



# Outreach



April  
2024

As we turn from March to April, I want to thank Alisia Northrop. Alisia joined our staff as the Executive Assistant for Congregational Relations last summer. Alisia's people skills are off the chart. She has an interpersonal grace and an emotional intelligence that rise to the top during interactions with others. Alisia is also a fine writer and editor who knows her way around modern, office technology. Unfortunately, Alisia's time at ALC was cut short by a stubborn illness she developed shortly after starting. For over six months, every effort was made to create a work schedule and work environment that would not exacerbate her condition. As this was going on, I would often say, "Some Alisia is better than no Alisia." I still feel that way. But in recent weeks it became increasingly clear that a choice between work and health would have to be made and Alisia wisely chose her health. I pray that modern medicine will soon develop more effective treatment for her and many others fighting the same battle. In the meantime, I know many in the office, including myself, will miss Alisia a great deal.



## 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.*

Now looking past March and into April, I also want to thank Pastor Jacqui Pagel, an assistant to our local bishop, Deborah Hutterer. Pastor Jacqui will be at ALC the weekend of April 6th and 7th to remind us that we are never church alone, but instead church with the Grand Canyon Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and many other entities. As she represents our bishop who herself represents our presiding bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, Pastor Jacqui will also have some exciting news to share about future studies on the part of one of our staff members. Rather than stealing her thunder, I'll ask you to be present during her visit so she can make the announcement herself.

Unfortunately, Pastor Jacqui will not be sharing any news about our search for an associate pastor. Thus far, the goings have been slow and that's likely not a surprise since no pastor worth their salt would leave their current congregation during Lent and Easter. Even so, I want to thank our hardworking Call Committee for all they've already so effectively and relentlessly done to prepare for finding just the right person. Like other committees I've had the privilege of working with at ALC, the members of our Call Committee have been tremendous. The quality of lay partnership available at ALC has been one of the blessings of this call for me. Thank you to many for how you have so richly blessed the congregation and me with your wise and dedicated leadership.

Turning now to every reader of this newsletter, I want to thank all of you for the strides we've been taking together. People and pastor have to travel in the same direction for things to work well. More and more each week, I know this is happening. We have started to invite and to welcome more actively and intentionally than in the past. By way of example, today, as I was passing the peace at our 10:30 service, I shook hands with a

returning visitor recently brought to church by one of our member families. Today the same visitor was back with someone they know and love and this is just one example of what's been happening a lot more lately.

Along similar lines, as they shook my hand on the way out of church today, two new members made a point of telling me how friendly and welcoming people have been and I'm also hearing this more often than I did initially. Topping it all off, with the exception of Christmas and Easter, overall attendance this weekend was higher than at any other point since the pandemic and by a good margin. Thank you! Ministry is about partnership and holy partnership is hard to stop. Presently doing traditional, Christian worship quite well according to more than one "church shopper" visiting area congregations, the sky will be the limit for us as long as we more and more embrace and pursue the all important missions of inviting, welcoming, feeding, and including.

Happy Easter! Christ truly is risen from the dead and the Holy Spirit most definitely is on the loose!

Pastor Scott

New members are received on the 4th Sunday of the month. If you know of anyone interested in ALC membership, please see Pastor Scott.

ALC Welcomed 10 New Members in March:

Carolyn Piska, Jim Meadows, Pat Bangart, Richard (Dick) Bunde, Sylvia Berg, Anita Smith, Charmain & Steve Yagle, and Vincent & Sunny DeGon.



# From the 🎵 desk of 🎵 James Gerber

**Dr. James Gerber**  
**Organist/Worship Coordinator**

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Easter is the most important festival of the church year. We have concluded our Lenten and Holy Week spiritual journey, remembering all Jesus commanded us to do and His sacrifice for our salvation. Now, we rejoice with Christ in His resurrection and look forward to the fulfillment of His promise to each of us: that we will be raised to new and eternal life.

The music of Easter is powerful, majestic, and celebratory; I love all of it and I look forward to sharing the music for the Easter season each year. We can all name our favorite Easter hymns and be able to express the joy they bring to us when we sing them. I would like to briefly comment on an Easter canticle I have found particularly meaningful: “Worthy is Christ” or sometimes it is called “This is the Feast.” You may not think of this hymn as necessarily Easter music. It is frequently sung during the gathering rites of the service, especially on

Sundays when communion is celebrated. As a reminder, the text for this canticle is as follows:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This text, which embodies the message of Easter, was written by John W. Arthur, and is based on Revelation 5:12-14. This canticle first appeared in the Lutheran Book of Worship (The Green Hymnal) in 1978 and has been a part of the Lutheran liturgy ever since. I remember how this canticle made such a strong impression on me when I first heard it while visiting a Lutheran church in Wisconsin many years ago. I am looking forward to once again proclaiming Christ's victory over sin and death as we sing this joyous canticle during the Easter season.

