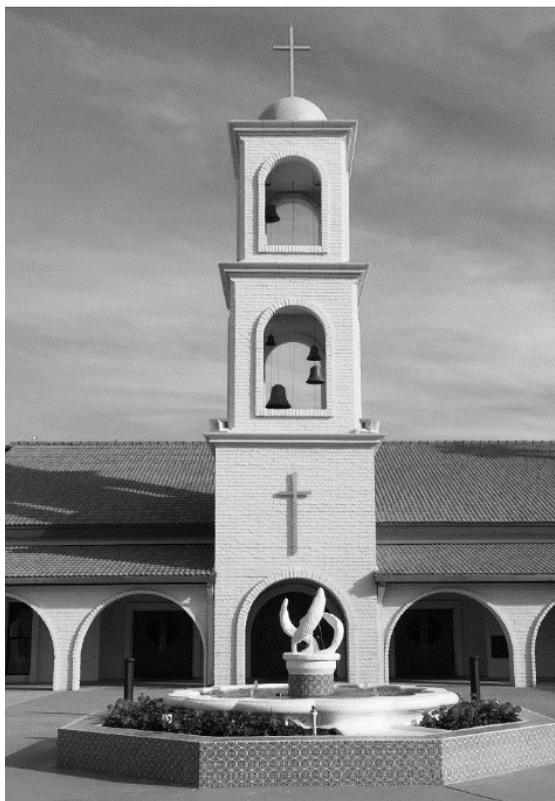


American Lutheran Church of Sun City

December 2019 Outreach Newsletter



MISSION 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.

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Greetings to American Lutheran Church Family and Friends,

Prayerfully, while approaching my first creation for our newsletter to introduce myself and my ministry to you, I ponder what does the reader know about me and what do they want or need to know? What would Jesus want me to share? What do I want to share? After some discernment, I begin by saying "Thank You God" for the opportunity to serve in the Christian life of American Lutheran Church in Sun City, AZ. "Thank You People of God" for inviting me into this community. "Thank you Pastor Lowell" for having the confidence in your Sister in Christ to think that I could be the pastor that would be equipped to serve alongside you in this ministry of Word and Sacrament.

While Pastor Lowell and I have been in Nebraska as ordained pastors together, we actually never served at the same place at the same time, even though we were both ordained at Bethany Lutheran Church in Elkhorn, NE, which is outside of Omaha. We were educated, trained and have worked as counselors, health care administrators, and Ordained Pastors in the ELCA. We have weathered the joys and struggles of those professions in the beautiful state of Nebraska where we both still have many colleagues, family and friends.

My large family in NE includes, but is not limited to, 3 wonderful sons and their wives and 6 teenage grandchildren. I also still have a sister, brother and their families that share love with me. In 2015, my home that I designed for a Retreat Center, was built on a lake outside of Omaha. My passion includes national and international travel but more than that I love animals which have included my trained therapy dog Paco who was used in my ministry. My 30-year-old quarter horse, Jake, still blesses my life. I have taught my 6 grandkids to ride on him, and he has taken me to many places like the Black Hills and across NE many times.

I am amused when I hear how Pastor Lowell described me to people at American Lutheran. I guess I must be quite an open book when it comes to who I am. I grew up in a large family on a farm outside of the small community of Wood River, NE, where authenticity was a given. My parents raised 7 of us in a Missouri Synod Lutheran church where we memorized our catechism and did not question anything. We did not learn much about healthy relaxation as the work ethic was primary. Today I question many things but I did not leave my work ethic behind.

My recent 40-day pilgrimage on the Camino Santiago walking 450 miles in Spain, probably gives you a little indication of my German tenacity! Exercise and quiet meditation are part of trying to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

I pledge to you my brothers and sisters in Christ to be a ministry of presence and to love each of you because God first loved me. I will try do the best I can every day with what I have and hopefully each following day I am willing to do even better with the gifts God gives me. Every morning I read my devotions and journal. In my journaling, I always close with words to remind me of a good orderly direction. "Love God, self and others." I do it in that order because God has commanded me to love others as I do myself. If I do not first love God I cannot begin to love myself or others. I then write 5 things I am grateful for so I can start my day with a grateful heart.

