



February 23, 2025

Plan ahead to join us for

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.

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline — *Tuesdays at NOON*

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



We Remember in Our Prayers

- ALL impacted by the Los Angeles, CA Wildfires
- Jeff & Eric Bemby (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 Dubsky (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
- Mark Jacobson (brother of Lance Jacobson)—Health Concerns
- Dick Johnston—Health Concerns
- Dan Kempf (Brother of Myrna Ulland)—Stroke
- 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
- Ruth Schlesinger—Health Concern
- Kristen Stenehjem (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehjem)—Health Concerns
- Bob Ulland—Health Concerns
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Peter Vasillades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Family and Friends of Mark Jacobson (brother of Lance Jacobson)
- Family and Friends of Ruth Schlesinger
- Family and Friends of Maria Tillotson

Send your prayer requests to prayer@lwalcaz.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.*

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
\$8 for breakfast

Dennis Nelson Bible Study

Studies available on YouTube each **Wednesday**

Weekly, published on our YouTube Channel

Wednesdays at NOON

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

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.



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:

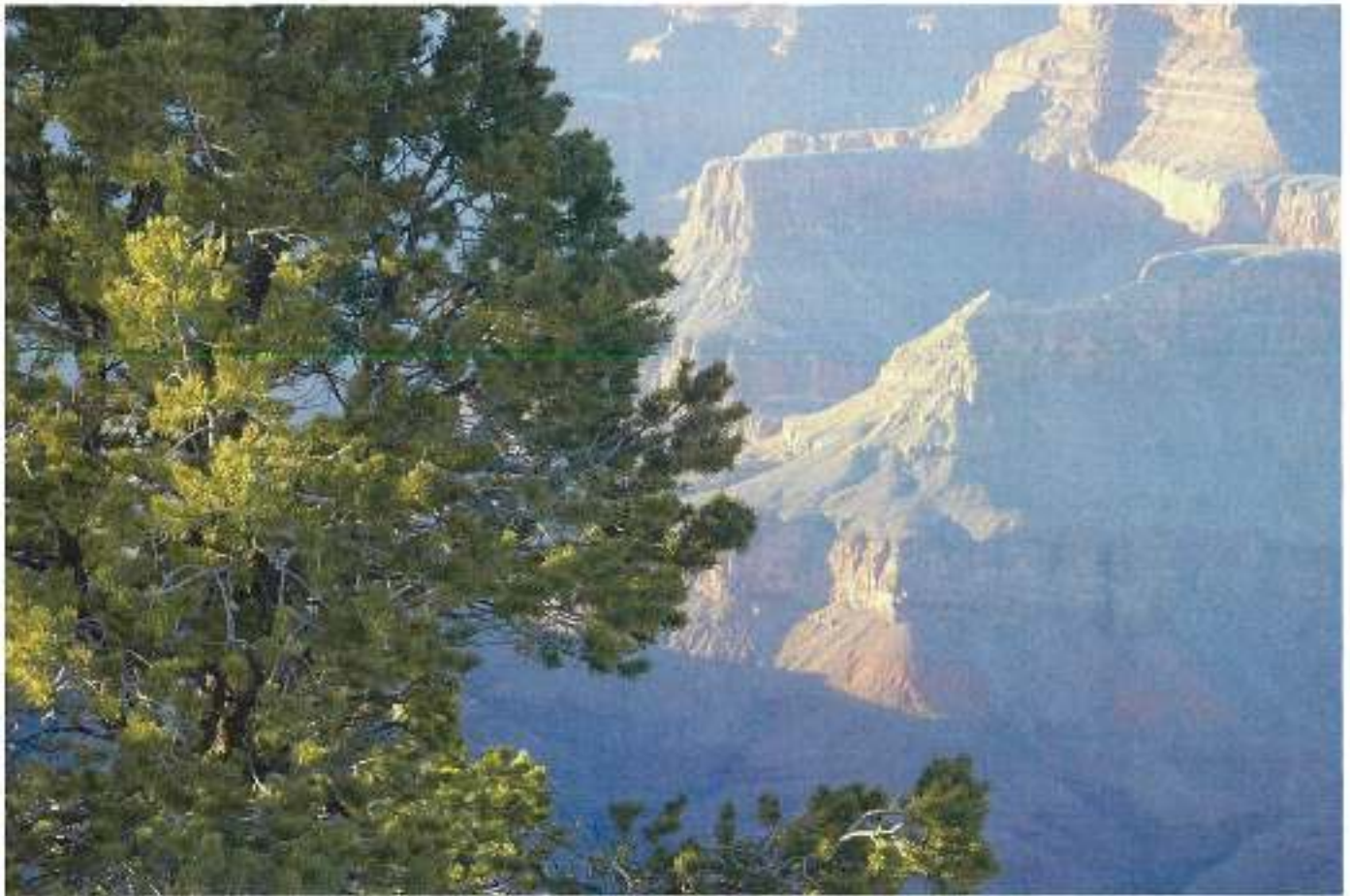
- **Daily Devotion** – Receive daily devotions by Pastor Bill Dohle or use ELCA World Hunger resources.
- **Daily Diligence** – Conserve water, learn about water resources, and engage with water in meaningful ways.
- **Daily Dedication** – Participate in community worship, Bible studies, or activities 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>



