

CONNECTIONS



Living Water
Lutheran Church



March 2, 2025



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



Ash Wednesday is this week.
Join us for service on Wednesday
March 5th at 7:00pm

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—*Tuesdays at NOON*

We Remember in Our Prayers

- 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.*

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***

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.

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.





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>

Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup Suppers will be held prior to Bible Study and Lenten Worship on
March 12, 19, 26
April 2 and 9th
Serving starts at 5:30 pm

A different Ministry Team prepares and serves each Wednesday. A free will offering is requested, going to Vista del Camino Community Center and for Fellowship Team kitchen supplies.

These simple suppers are wonderful opportunities for Fellowship, nourishment, and preparation for worship and acknowledgement of our Ministry Teams. Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center is providing soup and bread at one of the Suppers as well.

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!

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.

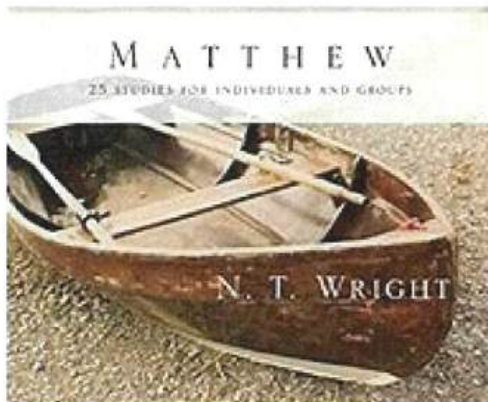


About our teacher:

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.



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](mailto:myrna.ulland@gmail.com) to be added.



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.

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



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.**
- **Form a co-sponsor team of 3-5 volunteers to be paired with a newly arrived refugee family**
- **Gather a special collection or issue an emergency grant. Mail checks to: Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest, 2502 E. University Drive, Suite 125, Phoenix, AZ 85034**
- **or make checks directly to Living Water and indicate “LSS SW Refugees” in the memo line.**
- **Visit LSS-SW’s Refugee Crisis webpage: <https://www.lss-sw.org/refugee-crisis-church-toolkit>**
- **Listen again to Pr. Mark’s sermon message from 2/9/25, starting at minute 37: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Bh3rL69-ZI>**



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

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.

Boldcafe Monthly Dinner is the first Thursday of every month at 7:00PM CST. Register at <https://boldcafe.org/dinner>. (B.Y.O.D.). March 6 at 7:00pm is the next one.

Sunday, March 2nd is BOLD WOMEN SUNDAY!!
Celebrate the bold women in your life!

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

Today's altar flowers
were donated by
Lynda Cales
in memory of
David Cales





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

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 at Troon North Golf Club:

10320 E Dynamite Blvd, Scottsdale, AZ 85262

\$50.00 per person

If you haven't made a reservation yet, register here: [Living Water 25th Anniversary Registration - April 27 -](#)

**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*

Gathering Hymn... "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



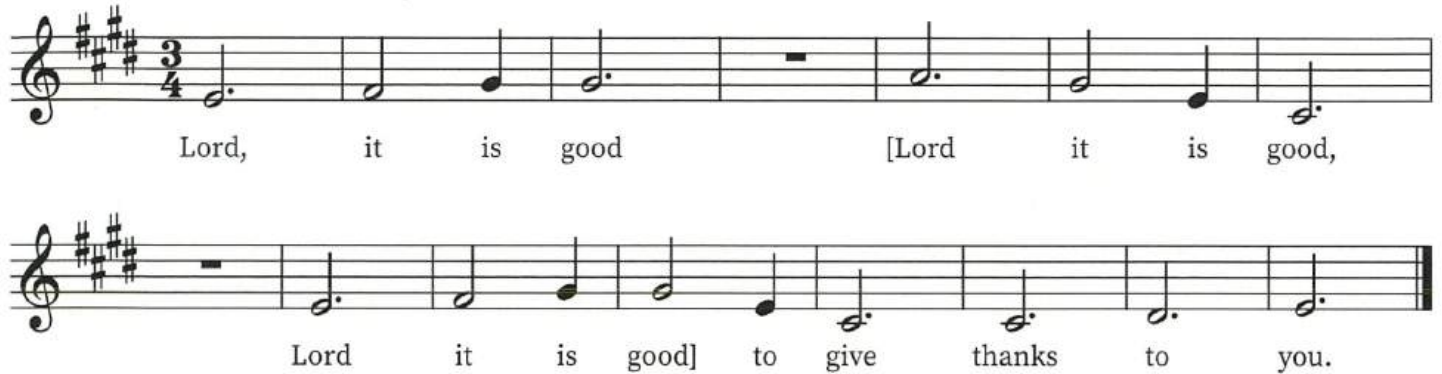
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

Psalm 92: 2-3, 13-16



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for verses 2-3: "Lord, it is good [Lord it is good,". The second staff contains the melody for verses 13-16: "Lord it is good] to give thanks to you." The lyrics are written below the notes.

2-3 It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, Most High, to proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night. *Refrain.*

13-14 The just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. *Refrain.*

15-16 They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be, declaring how just is the Lord, my rock, in whom there is no wrong. *Refrain.*

Sermon Hymn... "How Good, Lord, to be Here"



- 1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
- 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
- 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
- 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
- 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

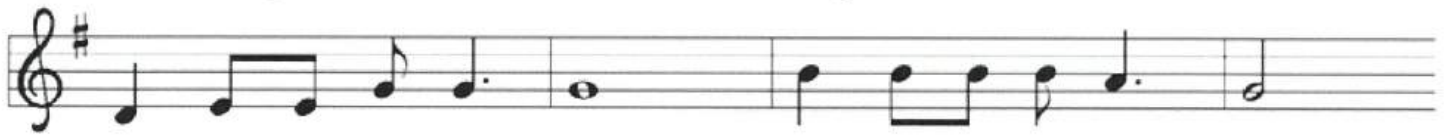
Sending Song... "This Little Light of Mine"



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

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

