

MARCH 2025

Splash!

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



PASTOR
Mark Rossman

PASTOR
Shari Bernau

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9201 E Happy Valley Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85255

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- ALL impacted by the Los Angeles, CA Wildfires
- Jeff & Eric Bembry (friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
- Dan Bonar—Health Concerns
- Charlie Boyd—Health Concerns
- Terry Brooke (Daughter of Maria Tillotson)—Health Concerns
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- Lizzy Caddow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- Pastor Michael Dubsy (friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Health Concerns
- Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Brett Stone)—Health Concerns
- Sheila Fankhauser—Back Surgery
- Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- Vicki Grimsley (Mother of Mason Rossman)—Cancer
- Tyler Hornacek (Grandson of John and Sue Hornacek)—Life Concerns
- Dick Johnston—Health Concerns
- Dan Kempf (Brother of Myrna Ulland)—In Hospice
- Kristin Klarkowski—Health Concerns
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Michael Koch (Grandson of Ron & Shirley Koch)—Health Concerns
- Gabriele Laudenschlager—Health Concerns
- Don Martin (Friend of Ron and Karen Roessler)—Health Concerns
- Betty McCarthy (Sister of Stephen McCarthy)—Health Concerns
- Prentice Powers (Marty Lindert's brother)—Health Concerns
- Rebecca (Melissa Freesh's sister)—Health Concerns
- Bonnie Roberts—Life Concerns
- Kathie Roegnik—Health Concerns
- Del Rogge—Heart Concerns
- Pastor Mark Rossman—Health Concerns
- Kristen Stenehjem (Neice of Sue and Lee Stenehjem)—Health Concerns
- Bob Ulland—Health Concerns
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Family and Friends of Mark Jacobson (brother of Lance Jacobson)
- Family and Friends of Ruth Schlesinger

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

**If it is time to remove someone from the prayer list, please contact the front office.*

A Message from Pastor Shari

Thank you so much for your support of the upcoming Youth Mission Trip this summer. I want you to know that you are truly making a difference in the lives of the young people (Ryan Handley, Allison Handley, Summer Weisman, Shaina Weisman, and Brooke Bates) who will be going to Lake Traverse, South Dakota from July 8-13.

For young people in our world, there are so many things competing for their attention. However, when they dedicate one week out of the year to focus on serving others in the name of Christ, it can positively impact their self-

esteem and confidence. Not only do they get their hands dirty and work hard to make a difference, but they also have time for self-reflection to see how they may be capable of so much more than they ever imagined. And, through the encouragement of the mission trip leaders and meaningful conversations with other Christians, they can envision themselves as an important part of God's kingdom.

These trips also offer opportunities for young people to get out of their comfort zones. We sleep on church floors, eat simple food, take quick showers in locker rooms, and live and worship in a close-knit community of young Christians from all over the country. It is a completely different life than what our kids are used to. In addition to that, in each service opportunity, we are exposed to people who are in need, and we learn their stories and get to know them personally. Also, we get to know some of the people who dedicate their lives and gifts to serving in non-profit organizations or ministries. These opportunities and relationships open our eyes to new and grace-filled ways of seeing people around us and the world we live in.

Lastly, and maybe most importantly, Mission Trips connect us with what God is up to all around us. God is doing some amazing things in the world, but often we fail to see those things. When the young people return home, it is our hope that they will be encouraged to participate with God's mission in their own communities and love and value everyone around them.

God's calling for all of us is far more than a trip. But we know, for many, living out that calling *begins* with a trip. That's why this is so important. Thank you, Living Water!

God's peace,

Pastor Shari Bernau



Ask Zeke



MARCH

Living Water's 24/7 office fish explains the bond between two ELCA congregations

Q. What can you tell me about the picture of a church that hangs on the wall near the water fountain? Every time I pass by it, I wonder how Mount Olivet Lutheran Church is connected to Living Water. What's the story?

A. The story involves a young pastor, a matchmaking sister, and Minnesota snowbirds.

In May 1997, while serving at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Phoenix, the Rev. Tim Selbo accepted a call to develop and pastor a new ELCA mission in Scottsdale. Knocking on thousands of doors, he distributed brochures and invited residents to join a new faith community.

