLeod (Friend of Karen and Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Hadlee Miller (Friend of Pastor Shari)—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
- Tom Stevens (Friend of Steve and Susan Johnson)—Health Concerns
- Skyler Thorne (grandson of Karen Roessler)—Health Concerns
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Darcie Vandermate—Health Concerns
- Peter Vasiliades (nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Dick Wells (extended family of Myrna Ulland)—Health Concerns
- Family and Friends of Pam Kennedy (Sister of Steve McCarthy)

We Remember in Our Prayers

A Message from Pastor Shari



Have you heard about our new campaign at Living Water? It's called "God at Work" and it's an opportunity to tune our eyes and ears to what God is doing in our communities.

You see, it's easy to notice that God is at work in our church. We have so many wonderful ministries that are clearly inspired by God's word, the Holy Spirit and our love for each other. We have Bible Studies, Vacation Bible School, Note Writing, Angel Tree, Lutheran World Relief

Health Kits and Quilts, Choir, Praise Band, Liturgical Arts, Altar Guild, the Sunday morning Servant Team, Saints and Sinners, and the list goes on and on.

The question is, however: where do you see God at work in the community *surrounding* our church? Where do you see good things happening? Where do you see hope and love? Where do you see unexpected or extraordinary things?

Do you see people volunteering in unique places? Do you notice a particular store employee who seems to really care about the customers or a customer that really cares about the employees?

Have you been driving by an animal shelter or food pantry or organization for years and haven't stopped? Maybe this is a chance to stop and learn more about what they do and how they help others, or maybe just check out their website.

Have you been saying "hi" to a particular neighbor for months, and haven't really learned anything about them? Maybe it's time to learn a little more about them. You never know, they might be doing extraordinary things in the community.

A friend of mine has been driving down the same road on Sunday mornings for years, and for the last couple of months, she has noticed that the same five people have been picking up trash on the same ½ mile stretch every single Sunday. My friend learned from the cashier at AJ's Fine Foods that these dedicated trash picker-uppers come into the store for a cup of coffee and a muffin when they complete the job every single Sunday. It would have been easy for my friend to just drive by and not even notice, but she did, and she learned a little more about these strangers who were making a difference in their community (and she even paid for their coffee).

Stories like this one remind us that God is active in big and small ways all around us, and we all need these reminders. So, we would like to encourage you to start tuning your eyes and ears to these types of things, and let us know what you see and hear! All you have to do is send in a picture and a little paragraph describing what you saw and heard about a particular person or group or organization that is making a difference, sharing God's love, and/or helping someone in need. Please send it to: pastorshari@lwlcw.org

Pastor Shari

Meet Living Water's New Director of Music:

Christina Hall is originally from Walla Walla, Washington, and completed her Bachelor's in Choral Music Education at Northern Arizona University. She is in her third season as a soprano in the Phoenix Chorale and concurrently pursuing her MM in Choral Conducting at Arizona State University.

Previously, Christina directed the choirs at Millennium High School in Goodyear, AZ, and taught piano and guitar. She and her husband, Seth have three cats who are loved very much.

"I am so excited to be a part of the Living Water community, which has already welcomed me and my husband so warmly. I look forward to worshiping with you all through the music ministry each Sunday. As always, the doors of the choir room are open to all Wednesdays at 7pm. Thank you." Christina.



Welcome Christina!

Ask Zeke



October

Living Water's office fish asks Youth Mission Trip participants to share more about their time in Niagara Falls, NY

Q. The Youth Mission Trip presentation in late August piqued my interest, especially the service days. Can you find out more about how this experience impacted the youth?

A. The YMT schedule included four service days. The first worksite was Niagara Heritage of Hope and Service, a not-for-profit group that purchased the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church complex in 2009. Marg, the president of this group, made quite an impression on the youth. She also put them to work for two days. They spent their other two days at Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, which also addresses community needs. The youths' experiences at these worksites and other interaction during the week affected them in the following ways.

"The most meaningful moment for me was helping out the youth with their relationships with God and just being there for them as a guide."

"I learned that not everyone is as fortunate as we are. Part of the reason I like volunteering and going on these mission trips is that I know when we participate in doing the service work, we are making a difference, and we are helping others in the ways that we can!"

"I think my most meaningful moment during the service days was on the first day, getting a tour of historic Holy Trinity. In just that time I felt immediately more connected to the community and the owner Marg. It truly showed us how much the church meant to Marg and made our service work mean that much more."

"My most meaningful moment was while we were helping with the service work, I realized that it takes a village to truly understand that the reason all of us are helping out is because we are doing it for the greater good!!"

"I liked when we finished weeding at Holy Trinity and at the end, we saw how much work we'd done. I felt like we accomplished a lot."

"During the evening activities we learned a lot about the history of Niagara Falls and how prior to Covid it was highly populated, and tourism was booming. It was interesting to see a small community rebuilding itself after times of despair."

Zeke thanks the trip participants for sharing some of their thoughts and impressions.

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.

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, 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.



