

# CONNECTIONS

Living Water  
Lutheran Church



December 21, 2025



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

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—"Tuesdays at NOON"

## We Remember in Our Prayers

- Amanda (Daughter of Cherrie Heidemann-Oglesby)—Health Concerns
- Jeff & Eric Bembry (Friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- Lizzy Caddow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- Debbie Connor (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Terminal Melanoma
- Adrian Corr (Brother-in-law of Brian Goebel, living in Turks)—Cancer
- Larry Coutts—Recurring Health Issues
- Katie Dawson (Daughter of Tod and Bonnie Dawson)—Health Concerns
- Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Brett Stone)—Health Concerns
- Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- Kyle and Tyler Hornacek (Grandsons of John and Sue Hornacek)—Life Concerns
- John (Friend of Diane vanMaanen)
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Pr. Robert and Pat Klein (Friends of Donna and Darnell Pettengill)—Health Concerns
- Owen Lucas (Grandson of Jay & Lois Lucas)—Health Concerns
- Barbara Nelson (Sister of Pat and Janet Guthrie)—Health Concerns
- Heidi Patten (Cousin of Pat Gruthrie)—In Hospice
- Gene and Shirley Perry—Health Concerns
- Tony Rasmussen (Brother of Karen Syversen)—Recovering From Surgery
- Jana Richter (Family Member of Henri & Lynda Breault)—Health Concerns
- Kathie Roenigk—Health Concerns
- Del Rogge—Heart Concerns
- Regan Shea (Friend of Pastor Mark)—Health Concerns
- Geri Skogen (Friend of Myrna Ulland)—Post-operative Treatment
- Kristen Stenehjem (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehjem)—Health Concerns
- Janet L. Swim (Sister of Brian Goebel)—Cancer
- Bob Ulland—Health Concerns
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Kelly White (Neice of Sharon Westergreen)—Health Concerns
- Pr. Brian Weinberger (Bethlehem Lutheran in Mesa)—Recovering from auto accident
- Family and Friends of Yvonne Weber

*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.*



## **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: [lwicaz.org](http://lwicaz.org)*



### *Prayer of the Week:*

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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*

