

CONNECTIONS

Living Water
Lutheran Church



July 19, 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 7.19.2026

- o Sylvia Behler (Daughter of Laurie Shabbick)—Hospice Care
- o Jeff & Eric Bembry (Friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
- o Brian (Judy Tornowske's nephew)—Cancer
- o Lizzy Caddow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- o Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- o Julia Conner (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Health Concerns
- o Larry Coutts (Father of Missy Laudenschlager)—Recurring Health Issues
- o Gene Dehnbostel (Brother of Marilyn Nartker)—Health Concerns
- o Don Doench (Brother-in-law of Joan Sprinkle) – Health Concerns
- o Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Brett Stone)—Health Concerns
- o Gary Fjeld—Health Concerns
- o Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- o Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- o Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- o Robert Hutson—Health Concerns
- o John (Friend of Diane vanMaanen)
- o Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- o Pastor Robert Klein—Health Concerns
- o Matt (Jim and Alison Swanson)—Health Concerns
- o Jeff Millis (Son of Karen Welnhofner)—Recovering from Back Surgery
- o Sandy Moses—Health Concerns
- o Marilyn Nartker—Health Concerns
- o Barbara Nelson (Sister of Janet Guthrie)—Health Concerns
- o Prestyn Oglesby (David's grandson)—Air Force Deployment
- o Gene and Shirley Perry—Health Concerns
- o Roy Pester (Friend of Dave Oglesby)—Health Concerns
- o Jana Richter (Family Member of Henri & Lynda Breault)—Health Concerns
- o Karen Roessler—Health Concerns
- o Del Rogge—Heart Concerns
- o Dale Schoenbeck (David's Brother)—Health Concerns
- o Regan Shea (Friend of Pastor Mark)—Health Concerns
- o Roger Smedberg (Nephew of Karen and Ronald Roessler)—Brain Cancer
- o Frank Steen (Friend of Pastor Mark)—Cancer
- o Kristen Stenehjelm (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehjelm)—Health Concerns
- o Bob Ulland—Health Concerns
- o Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- o Iris Van—Eyesight Issues
- o Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- o Marge Vessey (Close Friend of Carol and Lance Jacobson)—Health Concerns
- o Kelly White (Niece of Sharon Westergreen)—Health Concerns
- o Family and Friends of Carrie (daughter of Sharon Augenstein)
- o 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:

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit, nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, 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.

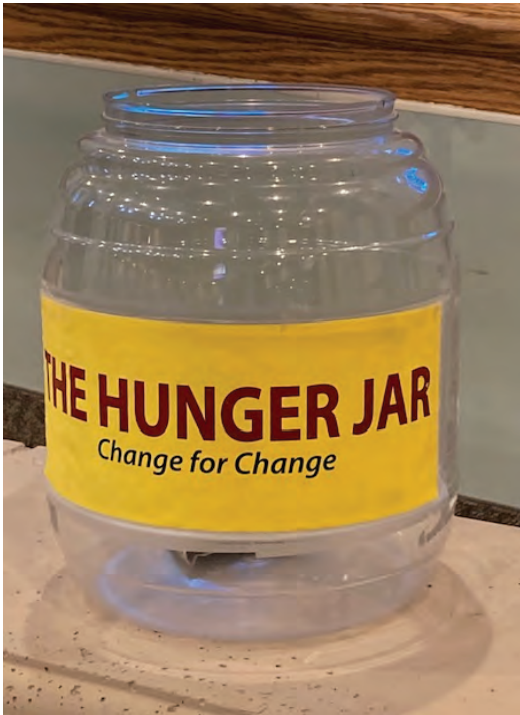
How can we help?

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'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 06/30/26 balance of \$ 2,924. We allocated 50% locally to Foothills Food Bank and 50% internationally to ELCA World Hunger. Each will receive \$1462.

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!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

The Service and Caring Committee just voted on the distribution of the Hunger Jar Collections for the first half of the year. Due to your generosity, Living Water collected \$2,924 from January through June. Thank you, Living Water!

We typically send 50% locally and 50% internationally. This time 50% or \$1,264 will be going to Foothills Food Bank and 50% or \$1,264 will be going to ELCA World Hunger.

This will make a difference to those in need! Thank you again!

