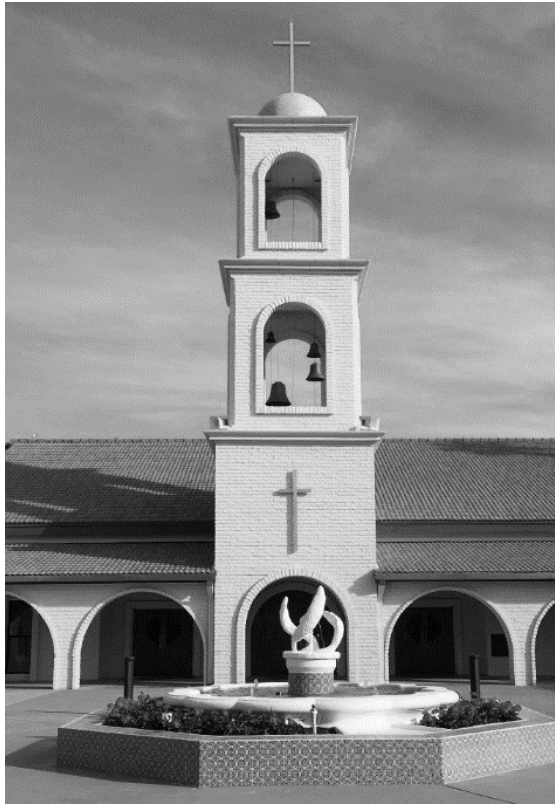


American Lutheran Church of Sun City

January Outreach

Newsletter



MSSION STATEMENT:

To proclaim the love of Jesus Christ, invite others to participate in our faith community, and be a blessing to all in word and deed.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	2
Message from Rev. Lowell Nelson	3-4
Financial Consultant	5
President of the Congregational Council	6-7
The Wellness Minute	7
Notes from the Director of Music	8-9
Variety Show	9
Stephen Ministry	10
Fellowship of Friends	11
Women’s Ministry Information	12
Wednesday Night Alive	13-14
Campus Bible Studies	14
Gifts & Memorials	15
Neighborhood Groups	16
Thank you	17
Meetings/Announcements/Activities	18
AA/Al-Anon	19
Staff Directory and Emails	20

MESSAGE FROM REV. LOWELL NELSON

Dear American Lutheran Church Family & Friends,

Welcome to the New Year, 2019!

May God bless you throughout this year to share Christ's love with your family and fellow faith partners so that our community, nation and world are blessed in word and deed!

Perhaps you are considering some new resolutions for 2019. Most of us can find a variety of self-improvements which would improve our life. Ranging from a better diet to better exercise to a better attitude, our personal intentions are well meaning but often fall short. The key to any change in life is to form deeper relationships with people who are interested in the same things. Which friends absolutely love to prepare delicious, healthy meals? Which friends are absolutely love to exercise in fun and effective ways? Which friends are consistently positive, using Scripture to build a solid foundation to living with thanksgiving? And if none of your friends are interested in these things, well, it's time to make some new friends! ☺

From a faith perspective, January is the first month of Epiphany. I love this word as it describes a "faith resolution" to live with others in wonder and awe at the height, depth, breadth and continuity of God's love in Christ. Epiphany is God's gift to realize, to take the leap of understanding, to affirm the revelation that Christ is the son of God. This epiphany makes all the difference in the world, and I pray the year of our Lord in 2019 is a wonderful year for you and our congregation. May God bless our congregation as we live interested in the same things, the things of God's love, salvation and meaning.

A couple of important notes:

-I'm so pleased Pastor Gary Garvey is rejoining the pastoral team in January! I've enjoyed getting to know him and look forward to working with him as he provides pastoral visitation and "value-added" leadership to our team. I also want to express my appreciation for Dianne Garvey and her Friday morning Women's Bible study leadership. If you have not attended her sessions, I encourage you to make a new resolution to join her classes.

-A reminder to invite your friends and family to Pastor Chuck's New-Member orientation sessions starting on Saturday, January 5, from 9:30-11 am. I deeply appreciate Chuck's love for this church and each person he meets through the New-Member sessions. Please help us invite others to participate in the life of this congregation.