I feel blessed that I have been asked to preach the first Sunday of Advent and to lead Advent services at 6 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. We will be learning more about Taize Worship. For the worship experience, there will be a request to enter the sanctuary in silence and to leave in silence. That will be a stretch for some, but I have confidence that with some patience we can do it. That perhaps will not be as big of stretch as when I request that each of you sit in silence during the service for 5 minutes of contemplation as we silently listen to God. Prayer is not just talking to God...it is also taking time to listen to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Another Advent discipline will include the suggestion of reading the entire book of Luke, one chapter a day, beginning the first Sunday of Advent. By Christmas Day, you will have completed the entire Book of Luke, which includes 24 chapters about the journey of Jesus. Spiritual disciplines are so important as we mature in our faith life as Children of God.

Pastor Lowell had asked me to become acquainted with the life of American Lutheran and to share who I am with you so hopefully, you have a glimpse into my "human being" and not just as a "human doing" in your midst. Thanks for taking time to take a peek into my life as I have shared it with you. I look forward to hearing your stories as they unfold. It feels like each time I meet someone and listen to them, another chapter is added to a book of life for me to enjoy.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Judith". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

Pastor Judith

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

HELP WANTED

How many of us are perusing the newspaper want ads when we are trying to find a new job? Probably not many who are reading this month's Outreach. So, how do employers find someone when an opening occurs? Networking works for many and the internet has many sites designated for this function. Well, what does that have to do with ALC?

Many of the functions of our church exist only because someone volunteers to serve. This is part of being a blessing to others in word and deed. Some volunteer opportunities are very visible such as Ushers at the weekly worship services or Communion Assistants and Eucharistic Ministers when Communion is served. Others serve in less visible ways such as the Altar Guild that takes care of paraments and making ready the bread and wine to be served. We have committees such as Worship and Music and Finance and Wednesday Night Alive (WNA) to name just a few.

This month the WNA Committee begins scheduling programs and dinners and inspirational events for the fall of 2020. Right now, volunteers are being solicited to begin a review of WNA and plan for the future of the program. Would you be interested in contributing your ideas and insights for WNA? This is a premier activity that not only serves to inspire us and provide fellowship but is a prime method of outreach to our community. Phil Miller and Deb Hjortland are designated Council representatives to lead the committee and Pastor Judith will serve to provide pastoral input and guidance. Would you like to take part in this important function?

Or maybe you are willing to serve in other capacities but have just been waiting for someone to ask. Well, here I am asking. We are also looking for Ushers and Greeters. No experience is necessary. Training will be provided. You don't have to be a year-round member and actually, you don't even have to be a member. Visitors are welcome here.

For more information, please contact me at jorgensonra@gmail.com or (602) 904-0757 or leave a message at the church office. I look forward to hearing from you.

Dick Jorgenson
Congregation President

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Music Ministry

“Let us have music for Christmas...
Sound the trumpet of joy and rebirth;
Let each of us try, with a song in our hearts,
To bring peace to men on earth.” ~ Mildred L. Jarrell



What would our Christmas celebrations be without music?! We hear Christmas music on the radio and in the malls earlier and earlier in the fall and maybe by Christmas Eve, you've had enough of all that commercialized music. But on Christmas Eve at ALC, as we prepare to celebrate the Christ Child's birth, you'll hear the most beautiful sacred music by the Celebration Choir, Christo Bells, piano duets, and small group ensembles in an extended prelude. Come early to find a seat and then escape from the bustle of holiday preparation as you enjoy the peace and tranquility of a 20-minute choral/instrumental prelude.

December Concert Series

ALC's Concert Series is a means of outreach, to invite others to share in our faith community, and to bring others to Christ through music in our beautiful worship space. This year, consider giving yourself the gift of music at one or more of our Christmas concerts. Invite a friend, neighbor, or a family member to enjoy it with you. There is no better gift than music, and look at all your choices! We especially encourage you to come to the concerts where you'll see and hear our own members and support them in their music ministry. See websites for ticket information; tickets are usually available at the door an hour before the concert.

Dec 8, 3:00 Handbell Ringers of Sun City, \$5.00, ALC members: Denice Louderback, Jan Powell, Debbie Thompson.

