



# Outreach



November  
2024

As we transition from one Church year into another, worship's appointed scriptures from now until Christmas will increasingly explore the inheritance that awaits the Church at the end of its faith journey. The aim is to encourage both hope and commitment as our wait for Jesus' triumphal return continues. With both hope and commitment already on the menu, I'll be using my next couple of newsletter articles to write about what hopeful commitment might look like for members of American Lutheran Church. I'll do this in the form of aspirations which might hold us together. Here's this month's collection of aspirations.



1. Let's remember grace is what keeps the Church alive and moving and that the Holy Spirit most often gifts us with grace through weekly worship and other times of communal gathering around the word of God, holy baptism, and holy communion.

## 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.

2. Let's seek to be relational in our decision-making. There are just too many moving parts and people at American Lutheran Church to do it any other way. Rather than operating in a vacuum, let's ask members of the staff, elected and appointed leaders, and one another about where our God-given time, talent, and treasure are most needed at any given time.
3. Let's prioritize paying our yearly bills at ALC before even thinking about who or what's next. Presently a good general rule of thumb is that our bills for the year will remain unpaid until \$930,000 in undesignated contributions are received. This hasn't yet happened in 2024.
4. Let's be confident that a plan to pay the mortgage off in seven years is in place and that 2024 will find us doing what needs to be done to fulfill this important goal on schedule.
5. Let's celebrate adding new ministries and new members. With two months to go, more new members have already been received than last year when ALC's growth was greater than all but one sister congregation in the entirety of the Phoenix metroplex.
6. Let's realize our income statement has had a profound turnaround. We've gone from \$110,000 in the red during the first nine months of 2022 to positive income thus far in 2024. It's a clear sign of leadership that can be trusted to lead us in the right direction.
7. Let's continue to avoid making big commitments too early in the year or whenever they might risk boxing us into an undesirable corner that will later work against needed flexibility. Nearly half of this year's positive income can be attributed to this kind of cautious, sober, long-view leadership.
8. Let's keep on stretching every dollar as far as it can go. Thus far in 2024 ministry expenses are \$130,000 under budget. This has led our precise and economically spoken treasurer of considerable financial expertise to say repeatedly that costs are "well-managed."

9. Let's be as wise as snakes and as innocent as doves as we seek the safest and greatest return on each dollar entrusted to us. With a better investment strategy now firmly in place, many thousands of dollars for new ministries are presently available which wouldn't have been available previously.
10. Let's be inventive and resourceful as we continue to find a way to fund underfunded ministries like evangelism, stewardship, property upgrades, and wider Church ministries.
11. Let's never forget point #2. Without communication with those in the know on a particular topic, we never want to assume things are better or worse than they are in actual fact.
12. Let's remember we've been promised eternity where there will be ample opportunity to rest and relax. Until we get there may it continue to be onward and forward Christian stewards!

Your Partner in Mission and Ministry,

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**

#### **4 New Members in October:**

Elizabeth Jong,

Mary Tomasina Schoeneberg,

Beth McDonnell, Linda Ratajczyk

# Lighting A Candle With Pastor Lisa

Recently during a staff meeting, we were discussing All Saints Sunday, which falls on the first week of November. The question was asked whether we should process in with the Paschal Candle. A flood of memories filled me with various incidents I've had in the past with Paschal Candles. As you know, the Paschal Candle is a tall candle that represents the risen Christ. At ALC, it is located at the front of the church next to the baptismal font. It is lit at the Easter Vigil and every Sunday of the Easter season. It is also lit during two key moments in our lives—at our baptism and at our funeral or memorial service.

In one of the churches I've served, the tall 48 inch candle stood on a very tall stand. Throughout most of the year, it was placed by the baptismal font, which was at the entry of the sanctuary. For funerals and memorials, I had to move it to sit at the head of the coffin or beside the cremains. Then, after the service, I had to move the heavy, tall candle and its stand back to the baptismal font. Toward the end of each year, after Easter and multiple baptisms and funerals, the center of the candle would burn quite deep, and I had to stand on a step ladder with a candle lighter at an angle to reach the wick to light the candle. When it came time to extinguish the candle, our candle lighter snuffer wouldn't do the job, so I had to find a very tall volunteer to stand on the step ladder and try to blow out the candle after everyone had left the sanctuary for the funeral reception. The reason I couldn't lift the candle off the stand to extinguish the candle after a service was that it was often filled to the rim with hot wax, and one could spill the wax on top of one's head if the candle was not kept perfectly level. I learned this the hard way!

The Paschal Candle is traditionally inscribed with a cross and an Alpha and Omega. This reinforces the point that the crucified and risen Christ is present from the beginning to the end, from the first to the last, now into eternity. On some candles you will see the five incense nails inserted into the candle to represent the wounds Jesus suffered on the cross for us.

Beginning with the Easter Vigil and continuing throughout the Easter season, the lit Paschal Candle reminds us that the Risen Christ is the light of the world. That light is especially present for you and me at our baptism and death. Martin Luther spoke of two kinds of death: a "big death," which occurs in baptism when the power of "sin, death, and the devil" is drowned and loses its ultimate power over us, and the "little death," when we take our final breath. The lit Paschal Candle at baptisms and funerals/memorials reminds us that the Risen Christ is with us in a particular way through both our baptism and death, leading us into eternal light. Despite my many mishaps with Paschal Candles, every time I see one lit, I'm reminded that the Risen Lord will not forsake us in our greatest need. Praise be to God.

God's Peace,  
Pastor Lisa

PS I was much relieved to realize that the Paschal Candle at ALC is constructed in such a way that it won't spill hot wax on us if we tip it.





# From the 🎵 desk of 🎵 James Gerber

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

The month of November begins with the festival of All Saints' Day. Traditionally, this festival is celebrated on November 1; many American denominations, including the ELCA, transfer this celebration to the first Sunday of November. It is a day for us to remember all the faithful who have gone before us and now rest in the loving presence of God. Many of the well-known saints are commemorated on specific days throughout the year; All Saints' commemorates those named saints as well as those saints who do not have a specific day of commemoration. At American Lutheran, we will also remember all those from our congregation who have died over the past year.

