

COME SEE &

Discover what God is doing in and through
American Lutheran Church of Sun City.



Worship Times:

Saturdays 4pm

Sundays 8:30am & 10:30am

Come & See us at:

17200 N Del Webb Blvd

Sun City, AZ 85373

www.alcsuncity.org

Main Office

623-974-2512

Pastoral Emergency

480-544-6680

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From Mountain Top to Mission: The Work of Community

By: Pastor Scott Klimke

In three weeks, we'll be back on the Mount of Transfiguration again with Jesus, Peter, John, James, and the speaking cloud (Matthew 17:1-13). The cloud conveying God the Father's presence and voice will tell us that Jesus is God's Son, the Beloved, with whom God is well-pleased AND that we should listen to Jesus first and last. Then Jesus to whom we are to listen first and last will bid us down from the mountain of wonder and epiphany and back to work.

When we listen to Jesus first and last, getting back to the work of community is always the mission. Community with neighbors, both near and far, is our work as the Church. It's what Jesus conveys when he calls us off the mountain of wonder and epiphany and back down below where our human and nonhuman neighbors are to be found. To answer Lent's call to repent is to restore the building of community with the entirety of God's creation to its rightful place in our lives of faith and that's always first place.

“
When we listen to Jesus first and last, getting back to the work of community is always the mission.”

This makes it fitting that the first public presentation of our newly formed Stewardship Committee will be in between services on Sunday, February 15th, the very weekend when Jesus will call us off the mountain of wonder and epiphany and back to the work of community. Stewardship has been defined as “everything faith does after faith is given” and again our everything as people of faith is community, community, community. Blessed and equipped with time, talent, and treasure meant for the work of community, our Stewardship Committee will lay out how you can be supportive of our newly minted Forward from Fifty Fund as well as other community-minded efforts and organizations.

“
***"Stewardship has been
defined as
'everything faith does
after faith is given.'"***

Tom Hoden, our presenter for the day, spent his professional life teaching people how to make the most of their resources for family, self, AND faith. I think you'll discover he has all kinds of ideas about how this might be done in a way that gets good community-oriented things done and in a fashion that does not compromise the needs of family and self.

“
***Our everything as
people of faith is
community,
community,
community.***

With our mission always community, community, community, it will also be fitting when Bishop Deborah Hutterer comes to celebrate Ash Wednesday with us the week after Jesus calls us down from the mountain of epiphany and wonder and back to the work of community. Bishops are a reminder that the Church is catholic and thus universal. When we're not in contact with other Christians and congregations locally, nationally, and internationally, bishops are. Bishops are also a reminder that the Church is apostolic in that sense that it lives out ongoing community with what the first Christians handed down to us by way of teaching and practice. When bishops are around, they often have a staff with them—reminding us that our congregation is just one part of a much larger flock. Like Jesus up on the Mount of Transfiguration, the explicit and implicit call sounded when a bishop visits is the call back to our central mission as the Church and that's the work of community.

Stephen Ministry:

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A STEPHEN MINISTER

Monthly Stephen Ministry meetings consist of two parts: a continuing education component and a peer support component. These components are essential and required throughout Stephen Ministry worldwide. Here at ALC, the continuing education component consists of programs presented by outside speakers and refresher sessions reviewing various segments of our initial training classes. The programs broaden our knowledge of services and information available in our community that might help our Care Receivers. In January we heard a presentation on the ABCs of Parkinson's Disease. In February we will take a field trip to Benevilla to learn of their broad levels of support for seniors in the West Valley. In March we will hear a presentation on Effective Communication Skills.

What does all of this have to do with Stephen Ministry? Stephen Ministry is "Christ Caring For People Through People." Stephen Ministers are trained to walk with people experiencing all manner of concerns and needs, and our Continuing Education meetings continually expand our understanding of how to care for such needs and where to find the resources to do so.

Our training and continuing education sessions help Stephen Ministers feel confident caring for others through life's transitions—as one of our current Stephen Ministers experienced.

