

# CONNECTIONS

*Living Water*  
Lutheran Church



March 15, 2026

Join us on Wednesdays in



## LENT

March 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
- Brian (Judy Tornowske's nephew)—Cancer
- Lizzy Caddow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- Debbie Connor (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Terminal Melanoma
- 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
- John Goesling—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
- Liam McQuaid
- 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 Stenehjem (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehjem)—Health Concerns
- 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 Brian Goebel
- Family and Friends of Ron Koch

*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:*

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father 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*



# 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**

## 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 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.

## **New accounting assistance**

Living Water has hired Shellee Snoke to supplement Stephanie McLean with financial duties. Shellee’s email is [ssnoke@lwcaz.org](mailto:ssnoke@lwcaz.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.

## Lenten Soup Suppers

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

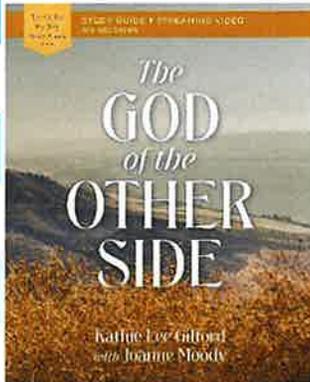


March 18, 25  
Serving starts at 5:30 pm

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



We are continuing to a 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.

*Upcoming Dates to Remember:*

**Wednesdays in Lent:**

March 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*



**NEVC Joint Maundy Thursday Worship**  
**Thursday, April 2nd at Noon**

at the Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center chapel:  
7415 E Elbow Bend Road, Carefree, AZ, 85377.

This year the Northeast Valley Consortium is planning our second joint Maundy Thursday service!

We hope you'll join us for a midday service that includes nibble-conversation, music, communion and optional footwashing. To help with the greeting or communion service, contact Pastor Anna at: [pastor@ctlcarefree.org](mailto:pastor@ctlcarefree.org).

Today's altar flowers were  
donated by Myrna Ulland



Happy Birthday  
to Bob Ulland  
on March 17th



## 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 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 are 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.

## **BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS**

Living Water hosted our quarterly Red Cross blood drive on February 25th. 26 donors gave 30 units of blood! This was a wonderful result.

Thank you to all who donated or attempted to do so!

Many of our donors live in the surrounding community and are beginning to count on our location. This is what the Red Cross was hoping would happen.

There is always a critical need for blood. Our next blood drive will be Thursday, May 21st.

## Piecemakers Quilters

**Next Session: March 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)

## April 12 – Adult Forum with Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis

Faithful Goodbyes: What the Farewell Discourse in John's Gospel Teaches us about Grief, Loss and Letting Go

Sunday, April 12 at 9am in the choir room in Education Building.

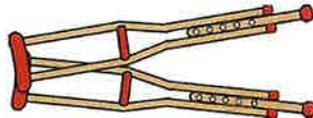
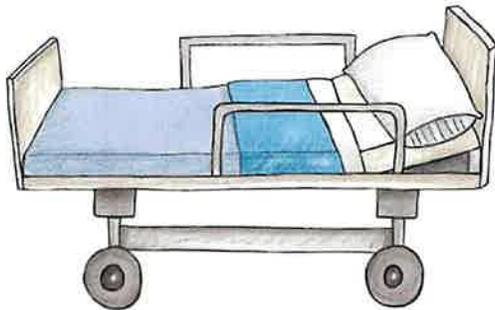
# Medical Lending Library Ministry

*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 **Sign-up Genius**. We've made the sign-up easy to find on our website. Just visit [lwlcaz.org](http://lwlcaz.org) and click on the *Sign-ups* heading in the top blue bar.

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.