One of my favorite hymns, "For All the Saints" beautifully and joyfully embodies the spirit of the All Saints' festival. The full text of this hymn is as follows:

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;  
soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest;  
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:  
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;  
the King of glory passes on his way.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The melody we typically sing this hymn is titled “Sine Nomine” and was written by the British composer, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) around 1906. Sine Nomine literally means “without a name” and in this context, is particularly suitable for a day when we remember all saints.





# From the desk of Janet MacDonald

## Music And Worship – Choir

The choir is enthused and pleased to be back in the loft leading worship and offering introits, anthems, and musical offerings. Here are the songs we are preparing for November.

### **November 3 All Saints Sunday**

“The Night You Gave Us, God, Has Ended” Introit

“The Road Home” Choral Anthem

“Bound for the Promised Land” Ah-Men Singers Offertory

### **November 10**

“Now That Daylight Fills the Sky” Choral Introit

“Day By Day” Choral Anthem

“Oh, How He Loves You and Me” *The Quartet*, Musical Offering

### **November 17**

“The Lord is Here” Choral Introit

“He That Shall Endure Shall Be Saved” Choral Anthem

“Thank you, Lord” Sonja Myhre, Musical Offering

### **November 24 Christ the King Sunday**

“Majesty” Ah-Men Singers Introit

“King of All Ages Throned on High” Choral Anthem

Flute solo, Mary Hugen, Musical Offering

### **Wednesday, November 27 Thanksgiving Eve Service 4:00 p.m.**

The choir will sing during the service as well as participate in the pre-service cornucopia of musical selections.

Blessings and peace,

Janet MacDonald, Choir Director





# November, 2024



November has arrived, bringing with it cooler temperatures here in the Valley. We have more and more activities and events at American Lutheran, and I hope that you are keeping up with them all. Announcements at worship services highlight only a few of the many happenings we have going on. This newsletter, the **Outreach**, and the weekly **Happenings** that is sent out via email are good ways to keep track of ALC programs.

Though it hasn't happened as I write these words, I'd like to shout out a sincere THANK YOU to everyone who showed up for Spruce Up the Sanctuary Day on September 24th! As we prepare to observe our congregation's 50th anniversary next year it will be great to have a shined-up worship space. And I'm sure that all of us who attended the Fall Reunion Dinner greatly enjoyed the food and Elvis. There are more plans for November and December events, so stay tuned!

Last month I wrote about the project of revising the church's Constitution, an important and much-needed update that a Committee authorized by the Council has been working on. That Committee has made good progress, but – as I mentioned last month – it is a major undertaking and we're not sure how long it might take. I will be pleased to share more about this when there is more to share.

As Congregation President I want to recognize and commend the work of our pastoral staff in ministering to those of our members who are not able to attend regular worship services. The last few years – due to COVID and other factors – we frankly have not done as good a job as we might have of keeping track of all of our parishioners who have moved or may have become housebound. It has been an oft-voiced goal of Pastor Scott since he arrived that we “let no one fall through the cracks,” and our pastors and staff have made great progress working on that worthy objective. It has taken much work, but at this time they are confident that they have a good handle on who and where those congregants are. We can all be so very glad about this – personally I could not be more pleased – and Pastors Scott, Lisa, and Julia deserve our thanks for their truly wonderful work in connecting with and ministering to those folks.

I look forward to seeing you in church!

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.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Given by</b>	<b>In thanksgiving, memory or celebration</b>
11/2&3	Dave & Deb Hjortland	In celebration of the start of ALC's formation 50 years ago.
11/2&3		
11/9&10	Priscilla Johnston	In memory of Robert (BJ) Johnston
11/9&10		
11/16&17	Glen Schulz	In loving memory of Mary Schulz
11/16&17	Ken & Sharon Friedrichsen	In Thanksgiving for our 9th wedding anniversary.
11/23&24		
11/23&24		
11/30		

# Women's Ministry



- **Connecting Threads**

Every Monday, 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon Multi-Purpose Room. Congratulations to our Connecting Threads women!!! When we sent our check to Lutheran World Relief for \$500 to cover the shipping of the 28 quilts and 100 Personal Care Kits we completed during the summer we were notified that we qualified for a brick in the LWR Quilt Plaza. The brick will read: Women's Ministry American Lutheran Sun City, AZ

- **Spinning Bandages**

November 25, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., NW corner of Fellowship Hall. Come join us as we work for Lutheran Global Health and enjoy fellowship.

- **Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you for taking boxes, filling them, and returning them. Soon we will deliver them so they can be taken to Southern California and shipped to needy children and those in areas of fires and flooding.

- **Women's Ministry Annual Holiday Bazaar and Lefse Sale**

Saturday, November 23rd 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon Fellowship Hall Baked Goods Sign-ups and Raffle Basket Ticket Sales: Saturday Nov. 2 after the 4:00 pm service Sundays, Nov. 3, Nov. 10, Nov. 17 9:30-10:30 am.

- **Save The Date!!!** December 5th Women's Ministry's December Luncheon to 'Thank You' for your support of our projects and to honor Pastor Lisa and Pastor Julia.

We are so grateful for your mission hearts and support of our Women's Ministry.

Thank you  
Jan Powell

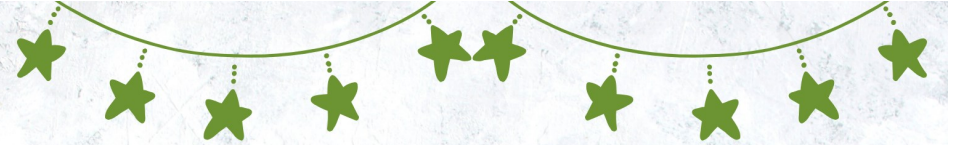
# Women's Ministry

Holiday Bazaar Sign-ups to bring baked goods, and help sell raffle tickets will be in the courtyard on Saturday, November 2, at 5 pm, Sunday November 3rd, 10th, & 17th from 9:30 - 10:30 am.