Dec 9, 3:00 or Dec 10, 7:00 West Valley Chorale, \$10 ticket available from singer Linda Shirck

Dec 13, 7:30 Phoenix Chorale (phoenixchorale.org)

Dec 14, 7:30 The Messiah with Phoenix Symphony and Chorus (phoenixsymphony.org)

Dec 15, 3:30 Pro Musica of Arizona, \$22 for seniors (PMAz.org), Jane Brambilla, singer

Dec 16, 6:00 Choraliers of Sun City, free-will offering. ALC members: Director Jane Brambilla; Angy Felcyn, Flash & Kathleen Helm, Mike House, Pam & Bob Geiger, Janet MacDonald, John Mattson, Shari & Winston Schmidt, Rita & PeteVan Stelle, John Tate.

WELLNESS MINUTE

Helping a friend in Grief:

Family connections often play an important role in helping with grief. But friends have something special to contribute, as well.

Help friends in grief by:

*Understanding grief is normal. Grief is an expected response to death or tragedy, with feelings such as intense pain, sadness, disbelief, fear anger and guilt.

*Allowing friends to mourn in their own ways. Features of grief –such as tears, preoccupation with deceased or social withdrawal are unique, variable and fluctuating. There are no predictable stages of grief. The amount of time needed to cope with the loss can vary.

*Helping your friends take care of their health: Encourage your friends to take care of their health needs, such as sharing a meal and encourage them to keep up with doctor’s appointments.

*Being there and listening: Don’t underestimate the importance of attending the funeral or memorial, writing a personal note, sharing a story of the deceased, or of any act of being there as a friend.

*Remembering the long term: Anniversaries and holidays are good times for a visit, phone call or a note.

Lori Kellar: ALC Wellness Ministry

l.kellar@suncity.org

TRUST COMMITTEE

One of the functions of the ALCSC Trusts is to support church affiliated mission work. This year the Trust has donated monies in support of Ann Emilie Tjorhom, a young adult currently working in the ELCA global mission program in Argentina. Ann communicates via blogs outlining some of her activities in support of the local community. Her last blog stated that the church was celebrating the 50th anniversary of a local women’s group established by Swedish immigrants to support local impoverished persons.

Supporting global mission work is in keeping with one of the statements of purpose as stated in the ALCSC constitution and bylaws: “Serve in response to God’s love to meet human needs, caring for the sick and the aged, advocating dignity and justice for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among the nations, and standing with the poor and powerless, and committing itself to their needs.”

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

During Advent each year, the women of American Lutheran Church prepare boxes of freshly baked cookies to deliver to our shut-ins. This year the boxes will be filled prior to our December 18th Christmas lunch. Extra cookies will then be offered for sale at our annual "Cookie Walk" which will take place at the party. It will be a wonderful opportunity to purchase delicious Christmas cookies and other treats. Proceeds from the Cookie Walk will be donated to charities supported by our Women's Ministries. Please leave your cookie donations in the Fellowship Hall by 1:00 p.m. on December 17th. If you have volunteered to deliver cookies, you can pick them up on December 18th after the Christmas party.

Women's Ministries is hosting a catered Christmas lunch on Wednesday, December 18th beginning with a social time at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Judith Rainforth will present a program on her recent pilgrimage along Spain's Camino Santiago. Another highlight of the event will be our annual Cookie Walk! Tickets will be sold after each service beginning December 1st.

WE WILL NOT BE ROLLING BANDAGES FOR GLOBAL HEALTH MINISTRIES IN DECEMBER. The next meeting to make diapers and bandages will be Monday, January 27th, 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.

Volunteers are needed to help with memorial and funeral receptions in 2020. Please consider helping in one of the following areas: baking, set-up, serving, and clean-up. Our families and friends are so appreciative of this ministry. Sign-up sheets are located in the Fellowship Hall.

There will be no Wednesday women's Bible study in December.

Looking Ahead- The January women's luncheon will be Tuesday, January 21st. Our guest speaker will be Nancy E. Turner, the author of These Is My Words, Sarah's Quilt, The Star Garden, and My Name is Resolute. Her latest book, Light Changes Everything, will be released on January 14, 2020, and she will have copies of this book available for purchase at the luncheon. Several of her books take place in Arizona and are loosely based on her family's life as ranchers in the Arizona of the 1870s.