Meanwhile, a Prince of Peace member named Nancy Hogan contacted her brother, Paul Youngdahl. He served as senior pastor at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. Nancy knew that her brother was interested in supporting a mission congregation in an area frequented by Mount Olivet snowbirds. Her matchmaking led to the two pastors and their wives meeting for dinner.

Pastor Tim recalls, "I think Paul was checking me out (or subtly interviewing me) to see if they would jump in with this new start and this young pastor." Shortly thereafter, Mount Olivet agreed to be a Mission Founder congregation with LWLC. This generous Minnesota congregation supported LWLC by providing people (winter visitors), prayers, financial resources (for five years), and pulpit supply in Pastor Tim's absence. He, in turn, occasionally preached at Mount Olivet and also participated in its other ministries.

This divine partnership gave LWLC a solid start. Near the end of 1997, 81 adults and children gathered on Christmas Eve at the Terravita Activity Center, where Pastor Tim led LWLC's first worship service. A couple years later, our Constitution was adopted on Organizational Sunday (March 26, 2000), and LWLC became fully self-supporting. Charter Membership totaled 150.

This month marks LWLC's 25th anniversary. We'll celebrate this milestone on April 27. Pastor Tim will preach that Sunday morning. In the evening, we'll gather at Troon North Golf Club to celebrate the last 25 years and open the door to new opportunities. (The reservation deadline is March 30.)

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.

Church Council Highlights February 2025

Living Water held its Annual Meeting on February 9th after church. Thanks to all members who participated in the “business” of the congregation. At the meeting Treasurer Steve Umland reviewed the 2025 budget which was then approved. A new slate of church council officers was also voted on and approved. President Darnell Pettingell and Treasurer Steve Umland will each serve another two-year term. Julie Anderson will begin a two-year term as a member-at-large. Jay Hoenig has fulfilled his term, and we thank him for all he has done.

2025 will be an exciting year in the Life of Living Water! The 25th Anniversary Celebration planning is underway. Tickets for the Sunday, April 27th dinner at Troon Country Club are available.

On March 8th there will be a dinner for new members. A new program is being initiated to introduce new members to the opportunities at Living Water. A current member will act as a “buddy” to a new member. If you are interested in participating in this opportunity, stay tuned.

At the Volunteer Luncheon, there was a suggestion that a grief group should be offered. Suggestion heeded! Pastor Shari has found a program, a trainer, and a leader for a 6–8-week program. This program is planned for the fall.



Plan ahead to join us for:

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Wednesday, March 5th at 7:00pm



Palm Sunday Worship Service

Sunday, April 13th at 10:00am



Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Thursday, April 17th at 7:00pm



Good Friday Worship Service

Friday, April 18th at 7:00pm



Easter Sunday Worship Service

Sunday, April 20th at 6:30am,

8:00am and 10:00am

9:15am Brunch



Plan ahead to join us for

Wednesday Evening Lenten Bible Study with Pastor Dennis D. Nelson

Wednesdays in Lent:

March 12, 19, 26

April 2, 9

5:30pm Soup Supper

6:00pm Lenten Bible Study

7:00pm Lenten Worship



Over the five Wednesday evenings during Lent - after Ash Wednesday - between the soup suppers and the Holden Evening Prayer - we will see eleven short clips from the full-length movie, "Following the Footsteps." These clips follow the ministry of Jesus from His baptism to His post-resurrection appearances and ascension. Seeing where these events in Jesus' life actually took place, Pastor Dennis Nelson will then lead us in a study of the relevant passages in the Gospels as we reflect on how they speak to our daily Christian lives. This movie was filmed during one of the "Footsteps of Jesus" pilgrimages led by Lutheran pastor and Bible teacher Bob Rognlien.

Dennis Nelson Bible Study

Weekly, published on our YouTube Channel

Wednesdays at NOON

Bible Study Outlines available on

our website: **lwlcaz.org**

Open the Door to Do More



When I came to the city of Troas to preach the Good News of Christ, the Lord opened a door of opportunity to me.

