

# Splash!

April 2024

*"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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
Christina Hall

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
OF MUSIC  
Scott Sims

[www.LWLCAZ.org](http://www.LWLCAZ.org)

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9201 E Happy Valley Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85255

## *We Remember in Our Prayers*

- 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
- Tyler Hornacek (Grandson of John and Sue Hornacek)—Life Concerns
- Kristin Klarkowski—Health Concerns
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Sandy Kohlway (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Battling Cancer
- Prentice Powers (Marty Lindert's brother)—Health Concerns
- Rebecca (Melissa Freesh's sister)—Health Concerns
- Bonnie Roberts—Life Concerns
- Ruth Schlesinger—Health Concern
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns

*Send your prayer requests to [prayer@lwlcaz.org](mailto:prayer@lwlcaz.org) or fill one out at [lwlcaz.org](http://lwlcaz.org)*

# A Message from Pastor Mark

It is different here in the desert because it is not so obvious to us is the fact that April is the time of new birth. In the upper Midwest and in the East people celebrate the warming of the days, the budding of the trees, the greening of the grass. Here those changes are far more subtle, but we see the addition of colors that temporarily brighten the desert landscape. April is when we see the birth of the infants throughout the animal world. April has also been a time when a great many folks made an impact in this world. Many of these "April People" have made significant strides in changing and enhancing the world.

Albrecht Durer was an artist born in 1471. .Michaelangelo Buonarroti was also an artist, but he was born in 1475. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a pastor and a theologian who was born in 1906. Mikael Agricola was the Bishop of Turku in Finland and he was born somewhere between 1508 and 1512. Olavus Petri was a priest who was born in 1493, his brother Laurentius was also a priest, and he was born in 1499. Anselm was the Archbishop of Canterbury, and he was born in 1009. Toyohiko Kagawa was born in 1888 and he began the Kingdom of God movement in Japan. Catherine of Siena was a teacher. She was born somewhere around 1347.

The one thing that ties all of these folks together is found in the fact that they are all commemorated by the church during the month of April. These "April People" have been set aside in this manner because there was something about the actions of their lives that made a difference in the world. Usually, it was a difference that was considered fairly significant.

The big deal in the Christian world for the month of April is the continued celebration of the Easter Resurrection throughout the season of Easter. That is the one BIG thing that makes us Christians, well, Christian. It is the Christ event. It is the day that changed the world forever. It is also the day that changed the lives of those previously mentioned people too.

There is one thing that is almost of equal value to the resurrection. It is what we do with it. In the resurrection we have been given the single greatest gift God could have given us. Our lives are ones in which we are called and challenged to live them out in a way that exhibits the love that God has shared with us.

These April people shaped their lives in a way that allowed them to share with the world the love that God gave to them. In a manner as unique and individual as they were, they sought out special ways to serve the God of love and life. They were able to take their talents, their gifts, their personalities, their very selves and use them to better the world in the name of Christ.

For us, Easter is nothing unless we make it something. That does not mean that we have any power over the gift God gave the world in the life, death, and resurrection of his Son. What it does mean is that if we do not live our lives in a manner that is befitting of this gift, if we do not seek out ways to share our lives in the name of Christ and through the love of Christ, then Easter has been useless. It is not that Easter is useless to us, but we are useless to the Easter event. We are called to live our lives in the name of Christ, seeking out new ways to serve Him. What we do may never be good enough to get our names recorded into a book and assigned a date, but what really matters is that which we do is good enough for God – an honor to God. Good enough to offer glory and honor to God is really what we are to be all about. For the honor and glory of God is what being an April Person is all about – it is how an Easter person lives life.

*Pastor Mark*

# Ask Zeke



April

## ASK ZEKE

### Living Water's office fish encourages you to take a look at the Annual Report

Q. When my previous church held its Annual Meeting it provided a printed Annual Report. I didn't see any Annual Reports for Living Water's Annual Meeting in February. Did I miss something?

