

OCTOBER 2024

Splash!

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



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Mark Rossman

PASTOR
Shari Bernau

OFFICE/COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER
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9201 E Happy Valley Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85255

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A Message from Pastor Mark

Much of what was done in the early years of the Christian Church was based on the understanding of the importance of fellowship. The gathering of Jesus and the disciples at the Last Supper was a meal shared and in those early years of Christianity such feasts were commonplace. The whole idea of getting together to spend quality time with other people of the faith was pretty much the center of their lives together. While those beginnings have been transformed into our Sunday morning worship, there is a certain aspect of those early gatherings that have remained in our communities of faith. Another quasi-Lutheran type of celebration is the celebration of Oktoberfest. The German Oktoberfest celebration has become closely knit to Lutheranism because of its Bavarian Germanic beginnings. The variety of foods coupled with the opportunity to sit and celebrate life along with the bounty of the harvest is at the center of this ongoing gathering.

On Reformation Sunday, October 27, following worship, we all will have the opportunity to celebrate the Scottsdale, Arizona version of Oktoberfest with our Reformation Day Potluck. Thanks to the work of our Great Gatherings Team will have the chance to share in a variety of delicious culinary delicacies.

That is part of the joy of being in a community. In a community we are able to take on tasks that would be daunting and turn them into something easy and in this case, a great deal of fun. In a community we are able to do things that would be impossible for an individual to accomplish, and together are able to make the workload quite light. In a community we are able to care for the needs of one another that would never happen if we were out there on our own.

Community is a central theme of the church and of Living Water. In our community we can accomplish the impossible. In our community we can see things through that we would not be able to handle alone. In our community we can do the ministry of God in a way that would not and could not happen if we tried it alone. In our community, we can celebrate life in a way that simply is not possible to do on our own. With the help of God, in our community we can do anything – anything at all.

As it is with all times of our lives, there will be many unexpected and unanticipated challenges we will be facing in the days and months to come. But when we do gather to take on a task, what we find is that we turn a challenge into a celebration. For in that which we do together as God's people, we celebrate such opportunities that have been set before us. As a community, when we work together, when we each take a piece of the greater task, when we all band together for a common goal, with God's help there is nothing, absolutely nothing we cannot accomplish.

Pastor Mark

Ask Zeke



OCTOBER

Living Water's 24/7 office fish encourages you to check out the Adult Forum

Q. I always look forward to Living Water's Adult Forum. When will it start up?

A. You'll be happy to know that Living Water's Sunday morning Adult Forum resumes on the first Sunday in October. As usual, it meets in the Choir Room on the second floor of the Education Building and starts at 9:00.

Over the years, Living Water's Sunday morning Adult Forum has featured an array of presentations given by a variety of different people: our pastors, members of the congregation, and outside speakers. Our congregation is fortunate to have several retired pastors worshipping alongside us on Sunday mornings. Many of them have kindly shared their theological knowledge and Biblical understanding with Adult Forum attendees. One of these retired pastors, the Rev. Dennis D. Nelson, will kick off this year's Adult Forum with a two-week study in October followed by a four-week series in November and December.

The October study — "Life Is Hard But God Is Good" — is scheduled for Oct. 6 and 20.

It focuses on the letters that Paul wrote to two young, struggling pastors: Timothy and Titus. As Pastor Dennis explains, "Paul's words to them of encouragement, support, and specific instructions will also help and speak to us as we face the never-ending challenges of life."

The four-part series in November and December is entitled "A Man After God's Own Heart." This study will focus on David. The dates are Nov. 3 and 17 followed by Dec. 1 and 15.

If you're not familiar with this interesting learning opportunity, it's well worth coming to Living Water a little earlier on the Sundays that the Adult Forum meets. Pastor Dennis is a great teacher, and the accompanying slides assembled by his wife Terry add a lot to these presentations. Be sure to set your alarm clock an hour earlier!

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.

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive
Living Water Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall
9201 E. Happy Valley Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Wednesday, October 23, 2024
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

To schedule your appointment or for more information,
please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit redcrossblood.org and use Sponsor Code: LivingWater



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**Treat yourself! Come to give in Oct. for a \$10 Gift Card
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Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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YOU ARE INVITED

Volunteer Appreciation lunch

Please join us for lunch, a special gift, and
meaningful conversation.
*gluten free options available.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 - 11:15AM

Please rsvp to the church office by October
13: 480-473-8400 or office@lwlc az.org



