

CONNECTIONS

Living Water
Lutheran Church



September 21, 2025



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

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—*Tuesdays at NOON*

We Remember in Our Prayers

- o Amanda (Daughter of Cherrie Heidemann-Oglesby)—Health Concerns
- o Jeff & Eric Bembry (Friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
- o Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- o Lizzy Caddow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- o Christl (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- o Debbie Connor (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Terminal Melanoma
- o Adrian Corr (Brother-in-law of Brian Goebel, living in Turks)—Cancer
- o Katie Dawson (Daughter of Tod and Bonnie Dawson)—Health Concerns
- o Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Brett Stone)—Health Concerns
- o Danica Enlow (Daughter-in-law of Leila Burrus)—Recovering From Surgery
- o Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- o Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- o Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- o Kyle and Tyler Hornacek (Grandsons of John and Sue Hornacek)—Life Concerns
- o John (Friend of Diane vanMaanen)
- o Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- o Cherrie Oglesby—Health Concerns
- o Gene Perry—Health Concerns
- o Shirley Perry—Health Concerns
- o Jana Richter (Family Member of Henri & Lynda Breault)—Health Concerns
- o Kathie Roegnik—Health Concerns
- o Del Rogge—Heart Concerns
- o Regan Shea (Friend of Pastor Mark)—Health Concerns
- o Kristen Stenchjem (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehjem)—Health Concerns
- o Janet L. Swim (Sister of Brian Goebel)—Cancer
- 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 Pr. Brian Weinberger (Bethlehem Lutheran in Mesa)—Recovering from
an auto accident

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: **lwlcaz.org***

Prayer of the Week:

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

**Get ready for Living Water's
DO MORE campaign to Expand our Mission.**

We have always been a people shaped by generosity,
grounded in faith, and ready to rise to meet the moment.



On November 16th, we will have the opportunity to turn in our
Statements of Intent for the 2026 Annual Stewardship
Campaign and the 3-year *Open the Doors, Do More*
Campaign.



You are cordially invited to attend the

Grand Canyon Synod Women of the ELCA
Biennial Convention/Gathering

Saturday, November 8, 2025

Faith/La Fe Lutheran Church

801 East Camelback Road Phoenix, Arizona 85014

*We will come together building relationships, across the synod,
across the country and around the world!*



Special guests will include:

Myrna Wells-Ulland, *President of Churchwide Women of the ELCA*

Pastor Jacqui Pagel, *Bishop's Associate for Candidacy & Faith Formation*

Connie Phillips, *CEO & President of Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest*

Registration will open soon!

Mark your calendars!

**Choose the Voting Member for your
Congregational Unit!**

Watch for more information to come!

2026 YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



When: July 19-24

Who: Youth in grades 6-12

Cost: \$400 + help with fundraisers

Deadline to register with \$100 deposit: November 1

Pennsylvania's capital, Harrisburg, is home to Hershey's Chocolate, City Island and Broad Street Market. Not only does the city have a rich history for its role in the Civil War and Industrial Revolution but it also continues to be a small city with plenty of outdoor activities, arts and tourism. However, despite multiple efforts to recover from economic challenges, in 2011, the city filed for bankruptcy. Since then, the city has made strides to bring resources back to the community. By supporting community efforts to improve the city through redeveloping local parks, community gardens, food banks, thrift stores and local ministries, the work that happens in Harrisburg provides a direct impact on the challenges experienced by the city's residents. During your time in Harrisburg, you will get to learn from and serve with local organizations like Harrisburg Parks and Rec, Boys and Girls Club, food banks and other nonprofit and social service agencies meeting tangible needs. Also, at several partnerships in Harrisburg, we work in community gardens and parks, doing yardwork projects, pulling weeds and trimming bushes.

If you have any questions, see Pastor Shari: pastorshari@twlcaz.org

Living Water Lutheran Church

Mid Year Financial Review – June 2025



On June 30, 2025, the book balance of our cash was \$435,838. The balances were \$44,209 at Wells Fargo, \$381,632 at Schwab (4.01% yield currently) and \$9,997 at the ELCA Mission Investment Fund.

