

CONNECTIONS

Living Water
Lutheran Church



February 4, 2024



God's mercy
& Grace
are new
every morning
Lamentations 3:23

We are glad that you joined us for worship today!

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—*Tuesdays at NOON*

Sunday Worship Service is at 10:00am
on-site and online

We Remember in Our Prayers

- Ken Bash—Health Concerns
- Melissa Bloom (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Nelly Booty (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- Lizzy Cadow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- Virginia Conrad—Health Concerns
- Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Brett Stone)—Health Concerns
- Kathy Duncan (Friend of Ron & Shirley Koch)—Cancer
- Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- John Goesling—Health Concerns
- Vicki Grimsley (Mother of Mason Rossman)—Cancer
- Paul Haakenson—(Kristin Klarkowski's dad)—Health Concerns
- Todd Klarkowski—(Troy Klarkowski's brother)—Health Concerns
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Sandy Kohlway (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Battling Cancer
- Merle Malmquist (Karen Roessler's Sister)—Health Concerns
- Prentice Powers (Marty Lindert's brother)—Health Concerns
- Rebecca (Melissa Freesh's sister)—Health Concerns
- Bonnie Roberts—(Life Concerns)
- Ruth Schlesinger—Health Concern
- Sarah Shelmire (Daughter of Pam Landon)—Health Concerns
- Lee Stenehjem—Health Concerns
- 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
- Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Friends & Family of Susan Szucs (Friend of Joan Sprinkle)

Send your prayer requests to prayer@fwlcaz.org or fill out a card in the Narthex

Prayer of the Week

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Saints and Sinners 2024

Sign-up for the 2024 Saints and Sinners small group fellowship program is now open.

You can sign -up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex (lobby) or email Wayne Burrus at

wlburrus@earthlink.net. We will need your name(s), best contact phone number and email address.

Saints and Sinners is a popular "Small Groups" fellowship program at Living Water which is active in February and March. Each small group will consist of up to 14 or 15 people; both single and couples.

The purpose of Saints and Sinners is to build and foster fellowship so that we can get to know each other on a more personal level and, by doing so, build a stronger church body.

All are invited to join—Living Water members, potential members, and attendees. This fellowship is especially good for new members and those that may be contemplating joining Living Water. It's a relaxed and friendly way to get to know each other a little better.

The program is only two months long, February and March. Each small group will have an activity or get together of some sort in each month. The leader (captain) of each small group will organize an activity such as a dinner at home, miniature golf, concert, happy hour...and more. The captains are usually pretty inventive.

We will be forming the small groups in early January, so please sign up as soon as possible.

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

If interested in carpooling, please contact
Wayne Burrus

Dennis Nelson Bible Study

Published on our **YouTube Channel**

Wednesdays at NOON

Bible Study Outlines available on
our website: **lwlc.org**



Piecemakers Quilting in the New Year

February 7 and 21, 2024

Come and tie quilts with us! Our quilting is primarily to support Lutheran World Relief (LWR). We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, from 9 am to about noon, in the Education Building on the first floor. Bring your own water or coffee for a mid-morning break. If you're a winter visitor who likes to quilt, come and tie

with us. If you like to sew, we can provide pre-cut squares to make quilt tops. Many hands make light work! Questions? Ask Cindy Ophaug, Lynda Cales, Lois Lucas, Kay Bonar or Myrna Ulland. Learn more about this ministry at www.lwr.org/quilts-and-kits

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FORUM

Led by Pastor Dennis D. Nelson

February 11 and 25

9 AM in the Psalms Room (second floor of Education Building)

VOICES FROM THE CROWD

After telling us about some of the heroes of the faith, the author of the letter to the Hebrews says “Therefore since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.” What if some of these great Old Testament characters were to step out of the crowd and run one lap with us? What would they say to us? We will be hearing from such people as –

Noah – One Person Can Make a Difference

Abraham – God Always Does the Right Thing

Rebekah – Give Generously

Joseph – Others Need What You Have to Give

Moses – Live in the Faith Zone, Not in the Safe Zone

David – Overcome the Limitations Others Place upon You

The Servant Girl – One Small Act Can Make a Big Difference

Nehemiah – Big Problems Can Be Solved

Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 11th Immediately following service

Food for Kidz

Join the Fountain Hills community in packaging nutritious meals of cinnamon oatmeal, fortified with 21 essential vitamins and minerals to be distributed to hungry neighbors in Arizona and around the world.


Volunteers are needed to assemble the food packages & Financial Contributions are needed to purchase ingredients.