Thank you!



# SAVE THE DATE!!



# Holiday Bazaar & Lefse Sale

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2024  
9:00 A.M. - 12 NOON**

**17200 N. DEL WEBB BLVD.  
SUN CITY, AZ 85373**

**LEFSE      BAKED GOODS  
QUILTS      CRAFTS      PLANTS  
HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE      RAFFLE BASKETS**





## Did you know:

Annette is here to help! If you don't know already, I am your in-house Resource Minister, and I am here 40 hours per month to assist you with connecting to resources for a variety of reasons and situations and I would love to meet you, your neighbors, friends, enemies and any strangers on the street. This is a free service that the American Lutheran Church provides for the congregation and the community. Please feel free to give me a call at 480-848-7045 or come by and see me on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the office.

**Here is a glimpse of what services have been provided for the month of September:** September -46 encounters for services i.e. rental assistance, domestic violence shelter assistance, counseling referrals, health series classes, utility assistance, cancer support services, medical cost assistance, filing for Social Security benefits, socialization, food and gas assistance, housing, transportation, employment assistance and assisted living resources.

**Success Story:** Jesse and Rissa, a young couple with 5 small children who are both employed experienced an unforeseen emergency with one of their children. This caused them to fall behind with their electric bill as the wife had to miss some time off from work to take care of the child. This put them behind on their bills. They have been working more hours to try to catch up but due to life happening to them all at once, and it has been hard for them to catch up. ALC was so gracious and assisted them with a helping hand by paying \$500 toward their electric bill. This family was so thankful and appreciative of the support and reported they felt like they could breathe again.

**Presentation Success:** We had 13 attendees for the September class on Hearing and Brain Health presentation. Thank you to all that attended

# For the Health of It!



Invite your friends and neighbors to our FREE monthly community education programs. Please call to register (623-974-2512).

## Love the Skin You're in!

**November 13th, 10-11 AM**

***Registration deadline 11/11***

Are annual skin cancer screenings important? What is the best sunscreen? Do I really need to moisturize? Anna Gould, PA-C from the Skin and Cancer Institute will talk about everything you should be doing to make sure your skin is the best it can be no matter what your age.

## Take a step forward in Diabetic Foot Pain Relief

**December 11, 2024 10-11 AM**

***Registration deadline 12/09***

## Banner Olive Branch Senior Center Tour

**January 25th, 2025 9-10 AM**

## Health Screening

**January 20, 2025 10-11 AM**

***Registration will be online.***

***More details to come in December.***

*This is just a glimpse of the variety of resources and activities that are available; please feel free to give Annette a call at 480.848.7045 or come by and see her on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the office.*

## October Outreach Corrections

Our apologies to Tom & LeAnn Husnik for the misprint in the October Outreach. Their Altar Flower sponsorship on the 27th of October should have read: ***“In memory of our mothers.”***

We apologize for this oversight.

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

On Monday, October 21 an email was sent out to all members with an email address on file. This email contained a link to sign up for your 50th Anniversary Directory photo session. Please check your spam and junk email folders for the email if you did not receive it. The time slots are filling up fast. If you did not sign up, we encourage you to do so ASAP. The link can be found on our FB page, and our website under “Events”. When completing the registration be sure to only submit the form 1 time per household. You do NOT need to schedule a time for each person in your household.

Anyone who does not have a computer to schedule their time slots can meet with Donna Borden or Ruth Grant after services in November.

We want everyone to be in the directory. You do NOT need to make a purchase to be in the directory. The only commitment is that you schedule your session, attend the session on time, and sit through the presentation. If you do those 3 things you will be given a FREE 8x10, and FREE Directory.

Thank you for helping us with this important task!



# A Prayer for Election Day

Everlasting God, source of all liberty,  
before whom every earthly ruler must bow  
and bend the knee,  
we lay our nation before you  
as we prepare for an election.

Breathe upon us your Spirit of wisdom  
and discernment.

Grant all who seek public office the mind of Christ,  
who came not to be served but to serve,  
and to give his life for the freedom of the oppressed.

Hold before us those who face uncertain futures  
or who have no voice in our political process.

Uphold and safeguard poll workers  
and election officials in their work.

Spare us from the crushing weight of cynicism.  
Give us grace to speak courageously but with love,  
without which our words are noise  
and we are nothing.

Gather us together under the cross,  
where, in all of our difference,  
we can stand as one people,  
redeemed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

# WNA November Highlights

As you read this, we'll be a few days away from the **Wednesday Night Alive!** Gala on November 6. We have a great evening planned. The 4:00 pm program includes some fun re-enactments of the beginnings of ALC ... the first "planning" meeting for a new church to meet the needs of a booming Sun City was held November 6, 1974! At 6:00 pm, the Orpheus Male Chorus will perform a selection of songs popular in the 1970s. Formed in 1929, The Orpheus Male Chorus is the longest continuously performing arts group in the state of Arizona. They have toured nationally and internationally. We are able to bring this fabulous group to ALC through the generosity of an anonymous donor who has underwritten the costs for this group. There is still time to buy tickets for the Gala dinner (roast beef with Bearnaise sauce). Attendance at the programs is free.

