

Love of Christ Lutheran Church

1525 North Power Road

Mesa AZ 85205

JAN/FEB/MAR 2020

Fax: (480) 832-2583

Office: (480) 981-6199

From Pastor Steve



“He first found his brother Simon and said to him, **‘We have found the Messiah’**”

During the season of Epiphany, we listen to gospel accounts of Jesus inviting others to follow him, but, almost as important are the accounts of individuals like Andrew in the verse from above going to find his brother Simon Peter to let him know Jesus is the Messiah. As we begin a new year, it is another chance for us to be intentional about inviting others to come and find the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Maybe that invitation involves asking a friend, relative or neighbor to join you for worship some Sunday, or attend a Bible Study, engage in a service project where our love of neighbor is tangible, hands-on. Maybe that invitation comes through simply engaging in conversation with others about the difference knowing Jesus makes in your daily life.

Though Lutherans are clear that it is the Holy Spirit that creates faith and converts hearts and minds, we also are clear that the Holy Spirit uses followers of Jesus as instruments of invitation, like Andrew was for his brother. During this first quarter of 2020, I want to challenge each of us here at LoC to pray specifically for opportunities to share our faith, and for God to put on our hearts or our minds specific individuals whom the Spirit has been preparing for an invitation or a conversation.

Though some of you may be surprised, I was recently getting my haircut. Being the frugal

person I am, I go to a barber college near my home. Each time I walk in, I generally have a different student, and each time as they seek to be friendly and practice customer service, they will ask a few questions about my day or where I work. At this most recent sitting, I shared I was a Lutheran pastor. Given that he was not Christian, nor religious, he allowed me a few moments to explain who Lutherans are. He then asked me of all the things I preach or teach what is the most important? Without flinching I responded, “The unconditional love of God revealed for all humans in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.” I then affirmed that I seek to teach that every human is created in God’s image and the God we worship is a God of love and forgiveness. Though I did not have a card on me, he asked for my card next time I come in, because he wanted to come visit and see if what I shared was really what happens.

May we not be surprised at the opportunities the Lord will provide us in being able to extend an invitation or engage in a conversation about our Lord and our faith in Jesus. It may be a co-worker, a classmate, a cashier, a mechanic, a teacher, a neighbor, a golfing buddy, or a family member who just might appreciate hearing or learning about a God who is not busy condemning, but is about loving and including.

Blessed New Year,

Pastor Steve



2 Corinthians 5:17 (NRSV)

¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Happy New Year Love of Christ Lutheran Church!

Bringing in a new year is always exciting and invites one to think about the creative things God will begin anew. There have been a couple of things on my mind as I begin this first year into ordained ministry. While I know that this isn't a new concept, it is certainly one in which we need to be reminded of and keep in front of us. ***We can no longer assume that people understand the basic biblical stories or teachings in the Christian faith.*** I know that this is not big news for most of us, but, we, as a body of faith in Jesus Christ, need to understand that a new level of intentionality is required of the church and Christians in order to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the world as well as those in households of faith. As we look forward to this new year, it is my hope that we can look at the things we do here at Love of Christ and mark it with intentionality. This year of intentionality is what I might call new birthing. Just remember, birthing always comes with some pangs!

Faith Formation: We have in place Adult, Youth, Children, and Wow teams. These teams will be addressing how we develop and implement faith formation at LoC and faith in our homes. As we form our classes, we would like to keep Lutheran theology as a part of that and having curriculum deeply imbedded in our catechism and our baptismal promises, always keeping in mind ***that faith is a gift formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal trusted relationships, often times found in our everyday lives and our own homes.*** The church is also a living partnership between the ministry of the congregation and the ministry of the home. Research has also shown that churches who create opportunities for the mixing of the generations (intergenerational events) have stronger relationships formed and faith is deepened. Some of the intentional intergenerational opportunities this year will be through our season of Lent, Fellowship Picnic, VBS, God's Work Our Hands day (Feb. 8) and Walk to Bethlehem.

A **Faith In Action Team** will be forming in January that will hopefully unite our outreach ministries so we are not duplicating the needs of our various outreach services. One of our first items on the agenda will be establishing a line of communication. We will also be discussing the different outreach ministries of LoC and learn of each ministry and what it does. Reaching out and helping others always brings about challenges. One of the main focuses of this group will be asking some intentional questions about the ministries we support and paying attention to sustainability, accompaniment and our relationships with the organizations we walk with. A question we will be asking is: **how can we connect the neighborhood we are living in with the ministries that we do?** One of the first ways we can answer this question is by taking the time to hear the needs of our neighborhood.

God our creator is always creating something new; may we have the eyes to see it and the ears to hear it! Looking forward to this new season with all of you!

In Christ,

Pastor Nanette Christofferson

Kevin Anderson, Youth and Family Faith Formation Director

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!

A New Year is amongst us and an opportunity for us to live into the “newness” of life God is bringing us. This time of year also provides us an opportunity to reflect on where God is calling Love of Christ and an opportunity to reflect where God is calling God’s church. I am offering two things in this newsletter: 1) A reflection on our time thus far in Youth Ministry at Love of Christ and to let you all know what is coming up in Youth Ministry. 2) An invitation to you to enter into a conversation about Youth Ministry.

We (students, awesome adult volunteers, the congregation, and I) started this process in September. The Youth Ministry went to Schnepf Farms, celebrated the Youth who Confirmed their faith, had our Fool’s Night Out with the High School students, participated in the Feed My Starving Children event in conjunction with our 30 Hour Famine, went shopping to support the families the congregation adopted for Christmas, participated in our Walk to Bethlehem, and all of this occurred in the midst of our weekly Youth Group, TIM, and Confirmation meetings. Central to all of this, we were building relationships and connecting with one another.

Personally, I have spent a lot of time learning the culture of Love of Christ. This includes learning the processes of how things have been done in the past like budgets, communication, and ministry logistics. Believe it or not, almost all processes and practices are influenced by the culture of Love of Christ. Learning culture also includes understanding what is the heart of the congregation and the ministries the congregation is partnered in. Like many churches, members of the congregation might have different answers for what is at the heart of Love of Christ, and it is important that those voices are heard so that we can better understand ourselves and where God may be calling us!

As I mentioned earlier, building relationships will continue to be a priority for the ministry as we explore our 2020 calendar. Another important focus of the ministry will be those involved in leadership in Youth Ministry. We will continue to seek out and utilize the gifts and talents of these individuals to explore where God is calling the Youth at Love of Christ, as well as to continue the partnership of the congregation, adult volunteers, and the Youth involved in our ministries and programs.