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. 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



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**



Piecemakers Quilters Summer Break

Our quilters are taking a summer break from tying quilts, 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 ½" 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*



Gathering Hymn... “Shout to the Lord”



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

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,

Tina Gilson, Growing In Faith/Diakonia Steering Committee Chair
A Ministry and Mission Partner of the Grand Canyon Synod

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

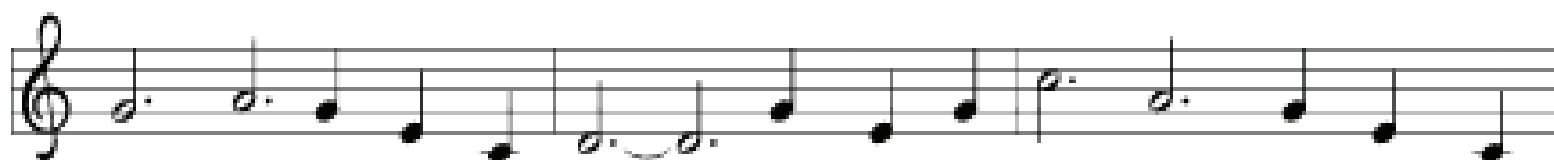
office@lwlcaz.org ~ www.LWLCAZ.org

~ 480.473.8400 ~

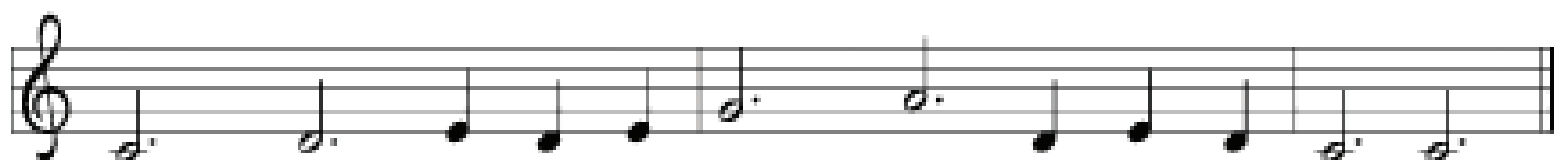
Sending Hymn... "Praise and Thanksgiving"



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood,
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

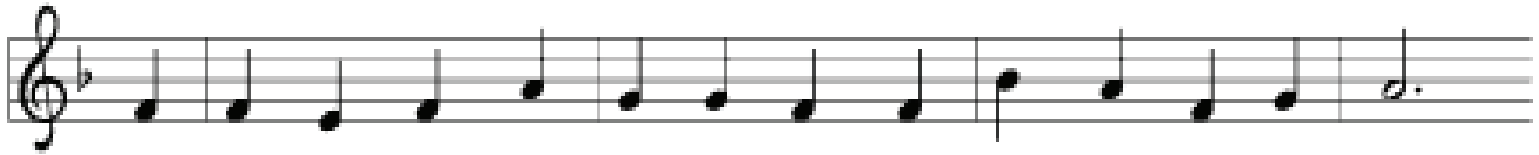
Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

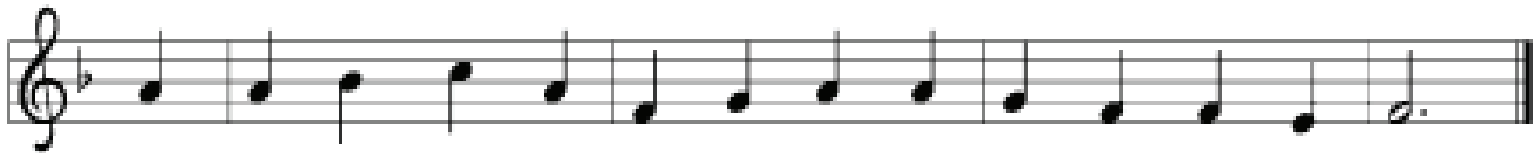
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Sermon Hymn... “Almighty God, Your Word is Cast”



- 1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
- 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
- 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
- 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,

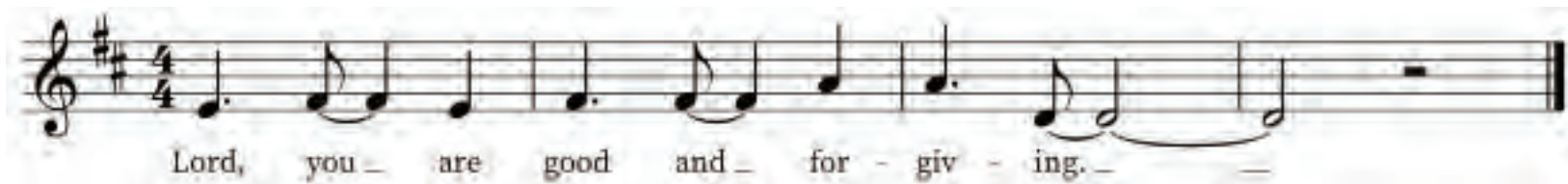


now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.

Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

Psalm 86— Lord, You Are Good and Forgiving



5-6 You, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in kindness to all who call upon you. Hearken, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my pleading. Refrain.

9-10 All the nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord, and glorify your name. For you are great, and you do wondrous deeds; you alone are God. Refrain.

15-16 You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in kindness and fidelity. Turn toward me, and have pity on me; give your strength to your servant. Refrain.

