

APRIL 2025

# Splash!

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



PASTOR  
Mark Rossman

PASTOR  
Shari Bernoli

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## CONTENTS

*Prayer List*

*Pastor's Message*

*Ask Zeke*

*Studies & Retreats*

*News & Events*



9201 E Happy Valley Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85255

# *We Remember in Our Prayers*

- o ALL impacted by the Los Angeles, CA Wildfires
- o Amanda (Cherrie Heidemann-Oglesby's Daughter)—Health Concerns
- o Bill Anderson—Upcoming Surgery
- o Jeff & Eric Bembry (Friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
- o Charlie Boyd—Health Concerns
- o Terry Brooke (Daughter of Maria Tillotson)—Health Concerns
- o Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- o Lizzy Caddow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- o Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- o Katie Dawson (Daughter of Tod and Bonnie Dawson)—Health Concerns
- o Pastor Michael Dubsky (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Health Concerns
- o Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Bret Stone)—Health Concerns
- o Sheila Fankhauser—Back Surgery
- o Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- o Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- o Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- o Vicki Grimsley (Mother of Mason Rossman)—Cancer
- o Kyle and Tyler Homacek (Grandsons of John and Sue Homacek)—Life Concerns
- o Carol Jacobson—Recovering from Surgery
- o Dick Johnston—Health Concerns
- o Dan Kempl (Brother of Myrna Ulland)—In Hospice
- o Kristin Klarkowski—Health Concerns
- o Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- o Jill Knorra—Health Concerns
- o Michael Koch (Grandson of Ron & Shirley Koch)—Health Concerns
- o Gabriele Laudenschlager—Health Concerns
- o Betty McCarthy (Sister of Stephen McCarthy)—Health Concerns
- o Prentice Powers (Marty Lindert's brother)—Health Concerns
- o Rebecca (Melissa Freesh's sister)—Health Concerns
- o Bonnie Roberts—Life Concerns
- o Kathie Roegnik—Health Concerns
- o Del Rogge—Heart Concerns
- o Pastor Mark Rossman—Health Concerns
- o Kristen Stenehjerm (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehjerm)—Health Concerns
- o Bob Ulland—Health Concerns
- o Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- o Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- o Friends and Family of Dan Bonar
- o Friends and Family of Jim Tonneson



*Send your prayer requests to [prayer@lwlcaz.org](mailto: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 Mark

The comedian Jim Gaffigan does a fantastic bit about the celebration of Easter and all that is wrapped around it. He takes a sarcastic look at the fact that part of this celebration is about chocolate, decorated eggs, and a rabbit. Gaffigan's sarcasm stems from a lack of understanding as to why these three items are tied to Jesus Christ and the resurrection. I must admit there is a little gap in my mind when it comes to that level of Easter knowledge. Most of the household traditions that surround Easter celebrations are of the type that I have no idea as to where they came from. And so, I did a bit of research.

The origin of Easter Bunny is thought to be found in Germany, but not part of a Christian celebration. The Easter bunny has its roots really in the pagan times. Anglo-Saxons were the first ones to celebrate the festival of Easter as a month-long celebration. They celebrated this festival with great pomp and vigor to commemorate their Goddess Ostara, who was responsible for offspring, fruitfulness and of springtime. In fact, the name Easter along with the presence of a bunny has its history related to this Goddess too. Easter was originally a celebration of Eostre, goddess of Spring, otherwise known as Ostara, Austrá, and Eastre. One of the most revered aspects of Ostara for both ancient and modern observers is a spirit of renewal. This Goddess was always seen with her bunny rabbit as a pet. Thus, the name of this festival Easter was linked up with a bunny. According to legend, it is believed that Ostara changed her pet bird into a bunny in order to entertain little children and in return, this little bunny laid colorful eggs for them. Thus, this is the Origin of the Easter Bunny with its colorful eggs.

For me there is the story of a bunny that is all about Easter. It is not some oversized egg deliverer but rather Barrington Bunny. In this Martin Bell classic children's story, the setting is Christmas, but in the end the sacrifice and the gift of life for others is all about Holy Week and Easter.

It is a story that reminds us of the gift of life and how we all can share that gift with the world around us. It also returns us to the understanding that the whole world is our family. And that is a concept that we seem to have misplaced.

Add another bunny to your celebration. Read about what Barrington learns and what he gives. If you have read it before, it certainly deserves another reading. It is a story that reminds us about the precious value of the gifts of life and love. It is a story that reminds us that our lives are gifts - gifts to be given and shared with others. These are gifts that certainly are the center piece of our lives - our relationship with God and of the gift we celebrate in the Resurrection of his Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16.

Easter Blessings,

*Pastor Mark*



# Ask Zeke



APRIL

## *Living Water's 24/7 office fish delves into LWLC's early years*

**Q. Where did LWLC members worship prior to the first service on this campus on Palm Sunday in 2003?**

**A.** It was an exciting time for the Rev. Tim Selbo back in 1997. As LWLC's founding pastor says, "It's not everyday that a pastor gets an opportunity to help launch a brand-new congregation. When I was asked to be the mission pastor, we had no people, owned no land, and didn't have a place secured to begin worship." He accepted the challenge and with God's blessing – and his wife Lorrie's support and behind-the-scenes help along the way – proceeded to launch a new congregation.

Beginning in May of 1997, Pastor Tim started spreading the word about a new congregation and knocking on thousands of doors. He eventually found a place to worship: a room at the Terravita Activity Center. LWLC's first worship service was held there on Christmas Eve in 1997. As the fledgling flock continued to increase, the congregation moved to Grayhawk Elementary School in October of 1998. The growing congregation later moved to the Boys and Girls Club in August of 2001. Then finally, after nearly 5 1/2 years in temporary quarters, the nomadic congregation joyfully worshiped in its new church home for the first time on Palm Sunday in 2003.