Lastly, I would like to briefly explore the question: What is Youth Ministry? At its core, Youth Ministry is an age specific (grades 7-12) ministry to develop disciples of Jesus. There are many who have different definitions of Youth Ministry. All of this to say, it is a challenge to even define what Youth Ministry is. More so, it is difficult to define “how to do” Youth Ministry. There are countless books, seminars, experts, and resources to help us with the “doing” part of Youth Ministry. Youth Ministry involves evangelism, worship, service projects, discipleship, Confirmation, fellowship, intergenerational ministry, leadership, fun & activities, faith formation, and mentoring (just to name a few). All of this influenced by our consumer culture and its push of adolescent culture. Youth Ministry is (and has been) heavily influenced by secular culture in the States and Western civilization. Research from Barna, Pew Research, and denominational studies indicate we are in a post-Christendom world and the Church in the states is shrinking. Perhaps the reality of where we find ourselves is a call for us to reflect. While our anxieties may push us to do more to save the Church and our Youth, maybe this is an opportunity for us to think deeply about the practices in ministry we have developed. Perhaps it is an opportunity for us to examine what we care about most in ministry, where God is calling us, and to ask ourselves, “What is Youth Ministry and how do we do it?” Through that reflection we may find that our priorities, our perspectives, even our hearts have changed, and that we may find ourselves “doing” Youth Ministry.

May we be open to God’s blessing and our neighbors this New Year!

Kevin Anderson



Umbrella of Care at Love of Christ Lutheran Church

Throughout the New Testament, the early Church grew and expressed their identity as the Body of Christ by the way they cared for one another and loved their neighbor. Currently under our Umbrella of Care we have the following ministries taking place:

1X1 Caregiving by members trained in Christian Caregiving- as Care-Givers are available and Care-Receiver are open for assignment

Homebound Members receive Monthly Communion through trained **Agape Callers**

Women volunteers provide support during our twice a month **I-Help** ministry to homeless women

Prayer Ministry (Prayer Chapel host, prayer list, card ministry)

Volunteer Pastoral Care phone calling to those on our weekly Prayer List

Compassionate Cooks gather periodically to prepare in our CoC kitchen ready to eat meals that can be stored in our LoC freezers and given to families in need

Member Assistance Fund-donations to this fund are made available as financial assistance support to LoC households going through crisis or facing an immediate need

Transitional Assistance Fund-donations to this fund are used to purchase gas cards, meal cards and bus passes for non-members in transition

Pastoral Staff

If you are interested in using your time, talents or treasure to support one of these ministries, or if you are in need of assistance from one of these ministry areas, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Dianne Oien, dianneoien@loclc.org or Pastor Steve or Pastor Nanette.

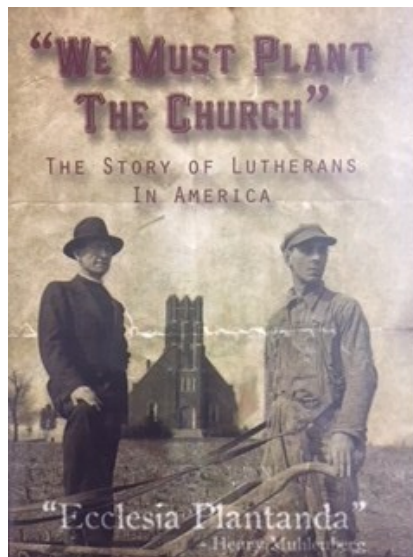
Have you or someone you know suffered the loss of a loved one?

On **Wednesday, January 29, 2019 (Fellowship Hall) 10:00-11:30AM** our Umbrella of Care will be hosting an opportunity to learn from each other how grief is being processed, what has been or has not been helpful, what might be beneficial for the journey ahead and how our Umbrella of Care at LoC can best be supportive. Facilitating our time together will be Dr. David Schuff. Non-LoC members are welcome to attend. If you are interested in being a part of this event, please sign up at the sign-up tables outside the Sanctuary or at the back of the CoC, or contact Dianne Oien at dianneoien@loclc.org.

Dr. David Schuff is a native of Arizona and has over 20 years of clinical experience as a licensed therapist. During his career, he has worked closely with Mesa Public Schools, police and fire departments, and faith based communities to strengthen their crisis response and "wrap around" grief support services. He has taught at ASU, UofA and is currently an adjunct professor at NAU. As part of his own selfcare and having completed a Camino de Santiago pilgrimage, he recently checked-off one of the secret journeys on his bucket list, the 88 temple Henro, in Japan.

New Wednesday Adult Class Begins January 8, 2020

6:00-7:30PM



Pastors Nanette and Steve will be leading this video discussion course on the history of Lutherans in America from the first church started over 400 years ago to today. This story is characterized by the tension between honoring the European roots of the church and adapting to the new realities of American life. The Lutheran church, from its earliest days, faced religious pluralism, intolerance, lack of state support, and diversity of languages and traditions.

1/8 Session One-On New Soil: The Colonial Lutherans

1/15 Session Two-In Times of Trial: Arriving in Waves

1/22 Session Three-To Meet Human Need: Building Institutions

1/29 Session Four-Working Together: Lutherans Uniting

2/5 Session Five-In Modern Times: Becoming an American Church

2/12 Session Six-The Future of the Lutheran Church- Planting Churches in the ELCA and the Grand Canyon Synod



Ash Wednesday and Mid-Week Lenten Services Begin Wednesday, February 26

What is Lent?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, the Saturday before Easter. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

During the season of Lent, all of us are invited to consider special ways to serve or give in response to the hungry and the poor in need around the globe. Special envelopes are near the entrance to the Sanctuary and CoC to support the following: (See next page)



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America works with partner Lutheran churches around the globe to do development and relief work that gets at the root causes of global hunger and poverty. There is a high commitment to empower and employ local leaders, particularly women, in an effort to lessen dependency on outside sources of support. Special 40 days of Giving Calendars are available for households to learn and pray for those who are hungry in this world. To learn more about how this program of our church operates go to <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger>



Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian nonprofit dedicated to providing nutritious meals to children worldwide. FMSC meals are hand-packed by volunteers and sent to an incredible network of partner organizations who distribute them to those in need. Nearly 1.2 million volunteers packed more than 333 million FMSC meals in 2017. More than 90 percent of total donations go directly to feed kids and FMSC has earned the highest four-star rating from Charity Navigator for 13 consecutive years. Visit fmsc.org for more information. Each November, Love of Christ Lutheran Church has hosted a mobile packing event where 5-95 year olds give two hours of time to pack nutritional meals that will be sent to FMSC partners feeding hungry children. To host such an event costs about \$35,000.00. LoC has to raise that money prior to the event and historically has relied on the generosity of a single major donor. If this event is to be sustained over the years ahead, others in this community will need to share in supporting the cost.



