

CONNECTIONS

Living Water
Lutheran Church



February 25, 2024

TAKE
↑ UP ↑
YOUR HEARTS
&
FOLLOW
me
MARK 8:34

Easter Sunday
March 31st
worship times:



Sunrise Service 6:30am
Easter Sunday Worship 8:00am
Easter Brunch 9:00am
Easter Worship 10:00am

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

- Melissa Bloom (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Nelly Booty (Friend of Susan and Steve Johnson)—Cancer
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- Lizzy Caddow (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
- Steven Hill (cousin of Tracy Rossman)—Recovering From Stroke
- 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



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

Prayer of the Week

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
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

wburrus@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 singles 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 az.org**

Wednesdays in Lent

February 28th

5:30pm Soup Supper

6:00pm Lenten Bible Study

7:00pm Lenten Worship Service





Hold the date for our annual Vacation Bible School program at Living Water Lutheran church. Registration opens soon. Spread the news to your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends!

Date/Time: June 17-21, 9-11:30am

Theme: "Hometown Nazareth - Where Jesus was a Kid"

Join us as we explore the culture of ancient Nazareth - the hometown of Jesus - and get the inside scoop on what it was like when Jesus was a kid. Each day of the week is filled with great music, meaningful Bible stories, fun and games, awesome crafts and a delicious take-home snack.

Registration is free and each child will receive a one-of-a kind t-shirt. We welcome kids age 4 through 6th grade.

We are looking for youth and adult volunteers to help us before and during VBS. If you are interested, please contact Kris Crow at vbs@lwlcaz.org or call/text 480-298-8910 and join in the fun!

New Member Orientation/Dinner

Are you curious about **membership** at
Living Water Lutheran Church?

Living Water
Lutheran Church



If so, we would love for you to join us for an informative
Orientation/Dinner to tell you more about Living Water
on **Saturday March 23rd from 4:00 to 6:00pm.**

If you would like to attend, please **rsvp** via the
front office:

phone: **480-473-8400**

or

email: **office@lwlcaz.org**

(subject: New Member Orientation)



New Member

Orientation

3/23



An invitation from Grand Canyon Synod Bishop Deborah Hutterer:

In honor of [ELCA World Hunger](#)'s 50th year in mission and ministry, the 5 synods in ELCA Region 2 are challenging one another to raise money for ELCA World Hunger. The challenge: Participate in some spiritual and physical practices during the 40 days of Lent, 2024. The synod with the most participants wins!

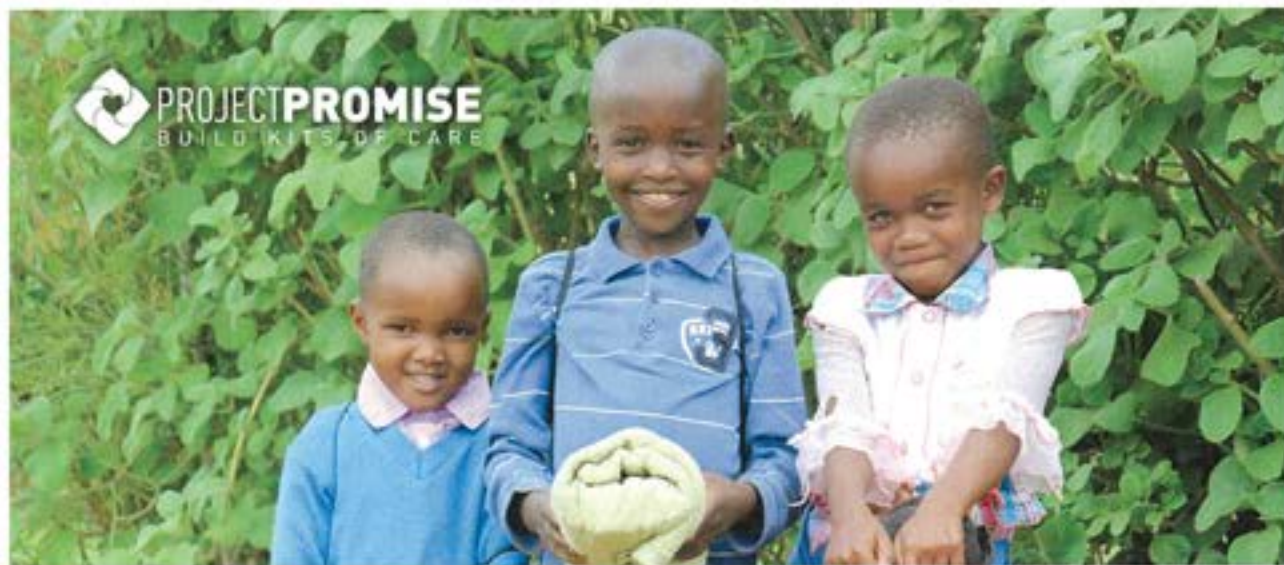
How does the 40- 40- 40 Lenten Challenge work? There are 4 Lenten practices to consider, and you commit to 3 of the 4. The Synod with the most individuals participating wins the challenge!