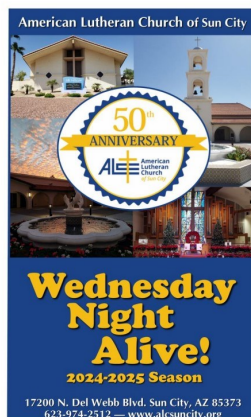
The Veterans Day program will be held in the ALC Courtyard on November 13 at 4:00 (yes, there will be seating outside). The program will begin with the presentment of Colors by a Luke AFB Color Guard. Our keynote speaker will be Wanona (Winnie) Fritz. Winnie had an interesting career, beginning as a nurse and helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War, where she earned a Bronze Star. Following the war, she served at Walter Reed Hospital, and then, at the request of the King of Jordan, moved to Jordan to establish and lead a nursing school there. After 17 years in Jordan, she returned to the U.S. and has held positions as CEO, Chief Clinical Officer, and Chief Nursing Officer for various hospitals and healthcare organizations. An "All American" meal of fried chicken follows at 5:00 pm and tickets can be purchased in person or online by November 11. The 6:00 pm program will be

held in the Sanctuary with a performance by the Sun City All Stars Big Band. The All Stars will perform a selection of music associated with our military and World Wars I and II. This 18-member band, led by Duane Moore, is known throughout the Valley for their upbeat tempo and full sound, reminiscent of Glenn Miller and his Orchestra.

On November 20 at 4:00 pm, we have the authors of the Sophie Kimball mystery series speaking. Ann Goldfarb along with her husband James Clapp write under the pseudonym JC Eaton. They have many mystery series, but my favorite is their Sophie Kimball murder mysteries. These 12 books are set in the Sun City area, and their humorous style and many local references make this a favorite of mine. You can find their books in the Sun City libraries and at local bookstores. Following a dinner of roast turkey at 5:00 pm (you must buy your tickets for the dinner ahead of time), Andrew Parsley will present the music of Robert Goulet. This performer with his deep baritone, captures the essence of the wonderful style of music originally performed by Goulet.

Stay tuned for our exciting December programs, described in next month's Outreach!

Deb Hjortland  
Co-chairs of WNA



# WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE MEAL SERVICE

**Our first Wednesday Night Alive event will be on Wednesday, November 6, 2024. There will be 16 WNA dinners during the 2024-2025 season. We need help with the meal service!** If you can help out with the meal service for any of the WNA events, please sign up on the WNA clipboard! There will be signup sheets in Fellowship Hall and in the Narthex for the first two weeks of November.

THERE WILL BE A CHOICE OF **THREE** SHIFTS EACH NIGHT:

**SET UP**-30 minutes (from 3:15pm until 3:50pm) before the 4:00pm program

**SERVING THE MEAL**-20 to 25 minutes (from 4:55pm until 5:20pm) starts the last 5 minutes of the 4:00pm program

**CLEAN UP** in the kitchen-20minutes (from 5:40pm until 6:00pm)

**Everyone attending the dinner should be helping to wipe down tables, and throw away trash. Please return pitchers to window #3 and unused items (placemats, napkins, plastic ware, salt & pepper and sugar containers) to window #1.**

**Thank you for helping to make these dinners a success!**

**Madeline Niccore**  
**WNA Meals**



# FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

**COFFEE HOUR:** As Fellowship chairperson, I want to recognize and thank the following coffee hour chairs and their committee members for taking care of coffee hour for the last six months (May through October): Olga Redstrom, Chris Weldon, and Dick and Judy Jorgenson. Joyce Wikum and Glen Schulz will be coffee hour chairs in November and Alan and Susan Olson will chair December. Each coffee hour committee is made up of about 4 to 5 people. A big thank you to everyone who helps with coffee hour....”it takes a village”.

**FUNERAL RECEPTIONS:** Beginning last May, the Fellowship Committee was asked to be responsible for the receptions following the funerals. In late April, thirty people signed up to help with the receptions for May through October. I tried hard to give everyone who signed up an opportunity to serve. Many of you served several times depending on your other commitments. I found that texting was a very effective way to recruit helpers; volunteers were very responsive and eager to serve. We broke the reception shifts into two parts: the setup portion lasting about 1 and a half hours and the serve/clean up portion lasting 2 and a half to 3 hours. This has given more people an opportunity to serve and made helping less physically demanding. We even had one reception without a caterer and 4 ladies got a chance to bake cookies and bars for the reception. Thank you to Chris Weldon and her helpers for “catering” this small reception with the home baked goodies.


**On November 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be a new sign up for serving at the funeral receptions for the next 6 months (November thru April).** This will give the “snowbirds” an opportunity to serve at funeral receptions and I hope that those of you who served the last six months will sign up again. **YOU ALL WERE GREAT HELP!** This is a very wonderful ministry and the families are very, very grateful!

Thank you also to Sharon Grambow who helped with getting the birthday cake for Pastor Lisa and Pastor Julia’s birthday celebration.


If you are interested in being on the Fellowship Committee, please let the office know or send me an email at [mdniccore@gmail.com](mailto:mdniccore@gmail.com). We have much to be thankful for as we enter this Thanksgiving season. May God continue to bless you!

Madeline Niccore  
Fellowship Chair

# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		<p><b>Social Ministry Reminders: Boxed Stuffing &amp; Instant Mashed Potatoes</b></p> <p><b>Activity: Turkey Time...Cash &amp; Grocery Cards</b></p>	
<p><b>3</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship</p>	<p><b>4</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 1:30 Card Making</p>	<p><b>5 ELECTION DAY</b> 9:30 Memory Care 10:00 Civic Life Bible Study 1:30 Council Meeting 1:30 Grief Support 2:00 Evangelism Committee 3:30 Bell Choir</p>	<p><b>6</b> 10:30 Pastor Study 3:00 I-Help 4:00 WNA</p>
<p><b>10</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Usher Meeting 10:30 Worship</p>	<p><b>11</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 1:30 Card Making</p>	<p><b>12</b> 9:30 Memory Care 1:00 Personnel Committee 1:30 Grief Support 2:30 Trust Committee 3:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>13</b> 10:00 Love y 10:30 Pastor Study 1:30 50th Ar Committee 4:00 Veteran WNA</p>
<p><b>17</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship</p>	<p><b>18</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 10:30 Good Book Club 1:00 Social Ministry 1:30 Card Making</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9:30 Memory Care Group 1:30 Grief Support 3:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>20</b> 8:00 Quail R Neighborhood 10:30 Pastor Study 12:30 ALC C 3:00 I-Help 4:00 WNA</p>
<p><b>24</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship</p>	<p><b>25</b> 9:00 Connecting Threads Sewing 1:00 Bandage Spinning 1:30 Card Making</p>	<p><b>26</b> 9:30 Memory Care Group 1:30 Council Meeting 1:30 Grief Support 3:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>27</b> 10:30 Pastor Study 4:00 Thanks Worship 5:00 Thanks Fellowship</p>

