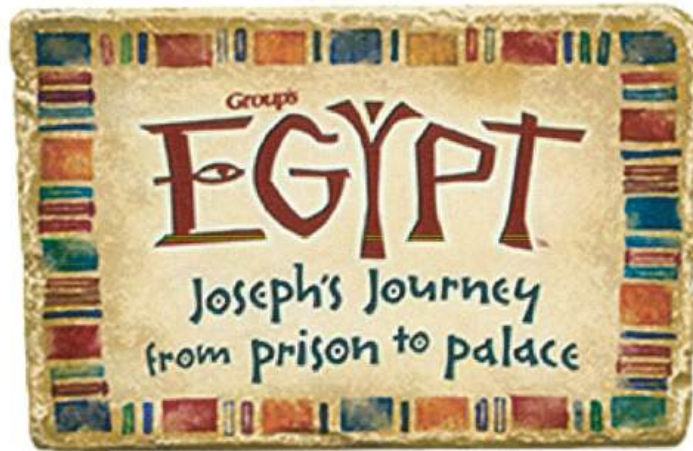


CONNECTIONS

March 9, 2025

Living Water
Lutheran Church



Registration is now open for our 2025 Vacation Bible School program. Join us the week of June 16 for a week filled with great Bible stories, fun games, awesome crafts, fabulous music and a delicious take-home snack.



Date: June 16-20

Time: 9 - 11:30am



Go to <https://lwlcaz.org/vbs2025/> or click on the Education tab on our church website to register. We welcome children age 4 through 6th grade. Registration is free and every child receives a one-of-a-kind soft and comfortable t-shirt. Please spread the word to your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors.

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Kris Crow at kcrow737@gmail.com. Youth going into 7th grade in the fall through age 90+ are invited to participate. You won't want to miss this amazing multi-generational event!

Sunday worship service is at 10:00am
on-site and online

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—*Tuesdays at NOON*



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 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
- Kyle and Tyler Hornacek (Grandsons 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
- Jill Knorra—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 (Niece 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

Send your prayer requests to prayer@lwlcw.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 **LWLC.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 9
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 16,
- March 30
- April 13.

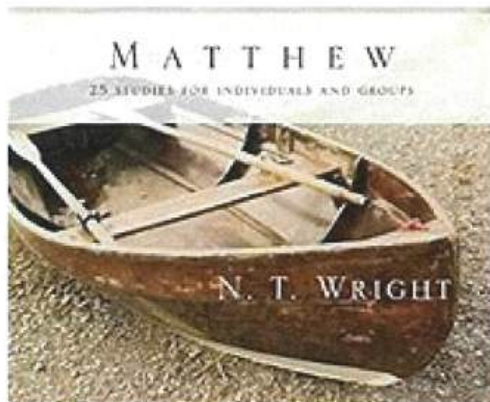


About our teacher:

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.

Medical Lending Library

Collections: March 23 & 30 right here

Donate your used medical devices: walkers, commode, wheelchair, crutches, hospital bed plus adult depends and unopened over the counter vitamins.

These will be used by our partner La Sagrada Familia's uninsured/low income church members.

Northeast Valley Consortium

Bottle Drive



Clean, used or
NEW reusable
water bottles are
being collected.

Collection Date:

03.22.25

Drop-off Location:

Bring to the walk or deposit
at your own church.

**LET'S HELP
HYDRATE OTHERS
IN NEED IN THE
DESERT HEAT.**



**NORTHEAST
VALLEY
CONSORTIUM**



Thank you for
supporting us with
your donation!