1. **Daily Devotion** ~ *Subscribe to receive daily email devotions for Lent or use ELCA World Hunger pre-made devotions. [Learn more.](#)*
2. **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. [Read more.](#)*
3. **Daily Declutter** ~ *Once a day find a way to daily de-clutter, de-stress, and re-tune. It could be cleaning out the garage, cleaning your calendar, or finding some time to de-clutter a desk or drawer and donating gently used items. [Get ideas.](#)*
4. **Daily Donation** ~ *Pledge to give \$1 a day (or more) to ELCA World Hunger for the 40 days of Lent. [Ways to give.](#) Watch for the special World Hunger offering envelope in the Connections on Palm Sunday!*

In honor of ELCA World Hunger's 50th anniversary in 2024, our goal is for individuals representing 50 congregations per synod to participate. Join others already signed up from Living Water! *The more individual sign-ups, the better.*

Ready to sign up? Go to www.lentenchallenge.org

*Today's floral bouquet was arranged by
Julie Ann Walker
in celebration of the life of
Ken Walker*



**Personal Care Kits for LWR
Feb 18 – March 24, 2024**

Join us in collecting items for Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief

Once again, we will collect items for Lutheran World Relief's (LWR) Personal Care Kits as part of LWR's "A Season of Hope" during Lent. **Our collection begins on Sunday, February 18 and ends on Palm Sunday, March 24.**



Cleanliness may not actually be next to godliness, but it certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty.

We can give hope through these 5 items:

- **2-3 bars of soap, totaling 8 or 9 oz., in original wrapping**
- **a new lightweight bath towel, minimum size 20"x40" and maximum 52" x 27", dark color preferred.** Bath towels should be light or medium weight (no heavy, fluffy towels, please) and the preferred size is 52" x 27". It should NOT be a hand towel. Dark colors are requested by LWR. Lightweight bath towels are easier for recipients to handwash and air dry, take less storage space, and are less expensive than the fluffy towels we might enjoy.
- **1 toothbrush, in its original wrapping****
- **1 wide-toothed comb (not a pocket comb) and**
- **1 metal nail clipper (for fingernails OR toenails), with or without a nail file attached.**
We CANNOT use emery boards.

**we can accept multi-packs of toothbrushes. They will be opened and individual toothbrushes placed in a sealed business-size envelope at the time of kit assembly.

We ask that you bring in the items for a complete kit if you can. However, we'll make up kits if you want to focus on only a certain item or items. There is a collection bin in the church entryway. We will also accept cash/check gifts with PCK in the memo line. Make the check out to Living Water Lutheran Church.

Once again we've requested financial support from a \$250 Thrivent Action Team Grant to help us fill out needed items. Last year, through your generosity and the help from Thrivent, we were able to assemble 125 Personal Care Kits. Can we do it again? Thank you for your support! Questions: please contact Ron Ophaug at ronophaug@yahoo.com or Myrna Ulland at myrna.ulland@gmail.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.