Church Council Highlights of September 2023

Church Council met by Zoom yesterday, Monday, September 18, to discuss an agenda ranging from Living Water's "Stewardship for All Seasons" campaign, to safety and security considerations to the Thanksgiving Food Drive to 2024's ELCA Youth Gathering. Living Water's dedicated volunteers make a huge difference in the range and depth of what we can and do accomplish. Thank you! Denny Dumler joined the meeting to fill us in on the progress being made by the Living Water team involved with "Stewardship for All Seasons." Very soon the team will be presenting information and ideas to the congregation concerning opportunities to support Living Water and its missions.

Living Water will have a new sign in front! Pastor Mark has been working to facilitate the design and installation of the new sign. Once a new design has been formally created, Council will review the design and make suggestions for changes or give the go-ahead. We are looking forward to a sign that is more visible and easier to read.

Steve Umland and Ron Ophaug, Living Water's Property Manager, will schedule an on-site visit in October with the City of Scottsdale to evaluate Living Water's water usage both inside and outside.

Council approved a donation of \$1,000 to the Grand Canyon Synod's Mission Fund for Leaders. The golf tournament associated with this appeal to raise money for the Mission Fund for Leaders has been discontinued.

Living Water's parking lot will be used by the volunteers working the U.S. Senior Women's Amateur Championship at Troon September 30 - October 5, 2023. Protocols are in place to ensure Living Water has parking for the congregation on Sunday, October 1 and for the women's group on Tuesday, October 3.

The Council heard a report from Myrna Ulland with great news about the VBS Book Drive, the 92 quilts and 108 personal care kits assembled for Lutheran World Relief, and the "celebration bags" collected for Lutheran Social Services. Our volunteers make tremendous difference.

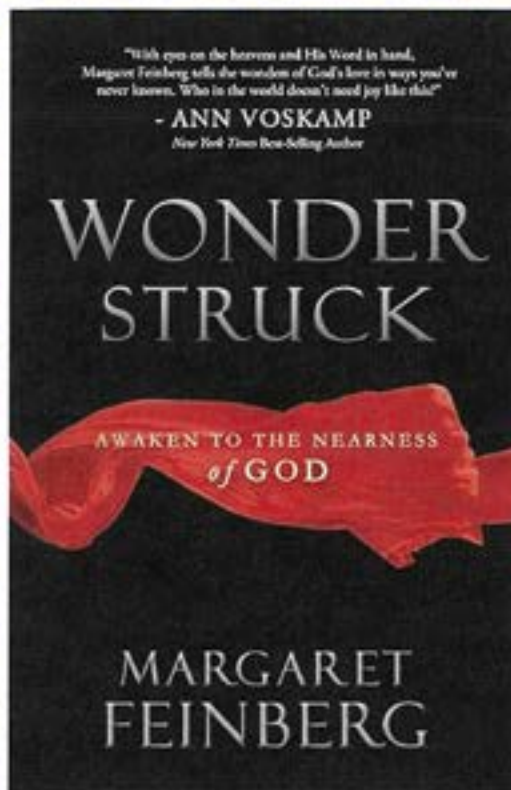
Contact us with questions or comments. Look for the red name badges!

**All Saints Sunday
November 5**

**MAY THE MEMORIES OF OUR LOVED ONES
FILL US WITH COMFORT AND JOY**

Let's fondly remember our loved ones and celebrate the good times. Everyone is invited to participate by setting up a 2x2 ft display in honor of your loved one(s) with pictures, flowers, momentos, treasures, etc. Feel free to use your creativity. Set up will take place on Saturday, November 4 at 10:00am. For questions, please contact Darrell Shipley: dshipley1944@gmail.com





TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY RETURNS

We begin a new Bible study on Sept. 26 at 10 am. In-person in the Fellowship Hall and via Zoom. The material for our first study is from Margaret Feinberg. Some of you may remember our study called "Taste and See" from this same author. "Wonder Struck" is a seven-session study with video. The accompanying book is recommended but not required. There will be some copies of the book available for \$16 at the study. You can also get a Kindle version of the book. This material will take us through November 7.

All women are invited. Coffee and hot water for tea/hot chocolate are provided. The Tuesday Women's group is also a core prayer group for our church. Each week, we lift up the prayers from the worship service, as well as individual prayer requests.

If you aren't on our group email list, please contact Myrna Ulland at myrna.ulland@gmail.com to be added to our communications.

Congratulations Myrna!

Congratulations to our very own Living Water Member, Myrna Wells-Ulland, Grand Canyon Synod, Region 9, who was elected executive board president during the Twelfth Triennial Convention of Women of the ELCA.



More than 251 Women of the ELCA voting members worshiped together, conducted business and elected new officers and churchwide executive board members during the Twelfth Triennial Convention, Sept. 18-21, in Phoenix, Arizona.

The voting body elected Myrna Wells-Ulland, Phoenix, Arizona (Grand Canyon Synodical Women's Organization), as president.