Discovering the Gift of Spiritual Disciplines

As we continue to seek to grow disciples of Jesus who form faith and live out their faith in daily life, like those who have traveled the past 2,000 years before us, we are given the gift of Spiritual Disciplines. During our Midweek Lenten Services, **(check E-News and bulletins for times)** we will look at the following:

- 2/26 The Discipline of Prayer
- 3/4 The Discipline of Study
- 3/11 The Discipline of Simplicity
- 3/18 The Discipline of Solitude
- 3/25 The Discipline of Service
- 4/1 The Discipline of Worship

Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 16 in the Sanctuary

11:30AM-12:30PM

All voting members of LoC are encouraged and invited to attend our annual meeting to review our ministry in 2019, look ahead to 2020, receive an update on our Capital Campaign, and elect new Board Members, Endowment Committee members and Nominating Committee members.



Love of Christ Endowment Fund Re-Launches in 2020

In October, 2014 the church board established a bylaw resolution to implement the Love of Christ Endowment Fund. This was conceived as an extension of the LOC Mission statement "As people of God we are called, gathered and sent to proclaim the grace and love of Jesus Christ."

Some initial work was done and many households indicated they were planning to leave a legacy gift or bequest to the fund. Over the course of pastoral transitions, the fund went on hiatus and initial committee members were unable to continue to serve.

Fast forward to February, 2019 when new Endowment Committee members were elected to re-introduce endowment to the congregation. Our vision is to "provide a vehicle to receive, manage and distribute enduring gifts to nurture faith among current and future generations, both locally and globally." Our desire is to encourage and enable participation in this fund by the Love of Christ family.

You will be hearing more about endowment, why it is important and how you can become involved in the coming months. Information will be available through bulletins, email, a brochure and planned meetings in February and March.

The Endowment Committee looks forward to your participation to invest in a perpetual, proactive way to further the church's mission now and in the future.

LoC Endowment Fund Information sessions:

As individuals and couples consider estate, end-of-life planning, and legacy giving options, the Endowment Fund Committee would like to provide the most current information on how each of us can help support the mission of Christ through Love of Christ Lutheran Church through intentional planning.

Wednesday, February 19, 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall
Sunday, March 29, 9:00AM and 12:00PM—Leadership



Top Food Bank Needs

Mac & Cheese, Pork & Beans, Cereal,
Peanut Butter/Jelly & Tuna.

NON PERISHABLES ONLY.

LOC donation boxes are located in the Sanctuary and COC narthexes.

Lutheran Social Services Assistance

Robert Sanders

Phone 480 284-1081

Email rsanders@lss-sw.org

Food Banks:

Victory Lutheran Church

Phone 480 654-4539

5946 E. University Drive

Mesa AZ 85205

Hours: Mon-Wed-Fri 9:00-11:30 AM

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Phone 480 969-7221

142 N. Date Street, Mesa AZ 85201

Hours: Tues-Thurs 9:00-11:15 AM

Closed Second Tuesday each month

Announcements

LSS is utilizing the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) to help prevent individuals from eviction and utility shut-off. Clients must have a five day eviction notice and recent loss of employment.

Mesa area clients contact Neighborhood Services Department at 20 E. Main Street, Suite 250 or call 480-644-2168. The hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

We continue to see an overwhelming need for assistance. We appreciate your continued donations to our food banks and financial assistance that helps clients with their utility bills. *Thank you* for your generosity!

LSS Connectors

You can make a positive difference in our church and in our community by volunteering as a Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest Connector. Connectors educate individuals about how they can be involved in the vital safety net services LSS-SW provides to individuals in need across AZ, and expand awareness and community involvement in services that support older adults, individuals with disabilities, foster children, families who are hungry and in need, newly resettled refugees and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Welcome, New Members! We are glad you are here!

On October 6 we welcomed the following individuals into the membership and ministry of Love of Christ Lutheran Church.

Gene and Karen Barnes (Associate)

650 N. Hawes Rd.
#4700
Mesa, AZ 85207
480-373-4700 (home)
480-522-4946 (Karen cell)
602-690-3655 (Gene cell)
kspencerbarnes@gmail.com
Genebarnes96@gmail.com



Larry Dray

3505 E. El Moro Ave.
Mesa, AZ 85204
480-221-1424
LDMoosier2@gmail.com
LDX2@cox.net



Larry and Joan Falken

7765 E. Naranja Ave
Mesa AZ 85209
970-210-2867
Ljfalken2@gmail.com



Tonna & Robert (Bob) Goltz

5341 E. Des Moines St
Mesa, AZ 85205
618-554-4500 (Tonna)
815-988-1150 (Robert)
tincup453@yahoo.com



Karen Mihin

2827 South Olivewood
Mesa, 85212
480-985-7173
ksmihin@cox.net



Mark & Melissa Powell

1247 N. Faith
Mesa, AZ 85207
614-282-1715 – Mark
614-208-9199 – Melissa
markpowellbusiness@gmail.com
sweetmelissa2017@gmail.com



Ollie Staloch

8840 E. Sunland Ave. #98
Mesa, AZ 85208
480-373-9807



Kristen Thomas

5136 E. Evergreen St.
#1138
Mesa, AZ 85205
480-709-5136
kristenxthomas@gmail.com



Randy Thompson

9836 E. Stone Circle Lane
Gold Canyon, AZ 85118
480-828-1507
Radtek2001@gmail.com



Shirley Thompson

421 N. 55th Pl.
Mesa, AZ 85205
602 410 4586
S_K_thompson2@msn.com



Cindy & Darnell Wallin

8167 E. Cactus Drive
Mesa, AZ 85208
715-307-8369 (Cindy)
651-347-2945 (Darnell)
Cgeorgen3199@gmail.com
Dwallin0708@gmail.com



Emelie & James Worthington— Olivia

10337 N. Fenimore Rd
Mesa, AZ 85207
Dbackfan08@gmail.com
88rugger@gmail.com
623-271-4758



Ending the Year Well

First, thank you so much for your faithful generosity throughout the year. Typically, the last month of the year takes us over the top! To do that for 2019, we need everyone to prayerfully consider making sure that you are up to date on your estimate of giving. By ending the year well, we begin the new year with a strong foundation for our mission and ministries.

Year-end giving may be received until Jan. 4, 2020. Please date your donations Dec. 31, 2019.

A Musical for Kids in April!

Come join the Musical (4 years~8th grade)

Back to the Beginning: This musical is filled with messages of God's love, hope, redemption and how good His ways are! The scene opens up at a rustic campground in the mountains when a few campers hear a strange sound. Norman, the camp counselor, recognizing the all-too-familiar sound, leaves the group to investigate and finds Finn, a good kid who has been spending too much time with the rebellious Rigsby brothers, and the H.O. 2000 Time Machine. Wanting to impress his two new "friends," Finn had activated the machine and lost the Rigsby brothers... back in the Garden of Eden! Ready to embark on an unplanned adventure, the campers jump into the H.O. 2000 to find the lost boys and end up traveling back through time, visiting the same campsite in 2000, 1995, 1978, 1955, 1808, and finally, making it all the way back to Creation!