Financial Contributions are 100% tax deductible and can be made payable to: New Journey Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 19652, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269 with notation "Food for Kidz" or by card on our website.



AN EVENT FOR ALL AGES

"I bring my two sons to this food packing event every year because I want them to know the meaning and value of serving other." - Volunteer

 Service certificates available for students in need of service hours

JOIN OUR
COMMUNITY

FOOD PACK

February 29, 2024
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Spread The Love!

Thank you for being part of the solution to curb food insecurity in our communities and around the world.

**COME
TO**

Volunteer Location:

Fountain Hills Community Center
13001 N. La Montana Drive, Fountain Hills 

For More Info & Volunteer Registration:

Visit Our Website 
www.njlc-fh.org/food-4-kidz.com

Note regarding giving checks:

Unfortunately our bank, Wells Fargo Bank, is no longer accepting your giving checks written out to "LWLC" or "LW".

They now require our deposit checks with the church's name in the *PAY TO* line be fully written out as follows:

"Living Water Lutheran Church". And, please initial any changes made in ink.



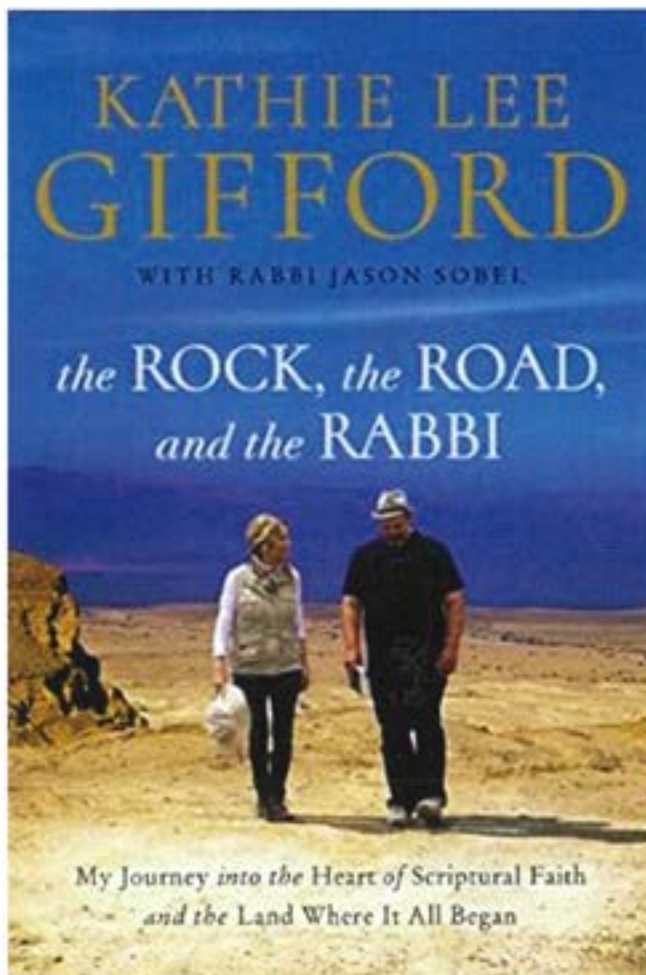
Thank you for your continued generosity!

Tuesday Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to join our Tuesday Women's Bible study, resuming at 10 am MST in the Fellowship Hall (and via Zoom), beginning January 9th. We'll dive into new material, "*the Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi*" with Kathie Lee Gifford and Rabbi Jason Sobel. Journey into Israel and the roots of our Christian faith. Rabbi Sobel will take us into a deeper understanding of Hebrew culture and language to deepen our faith.

The accompanying book is recommended but not required. Myrna is ordering the books which should be available on January 9. There is also a Kindle version.

10 am – in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee will be provided, along with hot water for hot chocolate or tea. Bring your favorite Bible translation. If you aren't on our email list, please notify myrna.ulland@gmail.com to be added.



NOTE: We are taking two weeks off (Feb 6 and Feb 13).

We will resume on February 20th.

Please sign-up in the Narthex.
Contact Pastor Shari if you have any questions.

VOLUNTEER AT THE FOSTER ALLIANCE

Join a group from Living Water to help make a difference for foster kids. Volunteers do a variety of tasks, including sorting and organizing clothing donations, packaging or decorating birthday bags and birthday cards, helping build first aid kits, and working in the warehouse.