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE



There is an old saying: “You can walk around the barn a 100 times but nothing will happen until you go in.” Now is the time for action as the date for the Navajo Walk for Water is fast approaching. (January 11th) Some reminders:

1. Thrivent Members: All members have Thrivent Choice Dollars already “banked” at Thrivent to be used for special projects like our Navajo Water Walk. There is no cost to you or the church. Please do the following ASAP:
 - Call the Thrivent office in Appleton, WS – (800) 847- 4836
 - Tell the prompt: Thrivent Choice Dollars
 - They will ask: Your date of birth and your ID number (they have it)
 - Ask how much is in your account
 - Tell them to designate the amount to ALC – Sun City
 - It will be used for the Walk project
2. Walkers: Anyone can walk for any length up to 5k / 3 miles for a cost of \$25 per walker. Your friends / family / dogs are welcomed.
3. Non-Walkers: Support this project by writing a check, any amount, to American Lutheran Church Walk.
4. Matching Gifts: You are invited to join others by giving a challenge gift over \$2,000.

The registration form and information is available at the church or on-line: alcsuncity.org under the “giving” column. All gifts are tax deductible.

STEPHEN MINISTRY, QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Have you ever thought about becoming a Stephen Minister? Have you ever wondered just what this Stephen Ministry is really all about? Have you wondered how one becomes a Stephen Minister? Would you like to help someone who is lonely or hurting or grieving but are not sure just how to go about it? Have you ever wished that you felt more comfortable when confronted with a situation that required a caring response? Do you know someone else who is wondering these very things?

If you or someone you know has ever pondered these or similar questions, you will find many of the answers at our annual **STEPHEN MINISTRY WEEKEND** here at American Lutheran on December 14th and 15th. On that weekend, you will hear a special message and a temple talk during the services, and there will be a table in the courtyard where Stephen Ministers will be available to answer many of your questions. For further answers to your questions, we invite you to participate in the Stephen ministry training sessions where all of your questions will be answered and where you will learn how to feel comfortable relating to someone who is hurting or grieving or lonely, in a caring way.

The Stephen Ministry Training sessions for 2020 will begin January 9th. The classes meet from 9-12 each Thursday for 11 weeks. The Stephen Ministers at the tables on December 14th & 15th will be able to answer any questions you might have regarding the training sessions and to help you sign up for the training.

We invite and encourage you to consider getting all of your questions answered and becoming a part of Stephen Ministry here at American Lutheran Church.

For more information please call: Ann Skidmore @ 606-7464; Ardelle Jurica @ 702-283-0707; or Kathy Ulrich @ 419-560-0153

ALC STEPHEN MINISTRY INVITES YOU

to a presentation by the community outreach coordinator at the

BANNER OLIVE BRANCH SENIOR CENTER

Banner Olive Branch Senior Center offers a variety of social and educational activities as well as nutritious meals. Since 1988, after a very humble beginning with a food program, they have grown to their present outreach which includes 25 programs and services to seniors here in our neighborhood. Stephen Ministry invites **ALL MEMBERS** of ALC to join us on Thursday, Dec. 12th, at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall to meet and hear Julie Ash, Community Outreach Coordinator for the Banner Olive Branch Senior Center, as she shares their story and makes us aware of all that is available to us. Following the presentation, we will enjoy a brief refreshment break and then Stephen Ministers will meet for our monthly Peer Support Groups. Please remember, these **ARE REQUIRED MEETINGS** for all active Stephen Ministers.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE!



Once again, the WNA Gala was a success! Pastor Peter Perry's message about Revelation was very interesting and the summation would be "hope," Our catered meal courtesy of Rob and Jane Coughlin was delicious. Sam and Josh Stefanski gave us an awesome concert. All in all, a very enjoyable evening for all who attended. Thank you for supporting WNA!

We want to thank the following who contributed their time and efforts to make it a successful evening.

Decorations and set-up:

Vicki Merlak
Connie Brodland
Marian Carlson
Sandy Kohlman
Sally McIntire
Margie Reynolds
Barbara Thompson
Rut Weinkauf

Ticket Sales

Connie Brodland
Vicki Merlak
Char Riebe
Judy and Larry Stage

A huge thank-you to Jane and Rob Coughlin, Lori and Dennis Kellar and all of the dinner helpers, too numerous to name, that served a wonderful meal so efficiently.

Of course, a huge thanks to the WNA Committee who were in town and helped in every way: Connie Brodland, Vicki Merlak, Alan Olson, Gil Thoele.

One of the most amazing things of the evening was when a couple who are not members of ALC, but have been attending WNA for several years, gave us a check for \$1000 to help WNA with programming. Their generosity astounds me and it really does speak volumes that WNA is an outreach to the community. How amazing is that! We give thanks to God that WNA has continued its purpose for twenty-seven years! So we hope our congregation continues to support it and that you will bring friends and neighbors to enjoy this coming year's programming.