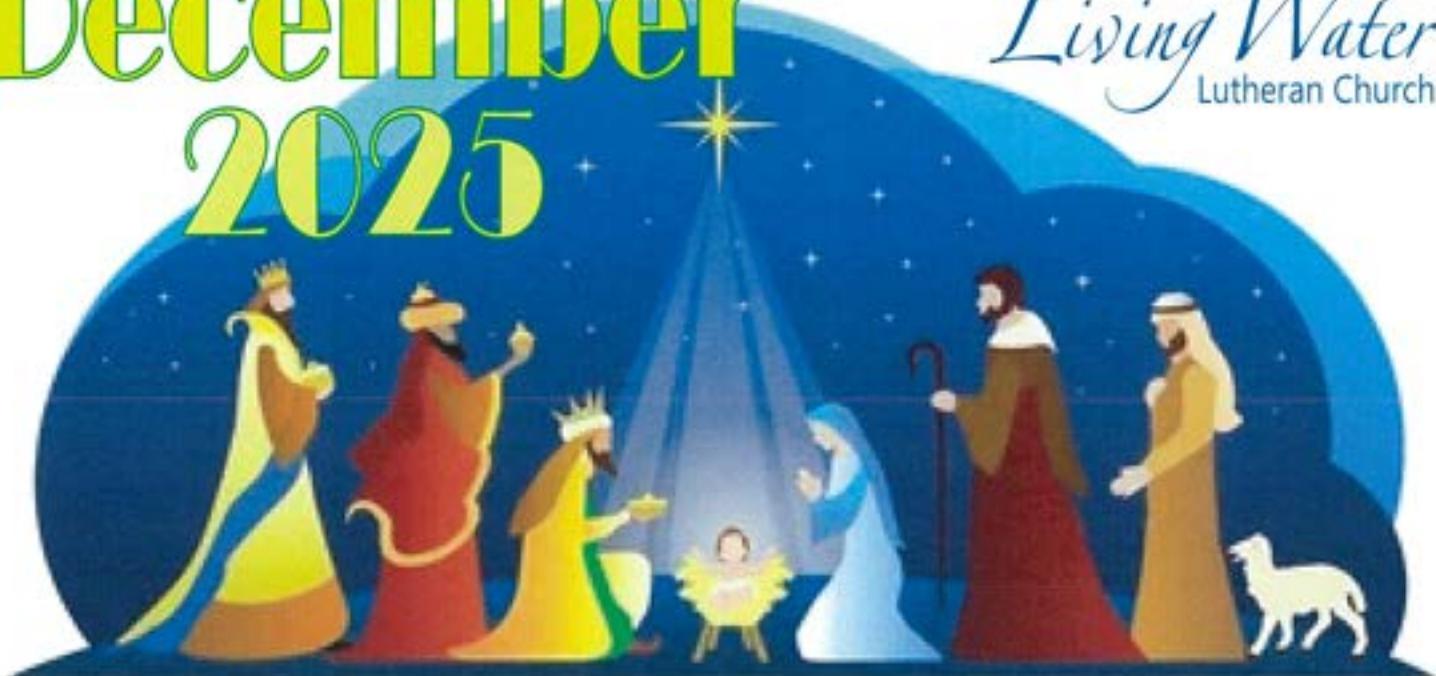


*HE WILL BE A JOY AND DELIGHT TO YOU.  
AND MANY WILL REJOICE BECAUSE OF HIS BIRTH.*

LUKE 1:14 NIV

# December 2025

Living Water  
Lutheran Church



## MERRY CHRISTMAS

**Join us for in-person  
Worship Services**

**in December**

**Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

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**Candlelight Christmas Eve  
Worship Services**

**Wednesday December 24th  
at 4:00pm *family worship*  
and 6:00pm *traditional worship***

*in-Person & Livestream Online Worship also accessible  
on our Livestream on our YouTube channel and Website*

# New Member Class

Saturday January 31st 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 January 31 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 January 31*



## 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.

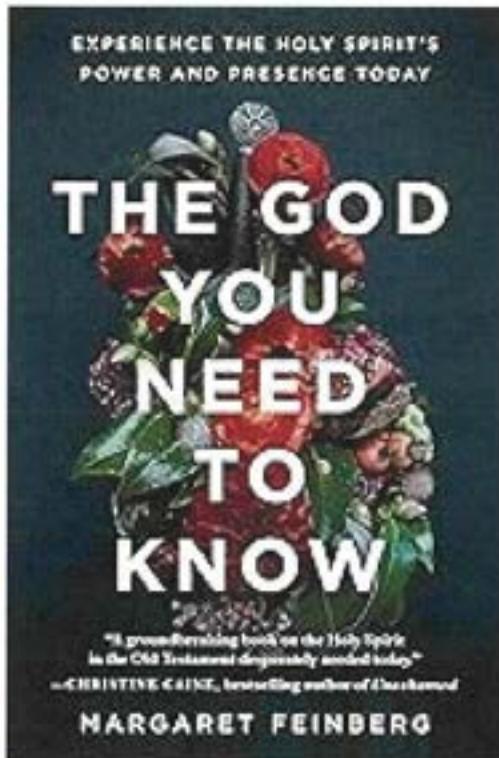
You are invited to make an offering to the Hunger Jar while the offering is being collected during the worship service. While the jar's tag line says, "Change for Change," your offering can be coins, bills, and even checks. And, if you prefer, you can donate through LWLC's online donation option and 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!

## VISTA DEL CAMINO THANKSGIVING MEALS

Thank you to everyone who donated to Vista del Camino for Thanksgiving meals.

Living Water collected \$2,550 that will be used at the Vista del Camino food bank to purchase turkeys and groceries for all of the fixings for families in the South Scottsdale area.



## TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY FOR JANUARY

The Tuesday Women's Bible study group is taking a holiday break on 12/23 and 12/31. We will resume on Tuesday, January 6 to begin a six-week video study using material from Margaret Feinberg titled "The God You Need to Know." She has written a book to accompany the study that is suggested but not required. The book is also available by Kindle. There is also an accompanying study guide but again, is not required. This study will focus on the work of the Holy Spirit throughout the Old

Testament. Just bring yourself and your favorite Bible translation. All women are welcome!

We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall and also by Zoom for approximately 90 minutes each week. If you aren't on our email communication list, please contact [myrna.ulland@gmail.com](mailto:myrna.ulland@gmail.com) to be added.

# 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

*note: We will NOT meet on  
December 25 or January 1.  
Our next meeting is January 8th*





#### **WANTED: YOUR IDEAS TO ENHANCE OR DEVELOP MINISTRIES**

The OPEN THE DOORS, DO MORE campaign is not over yet. Thanks to your generosity, Living Water has exceeded its goal to eliminate the mortgage. The campaign team now encourages you to continue to dream big about what this means in terms of Living Water's ability to DO MORE.

The team has already received several suggestions and welcomes more ideas. You are invited to put on your thinking cap and dream about potential ministries, at both Living Water and beyond, in keeping with Living Water's Vision Statement: *To create a community which Welcomes all people, Shares the experience of God's grace, Grows in faith, and is Sent out into the world to care.*

You can make as many suggestions as you want. Simply email or text your idea(s) to Lisa Moehn ([moehnlisa@gmail.com](mailto:moehnlisa@gmail.com); 612-730-3025) or Jill Wehr ([jillajw@cox.net](mailto:jillajw@cox.net); 480-710-4506).