A. Like most churches, every year LWLC produces an Annual Report and makes it available to members of the congregation. If you'd been here a few years ago, you would've seen a stack of reports in the Narthex the day of the Annual Meeting.

The 2019 report was the last time bound copies were available. Not long after its release in February of 2020, COVID-19 prompted a "sanctuary shutdown." As the pandemic surged, the congregation initially worshiped online on Sunday mornings. Later on, we had a second option: worshipping in-person on the church lawn. Instead of distributing paper worship bulletins, LWLC made the Sunday bulletin available to everyone by posting it on the church website prior to worship. That shift, which also helps conserve trees, didn't end there. When 2021 rolled around, LWLC decided to forgo bound copies of the 2020 Annual Report. Instead, the somewhat lengthy document was available on the church website.

Our congregation's 2023 Annual Report is chock full of information. In addition to statistics about church membership, the names of new members, and other details, it includes interesting and informative reports by Pastor Mark, Pastor Shari, and Council President Darnell Pettengill. The bulk of the report consists of descriptions of the activities and accomplishments of LWLC's 60-plus ministry teams in 2023. (See page 32 for an up-to-date listing of Mission Program Groups and their leaders.) As you browse through the report, you'll be amazed by all that goes on at LWLC.

You can read the 2023 Annual Report online or print it out if you prefer. To access the report, log on to the church website ([lwlc.org](http://lwlc.org)), click on "About" and scroll down to "2023 Annual Report." You can also contact Jennifer in the church office ([jkesh@lwlc.org](mailto:jkesh@lwlc.org)) and ask her to email you the 2023 Annual Report.

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

# *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](http://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**

## Church Council Highlights March 2024

One item on the to-do list for the Church Council this month was to approve the plan to paint our beautiful campus buildings. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, the exterior of the buildings will be painted and as a bonus, the Sanctuary will also receive a fresh coat of paint. This has not been done since before Pastor Mark arrived at Living Water. The banner in front of the church that was removed during road construction should be back up, so our fresh look will be complete.

Speaking of how long Pastor Mark has been here, he thanked Pastor Shari and everyone who was involved in creating his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, for their creative presentation and wonderful breakfast. For all who attended, it was a wonderful time for fellowship.

Mark your calendars for the seminar that Living Water is hosting on April 13<sup>th</sup> from 1-4. Rev. Dr. Colleen Windham-Hughes, Associate Vice President for Mission and Identity at California Lutheran University, will speak about loneliness from a Christian perspective. This is a topic for our times. All are welcome!

Thanks to our Audit Committee, the 2022 Audit has been completed. This is a challenging undertaking that our Bylaws require annually. On to 2023! In addition to the Audit Committee, it is a function of the council to staff all the committees of the congregation. This month the council approved the installation of members of the Finance Committee and Mutual Ministry team. Thanks to all who serve behind the scenes on these committees that serve vital functions in the life of the church.

As always, if you have questions about what happens at council meetings or if you are looking for ways to serve Living Water, please ask anyone with a red name badge. Blessings to you during this meaningful Season of the Church year.



# JAMES

WHAT YOU DO MATTERS

FIVE SESSIONS

MARGARET FEINBERG

## TUESDAY WOMEN

### SPRING BIBLE STUDY

Inviting all women to join us for a 5-week video series study on the book of James from the New Testament. This study comes from newly-released material from Margaret Feinberg, an author we've used before. Our study of this book should surely generate discussion among us as we examine how this book presents Christianity as a way of life.

We begin this study on April 16, Tuesdays at 10 am, in-person in the Fellowship Hall or on-line through Zoom. No purchase of material is required. Just bring your favorite Bible translation for our time together, about 90 minutes.

Coffee is provided, as well as hot water for tea/hot chocolate.

If you aren't on our Tuesday Women

email group list, please contact [myrna.ulland@gmail.com](mailto:myrna.ulland@gmail.com) to be added to the list for group communications. We'd love for you to join us!



## Piecemakers Quilting

April 17 and May 1 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](http://www.lwr.org/quilts-and-kits)

## Eucharistic Ministry

**What:** Eucharistic Ministers are members of our congregation who share God's gift of communion and visitation with those who are unable to attend our worship service.