Reformation Potluck Luncheon

Sunday
October 27
Following Service

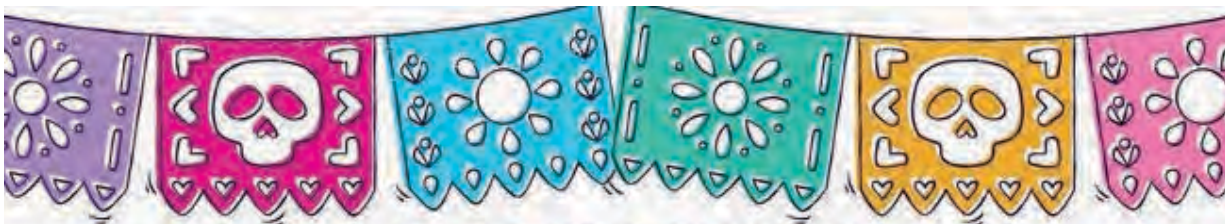


*If you enjoy good food, laughter and
the convivial company of friends...*

Please bring your favorite dish – a main, side or dessert – to share at a good old-fashioned Lutheran Potluck in celebration of Reformation Day. Coffee & tea will be served, and you may bring a beverage of your choice – soft drink, beer or wine. Activities will be available for children.

Sign-up will be in the Narthex, beginning Sunday, September 29. For questions, please call Marty Lindert at 602-284-5704 or Linda Hoenig at 480-766-0816.

All are welcome!



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3



Everyone is invited to participate by setting up a 2x2 ft display in honor of your loved ones. Set up will take place at 9:00am on Sunday, November 3. Feel free to contact Pastor Shari if you have any questions: pastorshari@lwlcaz.org



Church Council Highlights September 2024

The Church council met on September 16 th to address several continuing and new agenda items.

Our insurance policies are up for renewal shortly. To remain compliant, we have updated our "Child and Youth Protection Policies."

Council member Jim King attended a Congregational Security Webinar. Living Water is up to date on security and emergency medical procedures. Fortunately, there have been no credible security threats in the Valley.

Council approved a \$1,000 contribution to the Grand Canyon Synod Retirees Retreat.

Treasurer Steve Umland reported that our year-to-date financial figures remain positive to budget. As always, this is affected by the timing of expenses and contributions.

In the continuing process of keeping the church property updated (which has recently included painting and tree trimming), landscape rock will be added to the parking lot islands and the irrigation system will be fine-tuned.

Living Water will celebrate 25 years as a congregation in the Spring of 2025. In anticipation of this milestone, a planning committee has been formed.

Dennis Nelson Bible Study

Weekly, published on our YouTube Channel

Wednesdays at NOON

Bible Study Outlines 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

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 helps people in need."

*Bible Verse - "Give all your

worries and cares to God for he cares about you." (1 Peter 5:7)



Sunday, October 13, 9:00am – Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

Sunday, November 3, 9:00am – Jesus Heals 10 Men with Leprosy

Sunday, November 24 – ADVENT FAIR!

Sunday, December 8, 9:00am – Jesus Feeds People

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.



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 October 12th 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

October 12th, 4-6PM

Tuesday Women's Bible Study Returns

Join us beginning Tuesday, Oct. 1, when we resume our regular Tuesday morning in-person and virtual Zoom connection Bible study at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin with the 3-session study on *After Certainty* from the Gather magazine summer issues, May/June and July/August. This study was written by ELCA pastor and now Bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod, Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni. Drawing from Biblical texts and Lutheran tradition, we'll ponder what it means to live faithfully in times of uncertainty. And we'll see how God leads us beyond certainty to curiosity, community and compassion. Study material will be provided if you don't have your copies of the Gather magazine. (This is the study we attempted to do at Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center on July 23 before Myrna got delayed trying to get out of New Orleans after the Youth Gathering!)



Then, beginning on October 1, we are going to return to a favorite New Testament scholar, N.T. Wright, to take a deep dive into the Gospel of Matthew. This material will nearly fill up our schedule until Spring of 2025. We'll look at the structure and artistry of Matthew, how Matthew presents Jesus as God with us, authoritative over heaven and earth.

We'll trace themes of Jesus' authority throughout the Gospel, consider how to apply the new way of life as Jesus describes it, and discover faith as the appropriate human response to Jesus' message.

Both studies include some video, and we always include some meditative music and prayer. You don't need to purchase any material. Just bring your favorite Bible translation and connect with us for about 90 minutes each Tuesday morning. Coffee and hot water for tea/hot chocolate are provided. Occasionally we also have a treat! If you aren't on our email distribution list, please contact myrna.ulland@gmail.com to get our Tuesday Women messages. The Zoom link is always provided in advance.