"Women of the ELCA is a wonderful organization," said Myrna Wells-Ulland, elected on the fourth ballot as the organization's president for the 2023-2026 triennium. "I love the things we do [and] all of the initiatives we have. I know they are challenging... I am really excited about the capabilities we have for this next triennium. [In Hebrew], *hineni* means 'Here I am, Lord. You called me. Use me. So I'm going to close with that. *Hineni.*'"

Those elected to serve on the churchwide executive board:



Twelfth triennial convention | 2023-2026 Churchwide Executive Board: Pictured from left: Myrna Wells-Ulland, Lorie Garcia, Gwen Edwards, Jennifer Armstrong-Schaefer, Yma Mulero, Maria Lokensgard, Sheena Foster, Anna Jetson, the Rev. Tracy Williams, Julia Sabella, Jennifer Ackerman, Ginger

Cutrell (not pictured) and Merrily Burmeister (not pictured).

Officers and churchwide executive board members will serve the 2023-26 term. It was the first time the convention had met in person in six years, after many changes wrought by the pandemic. As executive director Linda Post Bushkofsky told voting members in her report, "Few things remain the same... The pandemic and all that it brought caused us to focus, with laser precision, on what really matters. It caused us to try different ways of being together in community."

Far from taking its last breath, the Women of the ELCA is evolving, changing and being transformed, Post Bushkofsky said. "Does a dying organization launch a \$1 million campaign, expand its hospitality to those in the margins or recommit to its anti-racism work? Does a dying organization embrace online learning and worship in new and diverse ways? No. ...The Holy Spirit is pushing and pulling us forward. Some of us are jumping on board, moving into that future. [Others] of us won't be making that journey, resisting the reality of where we are going. But the good news is, that the journey has begun. ...We are a big, beautiful, flawed community, created in the image of God, [living] as disciples of Jesus."

*Great Gatherings invites you to our
Living Water Lutheran Church
Annual Picnic 2023*

Please come join us!



Date: Sunday, **October 8, 2023**
Time: 4:00- 7:00pm
Place: McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. Rotary Pavilion (Far Westside of the Park)
Address: 7301 E. Indian Bend, Scottsdale, AZ 85250
Cost: Donations to help offset the costs are Welcome!

LWLC will provide hamburgers, hotdogs and all the fixings. Donations are Welcome to cover the cost of the Ramada rental and the supplies (meat, cheese, fixings, buns, and paper products).

Please bring your own water, sodas and ice. This year we are also asking attendees to bring a potluck dish. Bring your favorite Vegetable, Salad or Dessert to share.

There will be fun games to play, you can even try your hand at our rendition of Frisbee or Corn Hole! The picnic will also provide a perfect opportunity for fellowship outside in the fresh air.

If you arrive early (before 4:00pm), there is a museum that features the Campaign Train of FDR. (\$2 each, children 12 and under are free) Check it out:
<https://www.therailroadpark.com/rides-and-attractions/trains-cars/>

Please sign up early at our kiosk in the Narthex! We look forward to seeing you and enjoying the fellowship!

***Please Mark your Calendars for December 9th, 2023. Great Gatherings has reserved this date for our Annual Advent Dinner to be held at Spirit in the Desert. Watch your Bulletin for more information! Sign up as soon as possible as seating will be limited to 60 persons.**

Annual Picnic 2023



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)**

SAVE THE DATE

Advent Dinner



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023

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

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.

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

Please contact Wayne Burrus if you would like to carpool.

The image features a logo for 'Café' in a white, stylized font on a blue horizontal band. Below the band is a photograph of a white coffee cup filled with coffee. An orange rectangular box with the text 'boldcafe.org' in white is overlaid on the coffee cup.

Café

boldcafe.org

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!



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.





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.

October Birthdays

Nicholas	Ingwersen	10/1
DJ	Johnson	10/3
James	King	10/3
Davis	Shelmire	10/3
Lily	Shelmire	10/3
Marcia	Page	10/4
Michelle	Ruha	10/4
Julie Ann	Walker	10/4
Larry	Coutts	10/9
Joy	Gallimore	10/9
Kip	Wachter	10/9
Donna	Pettengill	10/10
Stephanie	McLean	10/10

Julie	Anderson	10/11
Mason	Rossmann	10/11
Barb	Bremer	10/12
Ronald	Ophaug	10/12
Lisa	Sleeper	10/14
Kaden	Roos	10/15
Barbara	Brooks	10/16
Zoey	Crow	10/16
Maxine	Crane	10/17
Marty	Lindert	10/17
Claudia	Igras	10/18

Gordon	Lindert	10/18
Aubrey	Coutts-Donavon	10/19
Lynda	Cadden	10/23
Darnell	Pettengill	10/24
Mike	Sadler	10/24
Kristin	Smith	10/25
Norb	Schroeder	10/26
Matt	Wanek	10/26
Diane	Sundquist	10/27
Michael	Alberti	10/28
Sharon	Augenstein	10/28
Miriam	Bernau	10/30
Jaida	Sleeper	10/31



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@lwcaz.org ~ 480.473.8400 ~ www.LWLCAZ.org
 Living Water is a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Grand Canyon Synod.