Drama & Solo Auditions- Green Room

Sunday, January 12th: for 7-8th grade at 10:10am, right after the 9am service
for 3rd-6th grade at 11:10am, right after Sunday school

(The list of the cast and the soloists will be up on Jung's office door on Sunday, January 26th. The selected cast and the soloists need to pick up the CD and the script).

Rehearsals- Green Room

Start on Sunday, February 23rd

10:20a.m.-11:15a.m. (7th~8th grade)
11:15a.m.-12:00p.m. (4 years~6th grade)
12:15p.m.-1:00p.m. (Cast rehearsal/7 weeks)

Dress Rehearsal (CoC stage)

*For the Soloists & Drama team will have an extended rehearsal on Sunday, April. 5
3:00pm~6:00pm
Saturday, April 18th from 9am ~ 12pm (All)

Performance in the CoC

Sunday, April 19th at 9am

Call time: 8am

Registration forms available at the Children's Ministry table.

Questions: jungmusic@loc.org or 480-832-2449.

Calling for Singers for Easter Sunday Services!

I would like to invite all the LOC music team to lead the worship on Easter Sunday, proclaiming what a powerful God we serve and what a wonderful Savior is ours through the glorious resurrection of our Lord. This presentation features the compilation songs of proclamation, commitment, and reverent worship, while celebrating the power and glory of the Risen King's ultimate victory over death, hell and the grave!

There will be only four rehearsals in the sanctuary plus the dress rehearsal in the CoC.

The rehearsals are March 5, 19, 26, and April 2 from 7pm~8:30pm and the dress rehearsal is Saturday, April 11 from 9am ~12pm.

Easter Service: April 12, 2020 at 9am and 10:45am in CoC

Preschool
Full & Half Day



LOVE OF CHRIST PRESCHOOL REGISTERING MARCH 2 FOR SUMMER 2020 AND 2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR

**Flexible Scheduling, Affordable Rates, Phonics based curriculum,
and Christian atmosphere.**

**Contact Preschool Director at (480)681-0937 (DIRECT LINE)
or janiceherron@locic.org for tours and information.**

Happy New Year!! We have LOTS of fun things happening for this first quarter of 2020!!



Children's Program – including music and bible adventure!!

Adult Study Programs!! Youth Group!!

Join us for Ladies' Night Out Crafting Events on:

January 15th – Valentine's Day Craft

February 19th – St. Patrick's Day or Spring Craft

March 25th – Easter craft!!

Each week – we take care of dinner for your whole family

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Dinner in the CoC

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Programming for All ages!!!

Adult Study with Pastor

Crafting Nights for adults

Youth Group (7th – 12th graders)

Children's program (3 yrs – 6th grade)

Child care available for those under age 3

We look forward to seeing you all there and sharing the good news while enjoying fellowship, faith and fun!!

Be sure to check Facebook and our website for details on special events!!

Questions - please contact Heather at heatherparker@locic.org or 480-681-0925.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism



When considering a baptism at LOC, please call the church office to make a reservation for a Pre-Baptismal Conference with Pastor Steve Talmage or Pastor Nanette Christofferson. Contact Darlene, our church secretary, at 480 981 6198 or email darlene@locic.org.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA CD AND DVD AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

CD \$10 EA

DVD \$15 EA

BOTH \$20

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – We are building one of thirty new Habitat homes planned for an area near Buckeye and 12th Ave. The homeowner-to-be, Gladys Scott, is there working with us every Saturday, and we hope that you will join us for at least one of the eleven Saturdays remaining to finish this home. Tentative schedules, Volunteer information sheets, and waivers have been placed on the Habitat kiosks. If our plans stay firm, we will dedicate this home on March 28th. We still need a few volunteers to provide lunches to the workers, so please let me know if you can help with that. I will post updates in the Sunday bulletins. LOVE OF CHRIST is one of eight Lutheran congregations that belong to a coalition called LUTHERANS BUILDING FOR CHRIST that help share the cost and volunteer workers for this wonderful ministry in our local area. Don't forget about taking advantage of the Arizona Tax Credits before the end of the year- there is more info on the kiosks.



Habitat for Humanity is an international, non-profit, faith-based organization with the goal of eliminating sub-standard housing throughout the world. With partners like us, they facilitate the construction of simple, decent, affordable homes to families in need. The families with which we partner are selected without regard to race, ethnicity, or religion. The families must be United States citizens or on permanent residency status, demonstrate a need for adequate housing, have a two-year history of stable income between 30 and 65 percent of the median income, have a good credit history, complete 100 hours of "sweat equity" on a fellow Habitat owner's house, and an additional 300 hours on their own home before taking occupancy, and complete classes on home maintenance, financing, and home ownership. The homes are NOT given to the homeowners. At the time of the home completion and dedication, the homeowners make their first payment on a profit-free mortgage, and the average payment is about 25% of their income, which includes the principal, property taxes, homeowner's insurance, and a maintenance account. These funds are then used by Habitat to build even more homes. The results are incredible – families living in sub-standard housing and caught up in a cycle of poverty become home-owners, tax-payers, and contributors to the well-being of their neighborhoods!

For additional information on the Christian principles that guide Habitat for Humanity, please pick up one of the tri-fold brochures, visit www.habitatcaz.org or call Clark Wirthlin at 480-985-8757.

Men's Morning Java!



Morning Java Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

Join other men of the congregation for a morning devotion, a little coffee, some breakfast (optional). Village Inn, (Southwest corner of Recker and McKellips).



**God's work.
Our hands.**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH!!

8:00 a.m. Breakfast in the CoC

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. PROJECTS

We need YOU!!

God's Work Our Hands - **we need hands and feet of every skill set!!!**

We have projects for every age group and skill level – everyone can participate!! This is a great way for the whole family to participate in making our community a better place and truly spreading the good news!!

Great opportunity for service hours for our youth!!

Child Care will be provided for young children (if necessary).

Here are some of our projects:

Exterior House Painting for The House of Refuge

Sack Lunch Preparation (here at LOC and transport to Men's Shelter)

Elementary School project(s) – clean playground, rake sand, clean/sanitize lunchroom tables, painting lines on playground, etc.

Do you have questions? Contact Heather Parker heatherparker@locloc.org or (224) 402-2050.

Children's Ministry/Intergenerational Fellowship Event



Shhh....We're secretly getting excited for our



"Spy" themed
4th, 5th & 6th Grade Lock-In!

