

CONNECTIONS

Living Water
Lutheran Church



July 12, 2026



Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—*Tuesdays at NOON*

Sunday worship service is at 10:00am
on-site and online



We Remember in Our Prayers

Prayer List 7.12.2026

- Sylvia Behler (Daughter of Laurie Shabbick)—Hospice Care
- 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
- Gene Dehnbostel (Brother of Marilyn Nartker)—Health Concerns
- Don Doench (Brother-in-law of Joan Sprinkle) – Health Concerns
- Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Brett Stone)—Health Concerns
- Gary Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- 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
- Marilyn Nartker—Health Concerns
- Barbara Nelson (Sister of Janet Guthrie)—Health Concerns
- Prestyn Oglesby (David's grandson)—Air Force Deployment
- Gene and Shirley Perry—Health Concerns
- Roy Pester (Friend of Dave Oglesby)—Health Concerns
- Jana Richter (Family Member of Henri & Lynda Breault)—Health Concerns
- Karen Roessler—Health Concerns
- Del Rogge—Heart Concerns
- Dale Schoenbeck (David's Brother)—Health Concerns
- Regan Shea (Friend of Pastor Mark)—Health Concerns
- Roger Smedberg (Nephew of Karen and Ronald Roessler)—Brain Cancer
- Frank Steen (Friend of Pastor Mark)—Cancer
- 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 (Niece of Sharon Westergreen)—Health Concerns
- Family and Friends of Carrie (daughter of Sharon Augenstein)
- Family and Friends of Betty Copenhaver (Aunt of Pastor Mark)

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.*

Prayer of the Week:

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

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***



THE POWER OF CORN FLAKES



An Opportunity to Love Your Neighbor

Starting today, Sunday, July 5, your servant leadership team is beginning a more effective means of supporting ministries important to Living Water. We will be collecting money and goods during targeted, time-limited drives for all our ministries. We already do this several times a year including donations at Thanksgiving and the Angel Tree at Christmas and the diaper drive for Alleluia Diaper Closet before Mothers' Day, and this month we will be following that process to collect for **FOOTHILLS FOOD BANK**.

Summer is low season for donations, but the need is not less. Let's show that Living Water can respond to our community's need with a strong spirit of generosity to help ease our neighbors' challenges through tough times.

How can we help?

Corn Flakes! Rice Krispies! Raisin Bran! We will be collecting breakfast cereals geared for adults in **regular-size boxes** or in the **small box variety packs**. Our goal is **500 boxes** by Sunday, July 26.

There are three ways to contribute: **(1)** Bring your donations to Living Water and leave them in the designated area in the Narthex **(2)** take one of the envelopes addressed to FOOTHILLS FOOD BANK and place your check inside with LIVING WATER noted on the memo line. **(3)** *For those of you in other locations, send your check directly to this address: Foothills Food Bank, 4250 E. Carefree Hwy., Cave Creek, AZ 85331.* Foothills will let us know how much they collect from Living Water donors.

Living Water is a generous congregation attuned to the needs of the community. Let's throw our support behind Foothills Food Bank and show them what we can do when we put our hearts and spirits to work!

**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 September 30 – November 11**

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

480-473-8400 - pastorshari@lwleaz.org



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



Three reasons why summer is a great time to invite a friend or neighbor to worship

#1 Summer has a unique rhythm: slower mornings and lighter schedules. This opens up weekend schedules and the opportunity to make some time on Sunday morning to come to worship.

#2 Summer in Arizona means that we are holed up in our air-conditioned homes and some people might be lonely and missing a connection with people. A church community might just be the solution to combat loneliness.

#3 Many people feel a natural desire for renewal during summer. They're rethinking routines, exploring new activities, and seeking deeper purpose. That makes this season ideal for extending an invitation to worship.

Here are some warm, low-pressure, and rooted in relationship examples of an invitation: "I'm heading to worship this Sunday — you're welcome to come with me if you'd like." or "I've really been enjoying the music at our church. Want to join me sometime?"

Just think...your invitation might be the nudge someone has been quietly hoping for. Many people long for community but don't know where to begin. A friendly neighbor's invitation can feel like a lifeline — a sign that they're seen, valued, and welcome. Also, when you extend an invitation, you're offering more than a Sunday plan. You're offering community, encouragement, and a chance to experience God's presence in a new way. Let's consider this summer heat and change of pace a great opportunity to try something new and make a difference in someone's life.

God's peace,
Pastor Shari

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. We use the funds to provide donations to organizations like St. Mary's Food Bank of Arizona and ELCA, Nourish Phx and Foothills Foodbank

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!