-Special thanks to all our Boards/Committees who prepared materials for the Annual Meeting upcoming on January 22 at 3 pm. The annual report/budget will be issued on January 12/13 and then informational sessions will be held in between Sunday worship services on the January 13 and 20. Please peruse the materials and come with your questions and recommendations to these sessions.

Let our resolution as a congregation be vibrantly clear in 2019: Our mission is to Proclaim the Love of Jesus Christ, Invite Others to Participate in Our Faith Community, and Be a Blessing to All in Word and Deed. What an Epiphany that we are called to do this together!

Love, Pastor Lowell



FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

The Council and I have been working diligently on the budget for 2019. The Council has been wonderful in looking at their area and cutting back where they can. I want to thank everyone for their efforts. Once the final budget is approved, we will have it available for distribution.

I want to thank all of you for your continued generosity. We currently have \$125,000 in the savings, of which about \$10,000 is for designated gifts. We will have to start using some of that for the mortgage payment next month. We are expecting around \$180,000 in bequests in the 1st quarter of 2019, which will be used to help build a reserve. The Council will be voting on the usage of any undesignated funds in the future.

2019 is a transition year, and we hope to stabilize the finances and continue our efforts to be good stewards of all the money we receive.

Happy New Year!

Carol Weber, Financial Consultant

You are Invited to Attend

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
CONGREGATION

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 22, 2019 3 p.m.

Sanctuary

PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION

Christmas Day has come and gone. Christmas decorations have been put away, and plans for New Year's have been made. Of course, there are plenty of conversations about football games, parades and parties. Except in church, little thought is given to the three Magi who followed a star and the celebration of Epiphany. When I was a child, my analytical mind always had a hard time understanding how the wise men could be in Bethlehem at the same time as the shepherds and the angel, as shown in our family nativity set. Once I learned about Epiphany, everything made sense. Epiphany is such a wonderful way to keep the good news of Christ's birth with us after the festivities of the season are over. Other cultures celebrate Epiphany in a variety of ways: Small gifts for children, a King's cake, a day of visiting friends, star-shaped ginger cookies. I hope you have your own way to honor such a special day.

Your Church Council is busy preparing for the annual meeting, Tuesday, January 22, beginning at 3 pm in the sanctuary. (Please note the change in location.) At this meeting new Council members will be elected, and the 2019 budget will be presented. On Sunday, January 13, and Sunday, January 20, Finance Committee members and Council members will be available to answer questions about the budget between services in the Multi-Purpose Room. Also, on Saturday, January 19, there will be a question-and-answer session in the Narthex after the service. Your church leadership was determined to create a balanced budget for 2019, and everyone involved has worked together to achieve this goal. All Council liaisons and committee members gave careful thought to their areas and exercised due diligence in submitting their requests.

At our December council meeting, the following members were elected to be Council officers for 2019: Teri Polk, Vice President; Kay Peterson, Secretary. The following members have been nominated to serve on the 2019 Council: Dick Jorgenson, President; Karen Hans, Worship & Music; Marge Lane, Benevolence; Sharon Grambow, Personnel; Donald Garverick, Trust; Ray Brodland, Property; Bryan Cooper-Keeble, Neighborhood Groups; Wally Brambilla, Finance; Jan Powell, Women's Ministries; and Dennis Keller, Finance. The election will take place at the Annual Meeting.

American Lutheran Church is so fortunate to have so many dedicated and talented members who are willing to give of their time and talents to be church leaders. Although I will no longer be a Council member in 2019, I am confident these men and women will continue to be good stewards of our resources, to be participants in worship and prayer, and to be leaders in carrying out programs designed to show our response to God's love through word and deed.