Who: All 4th, 5th & 6th graders

When: Friday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. through
Saturday, January 25 at 9:00 a.m.

Where: Center of Compassion

What: An awesome night of mystery & intrigue
plus food, games, a movie & fun!

You won't want to miss it!

Invite your friends to join us!

Pre-registration is required by

Sunday, **January 19th**

for this **FREE** event

Sign up at the Children's Ministry Table

Questions? AnitaChristensen@locic.org



Yee-Haw!

**It's our 2nd annual
Intergenerational Fellowship Event!**

SAVE THE DATE!!

Who: Our LOC Family of All Ages!

When: **Sunday, March 1, 4:00 p.m.**

Where: Beautiful Usery Mountain Park
Exact Location to Be Announced in
February

What: An afternoon to gather and enjoy fellowship
in God's creation, option for a short
hike, games for kids of all ages, and a
simple cookout. Hot dogs, condiments
and bottled water provided by LOC. If
attending, please bring lawn chairs and
a side dish to share (chips, salad, des-
sert).

*Carpooling from the church is encouraged. En-
trance to the park is \$7 per car with the option for
\$5 pre-purchase pass.

Faith Stepping Stones...

When a family brings a child to be baptized, the child becomes a part of a larger family, the family of Christ. That larger family, the church, promises on that day to pray for the family and assist in raising the child to become a mature Christian adult. To help families fulfill these promises, we will be integrating two Faith Steps for our children in their journey of faith. This year, families of pre-school through 4th grade will be participating in the Sunday school class on **January 12th** on the **Lord's Prayer**. During this class, families will learn more about this prayer and be given ways they can help their children remember it. They will receive a blessing at our **9:00 service on February 9th**.

Our 5th and 6th grade children and their families will also attend a class on the **Apostles' Creed**. This class will be on **Sunday, January 26th** and their parents will attend Sunday School with them that day. They too will receive ideas and instruction on the Apostles' Creed. These children and families will receive a blessing at the 9:00 service on **Sunday, February 23**.

Through this ministry, families are given tools that help them model and practice faith in the home. These faith practices and discipleship are known as "the Four Apps of Faith". These four applications are: Caring Conversation, Devotion, Service, and Rituals and Traditions. The Four Apps of Faith are modeled and practiced throughout our Faith Stepping Stones Ministry. This ministry considers life as a journey that encounters God's love and extends God's love in Christ anytime and anywhere. Faith Steps at Love of Christ involves children, youth, and parents in partnership with Sunday School teachers, staff, congregations, and pastors.

"Friends In Faith"

Adult Fellowship – previously FAB/People On the Go

We enjoy attending a variety of events! We are open to any suggestions that anyone has for upcoming events. We also welcome any help in planning for events! The more ideas and more people involved equal more fun and fellowship. Any questions, comments or suggestions you can contact Dianne Oien at dianneoien@loccl.org or 480-681-0941 or Barb Weldon at 608-325-4289.

Saturday, Jan. 11th – dinner in Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm for those attending the Phoenix Opera's Los Tres Tenores in the COC. This is an event sponsored by our Music Department. Cost: \$20

Hale Theatre – Friday, January 17th "Barefoot in the Park" at 4PM – must sign up by December 31st.

Hale Theatre – Tuesday, March 3rd "Always... Patsy Cline" – 7:30PM – Cost: \$27

Watch bulletin for other events in January, February & March e.g. boat ride, Game days & events at surrounding 55+ active resort communities.



New Member Classes
Monday, January 27th & February 3rd
5:30pm to 7:30pm
Dinner served at 5:30pm

Love of Christ is a community gathered around Word and Sacrament in our worship experience! We are hosting two classes for those folks who would like to make LOC their church home. Whether you have been with us for a short time or a long time, this is an important time as you consider the tug of the Holy Spirit to join with others who have made the commitment to partner with LOC as we share the Love of Christ.

- 1. Contact dianneoien@loccl.org or 480-681-0941.**
- 2. Come to class: Monday, January 27 & February 3 in Fellowship hall (Dinner & child care provided)**
Classes are led by Pastor Steve Talmage
- 3. Be received on Sunday, February 9th.**

See you there!

Save the date: Sunday, March 1, 2020, 7:30-11:30 a.m.



Our church is sponsoring a **BLOOD DRIVE in the South Parking Lot**. Please sign up at the ministry tables and make an appointment to Save A Life! There is always a need for blood and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime. For more information contact Dianne Oien at (480) 681-0941 or www.bloodhero.com

I-HELP!

The I-HELP program at LOC provides dinner, a night's sleeping accommodations, and a light breakfast and a sack lunch the next day for 25-27 ladies. This happens every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. There is always one or two Stephen ministers on hand to pray with the individuals if they wish. There are usually quite a few that do! I have witnessed how much this program means to the ladies. Every night of the month, they have a church to sleep in and some form of nourishment. At LOC, all costs are strictly from donations. We also provide personal items to them if needed. There are always donated clothes for them to supplement their scarce wardrobe. LOC members have always been very generous in providing items and funds for these unfortunate ladies. Carol Moseley, 480.236.1187 and Rhonda Vaglio, 509.741.7115, thank you so very much on behalf of these women.



January



Tickets on Sale Now

FIESTA with Los Tres Tenores

Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

If you haven't heard the sounds of Phoenix Opera's Los Tres Tenores, you are in for a real treat! Starring the fabulous trio of locals Johnny Huerta, Guillermo Ontiveros, and Francisco Renteria, Los Tres Tenores will blend their magnificent voices in a unique selection of songs ranging from operetta to Mexican Ranchera. Their special guest soprano, Lisanne Norman Brooks, will challenge the mighty voices of Los Tenores with songs of her own and join them in duets that promise to impress. What an exciting way to kick off the New Year!

Los Tres Tenores are brought to you by the Love of Christ Lutheran Church, located at 1525 N Power Road in Mesa. The performance takes place in the Center of Compassion building on campus. Tickets can be purchased online at www.loveofchristchurch.net and at Love of Christ Lutheran Church's main office. Get your tickets early, as this event will sell out! Tickets are \$20 each and light refreshments will be sold during the performance to benefit the Music Ministry.



Sock Hop Dance & Retro Style Dinner

Friday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m.



Bored with the same old flowers, candy and cards for Valentine's Day? So is your significant other. Here's something different that has a real spark! Love of Christ Lutheran Church's Sock Hop and Retro Style Dinner is exactly what you've been looking for to replace those worn-out Valentine's Day clichés.

Break out the poodle skirts, saddle shoes and white T-shirts as we return to the days when we danced bare-foot (or close to it)! Come kick up your heels on a real wooden dance floor in the Center of Compassion. The sounds of the Rockin' Baby Boomers will refresh your musical memory in no time. Dinner will be Sloppy Joes, salad and root beer floats served the right way - in red baskets lined with paper. Plus, rumor has it that there will be a hula-hoop contest complete with prizes!