Piecemakers Quilters Summer Break

Our quilters are taking a summer break from tying quilt beginning in June.

If you like to sew and are looking for some small projects during the summer heat, we always have quilt tops ready to be assembled. 12 or 16 pieces, using 1/2" seams. Assemble at your leisure! Ask Lynda Cales, Kay Bonar, Mary Nyberg or

Myrna Ulland. You can also learn more about this ministry supporting Lutheran World Relief at www.lwr.org/quilts-and-kits

Look for our announcement when we resume our group tying again in September.

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*



Tuesday Women's Bible Study Update

The Tuesday Women's Bible study concluded an enlightened study on the book of Esther using material from Kelly Minter on June 2nd. While not our first look at this Old Testament book, it was a deeper dive and encouraged participants to do some scripture digging in-between our seven sessions.

While we're on hiatus for the summer, we'll stay connected through prayer requests during the summer. We also regularly pray for all on our church's prayer list.

Women are encouraged to continue self-study using their subscription to Gather or from free downloadable Bible studies from Gather magazine during the summer. Go to <https://gathermagazine.org> and search for Bible studies.

As we concluded our time together, we sent gifts from our weekly offering to our Grand Canyon Women, to Foothills Food Bank, to St. Mary's Food Bank, to Peter's Hope, to Sleep in Heavenly Peace and to the Pitchfork Pantry at Grace Lutheran Church. This food pantry supports students in ASU's downtown site. We also helped assemble 129 personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Tuesday Women have grown in their connections with each other, with their love of scripture, and with their generosity. If you aren't yet part of this Bible study community, we'd love to see you when we resume in September, 10 am on Tuesday's!

There is room for you at our table!





Dear friend,

You've likely seen the news that two powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela last week. Entire communities have been shaken to the ground. More than 1,700 lives have been confirmed lost so far, thousands more are injured, and countless families are now without shelter, safety or access to necessities.

Lutheran Disaster Response is already responding through trusted, long-standing partners in the region, including the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela (IELV). ELCA partners have deployed assessment teams to affected areas, working together to identify urgent needs, provide immediate relief (e.g. food, shelter, water) and coordinate a plan for long-term assistance.

Your gifts enable this church to provide fast and effective support to communities in need and to remain for as long as recovery takes, whenever and wherever a disaster occurs. Will you give today to provide critical aid in these early days and, crucially, in the months and years to come?

Please consider a gift today. In Venezuela and around the world, your support makes a difference for families facing unimaginable loss. Please write checks to Living Water Lutheran Church, and in memo line write: VENEZUELA



Spiritual Gifts Virtual Retreat

The Growing In Faith/Diakonia Program proudly presents our "Exploring Your Spiritual Gifts" Retreat!

Answering these questions, What does God want of me? How am I to serve God? Do I have a spiritual gift? What is it? How am I to use it? What kind of ministry is God calling me to? Reverend Stewart McDonald will guide the students through exercises and discussion to help them learn and understand what their gifts are and feel more joy and confidence in how God might be inviting them to use these gifts.

Dates: 2 Saturdays in July: July 18, 25 from 9:00 AM to Noon Arizona Time

Class is online only – you will receive the Zoom link upon registration.

Registration Fee is \$40

Register at <https://www.diakonia.education/> and navigate to Menu > Classes/Events > Upcoming Events

Our retreat leader is Rev. Stewart McDonald. A long-time Growing In Faith/Diakonia instructor, he has led this Spiritual Gifts retreat many times over the last 30 years with excellent results.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

Blessings,

Gathering Hymn... "Gather Us In"



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Sermon Hymn... "God, Whose Farm Is All Creation"



1 God, whose farm is all cre - a - tion, take the grat - i -
2 Take our plow - ing, seed - ing, reap - ing, hopes and fears of
3 All our la - bor, all our watch - ing, all our cal - en -



tude we give; take the fin - est of our har - vest,
sun and rain, all our think - ing, plan - ning, wait - ing,
dar of care in these crops of your cre - a - tion,



crops we grow that we may live.
rip - ened in this fruit and grain.
take, O God: they are our prayer.

Text: John Arlott, 1914–1991
Music: HARVEST GIFTS, Larry J. Long, b. 1954
Text © Trustees of the late John Arlott, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Sending Hymn... "For the Fruit of All Creation"



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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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.

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

Accounting Manager: Shellee Snoke
ssnoke@lwlcaz.org

Director of Music: Christina Hall
chall@lwlcaz.org

The Living Water
QR code for giving:



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 ~