The balance due on the mortgage on June 30, 2025 was \$1,008,155 (@ 3.875%).

Financial results through June 20, 2025 were well off budget. The combined general and mortgage fund had a loss of \$7,641 for the six months ended June 30, \$54,256 unfavorable to budget. The YTD loss was dramatically worse than the first six-month results of 2024. 2024's YTD June results were favorably impacted the timing of painting and tree trimming offerings and the related expenses, which were largely incurred after the offerings were received.

Offerings of \$451,694 through June 30 were below budget YTD by \$47,955. Offerings were spread by month in the budget based on the average timing of the last 5 years, but the timing of actual receipts can vary materially based on church members' situations. June YTD offerings were about \$56,000 less than last year. Interest income of \$6,713 has been recorded through June 30, \$1,425 higher than was budgeted.

YTD Expenses of \$472,951 were \$3,570 above budget, largely related to higher costs related to the 25th Anniversary celebration (\$7,896) and the Synod Assembly (\$1,694). These unfavorable variances were offset by Facilities costs being \$2,377 less than budget. So, for the most part, expenses have been well managed.

The July budgeted offerings are \$58,145. Offerings of approximately \$27,000 were received in July. So, it appears that the unfavorable variance to budget will grow considerably through the end of July.

Please keep an eye out for mid-year giving statements, which will arrive via email or snail mail. If you have concerns, please email the LWLC Finance Manager, Stephanie McLean at smclean@lwlcaz.org or LWLC Treasurer, Steve Umland at steveumland@gmail.com.

We continue to work with the IRS on our tax issues (payroll withholding issues from 2021 and Employee Retention Credit filing). We have recently enlisted the assistance of Congressman Schweichert's office to help resolve these long-standing issues.



All children and Youth are invited to join us for a Children's Sunday on **October 5!**

Any children who want to sing the Gathering Hymn, Choir Anthem, and Sending Hymn are welcome to join the choir and praise band.

We'd love to know if your children will be joining in on the singing fun:
Please send a quick email to Christina Hall at chall@lwlcaz.org,
so we know to expect you that morning.

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

2025 FALL INGATHERING SEASON

ARIZONA AREA

We are so grateful for our Quilters and Kit Makers! Your compassionate service is at the very heart of Lutheran World Relief. Your faith in action brings love and comfort to those in need and creates a lasting impact for our neighbors, no matter how far.

In 2024, your love stitched more than 370,000 quilts, bundled nearly 320,000 kits, and embraced countless families in 18 countries, including the United States.

Your gifts have surrounded those suffering unimaginable loss after disaster in the U.S. They have ensured new mothers in Madagascar can clothe and care for their babies, and that the education of children in Honduras isn't disrupted by a simple lack of supplies.

You are a beacon of hope to our most vulnerable neighbors, shining God's light in a world of increasing need.

THANK YOU!



UPCOMING INGATHERINGS NEAR YOU

With the Fall Ingathering season approaching quickly, here is some important logistical information:

STREAMS IN THE DESERT LUTHERAN CHURCH

5360 E. Pima St., Tucson, AZ 85712

COLLECTION DATES:

Friday-Saturday, Oct 3-4, 9am-noon

CONTACT:

Janis Richert

520.419.5938 (cell)

azrichert@comcast.net

*If different drop day appointment is needed -
please call Janis before October 3rd*

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

4001 W. Beardsley Rd., Glendale, AZ 85308

COLLECTION DATES:

Friday-Saturday, Oct 17-18, 9am-noon

CONTACTS:

Church office

623.582.8785

church@atonementlc.org

Ellen Born

602.316.5790 (cell)

bornblessed2@icloud.com

INGATHERING MAP

You can also check the **INGATHERING MAP** at Ingathering.lwr.org for the closest location. No ingathering near you? No problem! You can drive or ship your items to our warehouse:

Lutheran World Relief
398 East Richmond Street
South St. Paul, MN 55075
651.457.9009

ITEMS ACCEPTED

Quilts, School Kits, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits and Fabric Kits. For general assembly instructions, go to lwr.org/quilts or lwr.org/kits.