A Stephen Ministry MOMENT

Several years ago, I had a Care Receiver who was a lonely veteran (I'll call him Bill), living in a senior living apartment. He rarely left his room to socialize. I prayed for God's help in finding a way to get Bill more involved with his community.

After talking to him about interesting people I'd met in the facility, I asked if he would walk around with me to see who else might be in the social areas. We started out slowly, walking through the various dining and meeting rooms. Soon I encouraged Bill to sit down with me at a table with three to four other people.

After about fifteen minutes, we met a couple of other veterans who had served in foreign places Bill was familiar with when he was in the service. Over several weekly visits, he became more and more interested in chatting with these veterans who shared his military interests. And even better, these other veterans were part of a Bible study meeting every week in the library.

It wasn't long before Bill started going out more to socialize with other members of his new community—God used me to help Bill solve his loneliness. What an answer to prayer!

This is what it means to be a Stephen Minister; this is Christ Caring For People Through People.

**LIKE ALC,
STEPHEN
MINISTRIES is 50
years old**

Stephen Ministries International is hosting an event to celebrate this milestone here in the valley on February 21, at All Saints Lutheran Church in Phoenix.

Please visit their website,
stephenministries.org/celebratePHX

or call (314) 428-2600 to learn more about this opportunity and to register for this event.

**Stephen
Ministries
International
Celebrates
50th Anniversary**

▶ **Saturday,
February
21st**

📍 **All Saints
Lutheran
Church in
Phoenix**

2026 Congregational Meeting Highlights

The annual meeting held January 27th featured the election of leadership, adoption of the 2026 budget, and an introduction of the Forward From Fifty stewardship campaign which included a video recently produced in-house.

The following individuals were elected to serve on the Congregational Council. Thank you to all who participated in the work of this faith community and for the fellowship before the meeting was held.



**Judy
Erickson**



Jim Keck



**Richard
Linnertz**



**Martin
Nordby**



Terri Polk



**Lollie
Stevens**



**Larry
Stage**



**Glen
Schulz**

**COME
SEE** &

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL EVENTS:


Fraud & Scam Awareness

Empower communities, stop scams before they start. Every 4.9 seconds, someone becomes a victim of identity theft in the United States.

R.O.S.E. is on a mission to change that - through education, outreach, and prevention. Attend this workshop to get a 30-page Identity Theft Protection & Cyber Safety Resource Packet and learn how to protect yourself from scams. The program, sponsored by APS, is free, but registration is required by February 4. Call the ALC office to sign up or use the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Wednesday,
February

11th

 10:00am-
11:00am

 Education
A&B

for the
Health
of It
Learning Series

**Understanding
Grief &
Mourning**

▶ Wednesday,
February

11th

🕒 10:00am-
11:00am

📍 Choir
Room

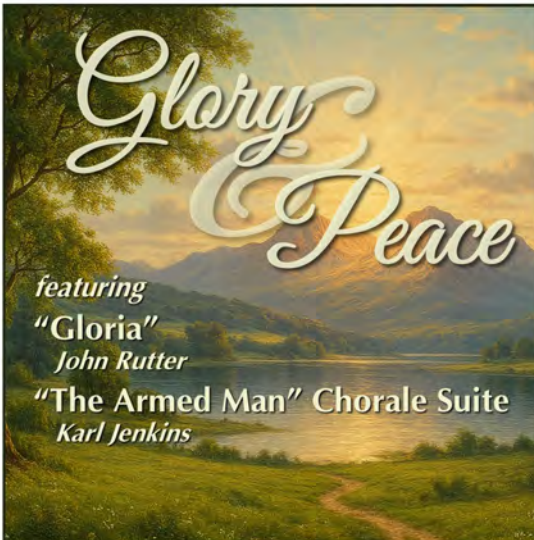
**ALC
Community
Choir
Concert
Performance**

▶ Sunday,
February

15th

🕒 3:30pm-
4:30pm

📍 Sanctuary






**Ash Wednesday
Worship
Services**

Wednesday,
February

18th

 12:00pm & 6:00pm

 Sanctuary




**Feed My
Starving
Children**

*Be a part of the
packing team from
American Lutheran.
Sign up in the
narthex or see Jane
Tschida Olson.*

Saturday,
February

21st

 2:30pm-
4:30pm


 Lord of Life
Lutheran Church:
Sun City West

Painting with Julie

Contact Annette DeJesus in the ALC office to register.