# ber, 2024

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 8:30 Happy Hour Neighborhood Group 8:30 Westers Neighborhood Group 4:00 Worship
's Bible Ministry Gala	7 10:00 MS Support Grp 1:30 Ah-Men Singers 2:30 Choir Rehearsal 3:00 Installation Service for Pastor Lisa Hackler 4:30 Reception for Pastor Lisa Hackler	8	9 9:30 CCC Neighborhood Group 4:00 pm Worship
our Skin 's Bible Anniversary as Day	14 9:00 Stephen Ministry Welcome Breakfast 1:00 Finance Committee Meeting 1:30 Ah-Men Singers 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	15	16 4:00 pm Worship
un d Group 's Bible Game Day Ministry	21 8:00 Bazaar Set Up 9:00 Stephen Ministry Leadership 1:00 Executive Committee 1:30 Ah-Men Singers 2:30 Choir Rehearsal	22 8:00 am Bazaar Set Up	23 9:00 Women's Ministry Holiday Bazaar 4:00 pm Worship
's Bible giving Eve giving	28 OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving Day	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30 4:00 pm Worship 

# Social Ministry

## It's Turkey Time!

Please use the baskets in the narthex for your cash donations and grocery gift cards (Fry's, Walmart, Safeway) to support our local food pantries.

Holiday meals can be very special. Let's help those in need have a special meal too!



## Blue Bag

**Food of the Month for November**

**Stuffing Mix And Instant Potatoes**

*(or anything you care to give)*





Coming soon to the ALC narthex!



Gifts that really change lives!

I-HELP is here!

Things have gone extremely well as ALC hosted 2 overnights for the unhoused in the month of October.

Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest has helped us be successful by allowing us to serve 3 adult, vetted unhoused individuals each time. These adults were most appreciative of an evening meal, breakfast, and “to go” lunch.

If you would like to volunteer to be a part of this community outreach program or have questions, please contact one of the members of the Social Ministry committee or find us at coffee hour.

We'll be at a table with a Social Ministry sign on it the 1st three Sunday's in November. Look for Pastor Julia, John & Vicki Tate, Marty Livingston & Patti Phillips.





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623-815-7061  
wvlts@qwestoffice.net

## **God's Work, Our Hands**

The blessings God continually bestows upon the Lutheran Thrift Shop are never ending and amazing!

Each month, we ask ourselves "how did we get through another month?" We made it through COVID - down two-thirds of our help. We somehow get through every summer with a skeleton crew. We manage to keep a million dollar business running utilizing a group of senior volunteers! We've maintained a base of loyal customers who have continued to shop with us for more than 30 years. We have a huge community that donates their wonderful used goods throughout the years. And, best of all, we give away a boatload of grant money annually to worthy organizations in the west valley.

How could all this happen without the abundant blessings of God? It couldn't; it's just that simple. God has His hand in everything that happens at the LTS. In this season of Thanksgiving, we are all grateful for everyone who supports the mission of the Lutheran Thrift Shop and for the many blessings we receive from being a part of this awesome place. Maybe you'd benefit from being a part of this mission. Come in and check us out!

Also, now that the weather is cooler, we are open on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 5-7pm. Join us Nov. 21st, Dec. 19th, Jan. 16th, Feb. 20th, and March 20th.

Check out our website [www.lutheranthrift.com](http://www.lutheranthrift.com) for more shop info, pictures & videos and follow us on [Facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop](https://www.facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop) for weekly sales and special events.



Christmas is coming soon and that means our ALC Angel Tree Ministry is preparing for members to [participate](#). This ministry brings joy at Christmas time to a child whose parent is incarcerated. It also gives assurance to the parents that their child is supported in love. We pray you will consider adding an “Angel” to your Christmas list. That is the opportunity Angel Tree Ministry offers you.

ALC will again Partner with Central Baptist/ Iglesia Bautista Central Church. They will provide the names of children, and we do the shopping on behalf of the parents for distribution at their Special Christmas party. The gifts will be distributed along with a message of the birth of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to help these parents bring joy to their children during this blessed Christmas Season.

Angel Tree Ministry has become a major event for the national Prison Fellowship Ministry including the greater Phoenix area.

If you are unable or just wish to donate and have our team do the shopping that will be appreciated also. You may donate to a volunteer at the trees or drop it off at the office. Be sure to note it is for Angel Tree.

Look for the Angel Trees in the Narthex the weekend before Thanksgiving, November 23/24. More information as time gets closer.



stephen  
MINISTRY®

Christ caring for people through people

## **ALC STEPHEN MINISTERS SAY, “HAPPY NEW YEAR” in NOVEMBER?**

The seasons here in the Valley of the Sun seem to me to be a bit reversed, especially here at American Lutheran Church. In the Fall things seem to start coming back to life after what seemed to be a long, hot summer of hibernating indoors and wishing it would cool off a bit. Our ministries, programs, and activities at ALC begin to stir again in September and in October planning really gets underway revealing the many and varied opportunities to be involved, thus complimenting and strengthening our weekend worship. In November the many ministries, outreaches, and activities begin anew with regular meetings and programing, thus making the meaning of membership at American Lutheran Church so special. Happy New year to all, those of us coming out of hibernation here in our beautiful corner of the desert, and those of us returning from all parts of our beautiful nation.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY** is one of those ministries whose regular programming resumes in November. While our caring relationships continue through all seasons, our continuing education programs, peer group meetings, and training classes happen from November through May.

**WELCOME** to the 2024-2025 season for Stephen Ministry here at American Lutheran Church. Our season will start on Thursday, Nov 14th at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall with a complimentary breakfast for all active, inactive, and potential Stephen Ministers.

**PLEASE NOTE**, if you are thinking about becoming a Stephen Minister, but just aren't sure, please join us for this first session and learn more about this ministry.

The breakfast is complimentary, but it is a catered event, so an accurate count is essential. There will be an opportunity to sign up for the event at our Stephen Ministry table in the court yard the weekends of Nov 2/3 and Nov 9/10. You may also call the office any time prior to Monday, Nov. 11th at 12 noon to register. We look forward to seeing you on Nov. 14th.

**REMINDER** – Our continuing education and peer support group meetings will be on the second Thursday of each month November through May from 9-11am. All Stephen Ministers are expected to attend these monthly meetings. **PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Blessings to All,

Glen Schulz, Leadership Information Coordinator

## Benefit ALC Through Your Thrivent Insurance

Do you have insurance through Thrivent Financial (formerly Lutheran Brotherhood)? If so, are you aware that they have charitable funds that they distribute each year, given at the direction of individual policy holders? It's true! It's called the Thrivent Choice program, and eligible Thrivent policy holders can designate Choice dollars from the fund – not their own money, but from a Thrivent fund – to a wide range of churches or charitable organizations of their choosing – and we *hope* that you believe American Lutheran would be a worthy recipient!

Further information about this program is available on the Thrivent website or from your Thrivent Financial Advisor.

**thrivent**<sup>®</sup>

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE!

It's Wednesday Night Alive! time again and we have some very exciting programs in store for our 2024-2025 season. This season will be quite special as ALC is also celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Gala on November 6th kicks off with an ALC Anniversary program at 4:00 pm, a roast beef dinner at 5:00 pm, and the Orpheus Male Chorus at 6:00 pm. Programs continue each Wednesday night at 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm until Holy Week (except for Advent and Lent when the 6:00 pm program is replaced by a church service). We are delighted that Jane Coughlin will continue to cater our 5:00 pm dinner at the same price as last year (\$15 for the Gala, \$12 for all other meals)! Of course, the programs are always free, and you don't need reservations for our programs. BUT you do need to purchase meal tickets ahead of time. Check out our brochure or the church website for more information on how to purchase meal tickets ahead of time.

## **A little about how Wednesday Night Alive! is funded**

While WNA doesn't charge you for attending a program performance, we do have to pay our performers. At each event, we ask for a free will offering. The money collected from what you donate enables WNA to pay our performers and not ask for or receive money from the church. We are very thankful for our generous donors – you – and the quality of our performers reflect your generosity.

# Wednesday Night Alive! is looking for volunteers

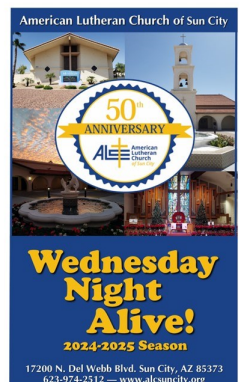
The WNA committee needs your help to:

- Sell tickets on Sunday mornings before and between services, before the Saturday service, and after the dinner on Wednesday nights.
- Sit at the Will Call desk on Wednesdays before the 4:00 pm program to distribute tickets to those who previously bought tickets online.
- Help collect meal tickets at the two serving stations for the 5:00 pm dinner.
- Greet attendees as they enter the sanctuary before the Wednesday 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm programs.

Are any of these things that you could help with, whether every week or occasionally? If so, contact Donna Borden at 623-523-3382 or [dbordenpt@msn.com](mailto:dbordenpt@msn.com) or Debra Hjortland at 612-790- 9217 or [deb.hjortland@gmail.com](mailto:deb.hjortland@gmail.com)

We need you and thank you for your response!!!

Donna Borden and Deb Hjortland  
Co-chairs of WNA



# EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Did you know that the **Evangelism Committee** covers the expenses of advertising our wonderful American Lutheran Church in 5 Independent Newspapers! We are featured in the worship section of the Sun City, Sun City West, Glendale, Peoria & Surprise Editions. We also pay to be featured in the Christmas Worship Service Insert, and hope to be able to be in the Easter Service insert this coming year. In addition to the newspapers, the **Evangelism Committee** also funds advertising on Facebook and on Nextdoor Neighborhood.

When you purchase a wreath, swag, garland or tree from this fundraiser, 100% of the funds go towards these advertising expenses to allow ALC to continue reaching the community. If you won't be here for the pick up date on Saturday December 7th, or for Christmas, you can still participate by purchasing a tree or wreath for the Troops. Those orders are delivered to our service men and women who are stationed all over the U.S. at different bases.

Last year was the first year we tried this fundraiser, and it was a great turn out. We had some individuals who weren't sure about the trees and wreaths and didn't order. Later when the orders arrived and they saw and smelled them they regretted they didn't order one. Don't wait and miss out. These are the BEST smelling and looking fresh wreaths you will find in AZ!! They are the highest of quality and come directly from the tree farms in Washington & Oregon.

Thank You for supporting the **Evangelism Committee!**



# ALC's 2nd Annual Wreath, Garland, Swag & Tree Fundraiser!

[www.fundraiser4us.com/shop/alc](http://www.fundraiser4us.com/shop/alc)

## Order Deadline 11/13/24



**DOUGLAS FIR\***

5' – 6'	\$70.00
6' – 7'	\$75.00
7' – 8'	\$90.00
8' – 9'	\$105.00



**NOBLE FIR\***

5' – 6'	\$85.00
6' – 7'	\$105.00
7' – 8'	\$140.00
8' – 9'	\$180.00
9' – 10'	\$225.00



**NORDMAN FIR\***

5' – 6'	\$85.00
6' – 7'	\$105.00
7' – 8'	\$140.00
8' – 9'	\$180.00
9' – 10'	\$225.00

**LAST DAY TO ORDER: 11/13/2024**

- NOTE:** If you are looking for a specific tree height, ex: 7' tree, we recommend ordering up to the 7'-8" vs. 6'-7". This applies to all tree sizing.



**Wood Mountain**  
CHRISTMAS TREES - FUNDRAISERS

Description: SUPPORT The Evangelism Committee WITH THE PRE-SELL PURCHASE OF A CHRISTMAS TREE, WREATH, SWAG OR GARLAND. YOU MAY ALSO DONATE TO THE TREES & WREATHS FOR TROOPS PROGRAM. THE PROFITS FROM THIS PROGRAM WILL BE USED TO COVER THE EXPENSES FOR ALC's Advertising and marketing

Product Pick-up Date: Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> 8 am - 2pm

Location: ALC's Courtyard  
17200 N Del Web Blvd  
Sun City, AZ 85373

Hours of Operation: 8am-2pm

Contact: Arvid & Kay Peterson  
623-308-2316  
kayarvid0777@gmail.com

Additional Information:  
SHIPPING & HANDLING ARE INCLUDED IN THE PRICE. SALES TAX WILL BE CHARGED ON THE SALES PRICE AT YOUR LOCAL RATE.



**ROUND WREATH**



**CROSS WREATH**



**EVERGREEN SWAG**



**CEDAR GARLAND**

24" ROUND WREATH	\$45.00	24" EVERGREEN SWAG	\$35.00
24" CROSS WREATH	\$47.00	10' CEDAR GARLAND	\$30.00



**Make A Donation**

**SUPPORT OUR TROOPS**  
**WITH TREES & WREATHS FOR TROOPS**



Your donation of a fresh-cut 6'/7' Douglas Fir and/or a 24" Wreath with patriotic bow will be directly shipped to a military base in the US the first week of December. Thank you for your support!

6' – 7' DOUGLAS FIR	\$75.00	24" WREATH	\$45.00
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# 1st Annual Christmas Market

In celebration of ALC's 50th Anniversary we will be having a special **Christmas Market** in the ALC courtyard on **Saturday December 7th from 8am - 2pm**. We will have 52 different vendors selling hand made, and small business items. There will be musical performances at the top of every hour. Everyone who pre-ordered a wreath, or tree will be able to pick up their orders at that time. We have vendors providing free treats and refreshments. ALC's very own Mr. & Mrs. Clause will be handing out special goodies, and there will be amazing raffle baskets up for grabs!!

Every guest will receive a special treat at the gates (while supplies last) and 1 free raffle ticket. Any guest who makes a purchase from any of our Christmas Cheer Vendors will receive 1 free raffle ticket for every \$10 they spend. Raffle tickets will also be available to purchase. 100% of the proceeds from this event go to the Evangelism Committee to help cover their event, and advertising expenses throughout the year.

**If you have Christmas Cheer and would like to volunteer we are looking for volunteers to greet guests at the gates as they enter, give them a raffle ticket, Vendor Directory, and an invitation to attend our Advent Services. Volunteer times are 7 am - 11am OR 12pm - 3pm. Please contact DeNage in the office to sign-up to serve.**

**623-974-2512 D.Bautista@alcsuncity.org**

**SAVE THE DATE, INVITE FRIENDS,  
AND BE READY TO HAVE  
A GREAT TIME!**



**Annual  
CHRISTMAS  
MARKET**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH  
8 AM – 2 PM**

Vendors  
Food  
Musical Performances  
Raffles  
Fresh Wreath &  
Christmas Tree Pick Up



Please pre-order your wreaths  
and trees from American Lutheran  
Church by November 12th  
<https://fundraiser4us.com/shop/ALC>

*Location*

American Lutheran Church of Sun City  
17200 N Del Webb Blvd. Sun City, AZ 85373



**American  
Lutheran  
Church  
of Sun City**

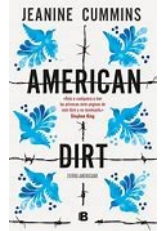


# The Good Book Club

The Good Book Club is open to all and meets the second Monday of the month October-April. Meetings are in Education A&B and start at 10:30 am and run about an hour.

## Upcoming Books

- ◆ **November 18,**  
**“American Dirt” by Jeanine Cummins**
- ◆ **December 9,**  
**“The Woman” by Kristin Hannah**
- ◆ **January 13,**  
**“Allie and Bea” by Catherine Ryan Hyde**
- ◆ **February 10,**  
**“Beneath A Scarlet Sky” by Mark T Sullivan**



Contact Tom Haugsby for more information  
[thaugsby@gmail.com](mailto:thaugsby@gmail.com)



## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

**Volunteer Drivers needed  
to help our neighbors get  
around town.  
Call Annette DeJesus at  
623-974-2512.**



## 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.



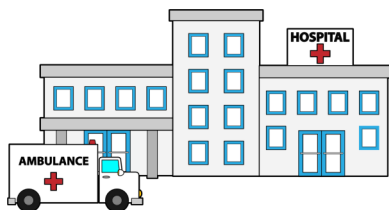
**Our next Game Day  
Wednesday, November 20th,  
12:30-2 pm  
Everyone's invited!**



Flower Delivery

## Be a Cheer Giver!

Flower delivery drivers needed on Sunday's after service. Drop off locations are 15 minutes or less from ALC.



## 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! 623-974-2512

# MEMORIALS & GIFTS

## Debt Reduction

In memory of Charlene Young by Teresa Polk

In memory of Harold Peterson by Teresa Polk

In memory of Duane Mayer by Judith Morrison

In memory of Bernice Gill by Denice Louderback

In memory of Harold Peterson by Debra Nielson

In memory of Robert Holland by Judith Morrison

In memory of Harold Peterson by Judith Morrison

In memory of Harold Peterson by Susan Sherbocker

In memory of Becky Jo, Barb & Don Thompsons Daughter by  
Helen Tepy

In memory of Becky Jo, Barb & Don Thompsons Daughter by  
Judith Morrison

## Undesignated Gifts

In memory of Harold Peterson by  
Richard & Judy Jorgenson

In memory of Harold Peterson by  
Bonnie & Luther Peterson

In memory of Harold Peterson by  
David & Debra Hjortland

In memory of Harold Peterson by Susan Krueger

In memory of Harold Peterson by Violet Anderson

In memory of Dora Carter by Daniel Carter

In memory of Dora Carter by Patricia Parcher

In memory of Harold Peterson by Rolfe Blaess  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Marie Amble  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Ruth Recker  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Janice Fosen  
In memory of Emil Kroepelin by Joyce DeVantier  
In memory of Harold Peterson by J.F. Danielson  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Charlotte Riebe  
In memory of Harold Peterson by John & Alma Leyse  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Richard & Judy Laur  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Kay & Arvid Peterson  
In memory of Harold Peterson by George & Joyce Zoske

### **Music Ministry**

In memory of Harold Peterson by  
Charles & Denice Louderback  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Glen Schulz  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Joan Hugill  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Helen Tepy  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Ardith Fuglie  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Pamela Geiger  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Lowanne M. Brokaw  
In memory of Harold Peterson by Pete & Rita Van Stelle

### **Women's Ministry**

Gift to Women's Ministry by Patricia Mason

### **Socail Ministry/I-Help**

In memory of Bob & Susan Brandt by Denice Louderback

### **WNA**

In memory of Charlene Young by David & Deb Hjortland

### **Dr. Gerber Education Fund**

Gift to Dr. Gerber Education Fund by Rita Van Stelle

**Evangelism Goals Update through October 27, 2024**

<i>Goal</i>	<i>YTD Progress</i>	<i>Prior Year Comparison</i>
1. Each One, Reach One for Christ and ALC	464 new visitors	Similar information not available
2. Keep the New Members Coming	55 new members have been received	43 new members received
3. Maintain Last Year's Attendance Gains	375 people per week on average	374 people per week

**Financial Update through October 17, 2024**

<i>Category</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Offering Income	\$774,412.71	\$718,575.84	\$55,836.87
Ministry Expenses	\$738,040.37	\$753,294.16	(\$15,253.79)
Available for Additional Ministry	\$36,372.34	(\$34,718.32)	\$71,090.66

**Debt Reduction Update through August 30, 2024**

<b>Paid in</b>	<b>Special Gift</b>	<b>Paid YTD</b>	<b>Balance Due</b>
\$20,370.00		\$26,312.40	\$1,466,688.00

**NOTE:** Please read the lead article in this month's newsletter for a more detailed description of where things stand at present.



# ALC Has New Winter Service Times



Saturday Service 4:00 pm

Sunday Service 8:30 am

Coffee Hour 9:30 am

Sunday Service 10:30 am



## IN LOVING *Memory*

Jane Brink 03/09/1934 - 9/29/2024

Jennie Markow 01/04/1931 - 10/07/2024

Linda Schwartz 12/05/1943 - 10/08/2024

Elaine Cowperthwaite 09/07/1942 - 10/20/2024

Pat Parcher 04/11/1940 - 10/27/2024

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



# *Calendar of Events*

- 11/6** WNA GALA KICK-OFF EVENT & ALC HISTORY 1975-1985
- 12/7** CHRISTMAS MARKET & 50TH ORNAMENT SALE
- 1/5** SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE TRIBUTE TO 1ST ALC SERVICE
- 1/12** CORNERSTONE OPENING CEREMONY
- 1/13** 50TH ANNIVERSARY DIRECTORY PHOTO DAYS 1/13-1/16
- 2/5** WNA 50TH COMMEMORATION W/ BISHOP HUTTERER
- 3/2** ALC'S MUSIC MINISTRY HISTORY DURING COFFEE HOUR
- 3/26** WNA 1985-1995 HISTORY
- 4/6** CORNERSTONE CLOSING CEREMONY
- 4/9** WNA 1995-2005 HISTORY
- 5/7** ICE CREAM SOCIAL & COOKIE POTLUCK
- 6/4** ALC'S STAINED GLASS HISTORY WITH POTLUCK DINNER
- 7/2** 4TH OF JULY HOT DOG & APPLE PIE TICKETED EVENT
- 9/14** GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS WEEKEND
- 10/5** 2005-2015 HISTORY
- 11/19** WNA 2015-2025 HISTORY
- 12/6** CHRISTMAS MARKET & 50TH FINALE LUNCHEON

# Staff Directory



<b>Rev. Scott Klimke</b>	Senior Pastor s.klimke@alcsuncity.org
<b>Rev. Lisa Hackler</b>	Associate Pastor l.hackler@alcsuncity.org
<b>Rev. Julia Sprenkle</b>	Pastoral Associate j.sprenkle@alcsuncity.org

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Dr. James Gerber	Organist/Worship Coordinator j.gerber@alcsuncity.org
Janet MacDonald	Choir Director/Worship Planning j.macdonald@alcsuncity.org
George Zoske	Director of Christo Bells gzoske@mac.com

## STAFF

Ron Helton	Accounting Coordinator r.helton@alcsuncity.org
DeNage Bautista	Executive Assistant-Community Outreach d.bautista@alcsuncity.org
Annette DeJesus	Resource Minister a.dejesus@alcsuncity.org
Dave Tigges	Property/Grounds d.tigges@alcsuncity.org
Joe DeLuca	Property/Grounds Assistant
Rolfe Blaess	Soundt8rolfe3@earthlink.net
Ilya Tate	Worship Technology Assistant
Andy Le	Worship Technology Assistant



17200 N. Del Webb Boulevard

Sun City, Arizona 85373

[www.alesuncity.org](http://www.alesuncity.org) [info@alesuncity.org](mailto:info@alesuncity.org)

623.974.2512

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**