May you have a blessed Fifty Days of Easter!





## *From the desk of Janet MacDonald*

### Music And Worship – Choir

Proclaim, invite, be a blessing – there are many ways to use the rich and varied gifts of the Holy Spirit to achieve these earthly goals that yield heavenly results. One such example was the concert last month here at American Lutheran. By inviting singers and musicians from the valley to join our choir in preparing and presenting the March 10 “Rest in the Arms of the Lord Concert” the message that there is a way out of darkness and despair and into perpetual life and light was proclaimed through the music in a way that truly touched the heart and soul of not only the audience, but the performers, too. Music can help in the healing process, tear down walls and boundaries, foster reconciliation and bring communities together. As Martin Luther proclaimed “Music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul. It is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.”

I want to share just one of the many responses from a concertgoer: “I can hardly believe how beautiful this music is. It’s what I want to hear on my deathbed. The man I invited to the concert was so emotional after our concert that he could not speak. He had tears in his eyes and all I could do was give him a hug. Thanks to (the concert) I believe many people were brought closer to God Sunday afternoon (March 10.)”

A huge thank you to all who took the time to attend the concert, our choir that showed sincere hospitality to singers from the surrounding community, our ushers that warmly welcomed the huge crowd of concertgoers into our gorgeous sanctuary, and the professional instrumentalists and vocal soloists that were generously sponsored by Flash and Kathleen Helm, John and Shirley Worden, Wally Pottenger, Joy and LeRoy Cook, Paul Falzone, and Tom and Marti Corse. Thank you all.



Music is but one way we can proclaim, invite and be a blessing. What are your unique and special gifts that you can use? Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit working through you. Go and be a blessing.

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” Anne Frank  
Soli Deo Gloria!

In gratitude,  
Janet MacDonald



# Upcoming Music Concert

“Just for Fun— Ringing Our Favorites”

Sunday, April 7, 2021 at 3pm in the ALC Sanctuary

\$5 at the door



## President Notes: April 2024



"To everything there is a season," as we read in Ecclesiastes, and I am led to inquire just where is this "season" going? It seems as though those of us who are snowbirds were just arriving back in Sun City and at ALC, and settling in for the season. Now we are coming into April, Wednesday Night Alive programs have wrapped up and as you read this we will have just celebrated Easter Sunday. Some folks are preparing to leave for other homes, and summer will be here before we know it.

I've been keeping quite busy as your Congregation President. (I often joke that there are many days when I can't tell that I'm supposed to be retired.) One of my goals has been to occasionally sit in on meetings of our different committees, and that has been interesting and educational. I haven't done so with all of them yet, but I'm working on it. Our committee structure here at ALC is a real strength of our congregation, moreso than any other church I have been associated with. A few of our committees are specified in our Constitution, which was approved in 1988, but the greater number of them have since been established by action of the Church Council.

As I have observed and worked with the committees I am continually impressed by the dedication of the folks who give of their time, energy, and often expertise in service to God and their church. Some committees do not need to meet too often, though the work of all of them is important. Other committees can be faced with problems and questions that are difficult and complex may require investments of that time and energy beyond that of 1-2 hour meetings once a month. For all of the committee members, though, their service to ALC is to be commended and they should be remembered in our prayers for the church.

Speaking of committees, we have a brand new one! The 50th Anniversary Steering Committee has met twice in March, and I am excited for the plans that are beginning to take shape to observe the very important anniversary next year of the founding of our congregation in 1975. Stay tuned for updates as this work goes forward.

In His Service, Dave Hjortland



# Altar Flowers



American Lutheran Church invites you to celebrate a special occasion or remember loved ones by providing flowers for worship on a particular weekend. The contracted florist delivers two bouquets each week that enhance our beautiful sanctuary as we gather to praise God together. Contact the church office for more information or to sign up.

