

CONNECTIONS

Living Water
Lutheran Church



April 26, 2026

Good Shepherd Sunday



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
- Julia Conner (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Health Concerns
- Larry Coutts (Father of Missy Laudenschlager)—Recurring Health Issues
- Katie Dawson (Daughter of Tod and Bonnie Dawson)—Health Concerns
- Gene Dehnbostel (Brother of Marilyn Nartker)—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—In Hospice Care
- Dick Gunderson—Recovering from Hip Surgery
- Robert Hutson—Health Concerns
- John (Friend of Diane vanMaanen)
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Pastor Robert Klein—Health Concerns
- Matt (Jim and Alison Swanson)—Health Concerns
- Jeff Millis (Son of Karen Welnhofner)—Recovering From Back Surgery
- Sandy Moses—Health Concerns
- Barbara Nelson (Sister of Janet Guthrie)—Health Concerns
- Prestyn Oglesby (David's grandson)—Air Force Deployment
- Gene and Shirley Perry—Health Concerns
- Linda Perry (Daughter-in-law of 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—In Hospice Care
- 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
- Chris Swenson (Ben, Scout & Craig Swenson)—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 (Niece of Sharon Westergreen)—Health Concerns
- All Service Men and Women Serving Our Country

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.*

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:

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

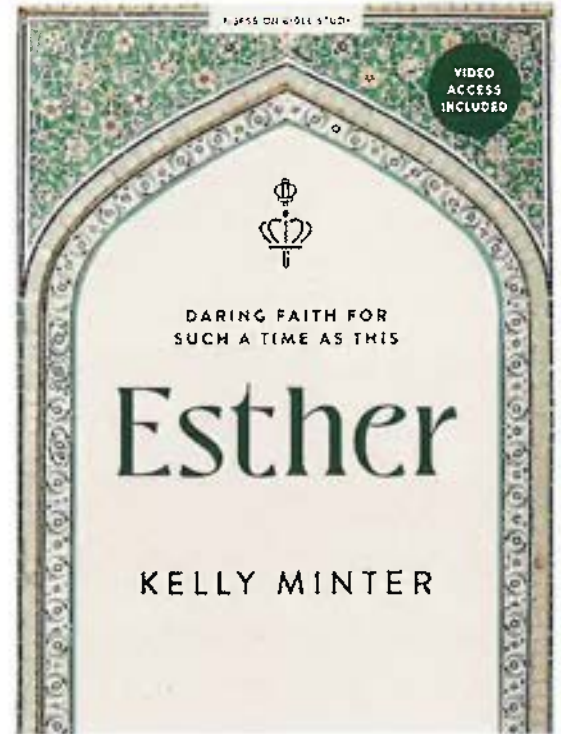
Tuesday Women's Bible Study

Spring 2026

Beginning April 21, we will dig into an epic drama in the book of **Esther: Daring Faith For Such A Time As This**, written by Kelly Minter. It's a seven-session study including videos that will take us to June 2. Kelly is a women's Bible study leader, author, speaker, songwriter, singer.

For this study, I strongly recommend you purchase the accompanying book. It's packed with lots of suggestions to deepen your understanding and enjoyment of this study. I've ordered 16 books that will be available on April 21 for \$25 each. You can also order the book through Amazon or Lifeway.com. If you can't afford the book, one will be provided. Join us at 10 am Tuesdays, MST in the Fellowship Hall, or via Zoom. Coffee and hot water for tea/hot chocolate are available each week.

This will be our last study for Spring 2026. If you aren't on our email list for Tuesday Women communications, please email myrna.ulland@gmail.com.



*Stay up-to-date with Living Water
even when you need to stay home
or are on vacation:
An online version of our newsletters
Splash! and Connections
are available every month on our website
lwlcaz.org
under the 'Communications'
drop-down menu.*

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence.

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 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, 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.



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 **lwlcas.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.

Piecemakers Quilters

Next Session: May 6



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

COME AND JOIN US
TO CELEBRATE A STEP OUT OF THE BOAT
...AND ON TO NEW ADVENTURES

SCOTT SIMS FAREWELL PARTY

Scott is moving to Seguin, Texas to be near his son.
Help us show our appreciation for an amazing 20 years
of providing music for worship at Living Water
Lutheran Church.

Sunday, May 3 - 11:00am - Texas BBQ Lunch

You are invited to show your love and appreciation to
Scott with a generous cash gift for him.

Please write "Scott" in the memo line of the check.

Scott has shared his gifts with us for 20 years,
now it's our turn to share our gifts with him.