**Who:** Anyone who feels a calling to this ministry and completes the training is welcome to join.

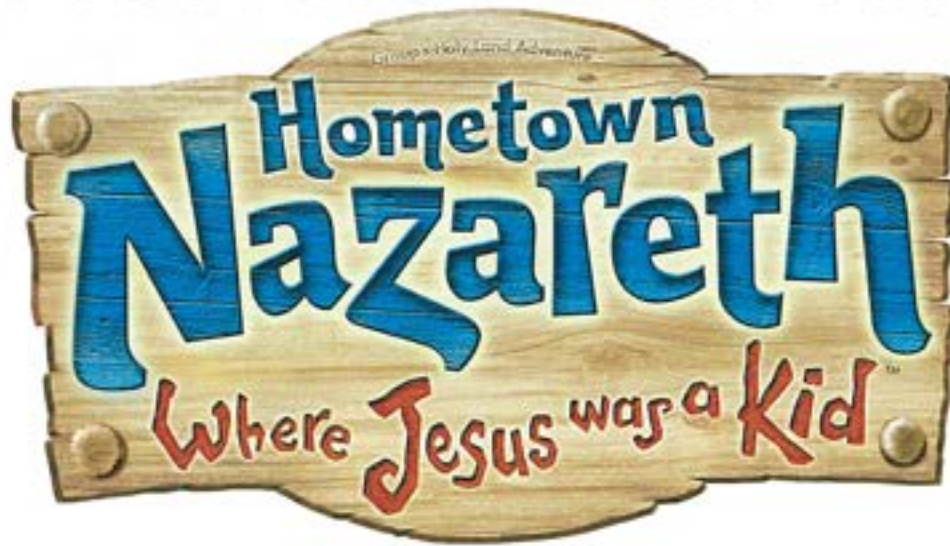
**How:** Contact Diane Sellers or Pastor Shari if you are interested in participating, or if you know someone who cannot attend worship and would like a visit.



*And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.*

*Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 1 John 4:16*





**Registration is now open** for Vacation Bible School at Living Water Lutheran Church. Go to [lwlc.org/vbs2024](http://lwlc.org/vbs2024) to register 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@lwlc.org](mailto:vbs@lwlc.org) or call/text 480-298-8910 and join in the fun!

# Adult Forum

## What I Didn't Remember from Confirmation Class

A Look at Luther's Legacy

9:00am

April 7, April 21, May 5 and May 19



**'VIP Behind the Scenes Tour'**  
**Musical Instruments Museum**  
4725 E Mayo Blvd., [www.mim.org](http://www.mim.org)

Saturday, April 27 @ 10:00 AM  
\$27.00 per person

Please join us for this look behind the scenes at the world's only global musical instruments museum. During this one-hour tour, we'll discover how exhibits are created, see how this diverse collection is stored, and go backstage at the MIM music theatre. We'll meet in the Museum lobby and separate into smaller groups, each with a dedicated museum guide. Please join us for lunch at MIM's Café Allegro. After lunch, you may visit the museum galleries at your leisure.



*Note:* Price includes the tour and general admission to the Museum; lunch is not included. You may pay in advance or at the event by check or cash. Sign-up in the Narthex.



# April Birthdays

*Happy Birthday!!*

Claudia	Ingwersen	4/3
Ed	Kilburn	4/5
Del	Rogge	4/6
Linda	Hoening	4/8
AJ	Bernau	4/9
Barbara	Hannan	4/12
Dave	Schoenbeck	4/15
Sally	Harris	4/16
Iris	Van	4/20
Diane	Salinas	4/20
Janis	Fjeld	4/21

Joan	Tryhus	4/21
Kim	Leinweber	4/23
Diane	Klumpp	4/23
Doug	Yock	4/24
Roz	Anderson	4/25
Dick	Blazer	4/25
Jennifer	Sadler	4/27
Jennifer	Weisman	4/30



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

**PUBLICATION SUBMISSION 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.