

# CONNECTIONS

*Living Water*  
Lutheran Church



March 1, 2026

Join us on Wednesdays in



## LENT

March 4, 11, 18, 25

5:30pm Soup Supper

6:00pm Lenten Bible Study

7:00pm Lenten Worship

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

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—\*Tuesdays at NOON\*

# *We Remember in Our Prayers*

- Jeff & Eric Bembry (Friends of Diane vanMaanen)—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 (Father of Missy Laudenschlager)—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
- Dick Gunderson—Recovering from Hip Surgery
- Tricia Heidemann (Cherrie's Daughter)—Life Concerns
- Kyle and Tyler Hornacek (Grandsons of John and Sue Hornacek)—Life Concerns
- John (Friend of Diane vanMaanen)
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Ron Koch—Health Concerns
- Matt (Jim and Alison Swanson)—Health Concerns
- Jason Oglesby (Dave's son)—Life Concerns
- Gene and Shirley Perry—Health Concerns
- Roy Pester (Friend of Dave Oglesby)—Health Concerns
- 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 Stenehjerm (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehjerm)—Health Concerns
- Janet L. Swim (Sister of Brian Goebel)—Cancer
- Bob Ulland—Health Concerns
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Iris Van—Eyesight Issues
- Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Marge Vessey (Close Friend of Carol and Lance Jacobson)—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 John Berry
- Family and Friends of Brian Goebel
- Family and Friends of Joan Tryhus

*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: **lwlcaz.org***

### *Prayer of the Week:*

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

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*



# 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**

Lou Handley and family thank the congregation, volunteers and staff for all their help, kind words, cards, hugs and attendance at Mike's Celebration of Life. You're the best!

## 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.

# 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 - "Jesus rescues us."

\*Bible Verse - "He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy" (Titus 3:5)



**Sunday, March 8, 9:00am** – Jesus calms a Storm

**Sunday, March 29, 9:00am** – HOLY WEEK FAIR!

**Sunday, April 12, 9:00am** – Jesus Forgives the Thief on the Cross

**Sunday, May 3, 9:00am**- Jesus Comes Back to Life



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.

An Altar Bouquet Today  
was provided by JulieAnn Walker  
to Celebrate Ken Walker's Life



**YOU'RE INVITED TO**

# **“BELONGING: FIVE KEYS TO UNLOCKING YOUR POTENTIAL AS A DISCIPLE”**



with presenter Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis,  
Professor and the Marbury E. Anderson Chair  
of Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026**  
**LIVING WATER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**SCOTTSDALE, AZ**

Lessons from the Woman at the Well: The encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well and Jesus in the Gospel of John is the longest sustained conversation Jesus has with anyone in all of the four Gospels and she is a model for what it looks like to be a follower of Jesus. Together we will listen in on this conversation and consider how the Samaritan woman invites us to imagine our discipleship journey from wonder to witness.

Saturday, April 11, 2026 1:00-4:00pm - Reception to follow.

Living Water Lutheran Church - 9201 E. Happy Valley Rd Scottsdale, AZ 85255

To register for free, please go to: <https://lwlcaz.org/nevcevent/>  
or use QR Code below, by April 6, 2026.

Space is limited. Please email [pastorshari@lwlcaz.org](mailto:pastorshari@lwlcaz.org) with questions.



Grand Canyon Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



LUTHER  
SEMINARY.



NORTHEAST  
VALLEY  
CONSORTIUM

*Upcoming Dates to Remember:*

**Wednesdays in Lent:**

March 4, 11, 18 and 25th

**5:30pm** Soup Supper

**6:00pm** Lenten Bible Study

**7:00pm** Lenten Worship

**Maundy Thursday Worship Service**

*Thursday, April 2nd at 12 noon*

at **Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center**

**Maundy Thursday Worship Service**

*Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00pm*



**Good Friday Worship Service**

*Friday, April 3rd at 7:00pm*



**Easter Sunday Worship Service**

*Sunday, April 5th at*

*6:30am (SUNRISE SERVICE),*

*8:00am and 10:00am*

*9:15am Brunch*



## Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup Suppers will be held prior to Bible Study and Lenten Worship on

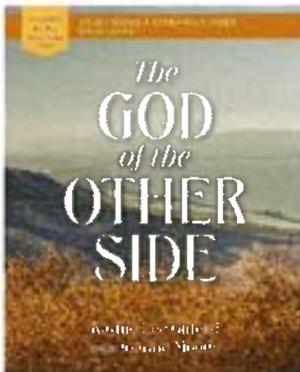


March 4, 11, 18, 25  
Serving starts at 5:30 pm

A different Ministry Team prepares and serves each Wednesday. A free will offering is requested, going to Nourish PHX 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.

## TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY FOR LENT



Beginning on February 24th we'll move to a new six-week video study called "The God of the Other Side" with material from Kathie Lee Gifford and Joanne Moody. This study illuminates how Jesus breaks the barriers to reach those whom society has abandoned, those who are lonely, lost or left out.

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

## OPEN THE DOORS, DO MORE WISH LIST

This is a list of the great suggestions the congregation provided for ways we can DO MORE ministry and outreach with the mortgage obligation partially eliminated. Many of the suggestions were offered by multiple people.

Adult day care on some regular schedule, may be specific to those with Alzheimer's or dementia

More musical programs for example, holiday concerts, a youth musical, an intergenerational bell choir

Sponsor classes (maybe for a small participation fee?) in art, music, language, bridge, exercise geared to over 50.

Have a contingency fund for facilities repair and improvement.

Increase budgeted support for outreach programs (some of which we already support) like Foothills food bank and others, help for homeless persons, home building, Native American scholarships, foster children, Salvation Army,

Increase budgeted support for mission trips and other youth programs.

Have more intergenerational activities and service opportunities.

- Sponsor a seminarian
- Offer addiction recovery support
- Do more with social media (reaching out to neighbors)
- Offer transportation to church
- Provide meals when necessary
- Serve a Thanksgiving dinner
- Host a Halloween carnival
- After school or preschool program
- Support for Navajo Lutheran Mission Rock Point
- Establish a relationship with an ethnic congregation or mission congregation
- Ask Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest for suggestions for ministries
- Support Chaplaincy for the Homeless

1 WEEK PROGRAM



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## JUNE 15-19, 2026

9:00-11:30AM



Living Water  
Lutheran Church

Register Today!