On behalf of the WNA Committee, thank you for your support, and we wish you a blessed and enriching Thanksgiving.

See you at WNA,
Maryanne Winters, Chair

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

The annual meeting of Neighborhood Group leaders was held November 12th at ALC. It was well represented by 12 of the 16 active groups. Most of those who were unable to attend did contact me with regrets.

Pastor Lowell Nelson and Pastor Judith Rainforth joined us, and I believe we heard a fine exchange of comments and suggestions from all who attended.

Pastor Lowell led us in prayer. He started by summing up the value to ALC of our neighborhood groups in the following three words:

SOCIAL

SPIRITUAL

SERVICE

We provide to our members a monthly social atmosphere; a spiritual environment and a service of support to our members who may be unwell or grieving for love ones and friends.

Some of the leaders feel that they have been in their positions for many years and would like to find relief by handing over the reins to another group member. However, that is not as easy to accomplish as they had hoped, but still the reward from doing a good job is sufficient.

Many groups are seeing less than 50% attendance from their list of members, but groups who meet at retirement communities have high attendance levels from their 'live-in' members.

The 'Walk for Navajo Water' event around our church January 11th, 2020, was discussed. Groups are encouraged to have their members walk or at least sponsor the event. The neighborhood group with the most sponsors should submit their list to me.

The group with the most sponsors will be rewarded in some way.

As many of you may know there is a map showing the location of each group on a wall in the Fellowship Hall. This has been reported as being of too small a size to be of any real use in locating an address in someone's group area. So, a larger map will be placed on the wall very soon.

Thank you again to all the leaders who took time to attend the annual meeting. Also thanks to Diane Lewis and Toni Molck for help in preparing for it.

Blessings to All,
Bryan Cooper-Keeble
623-376-6666
banddck@aol.com

“STORIES IN OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS” PART 2

Last month, we discussed some facts about stained glass windows at American Lutheran Church and our front window in the sanctuary called “**Salvation**”. This month let’s look at the 4 windows on the right side when you face the sanctuary from the front. The 4 windows are named (front-to-back)

1) Creation 2) Nation 3) Family 4) Education . In “**Creation**”, you can see the gifts from God’s creative hands: the universe (as portrayed in the stars, planets, moon, rainbow and the earth), embraced by one who has responsibility to care for it while praising the Creator. Looking down further you will see tongs holding a fiery coal (representing cleansing forgiveness), the Ten Commandments (our guide to living), and below that a burning bush representing God’s presence with us.

The second window is called “**The Nation**”. This window celebrates the original 13 colonies (13 stars) that became a nation on July 4, 1776. You will also see liberty (represented as the Liberty Bell), justice (the scales), and religious freedom (the cross). These were considered inalienable rights and continue to be basic strongholds of our nation. As Christians, we work for righteousness and justice.

In the third window, “**Family**”, the family is represented by the lamps coming before the Cross of Christ as in a marriage. The Sheltering Holy Spirit (dove) protects the family as they stand on the Bible which is the foundation for the family. The family grows and is spiritually strengthened by faith (praying hands), love (heart and cross), and hope (anchor).

The last window we will discuss this month is “**Education**”. You can see the teacher in this window pointing out to the students the meaning of the scriptures which are central to Christian education. Surrounding them are symbols of our faith: the triangle, the 3 interlocking circles, and the white triquetrous (trinity knot) all representing the unity of the Trinity. The Trinity is also portrayed by the upraised hand for the Father, the cross for the Redeemer Son, and a descending dove for the Holy Spirit (found at the top of the window). In the center of the window are 3 Greek letters that remind us that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and is the beginning and the end. Below the Greek letters, you will see many hands of all races holding high the cross of Christ and serving Him through their discipleship.

Did you know that:

- Most of the stained glass windows are faceted glass which are 1” thick and are embedded in epoxy? Pastor Elmer Hjortland (who worked with the committee in depicting the concepts of these windows) is the grandfather our our “very own” Dave (Deb) Hjortland?

We will continue discussing our windows next month. The above information was taken from pages of the booklet “The Gifts of God as Portrayed in the Stained Glass Windows of American Lutheran Church”.