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/)

**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



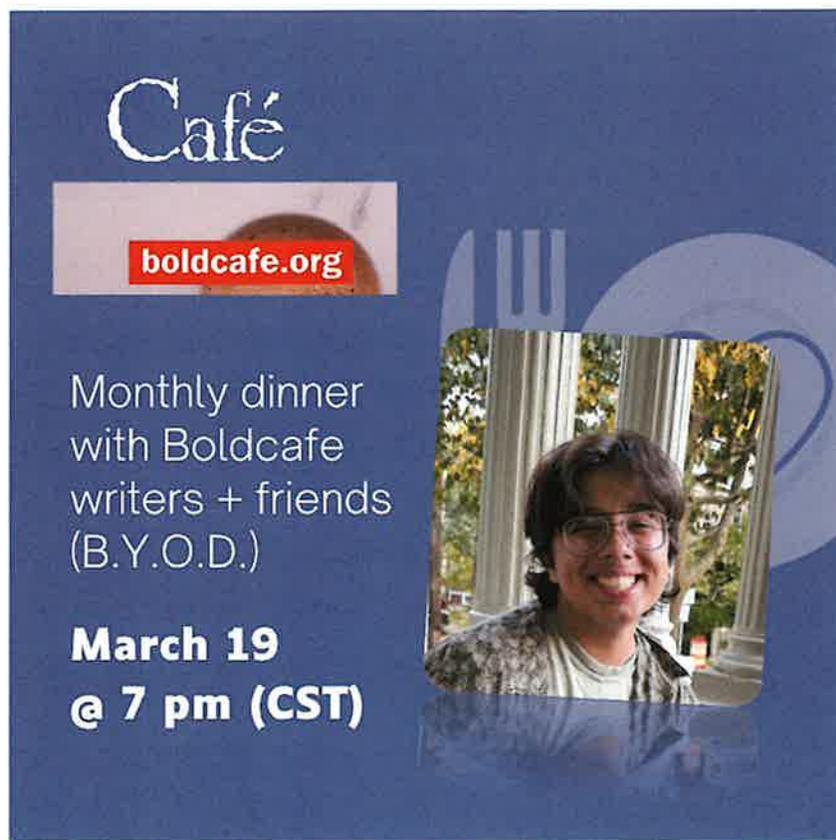
**LUTHER  
SEMINARY**



**NORTHEAST  
VALLEY  
CONSORTIUM**

## **Boldcafe Monthly Dinner: fashion and fascism**

Have you ever wondered if fashion and fascism are connected? Join us for the next **Boldcafe Monthly Dinner on Thursday, March 19, at 7 pm CST**, hosted by Saint Browder. They will lead our conversation on this topic. Wear something that brings you joy and makes you feel confident. Granddaughters, daughters, nieces, and friends are welcome to join and bring their favorite stuffed animal. Register and share the invitation at <https://boldcafe.org/dinner>.



The graphic features a dark blue background with a white serif font for the word "Café" at the top left. Below it is a small image of a coffee cup with a red banner that says "boldcafe.org". To the right of the coffee cup is a large, faint white graphic of a fork and a spoon. In the center-right is a photograph of a smiling woman with glasses and a patterned jacket. At the bottom left, the text "Monthly dinner with Boldcafe writers + friends (B.Y.O.D.)" is written in white. Below that, the date and time "March 19 @ 7 pm (CST)" are displayed in a bold white font.

Café

[boldcafe.org](https://boldcafe.org)

Monthly dinner  
with Boldcafe  
writers + friends  
(B.Y.O.D.)

**March 19**  
**@ 7 pm (CST)**

# Gathering Hymn... "There Is A Balm In Gilead"

*Refrain*



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain.
- 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
- 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

*Refrain*



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.  
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."  
and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

## Psalm 23 The Lord Is My Shepherd

### Refrain



1-3a The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.  
*Refrain.*

3b-4 He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage.

*Refrain.*

5n You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

*Refrain.*

6 Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

*Refrain.*

## Sermon Hymn... "Amazing Grace"



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

## Sending Hymn... "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise From Death"



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;  
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,  
3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,  
4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

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# LIVING WATER

*Living Water*  
Lutheran Church



The Living Water  
QR code for giving:



**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.**

**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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**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**

**9201 E. Happy Valley Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85255**

**office@lwlcaz.org ~ www.LWLCAZ.org**

**~ 480.473.8400 ~**