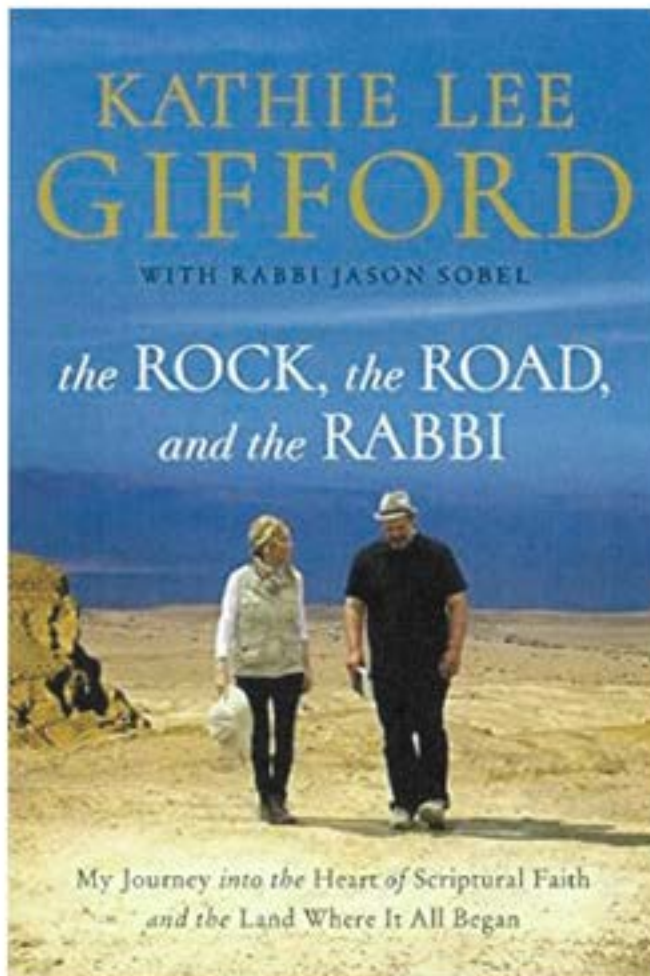
Thank you for your continued generosity!

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. 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.



SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FORUM

Led by Pastor Dennis D. Nelson

February 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

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!



Moonlight and Music

Thursday, March 21 at 6:30 pm

- Live Music by our own LWLC Band*
- Appetizers and desserts*



We hope you can join us for a wonderful evening on the Living Water Lutheran Church patio. Reservations are \$25/person and can be made up until Sunday, March 17. All proceeds go toward the Youth Mission Trip. Thank you for your support of our young people who are going to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer.

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.



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

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

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

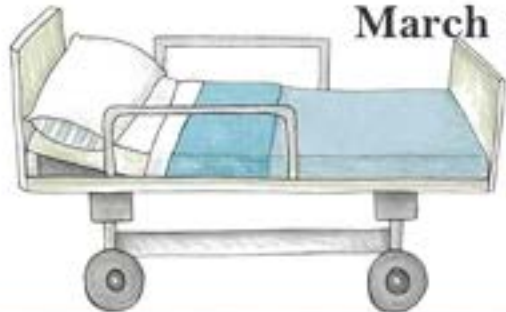
Medical Lending Library Ministry

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 Sundays,
March 10 and 17 at Living Water.



FOLLOWING THE WAY OF JESUS A LENTEN HOLY LAND JOURNEY



TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING MARCH 5TH

Join us on Tuesday mornings for a 6-week study on SUMUD: Following the Way of Jesus: A Lenten Holy Land Journey. We'll use material provided by the ELCA, including videos, scripture readings and discussion questions. We begin this study on March 5 at 10 am MST in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a Zoom connection as well. Coffee and hot water for tea/hot chocolate are provided. Bring your favorite Bible translation and join us every Tuesday morning.

Save the Date!

It will soon be Pastor Mark's
10th Anniversary with Living Water!

We will celebrate this momentous
occasion with
a presentation and breakfast
following service
on
Sunday, March 17th.



We appreciate your dedication
to Living Water
Pastor Mark!

Save the Date

Musical Instrument Museum "VIP Behind the Scenes Tour"



**10 AM Saturday
April 27, 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 and sign up to follow!**



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>

Gathering Hymn... "How Firm A Foundation"



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

Sermon Song... "Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said"



1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight
3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,



"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;
per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;
nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;
nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day,
his strength shall bear your spir - it up,
for you the Lord en - dured the cross
for those who hum - bly bear the cross



and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.
to save your soul from death and hell.
one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814-1877, alt.
Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848

Sending Song.. "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head.



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding,
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.

Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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 ~