Yours in Faith,

Terri Polk; Vice President; ALC Council

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

Gifts given to American Lutheran Church in Memory of

David Danielsen

John and Vicki Tate, Donald and Sylvia Diamond and in memory for Christo Bells by Harold Peterson

Del Nelson

Ann Laubach and Larry and LaVonne Clark

Donald Rustad

Ed and Audrey Gordhammer

Eleanor Simons

Donna and Richard Borden, Glen Schulz, Joyce Wikum, Kay and Arvid Peterson, Nola Mellstrom, Audrey Wedul and Alice Nelson

Jim Blair

Linda and Bob Shirck and Janet and David MacDonald

John Olsrud

Marilyn and Curtis Bah

Julian "Jay" Qualley

Charlene and James Trageser

Rose Kroeplin

Joyce DeVantier

Shirley Rogers

Lee and Sharon Stacey

William R. Takala

Stephany Takala

Gifts were given;

In honor of the ALC music program by J Philip Johnson; and in memory of Bill Gill by Denice Louderback and Bernice Gill

In memory of Frank Loudon by Denice Louderback

Gifts were also given by Lowell and Marcy Ergen and an Anonymous donor

ALC GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

A NEW DAY - ALC grief support group meets on **Tuesdays at 10 am** in the Lounge. It's not necessary to sign up...just show up. We welcome you.

ALC CAMPUS BIBLE STUDIES

Pastor's Bible Study ~ Tuesdays, 10 am, in the Fellowship Hall.

Men's Bible Study ~ Thursdays, 8 am, Edu A/B (see calendar) Lectionary study.

WOMEN'S RETREAT WITH PASTOR JUDITH RAINFORTH

January 16, 2020, at Spirit of the Desert. Pastor Judith will be teaching about the Labrynth. The bus will be available and the time will be 9 am to 3 pm. The cost which includes lunch and transportation, will be \$20.00.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The fall meeting of the Fellowship Committee took place in Edu AB at 8:30 am on November 6, 2019. Madeline thanked the members for doing a great job this summer with coffee hours and a potluck **every** month. A big **thank you to all** the Fellowship members who serve our community.

Thanks to your generous donations, we were once again able to have the Pancake Breakfast in September, and it was a big success! Attendance at coffee hours is steadily increasing and we had 180 in attendance at the Harvest Potluck in October.

On December 11, 2019, at 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall, we will host the Yuletide Potluck. Please sign up in advance so that we may know how much meat (pork loin) we need to provide. We hope that you can join us!

New Fellowship members are always welcome and serving on this committee is a great way to meet people and make new friends. Please contact Madeline Niccore at mdniccore@gmail.com or 303-652-0266 if you are interested in helping with the upcoming coffee hours, potlucks or Choir Breakfast.

Our next Fellowship Committee meeting is April 1, 2020, at 8:30 am in A/B Edu.

May you have a blessed holiday season,
Madeline Niccore
Fellowship Chair



**YULETIDE
POTLUCK
DINNER**



**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER. 11, 2019 5:00 P.M.**

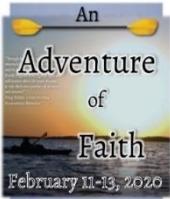




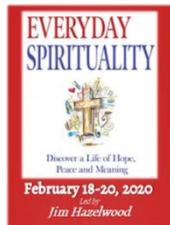
Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center welcomes you to a *Desert Sojourn Retreat in 2020!*

A “Sojourn” is a temporary stay as a traveler or guest and we’d like you to *sojourn with us in 2020!* We have **3** incredible retreats—read the highlights below and then join us! You can lodge with us or commute – *all are welcome!* Call Cyndy at (480) 488-5218 and visit our website for all the full brochures: www.spiritinthedesert.org

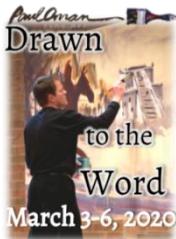
Hope to see you soon!



FEBRUARY 11-13, 2020...Led by the Paddle Pilgrim, Dave Ellingson... We’ll explore various biblical journeys, pilgrimages, and adventures such as: Moses, Miriam, Ruth, Esther, Job, Noah, Mary & Joseph, Jesus, Paul ... and other "saints" such as: Francis, Claire, Martin & Katrina Luther, MLK, Sojourner Truth, both ancient and modern. We’ll make connections to journeys, pilgrimages and adventures of the retreat participants. Attendees get to choose one of the fascinating kayak adventures filmed by PBS—with Rick Steves, for nightly entertainment.