Monday,
19 February
2023

3110 E Thunderbird
Road, Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85032

10:00AM
-12:00PM

Please contact Pastor Shari if you are interested in participating or if you have any questions:
pastorshari@lwlcaz.org



ELCA Good Gifts

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Good Gifts program!
It helps so many people who are in need

Thank you!! Ron and Cindy Ophaug



Café is an online magazine and podcast for and with young adult women who identify as Lutheran or not, brought to you by Women of the ELCA.

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. Every month new topics that are relevant to women and how faith relates to those issues are featured. It's free: just sign up to be part of the Café community: www.boldcafe.org/about/

Join Boldcafe writers + friends for online conversation and dinner on the first Thursday of each month ! 6 pm MST (AZ) time.

Once a month we meet with some of our popular writers to talk about our favorite articles and more! Bring your own dinner (B.Y.O.D) and sign up via Zoom: <http://www.boldcafe.org/dinner>

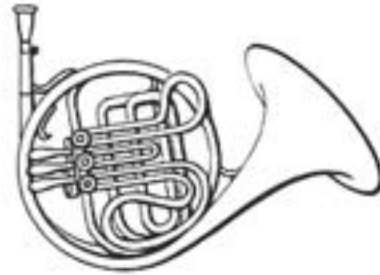
Save the Date

Musical Instrument Museum "VIP Behind the Scenes Tour"

10 AM Saturday

April 13, 2024

Join us for lunch following the tour!



Please join us for this informative tour, organized by Great Gatherings, and discover how exhibits are created and instruments are repaired. Visit the theatre backstage and more at the world's only global musical instrument museum.

More details to follow!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Knitters and crocheters - help us build the Prayer Shawl Ministry! Living Water currently presents prayer blankets at baptisms; we would like to expand the reach of such gifts – shawls, especially - to offer comfort to those who are experiencing illness, grief, or any of life's trials

There is an easy-to-follow pattern available as well as a sample prayer shawl for inspiration. Please contact Kathie Schroedel at dakschroedel@yahoo.com or 608-695-5120 for more details. We are excited to get more talent involved with this ministry! Join us!

Region 2

Synod 2024

Lenten Challenge

THE CAUSE

To honor ELCA World Hunger's 50th year, the 5 synods in Region 2 are challenging one another to raise money for ELCA World Hunger. **The challenge:** Participate in some spiritual and physical practices during Lent. *The synod with the most participants wins!*

WHAT TO DO?

- ✓ **The goal:** 50 congregations per synod in which at least 1 person participates.
- ✓ Each participant commits to doing 3 of the 4 practices for the 40 days in Lent.
- ✓ Visit the website, sign up, tell your friends, & cheer our synod to victory!



LEARN MORE &
SIGN UP

THE PRACTICES



DAILY DEVOTION

Subscribe to receive a devotion by Pastor Steve Holm by email each of the 47 days of Lent courtesy of Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center.



DAILY DISCIPLINE

Commit to doing one wellness activity every day, be it a workout, a walk, an extra flight of stairs or an extra glass of water.



DAILY DECLUTTER

Find a way to de-clutter, de-stress, and re-tune by clearing the garage, the calendar, or the closet and donating gently used items.



DAILY DONATION

Pledge to give \$1 a day (or more) to ELCA World Hunger for the 40 days of Lent or pledge \$50 for ELCA World Hunger's 50th anniversary.

For details:
www.LentenChallenge.org

Region 2

Synod 2024

Lenten Challenge

Welcome to the 2024 Cross-Synod Challenge for ELCA World Hunger and Health!

This year for Lent, the five synods in Region 2 are challenging one another to raise money for ELCA World Hunger.

The challenge is to pledge to participate in some spiritual and physical practices during Lent and raise some money for ELCA World Hunger. Bragging rights goes to the synod with the most individual participants.

Why Lent? Lent is 40 days to reflect, remember our dependence on God and one another, and look forward to the ways God calls us to be. Adding one or more of these small practices to your observation of Lent might help you feel more connected. A light-hearted challenge like this might help our synods be the Church together, and to see God's vision and invitation for us to be a church for the world and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

What are the 40-40-40 Lenten practices?

To participate you'll pledge to do 3 of the 4 (or all 4) practices for Lent.

- ✔ **Daily Devotion.** Subscribe to receive daily email devotions for Lent. These short reflections will be delivered right to your inbox every morning for Lent.
- ✔ **Daily Discipline.** Do one wellness activity every day. Maybe it's your daily workout, maybe is a 1-mile walk a day. Maybe it's taking an extra flight of stairs or an extra glass of water.
- ✔ **Daily Donation.** Pledge to give \$1 a day (or more) to ELCA World Hunger for the 40 days of Lent.
- ✔ **Daily Declutter.** Once a day find a way to daily declutter, de-stress, and re-tune. It could be clearing out the garage, your calendar, or a desk or drawer and donating gently used items.