THE WELLNESS MINUTE

January, 2019

Curbing Your Appetite

It's all too easy to overeat or give in to food cravings. Enjoy the most satisfying parts of eating with these tips:

- Recognize a craving versus hunger: True hunger usually occurs when it's been a few hours since the last time you ate. A craving is more of an urge or vague longing to consume something, often as a result of habit, boredom or increased stress.
- Eat Healthy: A nutritious meal with a balance of healthy fats, protein and plant foods can keep you full until the next meal.
- Avoid Distractions: Don't eat while you're watching TV or browsing on your computer. Doing so can make it easy to eat more than you intended.
- Pay attention to your food: Serve a single, modest plate of food for a meal and really taste each bite. Avoid second servings by keeping food away from the table or stored before you eat.
- Keep Healthy Snacks on hand: Fruits, vegetables, small portions of raw or dry-roasted nuts, or low-fat or fat-free dairy products make good snacks. If you can't stop eating a less healthy or high-calorie food, don't keep it in the house.
- Satisfy Cravings Wisely: If you're out for dessert, get one and split it with your companions. Break off a small square of dark chocolate, have a small scoop of ice cream or a small handful of chips and really enjoy them. Fulfill cravings with low- or no-calorie items such as chewing gum, sugar-free mints, carbonated water, tea or black coffee.

Lori Kellar, ALC Wellness Coordinator

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

First, a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Advent/Christmas worship this year so extra meaningful and spirit-filled. From all of the choir members and bell ringers, the ushers and greeters, the readers and communion assistants, and all the special musicians and decorators—it takes the hard work of many, many people to provide just that one hour of worship week after week. No one can do it alone; thank you.

Secondly, UPCOMING EVENTS. As we say in the "biz", now that Christmas is over, can Christmas be far behind? Our busy holiday season of concerts and events may be over, but the busy life of our congregation goes on, reaching out to our wider community and proclaiming, inviting and blessing.

Our Twelfth Night Festival of Music. SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, at 3 pm. Come and enjoy, once again, all of the special Advent and Christmas music that is so important to our worship life. If you were a snowbird and went back north during the holidays or simply want to hear it again, this is your chance.

Dr. David Judisch and his nephew Robert Westendorf will share their special musical talents for our Saturday and Sunday worship services on JANUARY 19 and 20. Familiar to many of you (for they have been making this an annual event for several years now), we are always blessed with their gifts. Dr. Judisch has enjoyed a long career as a professor of music, teaching at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and performing opera worldwide.

The Phoenix Symphony will be returning to our sanctuary for a concert featuring the music of Schubert and Mozart. FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 at 7:30 pm. American Lutheran Church will host "Mozart and Schubert Chamber Music Festival." Tickets are available by calling the symphony box office at (602) 495-1999, (800) 776-9080, or going to their website at tickets.phoenixsymphony.org.

Finally: The Phoenix Boys Choir will perform their annual VOICES OF VALOR Concert on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, at 2 pm. Join The Phoenix Boys Choir as we celebrate our heroes and give thanks with song. The free, public concerts offers a fresh selection of patriotic and popular songs, new works, and "sneak-peeks" of upcoming performances. The public is invited to join the choir as we salute those men and women we admire, who serve our community and bravely defend our country. Voices of Valor is sponsored by Express Scripts and is presented in partnership with the Phoenix VA Hospital and the Arizona State Veterans Home.

VARIETY SHOW II

Everyone had so much fun last year--you won't want to miss Variety Show II, scheduled for Sunday afternoon, January 20, at 3:00. We'll have some repeat crowd pleasing performers, plus some new surprises. Who knew what talent is sitting in the pews! Now we need to hear from you talented artists and crafters. Quilters, woodworkers, potters, rosemalers, metal workers, painters, hardangers, etc. All are welcome! No later than January 10, please see Linda at church, call her at 623-308-4032, or send an email to lshirck70@gmail.com so we can discuss how much table space you need or any other display needs you may have. Also, she'll need to know if you plan to offer something for the silent auction.

Thanks to everyone who is sharing their time and talent for this fun afternoon. The rest of you can show your support by your attendance, a free-will offering, and auction purchase; all proceeds will go to the Capital Building Fund.

Let's have some fun! Linda Shirck, Coordinator

STEPHEN MINISTRY

ATTENTION STEPHEN MINISTERS

JANUARY PROGRAMMING ANNOUNCED

Telephones are a wonderful means of communication, which many of us take for granted. But for an increasing number of us, phones are becoming difficult, if not impossible, to use. There is help available. Stephen Ministry will learn about telephone options available to hearing impaired as well as speech and visually impaired people on Thursday, Jan. 10, 2019, at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A representative of AzTEDP (Az Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program) will present a program outlining the services which they offer free of charge to residents of Arizona.