Tickets are \$20.00 each and benefit LoC's Music Ministry. Get yours in advance by going online at www.loveofchristchurch.net Sponsored by the Love of Christ Lutheran Church, 1525 N. Power Road, Mesa.



Community Youth Talent Show

March 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY the 13th could be your LUCKY DAY!



-For grades 1– 12-

If you can sing, dance, play a musical instrument, have a comedy act, or have any other unique talent you'd like to share on stage, you're perfect for the Love of Christ Lutheran Church's First Annual Community Youth Talent Show. Not only will you amaze your friends, but you just might win a prize. It's free to performers, so give it a try!

You need to be in grades 1 - 12 and have an act ready to bring on stage. We welcome all kinds of acts! You can perform alone or with a small group. If you have something you'd like to present but aren't sure about it, please email our Music Director, Jung Csuy at jungmusic@locic.org or call her at (480) 832-2449.

Acts will be judged by a panel of volunteers consisting of professional singers, real actors and great musicians. Money prizes will be awarded for the three best acts. The Third Prize winner will be awarded \$100, the Second Prize winner gets \$150 and – get this! – The First Place winner takes home a whopping \$200!

Performances need to be kept to an absolute maximum of four minutes and performers need to come prepared with all their own props, costumes, CDs/music, etc. Everyone who's interested will need to **audition** with Love of Christ Lutheran Church's Music Director, Jung Csuy **starting Wednesday, January 15 between 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.** Be sure to contact Jung Csuy to reserve your audition time. Email her at jungmusic@locic.org or call her at (480) 832-2449 and let her know what kind of act you have.

Although performers get in free, tickets to see the performances are \$5.00 per person. Light refreshments will be sold during the event. Come and make the First Annual Community Youth Talent Show part of your legacy!

Monday Morning Bible Study



Weekday Bible Study led by Pastor Steve Talmage and Pastor Nanette Christofferson

Mondays 10-11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. **Resumes 1/6.**
Preparing for Sunday Worship

Each week we are looking at the assigned readings from Revised Common Lectionary for the upcoming Sunday, paying particular

attention to the text from which the weekly sermon is being prepared. In the Revised Common Lectionary, readings are prescribed for each Sunday: a passage typically from the [Old Testament](#) or the [Acts of the Apostles](#), a passage from one of the [Psalms](#), another from either the [Epistles](#) or the [Book of Revelation](#), and finally a passage from one of the four [Gospels](#).

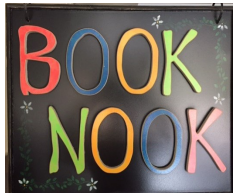
Kevin Saunders' Bible Study



Kevin Saunders' The Bible Between the Lines - Resumes Jan. 21

Tuesdays 10-11:30am in the Center of Compassion.

ArizonaBibleClass.com



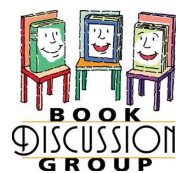
Book Nook News

Happy 2020 to all of you at Love of Christ! Thank you to all who visited the Book Nook and Book Nook Too and purchased items in our stores in 2019. We survive by the donation of books, cards, collectibles, and craft items that church members drop off for us to sell. As many of you already know, **the money made from selling items in our stores go to small groups at LOC** who are working in different capacities to make Love of Christ the wonderful church it has become.

Here are two important rules to follow if you are donating books to the Book Nook.

- 1. The books should be no more than 10 years old. This means that we only accept secular books that have a copyright date from 2010 to 2020.** Some spiritual books can be a bit older.
- 2. Ask the questions: Is this something that I would buy in the Book Nook? Would other people want to buy and then read it? If in doubt, ask us first.**

Please stop in to visit us on Sunday mornings. Our Book Nook is open from 8:30-11:00 in the COC, and our Book Nook Too is opened from 9:00-11:45 next to the kitchen in the Sanctuary. We hope you will visit us soon.



LOC Book Club

The LOC Book club has scheduled its next two meetings for January 19th and March 15th. We have selected **The Only Woman in the Room** by Marie Benedict for January and **The Water Dancer** by Ta-Nehisi Coates for March.

We now meet in the Green Room of the COC right after the 9:00 am service. If you are having difficulty finding these books, please check with the Book Nook for availability.

Here are synopses for these two books:

The Only Woman in the Room

This powerful novel is based on the incredible true story of the glamour icon and movie star Hedy Lamar whose groundbreaking invention revolutionized modern communication.

Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to her marriage with an Austrian arms dealer. Underestimated, she overheard the Third Reich's plans and understanding more than anyone would guess, she devised a plan to flee in disguise from their castle. This escape landed her in Hollywood.

The secret she kept from everyone was that she was a scientist and she knew a few secrets about the enemy. She had an idea that might help the country fight the Nazis...if anyone would listen.

The Water Dancer

Young Hiram Walker was born into bondage. When his mother was sold away, Hiram was robbed of all memory of her – but was gifted with a mysterious power. Years later, when Hiram almost drowns in a river, that same power saves his life. This brush with death births an urgency in Hiram and a daring scheme: to escape from the only home he's ever known.

This journey takes Hiram from the corrupt grandeur of Virginia's plantations to the dangerously idealistic movements in the North. Even as he's enlisted in the underground war between slavers and the enslaved, Hiram's resolve to rescue the family he left behind endures. This story is about the separation of families and the war these slaves waged to simply make lives with the people they loved.

Join us in January and/or March for what will prove to be a thoughtful and open discussion of these two books. Stop for a cup of coffee in the COC. We always have room for one more at our table.

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Hummel at otemporium@aol.com or Penny Day at ptdayster@gmail.com.

Thanks for your continuing interest in the Book Club.



EXPLORE ARIZONA..... On **January 25th**, the LOC Women's Hiking Group will be traveling south to **Saguaro National Park West** and hiking the **Manville – Cactus Wren Loop Trail**. This easy 4.5 miles takes us by lots of mature saguaro and large palo verde, ironwood, and mesquite trees. We'll also check out petroglyphs on the trail. We will meet at **7:00 am** in the COC parking lot and return by **6:00 pm**.

On **February 22nd**, the LOC Women's Hiking Group will be traveling to **Sedona** and hiking a couple of trails: the easy **2.2 mile** to **Fay Arch and Canyon** that also takes you to ancient Indian dwellings. The Cockscomb Trail is across the road and we can hike that till it connects with the **Dawa Trail** for a total of 1.8 miles. We will meet at **7:00 am** in the COC parking lot and return by **6:00 pm**.