*Many 2024 dates are still available.*

Date	Given by	In thanksgiving, memory or celebration
4/6&7	Phyllis Wimer	In memory of her husband Henry Wimer
4/6&7	David Kallenbach	In memory of his wife Kay Cartwright
4/13&14	Paul Carlson	In memory of mary Lou Carlson
4/13&14		
4/20&21	Debra Hjortland	In celebration of David’s 74th Birthday on April 18th
4/20&21	Don Ginsbach & Family	In loving memory of Donna Ginsbach
4/27&28		
4/27&28		

# Easter Lily Sponsors



Myron & Nancy Missling in memory of family & friends

Helen Teply in memory of Robert & Trish Teply

Drinda & Bryan Cooper-Keeble in memory of  
Wendy & Danny

Pam Geiger in memory of Bob Geiger

Jean English in memory of Gus & Lil Seeman, and Carl Seeman

Joyce Wikum in memory of all who gave ahead

Ray & Cheryl Olson in thanksgiving

Sylvia Berg

Karrie & Gary Burt in memory of Bud & JoAnna Burt

Judy Jorgenson in celebration of Easter.

Janice New in celebration

Jack & Betty Leyse in memory of loved ones

Phyllis Wimer in memory of Henry Wimer

Tom & Jeanine Hoden in memory of Bernice, Bud, & Tom Holden  
and Paulette Eck & Yvette Fimiez

Fred Anderson in celebration

Joe & Sue Flores in memory of parents

Jan & Shirley Olson in thanksgiving

Don & Barb Thompson in memory of Chuck Paulson

Martin & Mai Iszler in memory of parents  
 Sheila Worley in celebration of Jade Allan Lambrecht  
 Craig & Linda Cain in thanksgiving for  
 Family and friends  
 Deb & David Hjortland  
 Harold Peterson in memory of Margene Peterson  
 Susan Sherbocker in memory of  
 Richard & Marjorie Sherbocker  
 Donna Borden & Tuck Nolop in thanksgiving  
 Judy Folven & Family in memory of Roger Folven  
 Jim & Jan Keck in celebration of our Lords Resurrection  
 Ted Bachman in memory of Kathy Bachman &  
 Linda Falzone  
 Jane & Jim Skinner in celebration  
 Pat Parcher in celebration  
 Wallace Pottenger & daughter Jill Pottenger in memory of Wanda  
 Pottenger & Betty Wallin  
 Jane Jensen in thanksgiving for church bus volunteers  
 Annette Garm in memory of parents, family & friends  
 Judith Morrison & Family in memory of  
 Percy R Morrison  
 Donna Raus in memory of David Raus  
 Darrell Alexander in celebration of Carole's birthday  
 Steve & Brigitte Miedzybrocki in celebration of family  
 Ron & Lynne Cassidy in celebration Christ is Risen!  
 Irv & Beverly Aal in memory of parents  
 Butch & Karen Severson in memory of  
 Sherman & Lydia Severson and Paul Kessler  
 Joanne Beck in memory of granddaughter Dawn Karen  
 Olga Redstrom in celebration  
 Deb Thompson & Craig Alfred in memory of  
 Bob & Lillian Alfred, Lois Douglas & Louise Stieve  
 Karen Potter in memory of Albert Boonstra &  
 Harrison Potter  
 Ken & Sharon Friedrichsen in memory of  
 Emma & Theodor Friedrichsen &  
 Don & Marguerite Seeds  
 Linda Hall & Tom Haugsby in memory of George & Dale Hall and  
 Mary & Arnold Haugsby



## **NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS to be COMMISSIONED**

Our 2024 Stephen Ministry training here at ALC concluded on March 22nd marking 50 hours of training for four new Stephen Ministers. Our new Stephen Ministers were honored at our annual Stephen Ministry banquet on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>; perhaps you were present to help them celebrate this milestone in their journey of faith and service. The theme they chose, “TAKE MY HAND, YOU ARE NOT ALONE” is Stephen Ministry in a nutshell.

This new group of Stephen Ministers has just one more bridge to cross before joining ALC’s other 36 active Stephen Ministers, and you can be there with them when they take this final step. The 2024 Commissioning Service for our new trainees will take place on APRIL 7<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 service. Once commissioned by our congregation, they will be ready

to 'extend their hand' to someone waiting 'for a hand to hold'.

In other Stephen Ministry news, our April continuing education program and peer groups will meet on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Our topic will be a refresher class continuing the theme of loneliness and depression. At this session we will consider 'The Increasing Rise of Suicide: Myths/Warning Signs and Suicide Assessment.' Please remember that this is a required session for all Stephen Ministers.

Glen Schulz - Stephen Ministry Leadership Team



# For the Health of It!

Invite your friends and neighbors to our monthly community education programs. All sessions will be held in Education A&B and are free and open to the public. Please call the church and **register** (623-974-2512).