Deepen your connection to our Grand Canyon Synod

Sign up for the Synod Newsletter!

You are invited to subscribe to the Grand Canyon weekly synod e-newsletter. It arrives in your in-box every Friday morning at 8 a.m. The newsletter offers a wealth of stories from congregations and ministries within our synod, uplifting tales of faith in action, and insights into the work being done at the ground level within our broader church. The newsletter also brings you news from the partner ministries and organizations at the synod level, Region 2, the wider ELCA, and even updates from the global church, including Lutheran World Federation.

Be inspired by the work of others and help us weave a tighter fabric of community across our synod and beyond. Click one of the links below to subscribe:

[Get our newsletter — Grand Canyon Synod of the ELCA](https://www.gcsynod.org/newsletter)

<https://www.gcsynod.org/newsletter>

REMINDER:

For on-line giving at Living Water please visit **LWLCaz.org** and Click on **“Online Giving.”**

This will provide navigation for both new users to this method and allow editing for current users to update their intentions for 2025.



Tuesday Women's Bible Study

Join us on any Tuesday morning at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall, or at 10 am 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. If you're not receiving our Tuesday Women email communications, please notify [myrna.ulland@gmail](mailto:myrna.ulland@gmail.com) to be added. Our December schedule will be December 3rd through the 17th.

Living Water's "Hunger Jar"

The large Hunger Jar is in the sanctuary during services, to the right of the water fountain. Offerings placed in the Hunger Jar are typically distributed 50/50 between local and international/global organizations or initiatives.



The Service and Caring Team Ministry at LWLC periodically determines how to distribute offerings to the Hunger Jar. Most recently, we split the 12/31/24 balance of **\$1,899.00** between Foothills Food Bank and ELCA World Hunger. Each received \$944.50.

You are invited to make an offering to the Hunger Jar while the offering is being collected during the worship service. While the jar's tag line says, "Change for Change," your offering can be coins, bills, and even checks. And, if you prefer, you can donate through LWLC's online donation option and indicate "Hunger Jar."

From time to time, you may also see smaller Hunger Jar collection jars elsewhere in the church as we gather for worship. Each offering placed in the Hunger Jar is a reminder that our hungry neighbors, near and far, benefit from our generosity. Thank you!

Today's altar flowers
were arranged by
Julie Ann Walker
in celebration of the life of
Ken Walker



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

Stand with Refugees

LSS - SW Statement on False Accusations

For generations, Lutherans have answered the call to serve our most vulnerable neighbors. That unwavering commitment remains at the heart of everything we do at Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest.