PACKING NOTES

Pack your items **TIGHTLY** in medium-size strong boxes secured with packing tape. This ensures items do not collapse during transit. Each box cannot exceed 40 lbs. Pack completed quilts and kits **SEPARATELY** in boxes.

LABELING YOUR BOXES

Create your own label OR write on your boxes in **LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS** with LWR, church information, type and number of contents.

For more detailed packing instructions and label requirements, go to lwr.org/pack.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Church or Group Name
Church or Group Address
Type and Quantity of Item

Still have questions? Contact the Quilt & Kit Ministry team at quiltsandkits@lwr.org.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Ingathering.lwr.org

Reformation Potluck Luncheon

Sunday, October 26
Following Service



**If you enjoy good food, laughter and
the convivial company of friends...**

Please bring your favorite dish – a main, side or dessert – to share at a good old-fashioned Lutheran Potluck in celebration of Reformation Day. Coffee & tea will be served, and you may bring a beverage of your choice – soft drink, beer or wine. Activities will be available for children.

Sign-up will be in the Narthex, beginning Sunday, September 28. For questions, please call Diane Klumpp at 406-224-0612 or Linda Hoenig at 480-766-0816. **All are welcome!**

Sunday Morning Adult Forum

9 AM – Music Room (second floor of Education Building)

HARDER THAN HERDING CATS

Five Week Study on the Life of Moses led by Pastor Dennis D. Nelson

Begins October 12 and then continues every other week

It's been said that leadership is like herding cats. For Moses leading the Israelites for forty years through the wilderness was harder than herding cats. How did he have the strength, patience, and sustenance to lead a huge group of people who were constantly complaining, ready to stone him, bored with their food, and continually criticizing him for bringing them out of the bondage that they now want to return to? There is much we can learn from the life of Moses – from the circumstances of his birth to his ultimately not being able to lead the Israelites all the way into the Promised Land.

New Member Class

Saturday October 18th 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 to learn more about Living Water
followed by dinner
on **Saturday October 18 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**

use subject: 'New Member Orientation'

New Member Class on 10/18

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*



*Today's altar flowers were donated
in celebration of Ron Roessler's
birthday.*



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!

Gathering Hymn... "Son of God, Eternal Savior"



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be,
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlied en Contredansen*, 1710

Psalm 113: Praise The Lord Who Lifts Up The Poor

Refrain



*1-2 Praise, you servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. Blessed be the name of the LORD both now and forever.
Refrain.*

*4-6 High above all nations is the LORD; above the heav-ens is his glory. Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?
Refrain.*

*7-8 He raises up the lowly from the dust; from the dung hill he lifts up the poor to seat them with princes, with the princes of his own people.
Refrain.*

Sermon Hymn..... "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"



- 1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store;
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son;
- 3 Trea-sure, too, you have en-trust-ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door,
all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one,
ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel word.



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our-selves in praise;
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
O-pen wide our hands in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call.



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915-2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

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Sending Hymn... "Rise Up, O Saints of God"



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's hap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Fortress, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

Text © Norman O. Fortress, admin. Augsburg Fortress

LIVING WATER

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

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

The Living Water
QR code for giving:



Ministers: All the members of Living Water

Pastor: Mark Rossman
PastorMark@lwlcaz.org

Living Water
Lutheran Church



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

Living Water Lutheran Church

9201 E. Happy Valley Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255

office@lwlcaz.org -- www.LWLCAZ.org

-- 480.473.8400 --

LAST WEEK'S 10:00AM SERVICE ATTENDANCE ON SEPTEMBER 14: 98