9201 E Happy Valley Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
480-473-8400



Admission  
**Free +  
T-shirt**

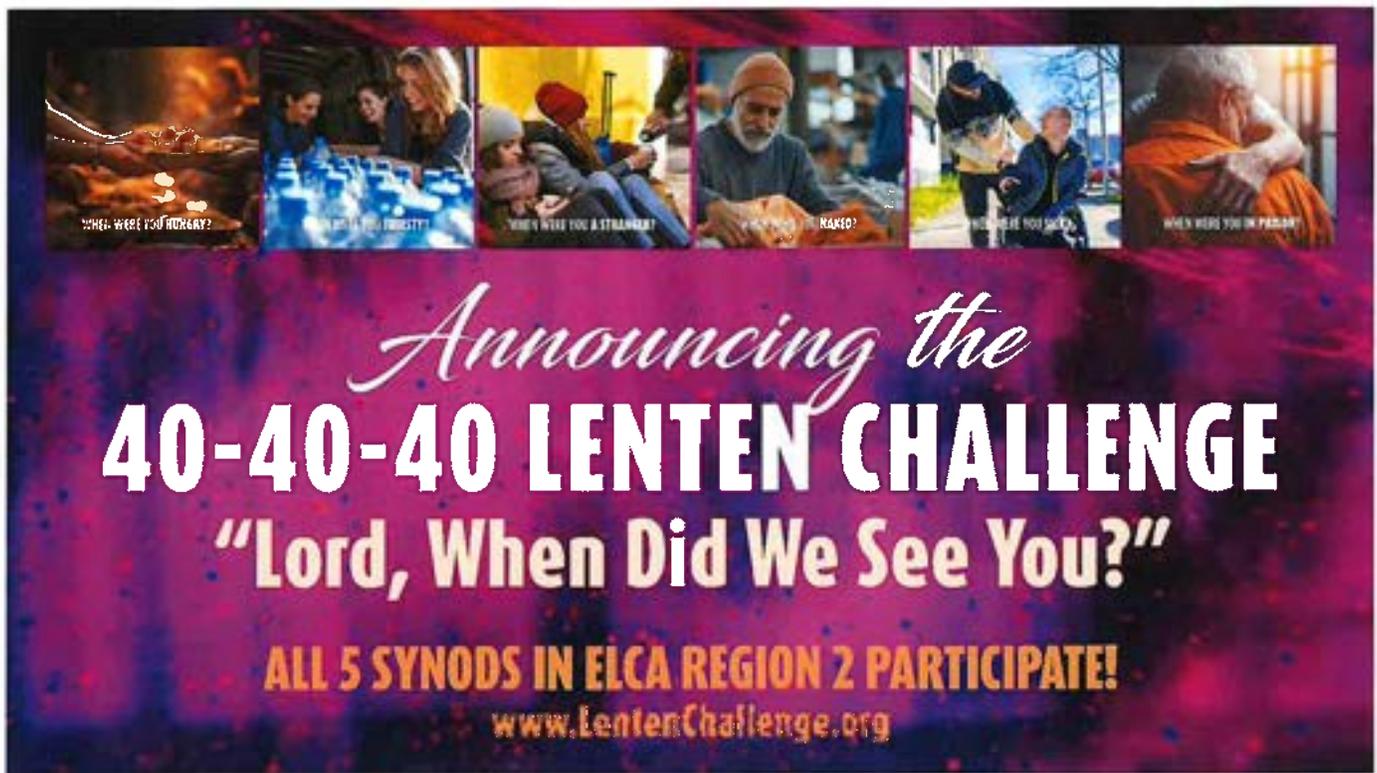


For 4-12  
Years Old



More info:

[www.lwlc az.org/vbs2026/](http://www.lwlc az.org/vbs2026/)



## Lenten Challenge for 2026

The Lenten Challenge supports ELCA World Hunger by striving to raise \$100,000 during Lent, February 18 – April 2, across all 5 ELCA Region 2 synods: Sierra Pacific, Southwest California, Pacifica, GRAND CANYON, and Rocky Mountain.

The theme of the 2026 Lenten Challenge is “Lord, When Did We See You?” “The passage emphasizes that caring for the poor, sick, and marginalized is an act of service to Christ...”

As you sign up, you commit to your choice of **3 of 4** spiritual practices: Devotions, Learning, Action, Donation. In addition to your commitment, you may reference the “Matthew 25 Lenten Challenge Tool Kit,” which offers you options for spiritual practice based on Matthew 25: 37-40.

Sign up at [lentenchallenge.org](http://lentenchallenge.org).

Let’s demonstrate our commitment to relieving hunger by our participation this Lenten season!

# PETER: FAITHFUL BUT FLAWED DISCIPLE

**Five-week study on the life of Peter led by Pastor Dennis D. Nelson**

Wednesday evenings during Lent after Ash Wednesday  
Between the Soup Supper and the Holden Evening Prayer

March 4 – Walking with Jesus in the Storms

March 11 – Solid Rock or Stumbling Block?

March 18 – “I Will Not Deny You”

March 25 – From Cowardice to Courage

Why did all four Gospel writers include the account of the greatest failure of Peter’s life – the collapse of his courage and denial of his Lord? I believe that they told this story because Peter himself told this story over and over again. Peter and the Gospel writers wanted us to see that we all, like Peter, have denied Jesus. We all have lived in ways that our inconsistent with our pledge to follow Jesus. We all have had moments when our witness or example was needed, but we remained silent and did nothing. Peter’s story shows us that we do not need to be defined by our failures. God does not look at us in terms of the worst thing we have ever done. Jesus uses flawed disciples. And sometimes He uses us even more profoundly, not merely in spite of our flaws and failures but because of them.

An Altar Bouquet Today  
was donated by Frances DeBruyn  
in celebrating our daughter Alexis’s  
birthday





## 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 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 a business-sized envelope during the kit making process

Collection bin is in the church entryway throughout the weeks of Lent until Palm Sunday (March 29). 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.

## **New accounting assistance**

Living Water has hired Shellee Snoke to supplement Stephanie McLean with financial duties. Shellee's email is [ssnoke@lwicaz.org](mailto:ssnoke@lwicaz.org). She will be in the church office every Tuesday morning from 9:00 am to Noon. Stephanie will continue to be in the church office the second Sunday of every month.

## **Piecemakers Quilters**

**Next Sessions: March 4 and 18**



Join us each month to tie mission quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) for a few hours each month. We meet at 9 am and conclude between 11:30 and noon.

No experience required! You'll find us in the Education Building – Matthew/Mark or the Martha Room. Bring your coffee/tea for a mid-morning break.

If you like to sew and are looking for some small projects, we always have quilt tops ready to be assembled. 12 to 16 pieces, using ½" 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](http://www.lwr.org/quilts-and-kits)

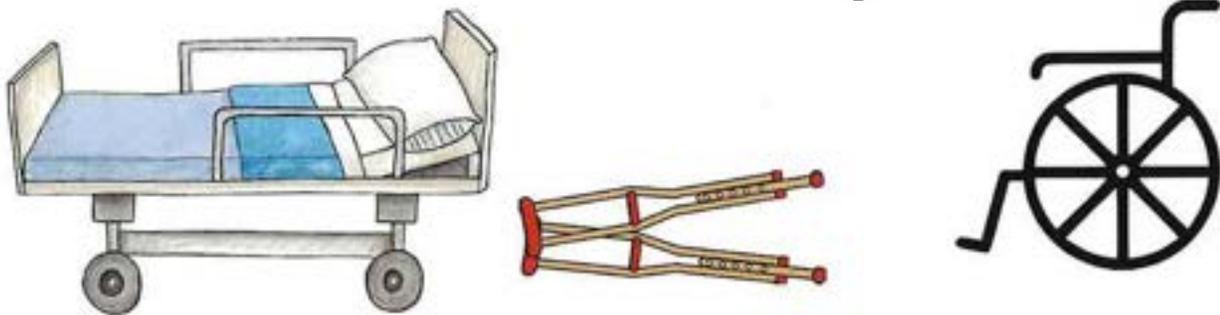
# Medical Lending Library Ministry

*What:* It's the same as a book library but lends durable medical equipment.

*Who:* Will be used by our partner La Sagrada Familia Church members who are mostly low-income and uninsured.

*How:* Donate your used crutches, commode, wheelchair/cushion, walker, hospital bed, cane, etc.

*When:* We will collect them on Sundays,  
**March 22 and 29** at Living Water.



*Have you wondered?-- Can I sign up to donate and dedicate the Altar Bouquet for a future Sunday?*

The answer is **Yes!** Anyone who would like to donate flowers for a future Sunday can sign-up via

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080844A9AE28A0FF2-weekly2#/>**

When you sign up, you can add comments about the specific **occasion**, flower **color request** and/or **dedication**. Then, simply pre-pay for your bouquet \$50.00 to the church office.

*The best part:* at the conclusion of service for your Sunday, you are welcome to take the bouquet home or pick it up the beginning of the following week from the church office.

## Gathering Hymn... "What Wondrous Love Is This"



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing. I will sing; to  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835



## Sermon Hymn... "We Are Baptized In Christ Jesus"



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;  
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,  
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.  
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,  
glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir-it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



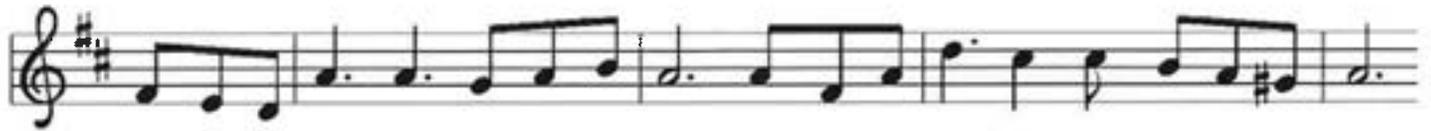
And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,  
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.  
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.  
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker  
Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

## Sending Hymn... "Blessed Assurance"



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-hove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-hove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

### *Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE. Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

# LIVING WATER

*Living Water*  
Lutheran Church



**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

Pastor: Shari Bernau

PastorShari@lwlcaz.org

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

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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)

Living Water Lutheran Church

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