Since 1970, we have stood alongside refugees seeking safety, children and families in need, people experiencing homelessness, and older adults. Through strong public-private partnerships, we provide essential services that bring hope, stability, and dignity to those we serve.

False accusations recently surfaced on social media, alleging that Lutheran organizations misuse government funds. These claims are not just untrue, they disregard the decades of faithful service that Lutheran organizations like LSS-SW have provided. For over 50 years, we have welcomed legally admitted refugees, cared for the most vulnerable in our communities, and upheld the highest standards of accountability and transparency. The work we do is honest, necessary, and life changing.

We encourage you to help us combat this false narrative by sharing your support for our work to your congregation, colleagues, friends, family, and network.

Calling on congregations for your support

The combination of the stop-work-order and executive order has **cut off critical funding overnight**, leaving 130 families who have already arrived in Tucson and Phoenix in immediate jeopardy. There are currently 388 refugees within their first 90 days of arrival, who have been left behind. **You are their lifeline now.** These are families who have fled war, persecution, and unimaginable hardship, only to now face uncertainty in the very place they hoped to find refuge.

Here are the best ways your congregation can support these refugee neighbors:

- **Share information to dispel misunderstanding. See Talking Points handout.**
- **Collect needed items. See Donation flyer.**



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 either of our office locations:

- Phoenix Office: 2502 E University Drive, Suite 125, 85034
- Tucson Office: 3364 E Grant Road, 85716

Please let us know if you are dropping off a donation by emailing:
donations@lss-sw.org

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

Blood Drive

Living Water Lutheran Church

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

Wednesday, February 26, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For more information or to make an appointment,
please call the American Red Cross at 1(800) 733-2767
or log onto redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: LivingWater



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

**Create a flurry of hope! Come give blood Jan. 27 to Feb.
28 for a \$15 e gift card rcblood.org/flurry**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Bible Study with Pastor Dennis D. Nelson
Soup Supper 5:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Worship 7:00pm

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.

Legacy Giving Presentation

We hope you have benefited from reading the articles on legacy giving that have appeared in the Connections over the past several months. Please join us on Sunday March 16 at 11 am in the Education Building to hear tax efficient ways to consider a legacy gift in your estate planning. While we recognize you may already have a generosity plan or trust, Lisa Higginbotham, an ELCA Legacy Giving specialist, will speak to applicable legislation and other ideas that will help you leave your best gift to your loved ones and your beloved nonprofit organizations. Refreshments will be available in the Education Building prior to the start of the presentation.

*The Legacy Giving Committee: Steve Umland, Lance Jacobson,
Darnell Pettengill & Pastor Mark Rossman*



Piecemakers Quilting

Join us on March 7

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

LWLC BOOK DRIVE NEVER ENDS!

Yes, this project has received great summer support during Vacation Bible School. However, please note we have a Book Drive basket located in the narthex all year poised to serve the needs of Phoenix social service agencies. New or gently used books are made available to babies through adults.

As a reminder, cookbooks and magazines with recipes continue to be requested. The chapel at UMOM New Day Centers is especially grateful for religious publications for children (and also adults.)

(Questions? Contact Sue Brash, 602-317-9444, or suebrash7@gmail.com)

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

Troon North Golf Club

10320 E. Dynamite Blvd.

Scottsdale, AZ 85262

\$50.00 per person

Reservations through February

Reserve your spot today!

Gathering Hymn... "I Come With Joy"



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread,
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Psalm 37:1-5



- 1 Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong. *Refrain.*
- 2-3 For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.
Put your trust in the Lord and do good. *Refrain.*
- 4-5 Take delight in the Lord,
who shall give you your heart's desire.
Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord.
Refrain.

Sermon Hymn... "God, When Human Bonds Are Broken"



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
set us free and grant us peace.
God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kuan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Mook, 1823-1889

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Sending Song... "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

Refrain

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,

2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,

3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;

4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

Refrain
mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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LIVING WATER

Living Water
Lutheran Church



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

The Living Water
QR code for giving:



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

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)

Publication Deadlines:

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