Wednesday,
February

25th

 10:00am-
11:30am


 Education
A&B

Dementia and Alzheimer's Conference

*On February 26, ALC will be hosting a Stephen Ministry Continuing Education presentation from 9-12 in Fellowship Hall focusing on Dementia. Two speakers will be featured: one from Hospice of the Valley discussing "From Clarity to Confusion" and a speaker from Banner Health on "Facts & Figures". The conference is open to the public, with vendor displays and a continental breakfast provided. **Please RSVP Nicole Jones in the ALC office no later than 2/23.***

Thursday,
February

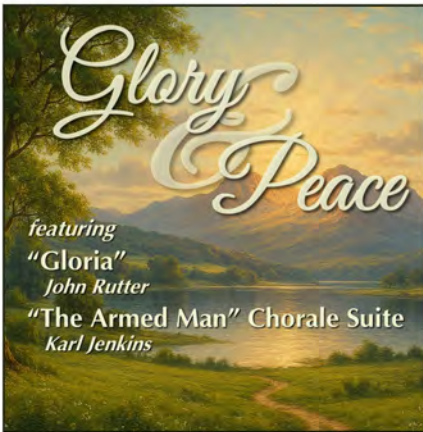
26th

 9:00am-
1:00pm

 ALC
campus

ALC Community Choir Presents Glory & Peace

Singers from around West Valley and beyond, along with our ALC Choir, are excited to present our fourth annual ALC Community Choir concert, "Glory & Peace," on Sunday, February 15, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. This free concert features "The Armed Man" Choral Suite by Karl Jenkins and "Gloria" by John Rutter.



"The Armed Man" Choral Suite includes selected movements from a larger composition that expresses the human emotions and struggles one experiences when encountering the horrors of war, pleading for peace, and hoping for healing.

"Gloria," among Rutter's best-known concert works, is a vibrant composition filled with joy and exaltation.

Professional instrumentalists from the Salt River Brass and Desert Rose String Quartet will add to the glorious sound of the choir, along with ALC's dynamic organist, Dr. James Gerber. Invite friends and neighbors to this free hour-long concert of beautiful music in our gorgeous sanctuary.

From Dust to Renewal

Observing Ash Wednesday



February 18, 2026, is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our annual observance of Lent—our 40-day journey toward Easter. Lent is a time of repentance and spiritual renewal as we humbly pray to God to cleanse our hearts and guide us to return to our baptismal call.

The Christian observance of Ash Wednesday is marked by spiritual practices of prayer, repentance, and fasting. The imposition of ashes on one's forehead signifies that we were marked with the cross of Christ at baptism, while also reminding us of our earthly mortality—that we were formed from dust and will one day return to the earth.

Throughout Scripture, God's people are summoned to repent and return to God, who is loving, merciful, and compassionate. In Psalm 51:10, we pray, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Genesis 3:19 reminds us that "you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