How is this a challenge? This a friendly competition for a good cause. In honor of 50 years of ELCA World Hunger, our goal is for individuals representing 50 congregations per synod to participate.

What does our synod win? The 'winning' bishop will play a short video with congratulatory clips recorded by the other participating bishops. This acknowledgement of the 'superiority' by the other synods for this one challenge is all in fun.

Participating Synods: Sierra Pacific (2A), Southwest California (2B), Pacifica (2C), Grand Canyon (2D) and Rocky Mountain (2E)



LEARN MORE &
SIGN UP

For details:
www.LentenChallenge.org

Gathering Hymn... "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing,
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



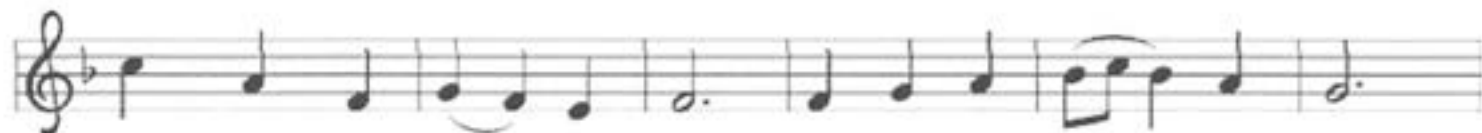
Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
if with his love he be - friend you.
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Erneuertem Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

Sermon Song... "God, Whose Almighty Word"



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty.



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Gardini, 1716-1796

WHO IS JESUS AND WHAT CAN HE MEAN FOR MY LIFE?

Wednesday Evening Bible Study on the Gospel of John during Lent

Pastor Dennis D. Nelson will be leading a five-week study on the Gospel of John after the Soup Suppers and before the Lenten Services – from 6: 00 to 6: 45 PM – on the Wednesdays in Lent beginning February 21, the week after Ash Wednesday. This Gospel shows that Jesus is –

The Bread of Life, who can give you strength to face the challenges of life

The Living Water, who can quench your thirst to know God and to find meaning and fulfillment in life

The Light of the World, who can help you get through the darkest times of your life

And the Resurrection and the Life, who can show you how you can face death with hope, strength, and confidence.

Please join us.

Sending Song.. "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Medical Lending Library Ministry

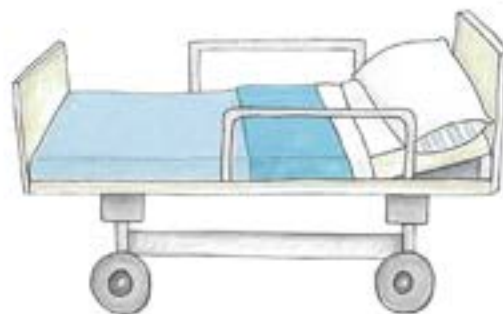
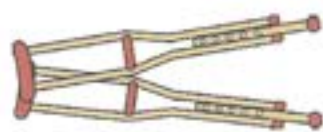
What: It's the same as a book library but lends durable medical equipment.

Who: Will be used by our partner La Sagrada Familia Church members who are mostly low-income and uninsured.

How: Donate your used crutches, commode, wheelchair/cushion, walker, hospital bed, cane, etc.

When: We will collect them on **March 10 and 17** at Living Water.

Questions: Please contact Steve McCarthy at 928-848-2458,



LIVING WATER IN WORSHIP

Purpose Statement: "To Be and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ."



Living Water
Lutheran Church



Living Water is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Grand Canyon Synod and Northeast Valley Conference.

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

Ministers: All the members of Living Water

Pastor: Mark Rossman
PastorMark@lwlcaz.org

Pastor: Shari Bernau
PastorShari@lwlcaz.org

Office/Communications Manager: Jennifer Kelsh
jkelsh@lwlcaz.org

Finance Manager: Stephanie McLean
smclean@lwlcaz.org

Director of Music: Christina Hall
chall@lwlcaz.org

Associate Director of Music: Scott Sims
ssims@lwlcaz.org

In case of Pastoral Emergency, please call Pastor Mark at 973-699-7777 (mobile)

Living Water Lutheran Church

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~ 480.473.8400 ~