On **March 14th**, the LOC Women's Hiking Group will be traveling to **Scottsdale** and hiking **Lost Dog Wash to Taliesin Overlook Trail**. This **4.4 mile** trail starts at a crested saguaro and gradually climbs to the overlook of Camelback and other mountains. We will meet at **7:00 am** in the COC parking lot and return by **1:00 pm**.
Call Pat Shaw at 981-1325 for more information



"JUST LOVE" July 16 - 19, 2020

~11+ Triennial Gathering of Women of the ELCA~

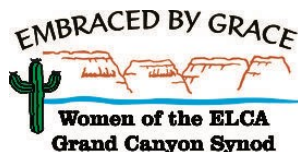
Our Grand Canyon Synod is the host synod for this every-three-year gathering of several thousand women from across our entire ELCA. We know how to party! It's an event that will inspire and renew your faith journey. We'll be in the downtown area of Phoenix, inside the convention center where it will be "cool" to be in Phoenix in July! Registration continues through Jan. 6. Register for the 3-day event or for one day only. Visit welcatg.org for more details and hotel information! Plan to attend!

Subscribe to "Gather Magazine"

The magazine of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — guides you as you live and experience your faith every day.

It offers a mix of articles, theological reflections, devotions, and stories of comfort and challenge that help readers grow in faith and engage in ministry and action. Gather is published 10 times a year with combined issues in January/February and July/August. **It's only \$15 a year** but for new subscribers: \$9.95.

Subscribe online at: www.gathermagazine.org or by calling 1 (800) 328-4648.



"Vocation and Calling"

All the Women of Love of Christ are invited to join other ladies from Arizona and Las Vegas for an introduction to the 2020 Gather Magazine Bible Study, given by Rev. Dr. Kit Kleinhans on **Saturday, January 18, 2020 from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm**. Registration: \$35 <http://grandcanyonwomen.org/events/> Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2 S. Pecos Rd., Henderson, NV



Crafting & Chatting Women of LOC

We welcome all ladies/their friends for our Sunday afternoons. We **meet the 2nd Sunday of the month at 1pm**. We have become a "Sisterhood" and support many projects in the church, in the community, and enjoy our times together with work and laughter. We craft, chat, coupon, chat, crochet, chat, knit, scrapbook, and a whole lot more!!! Contacts are: Karen Wenzel 480 890 8692 or Barbie Berry 480 705 3139.

Naomi Circle

Uniting the Women of the Church

Established 1986. Serving church and community. Serve at funerals and weddings, support homeless women and pay for registrations at ELCA women's seminars. Join us for Bible study, fellowship and desert the **second Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.**

Winter 2020: We are called! by Kathryn A. Kleinhans.

Reformer Martin Luther used the word "vocation" or "calling" to refer to all aspects of human life. We are called to respond to God not just in our personal relationship with God but in our relationships with family and friends, in our work, and in our communities. This four-part Bible study will explore stories from both the Old and New Testament. As we reflect on how our biblical forebears heard and responded to God's call, we will gain insight into how God is calling us—and how God may be calling others through us.

All Bible studies are from *Gather Magazine*, a regular publication of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. To subscribe, call (845) 267-3074.

Prayer Chapel

**Hours: 8:30 am-
11 am**

Room #45 (East

side of COC—enter thru doors on outside of building).

Contact Person: Barbara Otto 480.390.9631

Come for Prayer following or during each Worship Service. Bring your prayer concerns for yourself or family and friends.

Prayer Team members will be available to speak with and pray for you.

Your shared concerns in the Chapel will remain in the Chapel. They will not be shared with others unless you request to have your prayers on the weekly prayer requests for the church.

Special Opportunity: The Prayer Chapel is "Looking for a Few Good People" to help run the chapel on Sunday mornings. If this is your passion, please contact Rick Otto rrotto1946@gmail.com.



PRAYER VOICES Please join us as we pray for each other, our Love of Christ family, Staff, Servant Volunteers, Missions, Ministries, Small Groups, Activities, and Events. If you are interested in attending, please call Barbara Otto at 480.390.9631.

Don't Forget About Us!!!



OVERFLOW SUNDAY!

The Food Bank Needs YOU!

On the **last Sunday** of each month, we would like everyone to bring a bag of non perishable items for the Food Bank and overflow the Feed My Sheep box! **THE FOOD BANK REALLY APPRECIATES AND NEEDS OUR SUPPORT!**



LOC Community Garden invites you to "grow with us".
Get started now!

Contact Nancy at tollef@cox.net



Serving Opportunities

**Help
Wanted**

GREETERS & USHERS are needed at all three services!

**SIGN
UP!**

Altar Guild Servants Needed



**SIGN
UP!**

Can you help out one or two Sundays a month?

Please sign up to serve on the Altar

Guild to set up communion for one of our three services. If you have any questions you can contact Donna Johnson at 480-326-8370 for the 9:00 service or Dianne Oien at 480-681 0941 for the 7:50 & 10:30 services.

Volunteer Security...



Thanks to Karen & Brian Thompson, Joe Holmwood, Joe & Jodi Bogushefsky, Dave Dohrmann and Rob Floyd! Thanks for serving in this ministry. Currently we need volunteers to cover Wednesday and Saturday evenings! If you have 30 minutes to spare, we can certainly use your help. If you can't commit to every week but can commit to a couple days a month, that would be great! If interested, you can contact Dianne Oien at dianneoien@loclc.org or 480-681 0941.

Ride to Church

Can you help with a ride to church?



We would like to create a list of people that drive and would be willing to pick up someone that does not drive for church on Sunday. If you want to be a servant in this capacity, please call Darlene at 480 981 6198 to add your name to the list.

Did You Know?

Your Business in our Directory!

If you are a business owner and a member of Love of Christ, we are offering an online business directory to you and your business. To list your business, you must submit a Business Directory form on the Love of Christ website at www.loveofchristchurch.net.



To get started:

Must be a member of LOC to submit your business on LOC's website.

Access LOC's website at

loveofchristchurch.net and go to the "Find It Here" section on the main page

Then click on Business Directory

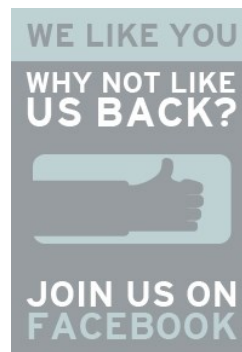
Read and follow the instructions on the page.

One time donation of \$20 is requested.

These funds will be used for Children's Fellowship Ministry (place this info in the memo line on the check). Make check out to LOC. ***Remember to check out the variety of businesses or services that are available from LOC members!***

On Facebook? "Like"

Love of Christ Lutheran Church, Mesa AZ and visit our page to find out what's happening at the church! Become a member of the group if you'd like a weekly scoop. Here's the link if you can't find us: <http://www.facebook.com/LOCLC>.