Please sign up in the courtyard to attend party.



VBS

Book Drive

COLLECTING NEW AND GENTLY USED BOOKS FOR BABIES THROUGH ADULTS

APRIL 6 - JUNE 30, 2026

LIVING WATER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please bring
Children's Books, Baby
Board Books, Early
Phonics Books, Youth Books, Young
Adult Books, Adult Books, Cookbooks, and
even Magazines with recipes (Financial
Donations are welcome too) to Living
Water Lutheran Church: 9201 E Happy
Valley Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85255
(Open Mon-Thurs 9am-2pm)

Remember
no rips,
tears, marks
or wormholes.



**DELIVERING
DREAMS**
OF ARIZONA

Supporting Youth for Success

Delivering Dreams of Arizona constantly collects new and gently used books for babies through adults. These collections are distributed throughout the Phoenix core area by their volunteers, striving to put books in the homes of families who are financially challenged. For many, your donation could be the first book owned by an individual.

Please contact coordinator Sue Brash with questions, large pick-up requests or offers to donate: suebrash7@gmail.com or 602-317-9444

<https://deliveringdreamsaz.org>

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.org/vbs2026/

Diapers for Dollars Drive to Benefit

Alleluia Better Chance Diaper Closet



Alleluia Better Chance Diaper Closet provides diapers for 120-150 infants and toddlers impacting 90 to 110 families. **In 2025, Alleluia provided 148,292 diapers and 218,252 wipes through a (paid) association with the AZ Diaper Bank and through *generous donations*.** This ministry is a stand-alone, not-for-profit organization with a distribution center at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Phoenix, a location that has allowed the organization to increase the number of clients it serves.

Alleluia Better Chance Diaper Closet provides a two-week supply of diapers and wipes on the third Saturday of each month to approximately 150 infants and toddlers in its service radius. Babies and toddlers need an average of 8 diapers a day (more for newborns). That means 112 diapers per child for two weeks (on average). With 120 to 150 infants and toddlers, that is a lot of diapers!

Did you know that diapers cannot be bought with food stamps and are not provided as part of the WIC program? 30% of low-income moms report they cannot change their children's diapers as often as they would like. 32% of low-income families report re-using diapers to pay critical household expenses. Many families who need diapers are working parents, but their low-wage jobs do not cover the basic needs of their children. Childcare providers require parents to have a supply of disposable diapers – no diapers, no daycare - which may mean no employment for parents. In Arizona, one in six of our children lives below the Federal Poverty Line.

In the past we have given diapers, wipes, and dollars, but after discussion last year with the organization, it became clear that money is the easiest and most helpful donation we can make. A check from Living Water allows the Diaper Closet the ability to fill gaps in inventory quickly.

Alleluia needs our help. We are a generous and a giving congregation. Living Water's Service Ministry Team is kicking off a ***Dollars for Diapers Drive*** to support the Alleluia Better Chance Diaper Closet. By Mother's Day, May 10th, our goal is to collect enough dollars to meet the needs of this ministry for two weeks. With our gifts of dollars, we can help provide diapers for babies and toddlers in need.

Please make your checks payable to Living Water Lutheran Church and note "Alleluia Diaper Closet" on the memo line.

Opening Hymn... "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb-en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



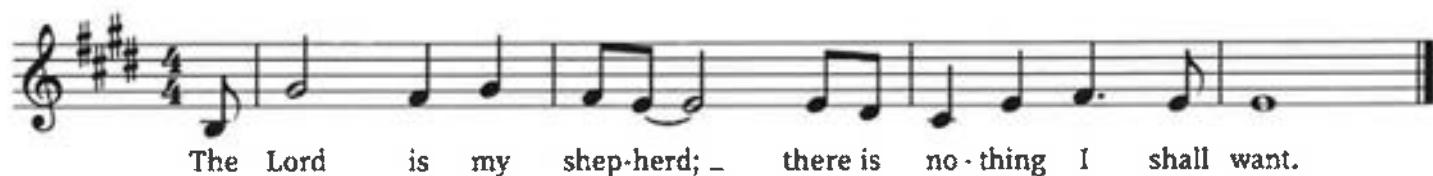
teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth. *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Psalm 23 The Lord Is My Shepherd

Refrain



1-3a The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he give 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... "Have No Fear, Little Flock"



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
 flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
 Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930
 Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

Sending Hymn... "What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine"



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924

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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Associate Director of Music: Scott Sims

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In case of Pastoral Emergency, please call Pastor Mark at 973-699-7777 (mobile)

Living Water Lutheran Church

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~ 480.473.8400 ~