May this Lenten season be a blessing to you. Please join us for worship on Ash Wednesday at 12:00 noon or 6:00 p.m. to begin your 40-day journey of repentance and spiritual renewal, knowing that you are loved by God and reconciled in Christ.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship	2 GROUNDHOG DAY 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing & Crafts 1:30 Card Making Class	3 9:00 Sun City Sings! Rehearsal 9:30 Memory Caregiver Support Group 12:00 Cactus Conference. Mtg. 1:30 Grief Group 2:00 Evangelism Committee Mtg. 3:30 Christo Bell Choir Rehearsal	4 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study 4:00 Wednesday Night Alive!	5 10:00 MS Support Group 10:30 Pray without Ceasing 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	6 9:00 Stephen Ministry Training 10:00 Women's Bible Study	7 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 8:30 Happy Hour Neighborhood Group 9:00 ALC Community Choir Rehearsals 4:00 Worship
8 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship	9 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing & Crafts 10:30 Good Book Club 1:00 Social Ministry Committee Mtg. 1:30 Card Making Class	10 9:00 Sun City Sings! Rehearsal 9:30 Memory Caregiver Support Group 12:00 Cactus Conference. Mtg. 1:00 Bandage Spinning Women's Ministry 1:00 Trust Committee 1:30 Grief Group 2:00 Evangelism Committee Mtg. 3:30 Christo Bell Choir Rehearsal	11 9:00 Sun City Orchestra Rehearsal 10:00 For the Health of It: Understanding Grief & Mourning 10:00 Fraud & Scam Awareness 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study 1:00 Pastor's Meet & Greet 1:30 50 th Anniversary Committee 4:00 Wednesday Night Alive!	12 9:00 Stephen Ministry 10:30 Pray without Ceasing 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	13 9:00 Stephen Ministry Training 10:00 Women's Bible Study	14 VALENTINE'S DAY 9:00 ALC Community Choir Rehearsals 9:00 Neighborhood - 3 C's (Chat, Chatter & Comfort) 4:00 Worship 5:00 2 nd Saturday Fellowship
15 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Forward from 50 Presentation 10:30 Worship 3:30 ALC Community Choir Concert Performance 4:30 Concert Reception	16 PRESIDENT'S DAY 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing & Crafts 1:30 Card Making Class	17 9:00 Sun City Sings! Rehearsal 9:30 Memory Caregiver Support Group 12:00 Cactus Conference. Mtg. 1:00 Finance & Personnel Committee Mtg. 1:30 Grief Group 3:30 Christo Bell Choir Rehearsal	18 ASH WEDNESDAY 8:00 Quail Run Neighborhood Group 9:00 Ikebana 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study 12:00 Ash Wednesday Worship 12:30 ALC Game Day 4:00 Wednesday Night Alive! 6:00 Ash Wednesday Worship	19 9:00 Stephen Ministry 10:30 Pray without Ceasing 1:00 Executive Committee 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	20 9:00 Stephen Ministry Training 10:00 Women's Bible Study	21 FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN 2:30 Feed My Starving Children 4:00 Worship
22 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship	23 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing & Crafts 1:30 Card Making Class	24 9:00 Sun City Sings! Rehearsal 9:30 Grand Canyon Synod Spring Gathering 9:30 Memory Caregiver Support Group 12:00 Cactus Conference. Mtg. 1:30 Grief Group 3:30 Christo Bell Choir Rehearsal	25 10:00 Painting by Julie 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study 4:00 Wednesday Night Alive!	26 9:00 Dementia & Alzheimer's Conference 10:30 Pray without Ceasing 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	27 9:00 Stephen Ministry Training 10:00 Women's Bible Study	28 4:00 Worship

COME GIVE &

Making a Difference Together



CANNED SOUP



February
7th
& **8th**

Drop some cash in your favorite team's soup pot. We'll see if our donations to local food pantries match the winner of the Super Bowl. Will the Patriots or Seahawks prevail? Will we help others tackle hunger?

Lutheran Day at the Legislature

Hosted by:


Lutheran Advocacy Ministry Arizona (LAMA)

Lutherans from across the state will gather at the Arizona Capitol in Wesley Bolin Plaza for a day of advocacy on Monday, February 23, 2026 from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm to learn, to witness, and voice our common needs in the public square, activating our faith in love. Meet your legislators, meet LAMA liaisons, and meet other Lutherans across Arizona who share a common belief that we are called through our baptismal covenant "... to strive for justice and peace in all the earth."

Registration opens at 8:30. A light breakfast and coffee will be served on the plaza, as well as a bag lunch in the Senate Majority Room as we meet and greet, mingle, hear speakers, meet representatives and pray for justice and for all who serve in government.

Monday,
February

23rd

 8:30am-
1:30pm

 Wesley
Bolin
Memorial
Plaza at the
Arizona
State



Agenda Highlights:

- 8:30am Breakfast and Registration
- 9:30am Speakers' Remarks
- 11:00am Capitol Tour (limit 60)
- 12:00pm Lunch in the Majority Caucus Room
- 1:15pm Introduction from the House and Senate Galleries

Lutheran Day at the Legislature Prep via Zoom



















Prepare for the big day in advance! Learn what to expect, what to wear, schedule of events, what bills will be championed and tips on how to talk with your legislators to prepare for your appointments.