**Planned for the months ahead...**

## **April 10 Caregiver Feelings 10:00-11:00 am**

Presented by Sun Health Wellness - Reena Splane: Dealing with caregiver feelings - The good, the bad and the ugly.

**Registration deadline: 4/2**

## **April 17 ABCs of Dementia 10:00-11:00 am**

Presented by Terra Pointe - Toni Grimm

**Registration deadline 4/10**

## **May 8 Diffusing Family Conflict 10:00-11:00 am**

Presented by Terra Pointe - Toni Grimm

**Registration deadline 5/1**

## **Every Tuesday, Memory Care Caregiver Support Group 9:30-11:30 am**

Presented by Gentle Hearts Living Solutions - Kari

## **Every 1st Thursday of the month, MS Support Group 10:00-12:00 pm**

Presented by Sun City MS Support Group—Kati Jimenez

# Funeral Receptions

The Fellowship Committee has been asked to be in charge of setting up, serving and clean up for funeral/memorial receptions. Since all of the Fellowship Committee's activities involve serving food and/or beverages and working in the kitchen, it has been decided that that this committee will also be responsible for organizing the crews that will be in charge of the funeral receptions.

Prior to Covid, we would sign up for a time when we were available to work at funerals receptions and/or bake for funeral receptions. We would like to resume that practice. The sign-up sheets for funeral reception helpers will be on a table in Fellowship Hall for the first three weeks of April, 2024. You will be able to sign up to serve for the next six months, May through October. Next October, we will put out sign-up sheets for the six months of November through April so that snowbirds will have a chance to volunteer to help out with funeral receptions for the winter & spring season.

The only time that you may be asked to provide baked goods is when the family prefers a small reception which does not involve a caterer. Please appreciate that even though you may read about one of our church members passing away, many of us choose to have the funeral and reception back in our "home" state so we do have months where there are no receptions as well as months where there are several funerals and receptions. In months when there are no receptions here at ALC, you will not be called to serve.

Thank you for signing up in April to help with this very worthwhile and necessary ministry. We want to do our best to provide support for our grieving families. Please contact me at [mdniccore@gmail.com](mailto:mdniccore@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions or concerns.

May God bless you and keep you.

Madeline Niccore  
Fellowship Chairperson





# In Our Prayers

Scripture instructs us about the power and purpose of prayer. The apostle Paul tells us to “*rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.*” Through the prophet Jeremiah, God proclaims, “*you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*” By the grace of God, we can offer petitions of praise, of confession, and of lament. We are also blessed in that we can place before God our petitions concerning the needs of others as well as our own desires.

Our individual prayer lists may include many, many people. And we, at American Lutheran Church, wholeheartedly support all prayer ventures. Yet so that we can maintain an accurate and manageable prayer list for corporate worship and community life, the following ‘prayer protocols’ have been put into place.

A **prayer list ‘booklet’** will be updated regularly and can be picked up in the narthex. This list includes those in hospice care or facing long-term challenges. Their names will remain on our prayer list until their personal circumstances change. The grieving and those who have died since the last All Saints Day will also remain on the list until we celebrate all the saints again in the fall. Members in need of healing, and family and friends for whom prayer requests have been made, will remain on the list for 3 weeks unless we are notified otherwise. These individuals will be contacted before their name is removed. For reasons of confidentiality, details of an individual’s struggles can not be disclosed. During corporate worship, which is accessible to all through the world wide web, those individuals in hospice care and

those on our 3-week cycle of prayer updates will be included in our intercessions.

We thank you for your patient understanding as we make the adjustments and adaptations called for in this day and age. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Pastor Julia.

## Hospitalized?

Please contact the church office or one of the pastors in the event of a planned or emergency hospitalization. We would like to visit you!

### **You are a blessing to us!**

In an effort to stay connected with you, we have created magnets that will help remind you to let us know when life events happen.

We will be distributing one magnet per household starting 3/9 & 3/10. Please take one and put it on your refrigerator where it will be a reminder to contact us when you have something to celebrate and when you have a need. We love to serve you.

We are here for you!

Be sure to let your friends and family know they can call us with updates too.



### **You are a blessing to us!**

Let us know how you're doing.

Are you sick, having surgery, are you moving, do you have something to celebrate, would you like some company?

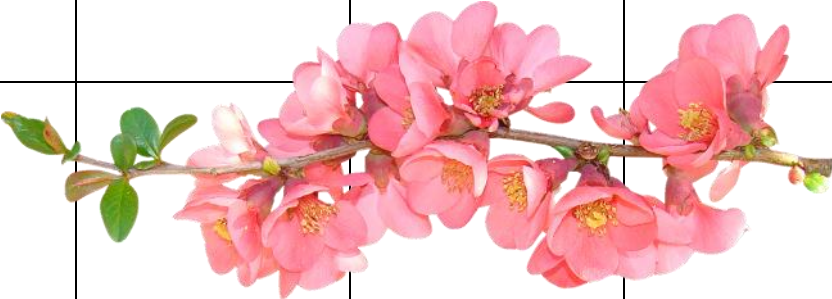


**Your ALC Church Family  
is here for you!**  
**623-974-2512**

# April,

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<b>Social Ministry Reminder:</b> <b>Food: Shortening and Cooking oils</b> <b>Activity: Collecting Socks &amp; Underwear</b>	<b>1 EASTER MONDAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 2:00 West Valley Chorale Rehearsal 5:00 I-Help Serving Dinner	<b>2</b> 9:30 Memory Care Grp 10:00 Pastor's Bible Study 2:00 Evangelism Committee Mtg 3:30 Bell Choir 5:00 Chorale Reception 7:00 WV Chorale Concert	<b>3</b> 9:30 Grief Support
<b>7</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 3:00 Sun City Bell Choir Spring Concert	<b>8</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 10:30 Good book Group 1:00 Social ministry 1:30 Card Making	<b>9</b> 9:00 Gifts & Memorials 9:30 Memory Care Grp 10:00 Pastor's Bible Study 12:30 Personnel Committee Mtg 1:30 Trust Committee Mtg 3:30 Bell Choir	<b>10</b> 9:30 Grief Support 10:00 Caregiver Feelings
<b>14</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 12:00 ProMusica Rehearsal 3:30 ProMusica Concert	<b>15</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 1:30 Card Making	<b>16</b> 9:30 Memory Care Group 10:00 Pastor's Bible Study 1:00 ALC Game Day 1:30 Finance Committee Mtg 3:30 Bell Choir	<b>17</b> 8:00 Quail Ridge Neighborhood 9:00 Executive Committee Meeting 9:30 Grief Support Group 10:00 ABCs of Dementia 10:00 Ikebana
<b>21</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 3:00 Sounds of the Southwest Concert	<b>22</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 1:00 Bandage Spinning 1:30 Card Making	<b>23</b> 9:30 Memory Care Group 10:00 Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 Council Mtg 3:30 Bell Choir	<b>24</b> 9:30 Grief Support
<b>28</b> 8:30 Worship (New Member Introductions) 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:45 New Member Orientation	<b>29</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 1:30 Card Making	<b>30</b> 9:30 Memory Care Group 10:00 Pastor's Bible Study 3:30 Bell Choir	

# 2024

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Support	4 8:00 Sun City Handbell Rehearsal 10:00 MS Support Group 1:15 Ah-Men Singers 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	5 8:00 Sun City Handbell Rehearsal	6 8:30 2H Neighborhood Grp. 8:30 Westers Neighborhood Group 11:00 William Dickinson Memorial 12:00 William Dickinson Reception 4:00 Worship
Support iver	11 9:00 Stephen Ministry 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	12	13 9:00 3C Neighborhood Group 4:00 pm Worship
Fun od Grp ve Meeting upport of na	18 9:00 Stephen Ministry Leaders 10:30 Wally Eklund Memorial 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	19 9	20 4:00 pm Worship
Support	25 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	26	27 4:00 pm Worship
			

**By DeNage Bautista Executive Assistant for  
Community Outreach**

If you see them in their new apron be sure to thank them and tell them how fantastic they look!

WNA would not be what it is without our amazing volunteers. Thank you we greatly appreciate you.



# Neighborhood Groups

**The Westers:** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Every Month at 9 a.m. in Education A & B at ALC; \$8.00 Catered Breakfast  
Mike Richards 623-680-0447; [lgamfr62@gmail.com](mailto:lgamfr62@gmail.com)

**Quail Run:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 8:30 a.m. at Mercers restaurant.  
Contact Terri Polk 317-258-7590; [tpolk127@gmail.com](mailto:tpolk127@gmail.com) or  
Lari Schweig [laris@cox.net](mailto:laris@cox.net)

**Kindred Spirits:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month, 4:00 p.m. at 9915 Mescalero Ct.  
Contact Karrie Burt 623-209-4033; [kbmabear@hotmail.com](mailto:kbmabear@hotmail.com)  
or Gary Burt 623-209-4036; [garyburt10124@gmail.com](mailto:garyburt10124@gmail.com).

**Happy Hour:** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall at ALC; \$8.00 Catered Breakfast  
Contact Terri Polk 317-258-7590;  
[tpolk127@gmail.com](mailto:tpolk127@gmail.com) or  
Sheila Harmell 623-9103697; [sharmell\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:sharmell_2000@yahoo.com)

**Care Chat Comfort:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month Sept.-May;  
9:30 a.m. Education A & B at ALC  
Contact Bryan Cooper-Keeble 602-881-4197;  
[banddck@aol.com](mailto:banddck@aol.com) or Drinda Cooper Keeble 602-881-4201;  
623-376-6666

**Early Birds:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month; 9:00 a.m. at Denny's - 87<sup>th</sup> & Grand  
Contact Olga Redstrom 602-228-2480;



# Women's Ministry

**Your ALC Women's Ministry Groups continue to work toward making the world a better place.**

•Join us for a special program:

"Sea of Galilee Meets Silicon Valley" Saturday, April 13, 8:30 a.m.- 2:15 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Sun City West. Sponsored by Grand Canyon Synod, WELCA Registration form in Narthex Due by April 5, \$16. Includes program and lunch. Please join us for this special program.

•Spinning Bandages: Meets in the Fellowship Hall Monday, April 22, 1:00-3:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you for this important work for Lutheran Global Health.

ALC Women's Ministry had a fabulous month of March for two reasons! First, we are so grateful for the generous donations to our annual Love Offering which brought in \$4351. toward our projects. Thank you so much! Second, we had a volunteer step-up to our call for getting our boxes of bandages to the Twin Cities! We are so blessed!

**Jan Powell and the Women's Ministry Board**





# ALC Stickers

THANK YOU to those that have sent pictures of their cars, and golf carts representing their ALC stickers! Most of these pictures were taken from the parking lot during WNA.

They all look GREAT!!! Keep those pictures coming!  
You can send them to [Info@alcsuncity.org](mailto:Info@alcsuncity.org)

**DeNage Bautista,**  
**Executive Assistant for Community Outreach**



# Social Ministry

## A year of Giving

Month	Blue Bag Food Item	Monthly Activity
March	White or Brown Rice	God's Work Our Hands
April	Shortening / Cooking Oils	Donations of New Socks, & Underwear
May	Tuna	Diaper Drive
June	Boxed Cereals	Bottled Water Drive
July	Sugar & Flour	School Supplies
August	Boxed Milk	Heat Respite Supplies
September	Soup & Crackers	God's Work Our Hands & Operation Christmas Child
October	Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Tissue, Kleenex	Turkeys & Angel Tree
November	Stove Top Stuffing & Instant Potatoes	Soap & Toilet Tissue Drive
December	BOGO'S	ELCA Good Gifts

**Blue Bag Food item** of the month is Shortening / Cooking Oils  
Snowbirds - remember the food shelf as you pack up. We accept all non-perishable items. Food shelf items go locally to Valley View Community Food Bank & West Valley Community Food Pantry. Hunger is there everyday for some.

**Thanks** to all who participated in **God's Work Our Hands** in March. You made a difference!

### **April's Social Ministry emphasis is "Drop Your Drawers"**

We will be collecting **NEW, PACKAGED** underwear, t-shirts and socks for children, teens and adults. There will be a clothesline in the courtyard and buckets to collect items in. Items will be given to shelters, schools and Salvation Army.



10615 W. Peoria Ave  
Sun City, AZ 85351  
623-815-7061  
wvlts@qwestoffice.net

## **We love our volunteers!**

Last month we celebrated our wonderful volunteers, who generously give thousands of hours every year, at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. Last year our 200+ volunteers worked over 44,000 hours in the shop. According to the federal government, an hour of volunteer time in Arizona is worth \$25+. That means our volunteers saved the thrift shop more than a million dollars in payroll last year. Way to go volunteers – that's good business!

Our volunteers are awesome and without them we could never have donated over \$10 million dollars in grants over the past 30 years.

Right now we're looking for Cashiers; Men and women who are friendly and love interacting with others. These folks are the face of the shop!! With summer quickly approaching, getting more qualified cashiers trained and working is a priority. We are looking to fill morning and afternoon shifts – Monday thru Saturday.

Join us, won't you? Shop with us, donate your gently used goods or join us as a volunteer. Call us today to schedule a tour or a pick-up.  
623.815.7061

# ALC Is Getting Fancy!!

Have you noticed changes and improvements on our beautiful ALC campus? Most recently, in the courtyard we've added two tall tables with 4 chairs. We encourage you to use them and enjoy them. The ALC campus welcomes you to come by any time were open to enjoy your coffee, a good book, a chat with a friend, or just some quiet time with the Lord. May our campus be a place of relaxation and reflection for all who come here.



# Volunteering Keeps Us Youthful



As we move forward with our plans to improve upon how we “Welcome” members and visitors onto our campus we encourage members that love to smile, wave, and meet new people to become ALC greeters, and ushers!

We are looking to grow our team of greeters and usher so that we have a list we can rotate through giving all of our volunteers a manageable schedule.

Ideally we need 8 greeters for each service. Could you volunteer for 30 minutes before service to help us welcome visitors onto our beautiful campus?

Would you prefer to be an ushers? We need both men and women to help before and after services.

If you would like to volunteer please contact

Dr. James Gerber in the ALC office 623-974-2512 or email him at [j.gerber@alcsuncity.org](mailto:j.gerber@alcsuncity.org)

Together with your help ALC will be known as the most welcoming church in Sun City!!

**Invite~Welcome~Feed~Include**



# ALC IN ACTION!

Thank you to the Christmas Set Up Crew! Our campus was so beautiful with all of the wreaths, trees, and nativities because of them!



# Thanks!

## A HEART FELT "THANK YOU"

For all of your generous memorial gifts to the  
"Chuck and Scott Paulson Memorial Fund"

I hope you will see this as a way to remember my husband and all the work he did for the church and in the community. He loved his work and I know he would hope that your gifts will help connect with love acceptance and support to all those who share an interest in finding a home within the church community. May it offer the nourishment Jesus offered through his life and teachings and may you be strengthened in your hearts, minds and actions in your own life's journey.

I apologize for not responding to each of you individually which I'd love to do, but be assured you are each held in my prayers of gratitude for your generosity and kindness in enabling the church to reach out to others with open arms. I know both my beloved husband and son are somehow showering encouragement upon you all as you walk your own paths of love and service in this challenging world.

Blessings and Peace to each of you,

Anita Paulson

# Thanks!

- ♦ Thank you for your donation \$7,450.75 ~ Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
- ♦ Thank you for your very generous donation \$850 ~ West Valley Food Pantry



Hi I'm Flyncel Kate from Philippines.

I just received your Samaritan Purse Christmas Child today and it was amazing. I like it too much. I appreciate it. It was very nice.

Thank you for this gift that you gave me. I am so happy.

May God bless you

Love Kate

Thank you so much American Lutheran Church.. because of the box you share here in the Philippines my daughter was very happy..She's very excited to open on what's inside and when I open it she's happy..Very much appreciated ❤️..May god bless all of you ❤️❤️❤️



That's my daughter. . she's in 4th grade now..



# MEMORIALS & GIFTS

## **Worship & Music Ministry**

Gift Given by Wallace & Wanda Pottenger

## **Social Ministry**

Gift given by John Riedel

## **Debt Reduction**

In memory of Dee Westrum by Judith Morrison

In Memory of Gary Burt's Father by Terri Polk &  
Jim Becker

In Honor of Colleen Gandrud's 90th Birthday by  
Joyce Wikum

## **Undesignated**

In memory of William Dickinson by Beverly Eaton

In memory of Clint Lueck by Arvid & Kay Peterson

In memory of William Dickinson by Karen L Munson

## **C & S Paulson Evangelism Fund**

In memory of Pastor Paulson by

Anna L Spradlin, Jim & Janet Keck,

Pete & Carie Oppedahl, Roger & Irene King,

Wallace & Wanda Pottenger, Jan Phillips,

John & Alm Leyse, Wayne & Karen Severson,

Robert Gander, Colleen Gandrud, Judith Morrison,

Cynthia Nystrom, F J Schander,  
Kenneth & Doris Hagen, Judy Jensen, Ruth Recker,  
JoAnn Hoffman, Donald & Barbara Thompson,  
Ardith & Chris Johnson, Lois McMahon,  
Charlotte Riebe, Eugene & Evonne Phillippe,  
Alan & Nancy Filpa, John & Barbara Cliff, Lola J Spitz,  
Robert & Jacqueline Eschenbacher,  
Dennis & Joy Blaser, Irwin & Beverly Aal,  
Richard & Judy Jorgenson, Pamela Geiger,  
Edith & John Mattson, Arvid & Kay Peterson,  
Bruce & Marylyn Ayers, Yvonne Bender,  
William & Judy Traugott, Edward & Erma Konieczny,  
Albert & Patricia Forsythe, Glenda Bargfrede,  
Elsie Jokimaki, Gary & Sara Benson, Jean Ann English,  
Raymond & Judy Appel, Duane & Linda Reuer,  
Harold Peterson, Patrick & Barbara Lehto,  
Joyce Wikum, Robert Griffin, Debra Studley,  
Jim Becker & Terri Polk, Bob & Linda Shirck,  
Janet Harding, Donna Raus, Lowanne G Brokaw,  
Patricia A. Messamer, Charles Rogness,  
Dee Ellen Trask, Donald & Gloria Shamberger,  
Barbara W Kurtis, Lorna Davis,  
Gene & Marsha Propps, Judy Folven, Nola Mellstrom,  
Lola J Spitz, Roberta McCann.

## **Evangelism Goals Update through March 27, 2024**

<i>Goal</i>	<i>YTD Progress</i>	<i>Prior Year Comparison</i>
1. Each One, Reach One for Christ and ALC	317 new visitors	Similar information not available
2. Keep the New Members Coming	21 new members have been received	18 new members received
3. Maintain Last Year's Attendance Gains	530 people per week on average	526 people per week

## **Stewardship Goals Update through March 20, 2024**

<i>Goal</i>	<i>YTD Goal</i>	<i>YTD Progress</i>	<i>Action Required</i>
1. Match 2023 Giving	\$211,364.21	On Track	Maintain Current Trend
2. Pay All Bills in Full (Extra \$2.55/Wk. per Household)	\$12,622.50	On Track	Maintain Current Trend
3. Save for a Rainy Day (Extra \$2.22/Wk. per Household)	\$10,989.00	On Track	Maintain Current Trend
4. Debt Free in Seven Years (Extra \$1.95/Wk. per Household)	\$9,652.50	On Track	Maintain Current Trend
5. Property Maintenance (Extra \$1.71/Wk. per Household)	\$8,464.50	On Track	Maintain Current Trend
6. Fund Unbudgeted Ministries (Extra \$1.57/Wk. per Household)	\$7,771.50	On Track	Maintain Current Trend
Total Gifts Required to Meet YTD Goals	\$260,864.21		

### Financial Update through March 20, 2024

<i>Category</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Offering Income	\$265,259.00	\$211,364.21	\$53,894.79
Ministry Expenses	\$203,488.07	\$216,716.80	(\$13,228.73)
Available for Additional Ministry	\$61,770.93	(\$5,352.59)	\$67,123.52

**NOTE:** With many members giving once a year, and the timing of their gift sometimes varying from year to year, measuring progress against prior year results will always be imprecise and potentially misleading for a time. Right now we are doing quite well and it's hoped that will continue without interruption, but next month could also be a different story. It's time to celebrate, but not rest on our laurels.

### Debt Reduction Update through March 20,2024

<b>Paid in February</b>	<b>Special Gift</b>	<b>Paid YTD</b>	<b>Balance Due</b>
\$2,430.00		\$5,490.00	\$1,530,520.00

*IN LOVING  
Memory*

Barbara Saboe 11/11/1927- 3/23/2024

Barb McCune 12/04/1934 - 03/17/2024

Wallace "Wally" Eklund 11/23/1931 - 03/18/2024

*Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light  
perpetual shine upon them.*

## Game Day Fun!

Join us for Game Day at ALC! Bring your favorite game to play with the group and join in this fun opportunity to get to know your ALC family.



**Our next Game Day  
Tuesday, April 16th, 1-3 pm  
Everyone's invited!**



## The Good Book Club

**Monday, April 8th at 10:30 am in C**

**April: "The Library Book"** by Susan Orleans. The author chronicles a devastating fire in a Los Angeles Public Library, and the mysterious origin of the fire. Every book lover will feel the loss of the library and books. Tom Haugsby will lead the discussion.

The Good Book Club is open to all and meets the second Monday of the month through April. Meetings are in Education room C and start at 10:30 am and run about an hour.

Eleanor Dickinson 623-972-2689 or  
[billandeleleanor@gmail.com](mailto:billandeleleanor@gmail.com)



# Staff Directory



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Janet MacDonald

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George Zoske

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Andy Le

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623.974.2512

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**