There have been options available here in our state since 1986 when the AZ Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing began distributing TTYs to deaf people so they could access the public telephone system. Today, AzTEDP has grown into one of the most comprehensive telecommunications loan programs in the nation; serving the deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and speech challenged citizens of Arizona. We will learn about these services as well as exactly how to apply for and get the help that is available. There will be a table in the courtyard between services on Sunday, January 6, with more information about this program. Please contact Diane Kohler at 623-826-6890 if you have further questions.

ALL MEMBERS OF ALC ARE WELCOME TO JOIN OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS FOR THIS PRESENTATION. After a brief refreshment break at 10, all Stephen Minister will adjourn to their Peer-Support Groups. This is a required meeting for all Stephen Ministers.

STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING CLASSES for 2019 will begin on January 10 at 9 am. If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Ulrich to let him know of your interest.

FELLOWSHIP OF FRIENDS!



Arizona Broadway Theater Tuesday, March 26

\$65 per person includes show and dinner

Bus transportation will be available

Sign up will begin in January!!!!

For more information 623-224-1750—OR—
JohnVickiTate@gmail.com



Interested in a Spring Training Baseball Game?

Check the weekly bulletins for updates!!!!



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

The next meeting to make diapers and bandages for **Global Health Ministries** will be on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please continue to donate white T-shirts of all sizes and white sheets. All donations can be placed on the food-gathering table in the narthex.

Thank you! Thank you! Your donations of cookies for our 40 shut-ins and our Third Annual Cookie Walk held during the **Christmas Brunch** made our homebound members very happy, and the money raised (\$343) from the Cookie Walk added to our year-end donations made to charities. A special thank you to all who helped make the Christmas Brunch and Cookie Walk very successful and fun.

Katie Is Coming to Tea...Katie Luther that is, who is also known as Jean Bradford! Please join us for: "Fill My Cup Tea"

January 31, 11:00 a.m. ALC Fellowship Hall Cost is \$7.00

Tickets will be sold on Saturdays and Sundays in January beginning January 12. Our Giving Project for this event will be Pastor Maria's Diaper Ministry. Please bring disposable diapers or a monetary donation.

Teapots are needed for centerpieces. Please contact Gena Marks (402) 657-0523 if you can loan one or more teapots.

SAVE THE DATES!

- Thursday, January 31, 2019, 11:00 a.m.: the WoMIN's Ministry will hold a tea, "Fill My Cup." Our guest speaker will be "Katie Luther." You won't want to miss this fun event.
- February 16, 2019: The 2019 Cactus Conference Spring Gathering will be held here at American Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 16, 2019, 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE!

Happy 2019 to all!

It's hard to believe it's a new year - 2018 went way too fast! WNA will resume its programming and dinners on January 9. There is a brochure available for all of the January and February programs, including menus. **WNA dinner tickets will be on sale after the Saturday service, between services on Sunday (from 9:30am to 10:30am) and on Wednesday nights during dinner.** They will also be available in the church office beginning every Thursday up to the deadline, Mondays at noon. Please remember, your ticket is your reservation for dinner. We must have your reservation NO LATER than Monday noon.

The WNA committee welcomes constructive criticism about the programs, as well as suggestions for future programs. We very much appreciate your direct comments to a member of the committee to enable us to improve, change, etc. when needed. We strive to please, but it isn't always possible. That's why we offer you a choice of three programs every week. Our new mission statement explains it all:

Wednesday Night Alive (WNA) Ministry of American Lutheran Church combines congregational fellowship with community outreach to inspire, educate, motivate and entertain.

The WNA committee members are: Connie Brodland, Deb Hjortland, Van Judd, Vicki Merlak, Alan Olson and Gil Thoele. The committee always wears a WNA name tag on Wednesday nights, so they are easily identified each week. Please do not hesitate to speak to any one of them regarding comments. We as a committee are most appreciative of feedback, as it helps us to know what people enjoy.