Monday,
February
16th
🕒 4:00pm

If interested in attending, sign up in the narthex. Or register online. <https://lamaz.org/calendar/lutheran-day-at-the-legislature-2026>

ELCA Good Gifts

Thank you for your generosity to the ELCA Good Gifts Program!

ELCA Good Gift 2025	# of Gifts	Amount Raised
 10 Chicks	10	\$100.00
 Backpack with Food	11	\$110.00
 Bibles	2	\$24.00
 Child Vaccination	5	\$150.00
 Family Farm	1	\$715.00
 Feed 50 at a soup Kitchen	4	\$400.00
 One Goat	8	\$400.00
 Two Goats	2	\$200.00
 Honeybees	8	\$160.00
 Latrine	1	\$150.00
 Microloan for a Woman	2	\$250.00
 Mosquito Net Family	1	\$20.00
 Piglet	12	\$360.00
 Feed Refugee Family Week	2	\$100.00
 Rooster	6	\$90.00
 School Supplies 1 Child	17	\$170.00
 School Fees & Uniform	7	\$280.00
 Water Filter	3	\$90.00
TOTAL	102	\$3,769.00

Coming in a few weeks!

CHANGE *for* CHANGE

**Piggy Banks will be available beginning Ash
Wednesday, February 18th.**

Last year we collected over 90 pounds of change.

Can we exceed that weight this year?

Please, no pennies.

You will change lives with your donation to the
ELCA World Hunger Program.

Return your donation after April 5.

Special Study Opportunity:

The 40 days of Lent:


Customs, Concepts, and Commitment

Prayer, fasting, and the giving of alms are marks of discipleship foundational to Lent. Learn how this was faithfully lived out in the past and come away with ideas of how to live Lent today.

Starting:

▶ Thursday,
February

19th

 10:30am

 Chapel



Altar Flower Gifts

Thank you for making our worship space beautiful.

JANUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

For Services on January 25th - Dave & Debra Hjortland
In Celebration of Granddaughter Mona's 1st Birthday

FEBRUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

For Services on February 15th - Jim Becker & Terri Polk
In Memory of Jaime Gunderson

**Correction from last month's Poinsettia Gift list:
Thank you Ken and Sharon Friedrichsen for your
donation in memory of loved ones.**

*Share in the beauty of worship by providing altar flowers to
celebrate special occasions or remember loved ones.
To reserve a date, please contact the church office at
623-974-2512.*

Stewardship Snapshot _____

Financial Summary of January 1-29, 2026:

MEMBER & COMMUNITY GENEROSITY:

CURRENT OFFERINGS & DONATIONS	\$77,729
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RESERVED OFFERINGS USED	\$0
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DONATIONS	\$1,900
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TOTAL MEMBER & COMMUNITY SUPPORT	\$79,629
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MEMBER & COMMUNITY CARE:

MINISTRIES OF CARE **-\$72,678.37**

HOSPITABLE FACILITIES **-\$14,544.40**

TOTAL MEMBER & COMMUNITY CARE **-\$87,222.77**

LEFT FOR MORTGAGE PRINCIPAL **-\$7,593.77**

MORTGAGE PRINCIPAL PAID **-\$8,866.95**

LEFT FOR MINISTRY PARTNERS & FACILITY UPKEEP **-\$16,460.72**

Gifts & Memorials

Honoring Lives, Continuing Ministry

We are deeply grateful for the generous gifts and memorials that honor loved ones while blessing ALC's ministries. These heartfelt donations bring comfort to families and help our church community thrive. Your thoughtfulness and support truly make a difference in continuing God's work here at ALC.