II Corinthians 2:12

Living Water's 25th Anniversary **Sunday, April 27**

10:00am Worship

5:00pm Dinner at Troon North Golf Club:

10320 E Dynamite Blvd, Scottsdale, AZ 85262

\$50.00 per person

If you haven't made a reservation yet, please register on our website:

<https://lwlcaz.org/25thanniversary/>

**Children are welcome! (ages 16 and under are free)*

**Rides are available for those who don't drive at night*

**Deadline to register is March 30*



REFUGEE CRISIS FUND DONATION NEEDS

LSS-SW has lost critical funding to help 388 refugees that recently arrived in Arizona. Your donation provides essential items to support these refugees.

CLEANING SUPPLIES

- Disinfectant Spray for Kitchen, Bathroom; Lysol Wipes
- Hand Soap, Dish Soap
- Broom, Dustpan
- Laundry Detergent

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD

- Flour, Sugar, Vegetable Oil, Black Tea Bags
- Basmati Rice
- Pasta and Sauce
- Canned Soup, Vegetables or Beans; Crackers, Cereal

HYGIENE SUPPLIES

- Toothpaste, Toothbrush
- Shampoo, Conditioner
- Body Wash, Bar Soap
- Deodorant
- Feminine Hygiene - Pads preferred
- Toilet Paper

GIFT CARDS – Visa, Frys, Walmart preferred; \$25 increments

COATS, UNDERWEAR, SOCKS,

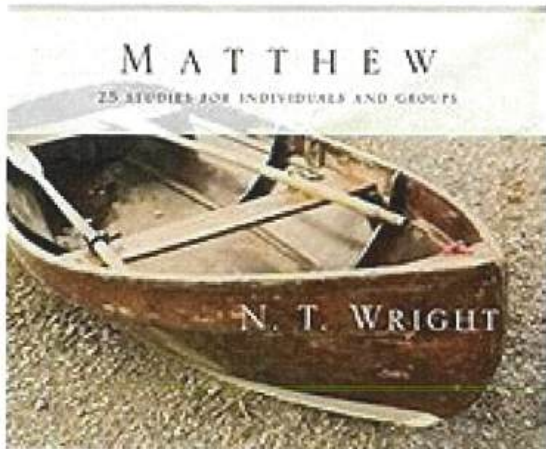
BRAS – All sizes

BABY ITEMS especially Diapers

Items can be dropped off at Living Water Lutheran. Please label them for LSS Refugee Crisis Donations and put them in the box in the church entryway.

Someone has volunteered to deliver the items to
LSS-SW Phoenix Office (2502 E. University Dr, Ste 125)

www.lss-sw.org/refugee-crisis-page



Tuesday Women's Bible Study

Join us on any Tuesday morning at 10 am MST in the Fellowship Hall, or at 10 am MST via Zoom, to continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew. We're using material from New Testament scholar, N.T. Wright.

No prior knowledge of the Bible is needed, and you don't have to be Lutheran either. Come as you can, bring a friend and your favorite Bible translation. The coffee and hot water for tea/hot chocolate will always be on. Occasionally we also have a little treat. We meet for approximately 90 minutes on Tuesday mornings and often go to lunch as a group on the last Tuesday of each month. If you're not receiving our Tuesday Women email communications, please notify myrna.ulland@gmail.com to be added.

Thank you for your generosity. Your generosity makes a difference and is helping change lives. Thank you for believing in the mission of Living Water and helping us to continue our ministry.

If you are looking for an easy way to give a financial gift via your phone, see QR code below to access Living Water's online giving platform.



*Thank
You*

Region 2

Synod 2025

40-40-40 LENTEN CHALLENGE

Pledge today
to raise funds for NELM
through LDR, get access to
LENT DEVOTIONS,
and help your Synod
win ultimate
BRAGGING RIGHTS.

Lenten Challenge for 2025

Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission (NELM) is a 70-year-old ministry of the ELCA in Rock Point, AZ where more than half of the households either do not have running water or do not have access to safe drinking water.

The 2025 Lenten Challenge supports Lutheran Disaster Relief (LDR) and our church's call to respond to nonconventional disasters including the work of NELM. The 5 synods of the ELCA Region 2 are challenging each other to raise funds through LDR in support of water projects at NELM. The synod with the most individual registrations will get bragging rights, so register all household email addresses.

THE CHALLENGE: Participate in some spiritual and physical practices during the 40 days of Lent. Each registrant should commit to 3 of the 4 practices.

The 4 practices include: Daily Devotions, Daily Dedication, Daily Diligence, and Daily Giving. Participants commit to three (or more!) of the following practices during Lent:

- **Daily Devotion** – Receive daily devotions by Pastor Bill Dohle or use ELCA World Hunger resources.
- **Daily Diligence** – Conserve water, learn about water resources, and engage with water in meaningful ways.
- **Daily Dedication** – Participate in community worship, Bible studies, or activities like water walks and World Water Day celebrations.
- **Daily Donation** – Pledge \$1/day (or more) for 40 days to Lutheran Disaster Response, benefiting NELM.

To Find out more about the 4 practices,

Go to: <https://lentenchallenge.org/the-practices>

Ready to sign up for the Lenten Challenge?

Go to: <https://lentenchallenge.org/take-action>



Moonlight and Music

Thursday, March 27 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. Tickets are \$30/person and can be purchased up until Sunday, March 23. All proceeds go toward the Youth Mission Trip. Thank you for your support of our young people who will be going to South Dakota to make a difference in the lives of the people of the Lake Traverse Reservation.

Men's Bible Breakfast

We meet on Thursdays at 8:00am

\$8 for breakfast

Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center

7415 East Elbow Bend Rd.

Carefree, AZ 85377



Piecemakers Quilting

Join us on March 5 and 19th

Come and tie quilts with us! Our quilting primarily supports Lutheran World Relief (LWR), and we also make quilts for refugee families and our high school graduates. **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. We also accept donations of 100% cotton appropriate for quilting work, as well as donations to purchase batting. Many hands make light work! Questions? Ask Lynda Cales, Kay Bonar, Mary Nyberg, Cindy Ophaug, Lois Lucas or Myrna Ulland. Learn more about this ministry at www.lwr.org

The Sunday Adult Forum continues the series on Martin Luther's Small Catechism at 9am in the Upstairs Choir Room in the Education Building. This next section is about the Lord's Prayer and will be taught on the following dates by Pastor Steve Beyer.

- March 2
- March 16,
- March 30
- April 13.



About our teacher:

Pastor Steve Beyer retired last year after 43 years of active ministry, first as a parish pastor in Brooklyn, NY, then a Navy chaplain and most recently as the lead pastor of Lord of Life in Sun City West.

He is a Navy brat who was born at NAS Jacksonville, Florida, but grew -up in Wisconsin about sixty miles from Green Bay and still considers himself a Cheesehead.

He met his wife, Toni, at church in Brooklyn and they have three grown children.

Family Sunday School



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

*Bible Point - "God is good no matter what."

*Bible Verse - "The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes" (Nahum 1:7)



- **Sunday, March 30, 9:00am** – God Helps Joseph Interpret Dreams
- **Sunday, April 13, 9:00am** – LENTEN FAIR!
- **Sunday, May 4, 9:00am** – Joseph Forgives His Brothers



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.

Prayer Squares

During the season of Lent, you will have an opportunity to pick up a prayer square when you come to worship. These are made by the knitters and crocheters of our congregation.



So, what's a prayer square? It's a piece of knitted or crocheted cloth. Placed in a pocket, backpack or purse, the prayer square serves as a reminder: a reminder to pause and pray, and also a reminder that someone has already prayed for you.



New Member Class

Saturday March 8 from 4:00 to 6:00pm.

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



If so, we would love for you to join us for an informative
Orientation and dinner learn more about Living Water
followed by dinner
on **Saturday March 8 from 4:00 to 6:00pm.**

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

via phone: **480-473-8400**

or

email: **office@lwlcaz.org**

(subject: New Member Orientation)

New Member Class on 3/8



March

BIRTHDAYS

John	Goesling	1-Mar
Sheila	Fankhauser	2-Mar
Valerie	Wachter	3-Mar
Kristin	Wanek	3-Mar
Julie	Yates	10-Mar
Dennis	Hagstrom	14-Mar
Kay	Bonar	15-Mar
Brian	Goebel	15-Mar

Rozenah	Goebel	17-Mar
Robert	Ulland	17-Mar
Karen	Weinhofer	19-Mar
Eric	Brash	22-Mar
Jeri	Pounds	22-Mar
Ted	Stump	24-Mar
Mary	Nyberg	26-Mar
Landon	Wanek	28-Mar
Erika	Diaz	30-Mar

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

The Living Water
QR code for giving:



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.