Again, may I remind you that not all WNA program presenters are free of charge. Some ask for an honorarium or charge a fee. Therefore, to help ensure good programming, we will continue to have free-will offering baskets at the end of each 6 pm program. You may also make a gift to WNA to honor or memorialize someone you care about. We have also raised our dinner ticket price from \$7 to \$8. Thank you in advance for your participation and your generosity. We will continue to strive for excellence!

See you in 2019 at WNA!

Maryanne Winters, WNA Chair

ALCSC CAMPUS BIBLE STUDIES

Pastor's Bible Study ~ Every Tuesday, 10 am, in the Fellowship Hall.
Pastor Lowell Nelson will resume January 8.

Men's Bible Study ~ Every Thursday, 8 am, Ed C. Lectionary study.

Women's Bible Study ~The monthly *Gather* Bible Study will resume **January 9, 9:30 am**, in the Multi-Purpose Room led by Pastor Lowell Nelson. Copies of the *Gather* magazine study are in the church office. Please plan to join us.

Me, Myself, and Lies: A Thought Closet Makeover –
Bible study that encourages to clean out the junk our minds and replace hidden negative thoughts with positive truths from God's word. Words are powerful. According to Jennifer Rothschild, what we think about often has a ripple effect on nearly every area of our lives. 7 sessions. Sign up today!
Class will begin Friday, January 11.

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

SPECIAL GIFTS and MEMORIALS

To Debt Reduction/Capital Fund:

SPECIAL GIFTS

a gift has been given to *ALC Capital Campaign* by Judy Morrison in celebration of her daughter's birthday and her husband's heavenly birthday.

A Gift to the ALC Music Department
In memory of Robert Villalovos

A gift to the ALC Needy Fund/Food
In memory of Robert Villalovos

A Gift to the Capital Fund
In memory of Barbara Nelson by Helen Teply
In honor of Don and Mary Bortz anniversary by Leslie White

A Gift to ALC
In memory of Craig Clifford Bender by Carrie Stockdill
In memory of Vivian Ridenour by Marie Amble
In memory of Frank Marks, Derrick Neverman, Bill Gill, and Beverly Baldwin
by Judy Jensen

A Gift to Stephen Ministry
In memory of Betty Lou Hammer by Harold and Carol Moe
In memory of Betty Lou Hammer by Charlotte Riebe

A Gift for Debt Reduction
In memory of Al Schwed by Gerald and Patsy Pokrandt

A Gift for General Operating Expenses
In memory of John Patterson and Wendell Clements by
Peter and Rita Van Stelle

A Gift in honor of the ALC Office Staff by Judy Jensen

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

First Thursday, JANUARY 3

12:00 **2L** Royal Oaks @ Royal Oaks

First Saturday, JANUARY 5

8:30 **2H** Happy Hour @ Royal Café

9:00 **2D** Thunderbirds @ ALC

Second Saturday, JANUARY 12

9:00 **3C** Care, Chatter, Comfort –9

9:00 **3J** Joy, Joy, Joy @ Jones/Thompson

9:00 **3H** Jolly Comrades @ Coco's

Third Thursday, JANUARY 17

8:30 1A Quail Run @ Mercer's

Third Friday, JANUARY 18

11:00 2A Birds of Pray @ 5 & Diner

Third Saturday, JANUARY 19

8:00 **2C** Early Birds—Ji Michael's

8:00 **5C/5E/5F** Grand West @ Memo's

9:00 **5A** Westers @ Bert's Bistro

9:30 **3A** Wanderers in homes

9:30 3E Paradise RV Park--6

Fourth Saturday, JANUARY 26

9:00 **2M** El Dorado @ El Dorado

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP 2D, Thunderbirds, will meet on Saturday, January 5 at Royal Oaks, 10015 W. Royal Oaks Road, in the Gallery Room. This is a change for this meeting only. Those planning to attend MUST RSVP to Harold Peterson by **January 2**.

ALC NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS is

looking for anyone interested in becoming a group leader for their group. Contact Chuck Louderback at 623-547-5800 or Diane at the church office if you are interested.