We gratefully acknowledge:

- Patricia Mason — Concert Music Gift**
- John Worden — Concert Music Gift**
- Helen Teply — Debt Reduction- In Memory of Roy Wasche**
- Judy Morrison — Debt Reduction- In Memory Diane Kohler**
- Pam Prueter — In Memory of Diane Kohler**
- Donna Raus — In Memory of Diane Kohler**
- Glen Schulz — Stephen Ministry - In Memory of Diane Kohler**
- LeRoy & Joy Cook — Concert Music Fund**
- Bob & Linda Shirck — Sun City Sings Gift**
- Butch & Karen Severson — Stephen Ministry - In Memory of Diane Kohler**
- Paul Carlson — Sun City Sings Gift**
- Rita Van Stelle — Music and Worship & Organ Maintenance**

COME & BELONG



Growing Together

Welcome our new members!

*Received in November & December 2025
(Now with photos!)*



Bill Baker



Charlie Medlin



Cindy Sauriol



Darlene Higgs



Dennis Drozky



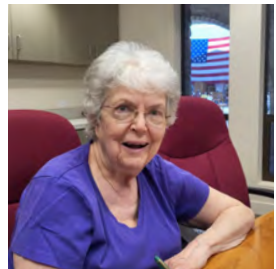
Dorothy Harvey



Ed Sauriol



Elaine & Wayne
Couture



Joanne Drozky



Corby Kasten



Dale Kasten



Dean Victoria



Mary Fuller



Merryl Jeffers



Patricia Medlin



Rex Harke



Steve Tronson

***New members
received in January
(photos to come!):***

Patricia Harms

Susan Korpela

Tammy Gilford

Beth Ann Lange

David & Karen Twedt

John & Carol Vekich

Robert & Diane Wheat

Steve & Nancy Buss

In Loving Memory

We honor our beloved church members who passed away since our last newsletter. Each person leaves a legacy of faith that continues to inspire our congregation. We extend heartfelt prayers to their families and give thanks for the blessing of sharing in their lives.

Gerri Jurisson

101 years old

Date Of Death: January 11, 2026

Corrine Kellar

100 years old

Date Of Death: January 15, 2026

Yvonne Bender

90 years old

Date Of Death: January 24, 2026

Coming Down the Mountain TOGETHER

In three weeks, we'll find ourselves on the Mount of Transfiguration with Jesus, Peter, John, and James. God's voice will break through the cloud, telling us to listen to Jesus—and then Jesus will do what He always does: He'll lead us right back down the mountain. Back to the valley. Back to the work of community.

That journey from mountain to mission isn't just February's theme. It's who ALC has been for fifty years: a congregation that proclaims the love of Jesus Christ, invites others to participate in our faith community, and works to be a blessing to all in word and deed.

You see it throughout these pages. It's Tom Hoden on February 15th, showing us how to steward our resources for family, self, and faith. It's Stephen Ministers like the one who walked with Bill, the lonely veteran, until he found connection with fellow veterans and a Bible study community. It's Bishop Hutterer reminding us on Ash Wednesday that we're part of a flock much larger than ourselves—connected to Christians locally, nationally, and around the world.

It's the seven people who stepped forward at our annual meeting to serve on Council and the Trust Committee, saying yes to the work of community governance and leadership. And it's Stephen Ministries International celebrating 50 years—the same milestone we're marking—reminding us that for half a century, this ministry of "Christ Caring For People Through People" has been building community one caring relationship at a time.

The mountain top moments are real and necessary—those times when worship lifts us, when we catch a glimpse of God's glory, when we're filled with wonder. But Jesus always calls us back down. Back to the work. Back to each other. Back to the neighbors near and far who need what only community can provide.

This February, as we move through Lent, may we answer that call with renewed commitment—stewarding our time, talent, and treasure; caring for one another; staying connected to the wider Church; and showing up for the good, hard, holy work of building community together.

That's the mission. That's where Jesus leads us. That's where we're heading—together.



Stay Connected

Main Office Phone

623-974-2512

Website

www.alcsuncity.org

Service Times

Saturdays 4pm

Sundays 8:30am

& 10:30am

Address

17200 N Del Webb Blvd

Sun City, AZ 85373



17200 N Del Webb Boulevard

Sun City, Arizona 85373

www.alcsuncity.org info@alcsuncity.org

623-974-2512

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED