

AUGUST 2025



Splash!

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



PASTOR
Mark Rossman

PASTOR
Shari Bernau

OFFICE/COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER
Jennifer Kelsh

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Stephanie McLean

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Christina Hall

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
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Scott Sims

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9201 E Happy Valley Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85255

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- Jeff & Eric Bembry (Friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
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- Kathie Roegnik—Health Concerns
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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.*

A Message from Pastor Mark

Before the advent of our new digital age, most of us lived our lives grateful if we were able to clearly watch all three of the major networks on TV. And with that came a annual rotation of special movies that seemed to show up at the same time each year. One of those movies was the *Sound of Music*. About 40 years ago, I walked down the streets they road their bikes on. I was in the cemetery they had hid in, I was at the town square where they sang. In 1983, I was in Salzburg, Austria, the town in which the *Sound of Music* was filmed. More significantly in musical circles, is the fact that Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in the very same town. In fact, one of the places in Salzburg I did visit was the church in which Mozart was baptized.

Music is a very important part of our lives. There is now a day that goes by that there is not music involved. We have it playing in our homes, in our cars, at our offices, in stores and even elevators. There are those times in life that we even wake up with music echoing in our brains leaving us mystified as to where it was that song came from.

As many of you know the late Robin Williams starred in a comedy a while back called *Mrs. Doubtfire*. Since Mrs. Doubtfire was Robin Williams dressing as an older woman, it was more than appropriate that one of the songs in the movie was Aerosmith's *Dude Looks Like a Lady*. There was a time that *Mrs. Doubtfire* was my children's favorite movie. Many years ago, I was driving around with the kids in the car with the radio playing. As the station began to play a new a song, I was barely paying attention, but that is not uncommon. There was another noise that soon followed and that did catch my attention. It was the sound of Mason and Emma belting out as loudly as they could their very best rendition of *Dude Looks Like a Lady*. For me that afternoon drive pointed out that music is very large part of who we are as people. It is just about everywhere we go, so much so that sometimes we fail to notice its presence.

Music has been a very important part of worship life in the Judeo-Christian tradition for as long as its history has been recorded. The Psalms are early examples of hymns of praise. We have an opportunity to witness the music program here at Living Water continue to grow and flourish. There is only one thing that is missing. For us to be able to enjoy the rich history of music within the Christian Church, for us to be able to experience this rich history in a variety of ways, we need to take on the role of participant – yep, the role of one who sings, the one who plays, the one who even hums. For our music program to be as rich and diverse as it could be the music ministry needs the help of everyone. The challenge here is to take the risk, do your part, join that fun loving group which makes up music ministry here at Living Water. Take on the challenge and see what you might be able to do in adding to richness of musical gifts.

Choir practice will be returning soon. With this comes a variety of special music programs throughout the year. That will give you plenty time to chat with our music ministry experts Christina Hall and Scott Sims about where you can best share your gifts. Music is a vital part of our everyday life. It is also a vital part of worship experience. Let us all see what we might do to make our worship experience as rich and full as it can possibly be – lend a hand, share your voice. If you allow that to happen, you will truly be surprised at what joy can be found in the *Sound of Music*.

Pastor Mark

Ask Zeke



August

Living Water's 24/7 office fish shares 2025 Synod Assembly highlights

Q. What happens during a Synod Assembly?

A. The Synod Assembly an annual June meeting that brings together members of the entire Grand Canyon Synod. The GCS encompasses churches in Arizona, southern Nevada, St. George in Utah, and the Navaho Nation. More than 275 registered voting members and visitors attended this year's assembly, which took place at Community Lutheran Church in Las Vegas.

This two-day event began with Holy Communion and was followed by the installation of two new pastors and the formal reception of three new congregations into the synod. During the bishop's address, Bishop Deborah Hutterer mentioned the challenges of pastoral shortages and noted the creative witness and resilience of congregations. The assembly also included reports, voting on committee leadership positions, and other matters. But rather than ramble on, I'd like to share first-hand input from LWLC members who attended this year's Synod Assembly.

I felt a moment of deep connection with my church when I looked around the large sanctuary at Community Lutheran and realized that the people there with me represent the same values and hopes for service and healing as I do. This is a heart-expanding feeling, that we are working towards the same overarching goals and trusting in God to guide us and give us the wisdom and strength we long for.

The Grand Canyon Synod is blessed with congregational giving that allows the synod to explore and support new and emerging ministries within our synod.

It is important for me to see how our little church participates in the larger community of the GCS, and from there to the whole ELCA. It makes me feel like we are a part of something that can help people here and all over the world.

My most important vote was for the new synod vice president. This is an integral administrative role in supporting both the Synod Council as well as working cooperatively with our Synod Bishop.

Attending the Synod Assembly offers the opportunity to learn more about how the synod operates and to meet the people on the front lines. It is the perfect occasion to network with other congregations in a relaxed setting focused on the work of the synod and to ask questions about synod priorities and programs.

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.

THANK YOU!

Your donations for the
2025 VBS Book Drive
made it our
best year ever!

4,649
books!



Piecemakers Quilters on Summer Break!



We will take a break from tying quilts during the summer. Look for an announcement when we resume in September!

If you like to sew and are looking for some small projects during the summer heat, we always have quilt tops ready to be assembled. 12 or 16 pieces, using $\frac{1}{2}$ " seams. Assemble at your leisure! Ask Lynda Cales, Kay Bonar, Mary Nyberg or Myrna Ulland. You can also learn more about this ministry at www.lwr.org/quilts-and-kits

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 6/30/25 balance of **\$ 1,870**. We still allocated 50% locally but split it between three local organizations, St. Mary's Food Bank of Arizona and ELCA, Nourish Phx and Foothills Foodbank. Each received \$312. The 50% for the international portion was split between Lutheran World Hunger and Save My Starving Children. Each received \$467.

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!

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 is taking a Summer Break
We'll see you in September!



Tuesday Women's Bible study concluded on May 20th and will resume our regular schedule in September. Watch for an announcement about a possible summer event at Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center, using the summer Bible study from the Gather magazine. "Where two or more are gathered: Flourishing in relationships" by the Rev. Brooke Petersen. You can subscribe to Gather for only \$19.95 for four jam-packed print issues each year. When you subscribe, you also have digital access so you can read it wherever you are! Visit www.gathermagazine.org for subscription information.

Confirmation



Starting in September...

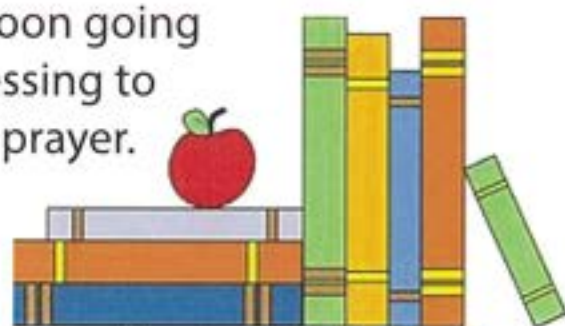
- Confirmation classes will be held two Sundays each month from 6:30-8:00pm.
- This is a two and a half-year program for middle school and high school students.
- We will be learning about the Old Testament, New Testament, Lutheran History, the Catechism and Lutheran Living. We look forward to a fun and relationship-building learning environment!
- Please let Pastor Shari pastorshari@lwlcaz.org know if you have any questions.



Hope you can join us on..... Sunday, August 3rd at 10:00am

For a..... Back to School Blessing

All Students, Teachers and Staff who are soon going back to school are invited for a special blessing to begin the new school year surrounded in prayer.



Back To School

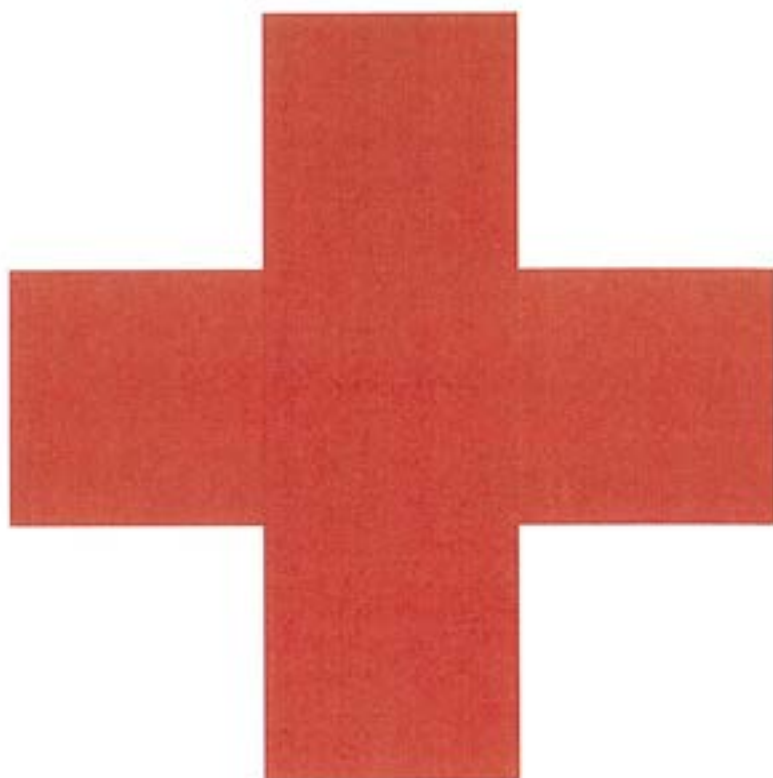
Join us on Sunday, September 14 at 10am
We will be sharing our stories and pictures from
the 2025 Youth Mission Trip to South Dakota!



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, August 27, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment or for more information,
please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or log on to redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: LivingWater



Scan to be directed to
RapidFest

**Come give Aug 1 to 28 for a \$15 e gift card to choice of
merchant!**



Scan to schedule
an appointment

POWER

Maximize your donation.
Give more red blood cells.