THANK YOU

Angel Tree

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Angel Tree ministry. This year we had **166** angels on our trees and you provided gifts or donations for all of them. Your generosity has fulfilled the Christmas wishes of all our “angels”. Thank you for returning your gifts on time; it was a great help for those who packed the family bags. A big thank you to staff for setup and announcements. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Thank you so much to committee members who helped with record keeping and assistance to congregants finding the “angels” of choice and keeping the records. Also a big thanks to the crew for packing the family bags; your help is amazing. You are a dedicated group to assist in this worthy ministry.

The representatives from Central Baptist Church picked up the gifts Dec 15 and distributed them at a Christmas party for the children. They also deliver a message of the Gospel to the children.

Well done fellow ALC Members, Ann Skidmore

Thanks to all who remembered me during my stay in the hospital. Pastor Ulrich’s visits, prayers, cards and phone calls were very much appreciated. God Bless to all. Alice Nelson

MEETINGS\ANNOUNCEMENTS\ACTIVITIES

The Good Book Club

We will meet Jan 14 in Room C at 10:30 am. Our book this month is THE FOREVER SUMMER, by JAMIE BRENNER. Leading our discussion will be Connie Archer. It is the captivating tale of family secrets and strong women. We welcome you to join us.

A Blessed and Healthy 2019 to All!

Make sure your announcements, committee information and meeting dates, and Neighborhood Group gatherings are listed correctly. Please email or telephone your information to Judy Gilmore, Administrative Assistant, j.gilmore@alcsuncity.org. The bulletins and church calendar are as accurate as the information provided by members. Thank you for your

Directory Changes

We express our deepest sympathy to those who have lost loved ones.

Centenarians

Carol Howland (106)
Mary Graybiel (103)
Norma Carlsson (103)
Glenn Mobraten (101)
Dorothy Noren (100)
Dorothy Hootman (100)
Milan Susina (100)

PHONE CHANGE

Theresa Ricks: 602-361-9083

REMOVED FROM ROLLS BY DEATH

Frank Marks (11/23/18)
William H. Gill (11/30/18)
Robert Villalovos (12/15/18)
John Kaepernick (12/17/18)
Anna Susina (12/17/18)
Cathy M. Davidson (12/22/18)

Alcoholics Anonymous

The AA Group meets at American Lutheran Church. These are referred to as “closed meetings.” Closed meetings are for AA members only or for those who have a drinking problem and desire to stop drinking. Meetings are Mondays, 7:00 pm, and Wednesday evenings, 6:00 pm, in Education Room C. For more information, call Judie at 623-337-7747.



Al-Anon is a worldwide 12-step fellowship, which offers hope, support, and self-care information to anyone concerned about the drinking or drug use of a friend or family member. It has one purpose: To help loved ones of alcoholics by practicing the 12 steps. Meetings are Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in Ed. Room A/B. For more information, call Claire at 507-288-6353, or Nancy at 858-735-7456.





American Lutheran Church of Sun City
17200 N. Del Webb Blvd
Sun City, AZ 85373
Phone: 623.974.2512 – Fax: 623-974-2515
www.alcsuncity.org
Facebook/American Lutheran Church of Sun City

**Non Profit
 Organization
 U.S.POSTAGE
 PAID
 Permit No. 59
 Youngtown, AZ**

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Lowell C. Nelson Senior Pastor
l.nelson@alcsuncity.org

Rev. Gary R. Ulrich Pastor of Care
g.ulrich@alcsuncity.org

Rev. Charles T. Paulson
 Pastor of Outreach and Visitation
cpaulson@cox.net

MUSIC MINISTRY

Tom Ohnesorge Director of Music/Organist
t.ohnesorge@alcsuncity.org

Linda Shirck Music Assistant
lshirck70@gmail.com

George Zoske Director of Christo Bells
gzoske@mac.com

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Carol Weber Financial Consultant
c.weber@alcsuncity.org

Diane Lewis Information Services/
 Administrative Assistant
d.lewis@alcsuncity.org

Leslie White Financial Assistant/
 Bookkeeper
l.white@alcsuncity.org

Lori Kellar Wellness Coordinator
l.kellar@alcsuncity.org

Judy Gilmore Administrative Assistant
j.gilmore@alcsuncity.org

Carie Oppedahl Reception/Office Assistant
c.oppedahl@alcsuncity.org

Dave Tigges Custodian

Hector Guerrero, John Tate ... Bus Drivers