# **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.**

Group Facilitator: Diane Klumpp

Pastoral Support: Pastor Shari Bernau

**This is an 8-week program on Wednesdays 1:00-2:30pm  
running from February 4 – March 25**

Please call or email Pastor Shari Bernau to sign up,  
and note that this group is capped at 8 people.

480-473-8400 - [pastorshari@lwlcaz.org](mailto:pastorshari@lwlcaz.org)



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

## GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD



*Help the  
farm grow!*

Add a rooster.

**\$15**



### Chicks

Ten little chicks can make a big difference. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income.

**\$10** Chicks

### GOOD GIFTS SHOPPING!!

Ron and Cindy will be on the patio each Sunday through Advent. Please stop by and see the catalogs, ornaments and note cards. We'll be looking forward to seeing you!!

### Food Donations

Food insecurity is a continuous problem. Living Water contributes food and daily essentials, such as products for oral hygiene, diapers, school supplies and more, to local organizations on a continuing basis. We have two main destinations for our donations:

***La Sagrada Familia Church:*** The grocery cart found in the Narthex during the week and outside on Sundays is for food and daily essential products.

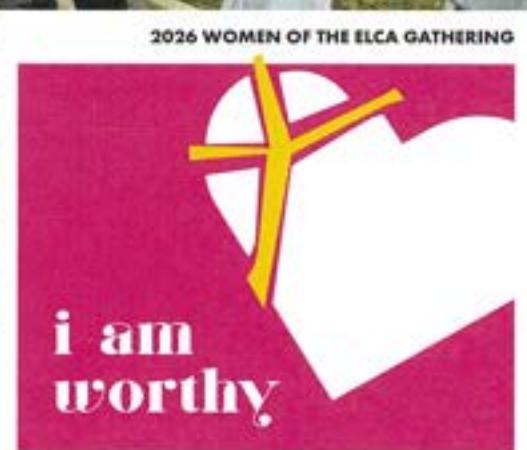
***Foothills Food Bank:*** Collection tubs placed in the Narthex with the sign "food donations" are for tuna, peanut butter, and soups.

THANK YOU for any and all donations you make. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.





**COME AS YOU ARE  
& JOIN OVER A  
THOUSAND LUTHERAN  
WOMEN IN DES  
MOINES, IOWA,  
JULY 16-19, 2026 FOR  
WORSHIP, ADVOCACY,  
INSPIRATION,  
SISTERHOOD & MORE!**



July 16-19, 2026 • Des Moines, Iowa

**VISIT: [WELCATG.ORG](http://WELCATG.ORG)**



of the  
**Women ELCA**

## Gathering Hymn... "The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came"



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
and Chris-tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,"  
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - - - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,  
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Responsive Litany—HE WILL BE CALLED EVERLASTING FATHER

P: During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Everlasting Father.

**C: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

P: During Advent we look to the One who knows our deepest thoughts.

**C: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

P: During Advent we look to the One who cares for our deepest needs.

**C: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

P: During Advent we look to the One who knows our most pressing concerns.

**C: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

P: During Advent we look to the One who knows our innermost being.

**C: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

Congregation:

Ev-er-last-ing Fa-ther, Prince of Peace,  
Won-der-ful Coun-se-lor, Al-might-y God.  
Em-man-u-el, Em-man-u-el.  
God with us, Em-man-u-el.

## Psalm 80 Lord Make Us Turn to You

### Refrain



Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

2-3 *O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us. Refrain.*

15-16 *Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down [look down] from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Refrain.*

18-19 *May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong, Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name. Refrain.*

## Sermon Hymn... "There's A Voice In The Wilderness"

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as  
3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - cert a  
cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the

high - way, a high - way for our God!  
peo - ple the com - ing of their king.  
na - tions and soon will right the wrong.

The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
Like flow'r's of the field we per - ish,  
Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the

loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now

plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft. B. Burrows, Executor.

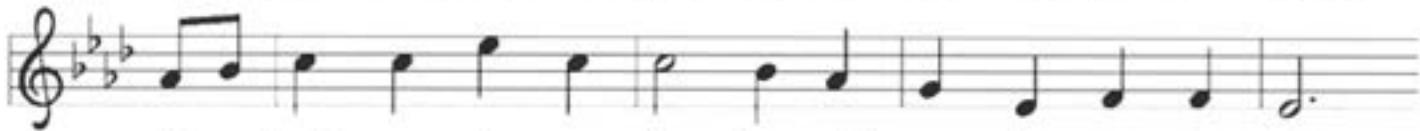
## Sending Hymn... "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907

Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

# 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

**Publication Deadlines:**  
Connections- Every Tuesday by noon  
SPLASH! - The 20th of each month by noon

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)

ATTENDANCE ON **12/14**

Living Water Lutheran Church

**LAST WEEK'S 10:00AM SERVICE**

9201 E. Happy Valley Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255

**IN PERSON: 174**

office@lwlcaz.org ~ www.LWLCAZ.org

**ONLINE HOUSEHOLDS: 24**

~ 480.473.8400 ~