American
Red Cross



RED

Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component, and therefore the most needed. Since they carry oxygen throughout the body, they are essential for trauma and surgery patients, those undergoing organ transplants, women experiencing complications from childbirth, and people with anemia.

Power Red Donation

During a Power Red donation, you give a concentrated dose of red cells, the part of your blood used every day for those needing transfusions as



part of their care. This type of donation uses an automated process that separates your red blood cells from the other blood components, then safely and comfortably returns your plasma and platelets to you.

Help more patients with one scheduled appointment. During a Power Red donation, a donor gives more red blood cells than they do during a regular whole blood donation.

Maximize your impact. With just a little extra time at your appointment, you increase your impact on patients in need.

A comfortable experience. Many donors say they prefer the experience of a Power Red donation; it requires a smaller needle and fluids are returned to the donor during the donation process.

Important Donor Information:

- We encourage donors with the following types to give a Power Red donation: O negative, O positive, A negative or B negative.
- Donors who are A or B positive are encouraged to give a whole blood donation, as plasma is needed from these blood types.
- Power Red donors can give every 112 days, which is different than a regular blood donation every 56 days.
- We recommend that females wait until age 19 or older to donate Power Red.
- In addition to meeting standard blood donor qualifications, the following requirements apply for those interested in Power Red donation:

	Female	Male
Minimum height	5'3"	5'1"
Minimum weight	150 lbs.	130 lbs.

Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org/PowerRed to schedule an appointment or for more information.



Our Blood Saves Lives. SICKLE CELL FIGHTERS

Who is impacted by sickle cell disease?

Approximately 100,000 people in the U.S. are living with sickle cell disease. Most people with sickle cell disease are African American or of African descent. In fact, the disease affects 1 out of every 365 African American babies born in this country.

What is sickle cell disease?

Sickle cell disease causes red blood cells to be hard and crescent-shaped (like a sickle) instead of soft and round. As a result, it is difficult for blood to flow smoothly and carry enough oxygen to the rest of the body, which may result in severe pain, organ and tissue damage, or even strokes.

How is sickle cell disease treated?

Blood transfusions help provide a lifesaving treatment during a sickle cell pain crisis by replacing sickled red blood cells with healthy red blood cells. This helps deliver oxygen to tissues and organs and unblock blood vessels. Donated blood is the only source of this treatment.

How can I help?

Blood donors who are Black have the unique ability to help patients with sickle cell disease. A person with sickle cell disease may need a precise pairing with a blood donor, especially if frequent transfusions are necessary. If a patient receives a transfusion of a blood type that is not a close match, they may form antibodies against the mismatched antigens. To help avoid transfusion-related complications, a patient is more likely to find the most compatible blood match from a donor of the same race or similar ethnicity.

Schedule a blood donation appointment and learn more at:

RedCrossBlood.org/OurBlood



**American
Red Cross**



**American
Red Cross**

***RAPID*PASS[®]**

Complete your pre-donation and health history questionnaire
from your mobile device using RapidPass[®].



Scan Me

Expedite your donation!

Use your mobile device or a donor tablet to scan the QR code and complete your RapidPass[®]. Be sure to screenshot or email your RapidPass[®] to yourself and have it ready to present to staff before exiting health history.

Did you know?

On the day of your appointment you can start the donation process before leaving home using the Blood Donor App or by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/rapidpass*

You can save up to 15 minutes!

*Any RapidPass[®] completed before 12 a.m. on the day of donation will be valid and the donor will be asked to complete the health history again on site.
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Living Water Lutheran Church Grief Support Group



Have you lost a loved one recently or are you still grieving from a former loss? Everyone is welcome.

Thanks to the request of members of Living Water and the encouragement of the Church Council and Pastors, this ministry is officially going to start this fall.

Group Facilitator: Diane Klumpp

Pastoral Support: Pastor Shari Bernau

**This is an 8-week program on Wednesdays 1:00-2:30pm
running from October 1 – November 19**

Please call or email Pastor Shari Bernau to sign up
480-473-8400 - pastorshari@lwlcaz.org



Living Water Lutheran Church
9201 E Happy Valley Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
*Education Building



Shaina	Weisman	8/1
Summer	Weisman	8/1
Allison	Handley	8/2
Turid	Sabia	8/4
Andrea	Decker	8/5
Lisa	Moehn	8/5
Karen	Rbessler	8/8
Hudson	Wanek	8/10
Bob	Frost	8/11

Carol	Jacobson	8/19
Caroline	Ruff	8/20
Ryan	Handley	8/21
Adena	Sleeper	8/22
Kristi	Winter	8/23
Myrna	Ulland	8/24
Mike	Handley	8/31
Patricia	Pick	8/31
Dave	Pendergraft	8/31

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@lwlcaz.org ~ 480.473.8400 ~ www.LWLCaz.org

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