WALK FOR WATER

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025
AT 9:00 AM



LOCATION

Gateway Trail Head in the
McDowell Sonoran Preserve.
18333 N. Thompson Peak Parkway,
Scottsdale, AZ85255
(between Legacy Blvd and Bell Rd)

ACCESSIBILITY:

Barrier-free trailhead and accessible trails for every age and ability

- Wheelchairs and strollers welcome on the Bajada Nature Trail 0.25 or 0.5 mile loop
- Other trails of different lengths and difficulty are available

AMENITIES:

- ✓ Parking
- ✓ Restrooms
- ✓ Shade
- ✓ Water Fill Stations
- ✓ Trail Maps
- ✓ Interpretive Signage

DONATE ❤️

Navaj 
Lutheran Mission

Walkers may be sponsored in lump sum donations. Monies raised support the water project at NELM.

Don't forget

Sunscreen, water bottle, hat, sturdy walking or hiking shoes and your spirit of friendship



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.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BLOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who donated to last week's Red Cross Blood Drive. There is always a need for blood, and the 32 units donated last Wednesday will make a difference to 32 people. Many of the 29 donors came from the surrounding community. It is terrific that we can open our doors to facilitate this meaningful work. Stay tuned for sign-up information regarding our Thursday, May 22nd blood drive.

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
Sue Stenehjem



"In memory of my beloved husband
Leland Stenehjem"

Piecemakers Quilting

Join us on March 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



Peter's Hope

THANK YOU

For Your Support

Dear Living Water Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for your recent donation to Peter's Hope! We truly appreciate your commitment to educating children & empowering women in the Bambari community.

With your help, we continue partnering with Peter to provide education to more than 150 children, as well as teaching marketable skills to students at the Women's Empowerment Center. We could not do it without you!

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Christine Ayusa
Admin. Asst., Peter's Hope



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF (LWR) PERSONAL CARE KITS COLLECTION DURING LENT

It's that time again! Living Water's annual drive to collect items to fill Personal Care Kits for LWR. The list of items needed for each kit is below.

ONE light-weight bath-size towel, dark color recommended. Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use. Bath towels vary in size. The **52" X 27" size is the maximum size.** 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.

TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping.

ONE adult-size toothbrush in original packaging*

ONE sturdy comb, wide-toothed preferred. Remove packaging. NO pocket combs or picks.

ONE metal nail clippers (attached file is optional), remove packaging.

Please give new items only. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name. Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

All items should be new and in good condition.

*toothbrush multi-packs may be used; we seal them in an business-sized envelope during the kit making process

Collection bin is in the church entryway throughout the weeks of Lent, through Palm Sunday. Bring in a full kit, or any components. We will shop for any items needed, using a Thrivent Action Team grant as well as any money donations directed to "Personal Care Kits." Thank you for supporting this annual Lenten project of our Service and Caring Ministry Team. Questions? Please ask Ron and Cindy Ophaug or Myrna and Bob Ulland.



Special Concert featuring **LA CHILDREN'S CHORUS**

Sunday, April 6

End of the worship service.

Support the 32 families who lost their homes in the LA fires by donating through this link or QR code:



www.lachildrenschorus.org/fire-relief/



Church Choir Rehearsals for Holy Week and Easter



We are looking for church members who would like to sing with the choir during Holy Week and Easter Sunday!

Rehearsals are after each Lenten service on **Wednesdays**.
(**approx. 7:45pm**)

Speak or email Christina Hall (challe@lwlc.org)
if you have any questions.

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*

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)

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.

Gathering Hymn... "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - 'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Psalm 91



Be with me, Lord, when I am in trou-ble.

[Be with me, Lord.]

1-2 You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the almighty, say to the Lord, "My refuge and [my] fortress, my God in whom I trust." *Refrain.*

10-11 No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent, For to his angels he has given command about you, that they guard you in all [in all] your ways. [All your ways.] *Refrain.*

12-13 Upon their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the asp and the viper; you shall trample down the lion and the dragon. *Refrain.*

14-15 Because he clings to me, I will deliver him; I will set him on high because he acknowledges my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in distress; I will deliver him and glorify him. *Refrain.*

Sermon Hymn... "Oh Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838-1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Sending Song... "Bless Now, O God, The Journey"



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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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