Piecemakers Quilting

NEXT MEETING October 2, 2024



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 usually meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, from 9 am to about noon, in the Education Building on the first floor. **The next meeting will be October 2nd.**

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 Lynda Cales, Kay Bonar, Mary Nyberg, Cindy Ophaug or Myrna Ulland. Learn more about this ministry at www.lwr.org

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*

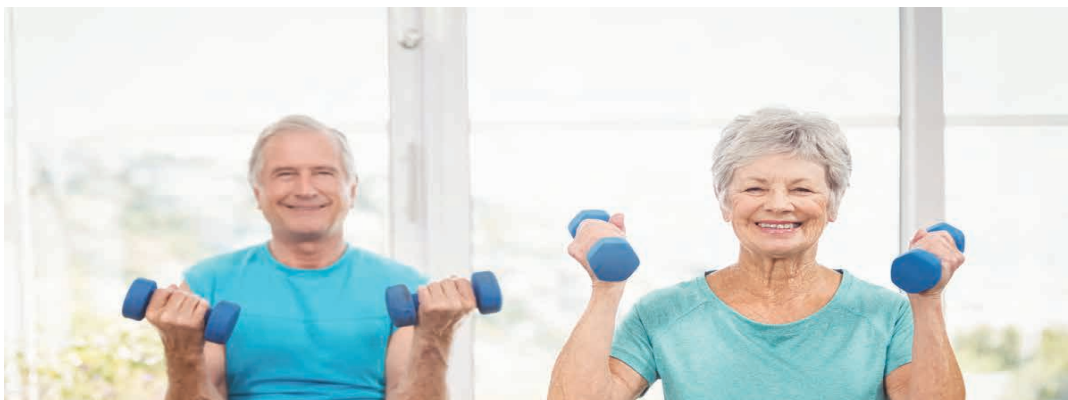


“Aging and Transitioning”

How do we get the information we need to make informed decisions about major life events as we age? What is the difference between private in-home care and assisted living care? Is community style living the right decision for me or my loved one? How much does each of these choices cost? What does Medicare pay for?

Join us for a free information session on Saturday, November 2, 2024, 1:00pm to 2:30pm, at Living Water Lutheran Church, to get answers to these questions and more. Mari Murrin, Concierge Placement Consultant at Senior Care Arizona, with over 18 years of experience in the field of home health in Arizona, will present basic information about care options for you and for your loved ones and will answer your questions about choosing the right care.

Please join us to learn about how best to discern the right choice for you and your family through aging and transitioning.





Sing to the Lord a new song! Our Living Water choir has begun for the 2024-2025 season and all are invited to come sing. Rehearsals are at 7:00pm in the Psalms room of the Education building. Hope you'll join us!

For more information, contact Christina Hall: chall@lwlcaz.org

CONFIRMATION

At baptism, God claims us as His children. We were given the free gift of membership in the family of God and set apart for God's work in the world. Most of us were baptized as children, possibly too young to fully grasp what was happening. We were also too young to take on the full responsibilities of membership in God's kingdom. Our parents and sponsors took on the responsibilities of those promises for us. On Sunday, November 10th, nine of our Confirmation Students, after learning and completing the confirmation program requirements, will affirm these promises, and profess their faith.



October birthdays

| | | |
|-----------|------------|--------|
| James | King | 3-Oct |
| Davis | Shelmire | 3-Oct |
| Lily | Shelmire | 3-Oct |
| Janelle | Swenson | 3-Oct |
| Marcia | Page | 4-Oct |
| Michelle | Ruha | 4-Oct |
| Julie Ann | Walker | 4-Oct |
| Larry | Coutts | 9-Oct |
| Joy | Gallimore | 9-Oct |
| Kip | Wachter | 9-Oct |
| Donna | Pettengill | 10-Oct |
| Julie | Anderson | 11-Oct |
| Mason | Rossmann | 11-Oct |
| Barb | Bremer | 12-Oct |
| Ronald | Ophaug | 12-Oct |

| | | |
|---------|----------------|--------|
| Lisa | Seeper | 14-Oct |
| Kaden | Roos | 15-Oct |
| Barbara | Brooks | 16-Oct |
| Zoey | Orow | 16-Oct |
| Maxine | Orane | 17-Oct |
| Marcia | Lindert | 17-Oct |
| Claudia | Igras | 18-Oct |
| Gordon | Lindert | 18-Oct |
| Aubrey | Coutts-Donavon | 19-Oct |
| Lynda | Cadden | 23-Oct |
| Darnell | Pettengill | 24-Oct |
| Mike | Sadler | 24-Oct |
| Matt | Wanek | 26-Oct |
| Diane | Sundquist | 27-Oct |
| Michael | Alberti | 28-Oct |
| Miriam | Bernau | 30-Oct |
| Tim | Mouer | 31-Oct |
| Jaida | Seeper | 31-Oct |



Happy Birthday!!

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@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.