FEBRUARY 18-20, 2020...Led by Jim Hazelwood-New England ELCA Bishop Using the concepts from his book, Jim will help us discover that spiritual life can be found in our everyday ordinary activities like: *Laughing-Cooking-Walking-Breathing-Tasting-Gardening, etc.* as expressions of the sacred and holy in our lives. We’ll spend our time practicing this spirituality through photography & writing—neither of which you have to have any expertise! This retreat will be marked by a delightful mix of laughter, good food, exercise and connecting with new friends! We’ll wrap it all together as ***Everyday Spirituality***. It is open anyone wanting to explore what it means to practice ***Everyday Spirituality***.



MARCH 3-6, 2020...Led by Paul Oman, Pastor & Painter! ... *Drawn to the Word: Bringing the Word of God to Life Before Your Eyes* is a retreat of worship and artistic experience where Artist and Pastor, Paul Oman, will paint a larger-than-life sized mural of: Bible stories, Themes, Poetry, Music—before your very eyes! This story will unfold artistically—musically—narratively & Scripturally during the retreat. Break out classes with Paul invite you into Scripture, both artistically and as a fun study and exploration. No artist experience needed! This is truly a “participatory” retreat! Watch Paul at work on his website: www.paulomanfineart.com and come to the retreat to be inspired!

ALC Good Book Group:

On December 9 at 10:30 the ALC Good Book Group will meet at El Dorado located at 10330 W. Thunderbird Blvd. We will be in the card room for our discussion of the book, Wanted: Elevator Man, by Joseph G. Peterson. Following that we will go to the dining room for lunch. Please send your advance reservation to Nola Mellstrom before December 4. We look forward to seeing you.

Wednesday Night Advent Services in December

Taize Worship led by Rev Judith Rainforth on December 2nd, 9th, and 16th.

The **Box Tops 4 Education** program is transitioning away from symbols which must be cut out. Women’s Ministry will continue to collect unexpired Box Tops 4 Education symbols as long as they are available. However, if you purchase a product with the new symbol that says “**NO MORE CLIPPING**”, “**SCAN your receipt**” please donate your receipt, and we will see that the Navajo Mission receives credit.

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 **Wednesdays, 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 Education Room A/B. For more information, call Claire at (507) 288-6353 or Nancy at (858) 735-7456

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

First Thursday

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

First Saturday

8:30 **2H** Happy Hour @ Royal Café

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

Second Friday

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

Second Saturday

9:00 **3C** CCC @ Solberg new home

9:00 **3H** Jolly Comrades @ Coco’s

9:00 **3J** Joy Joy Joy @ Georges (bell center)

Third Thursday

8:30 **1A** Quail Run @ Mercer’s

Third Friday

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

Third Saturday

8:00 **2C** Early Birds @ JiMichael’s

8:00 **5C/5E/5F** Grand West @ Memo’s

9:00 **5A** Westers @ Birt’s Bistro

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

Fourth Saturday

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

Directory Changes – for the DECEMBER outreach

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

Centenarians

Mary Graybiel (104)
Norma Carlsson (104)
Dorothy Noren (102)
Dorothy Hootman (101)
Florence H. Johnson (100)

LOCAL ADDRESS CHANGES

Ted & Rosi Guenther
11546 W Montansoro Lane
Peoria, AZ 85383
Phone: 402-239-8202
Neighborhood Group 3A

Mrs. Dawn Hughes
10101 W Palmeras DR
Sun City, AZ 85373
Phone: 623-362-8455
Neighborhood Group 3H

Ms. Pamela Hand
18237 N 113th Ave
Surprise, AZ 85378
Phone: 928.274.3197
Neighborhood Group 3C

Bernt & Susan Lovenberg
15164 N 140th Drive #1180
Surprise, AZ 85379
480.262.3002

Neighborhood Group 5F
Al & Lois Arness
18441 N 87th Ave Apt 141
Peoria, AZ 85382
Phone: 623-692-9206

REMOVED FROM ROLLS BY DEATH

Dr. Milan Susina (11/09/19)

American Lutheran Church of Sun City
17200 N. Del Webb Blvd
Sun City, AZ 85373
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Rev. Judith Rainforth Pastor
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Rev. Gary R. Garvey Visitation Pastor
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