During those early years, the many items needed for worship filled the Selbo's garage and home. Every week, these items – boxes of song books, communion supplies, flowers for the altar, sound systems, speakers, signs, and other things – were loaded into Pastor Tim's small truck. At each of the three early locations, he created a designated team that would arrive early and unpacked his truck. These volunteers set up the altar table, chairs, the sound system, the welcome table, and whatever else was needed. After worship, Pastor Tim could count on the teams to put everything back in his truck. And once again, the garage was filled to the gills until the following week.

As he looks back, Pastor Tim recalls the incredible commitment on the part of LWLC's early members. "Through the work and dedication of so many people, Living Water became self-sustaining much earlier than expected, and we were on our way to building the beautiful campus on Happy Valley Road. I know that same spirit is still alive and well at LWLC, all these years later."

*Do you have a question for Zeke? E-mail it to him at [AskZeke@cox.net](mailto:AskZeke@cox.net) or contact his writing partner, Jill Wehr, at 480-710-4506*

*Plan ahead to join us for*

Wednesday Evening Lenten Bible Study with Pastor Dennis D. Nelson

**Wednesdays in Lent:**

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.





# 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 fall 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, April 13 – 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.



## **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*

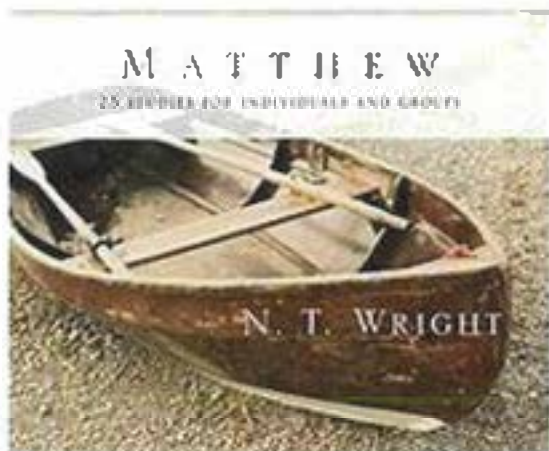
**We meet on Thursdays at 8:00am**

**\$8 for breakfast**

**Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center**

**7415 East Elbow Bend Rd.**

**Carefree, AZ 85377**



## Tuesday Women's Bible Study

.bin uson 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](mailto: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*



*Plan ahead to join us for:*



**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*





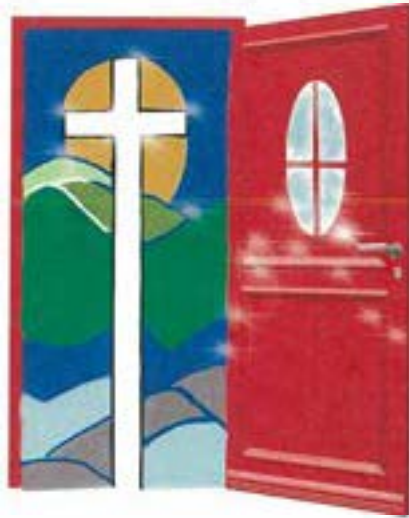
## Piecemakers Quilting

**Join us on April 2nd and 23rd**

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](http://www.lwr.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 contact*

*Pastor Shari before April 6th:*

*[PastorShari@lwlcoz.org](mailto:PastorShari@lwlcoz.org)*



# LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S CHORUS INTERMEDIATE CHOIR



## WHEN

Sunday  
April 6, 2025  
10 a.m. Service

## ABOUT INTERMEDIATE CHOIR

Los Angeles Children's Chorus's Intermediate Choir will perform at Living Water Lutheran Church on April 6 at 10 a.m. Intermediate Choir is one of seven ensembles from Los Angeles Children's Chorus, a youth choir program that serves more than 500 singers annually. Intermediate Choir comprises children with advanced musical abilities who audition directly into the ensemble, along with choristers who have been promoted from the lower-level Apprentice Choir.

Intermediate choristers participate in a three-day regional tour each spring to sing with other children's choirs, and perform for local audiences..

Fred Meads, Director



Family and friends are invited to join for a FREE performance by the L A Children's Chorus at the end of service on April 6th.



Lutheran  
Social Services  
of the Southwest

# 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  
LSSSW Phoenix Office (2502 E. University Dr, Ste 125)

[www.lss-sw.org/refugee-crisis-page](http://www.lss-sw.org/refugee-crisis-page)





## 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>



notes:

# April birthdays!

Phil	Pounds	4/1
Berett	Markowski	4/2
Cardia	Ingwersen	4/3
Ed	Kilburn	4/5
Del	Rogge	4/6
Linda	Heenig	4/8
AJ	Bernau	4/9
Leslie	Mouer	4/11
Barbara	Hannan	4/12
Dave	Schoenbeck	4/15
Sally	Harris	4/16
Lynn	McLarky	4/19

Diane	Salinas	4/20
Iris	Van	4/20
Janis	Feld	4/21
Joan	Tyhus	4/21
Diane	Klumpp	4/23
Kim	Leinweber	4/23
Doug	Yock	4/24
Raz	Anderson	4/25
Dick	Blazer	4/25
Paul	Swenson	4/25
Jennifer	Sadler	4/27
Jennifer	Weisman	4/30

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:



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Living Water is a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Grand Canyon Synod.