Do you love coffee? Do you enjoy drinking the coffee following the 9:00 service? Well we could sure use about four more members to sign up for once a month or every other month to make coffee. You might ask "what is involved?" The tables and chairs are setup by our facility team, so on Sunday the tables need to be decorated, coffee brewed, set up, and clean up! If interested or just want more info, you can contact Dianne Oien at dianneoien@loclc.org or 480-681 0941.

Free Martial Arts!



New Students are Welcome!

Mondays:

5:30pm-6:30pm – Family Class - Beginner and above

6:30pm-7:45pm - 2nd Yellow Belt and above

For more information please contact **Joe Bogushefsky at 480-455-9829 or email to joebogushefsky@gmail.com**.

Online Giving

Did you know that you can go onto our website (loveofchristchurch.net) or scan the QR Code to the right and make a contribution?

- Download any free QR code app.
- Scan QR Code printed here.
- Register (one time only)
- Indicate the amount you would like to contribute.



“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

—

Jesus, Matthew 6:21

Jesus taught that how we handle our money is an indicator of our hearts, and Paul taught that we should give cheerfully and sacrificially in response to the love of God. Giving is a central theme of the Bible, and at Love of Christ we invite our regular attendees and members to give in our weekend services or by mailing in their contributions. We are now pleased to offer the option of giving online. In our digital age with online shopping, online bill pay, Ebay, and Amazon, Love of Christ has chosen to make online tithing and giving available to those who are interested. You can give online by either check or credit/

debit card. We believe that living “debt free” is a worthy goal for all Christians.

Online giving does involve the use of credit and debit transactions and makes no distinction between the two.

We offer this option only as a convenience and we strongly urge you to use your credit card only as a payment method, never to incur debt. However, if you intend to pay off your balance each month, we believe that is an issue of conscience and leave that between you, God, and your frequent flier miles. With online giving, you can give your tithe to Love of Christ and also support our missionaries and mission trips.

Online giving will be counted toward your regular yearly giving and will appear in your year-end giving statement for tax purposes, along with all other contributions.

“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” – 2 Corinthians 9:7

For more information visit us online at loveofchristchurch.net or contact Dick Beckman at 480-981-3550.

The SIMPLY GIVING Program

What’s the easiest way to prepare your offering?

By using Simply Giving, you have an easy way to have your offering transferred automatically from your account on a regular basis. This makes it easy for you to know you are always current, and it also assists the church with our record-keeping. Visit the Ministry Tables on Sunday for a brochure or contact Dick Beckman at 480 981-3550.

Are you a “Thrivent Financial for Lutherans” member?



If you are, then you may be eligible to participate in their “Thrivent Choice” program! Eligible members are designated Choice Dollars, based on insurance premiums, contract values, and Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership. Choice Dollars can be directed to Lutheran organizations you prefer nationwide, including your local Lutheran congregation (LOC!). When you become eligible to direct Choice Dollars, you will receive a letter in the mail. Eligible members may direct Choice Dollars by contacting Rick Aussprung of Thrivent at 480 396 5333.

LOC 2019 Church Board Members & Officers

Church Board President	Patti DeLaney
Church Board Vice President	Dan Wilke
Church Board Treasurer	Michael Obert
Church Board Secretary	Karen Humbert
Church Board Member	Clyde Anderson
Church Board Member	Dave Dohrmann
Church Board Member	Al Gjersvig
Church Board Member	Melissa Riner
Ex Officio	Pastor Steve Talmage
Ex Officio	Pastor Nanette Christofferson

Church Directory Ext. / Phone Email

LOC Office	480 981-6199	
Senior Pastor Steve Talmage	stevetalmage@loccl.org	480 681 0939
Associate Pastor Nanette Christofferson, Nanette@loccl.org		480 681 0940
Kevin Anderson, Youth & Family Faith Formation Director,	kevinanderson@loccl.org	480 681 0935
Dick Beckman, Finance, dickbeckman@loccl.org		480 981 3550
Joey Bogushefsky, Audio Visual		
Children's Music Ministry—Brooke Osterman & Laura Ontiveros		
Anita Christensen, Children's Ministry Leader,	anitachristensen@loccl.org	480 681 0930
Mark Cloud, Facilities		
Jung Eun Csuy, Dir. of Music Jungmusic@loccl.org		480 832 2449
Darlene Fleischhauer darlene@loccl.org		480 981 6198
Office Manager/Church Secretary		
Gary Fuller-Facilities		
Janice Herron, Preschool, janiceherron@loccl.org		480 681 0937
William Hewes, Contemporary Worship Leader wiche12@gmail.com		
Bill Nunes, 7:50 & 10:30 Pianist		
Dianne Oien, dianneoien@loccl.org		480 681 0941
Ivan Ontiveros, Audio Visual		
Heather Parker (WOW), heatherparker@loccl.org		480 681 0925
Tim Rosenow, Facilities		
Brian Thompson-Facilities		

Worship & Care Directory Phone/Ext.

Information/Visitors	Dianne Oien	480 681 0941
Landscaping	Dick Beckman	480 981 3550
Secretary	Darlene Fleischhauer	480-981-6198
Readers:	Sharon Randall	480 628 5829 or rndllshar@aol.com
Ushers 7:50 Service	Elaine Warwick	986-4873
Ushers 9:00 Service	Jeff Milan	814-7514
Greeters 7:50, 9:00, 10:30	Dianne Oien	480 681 0941.

Altar Flowers

The Altar Flower Charts are at the Ministry Tables on Sunday mornings. Altar flowers are \$30 per arrangement and may be taken home following the service you attend. To give flowers in honor of a special occasion, in memory of a loved one, or to the Glory of God, please sign the Flower Chart **at the service you worship**, or call Darlene at 480 981-6198, or email Darlene@loccl.org.

Prayers of Sympathy and Comfort to the family & friends of...

- ✠ Pat O'Keefe upon the death of her dear dad, Volunteer Fire Chief J.C. Hicks.
- ✠ Syd Smith upon the death of his dear wife, Ann.
- ✠ Betty McCahan upon the death of her sister, Dorcas Stultz.
- ✠ Marilyn Gleckler upon the death of her Uncle Norman Freund.
- ✠ Jean Decker upon the death of her husband, Jerry.
- ✠ Charlotte Kraus upon the death of her sister, Marlene Nelson.
- ✠ Jeff Michaels upon the death of his sister, Catherine Marie Cutchaw.
- ✠ Darren Pfister upon the death of his father, Joseph.
- ✠ Barbara Talmage upon the death of her mother, MayBelle.
- ✠ Sandy Johnson upon the death of her sister.
- ✠ Georgia Swing upon the death of her husband, Virgil.
- ✠ Bill Warren upon the death of Donna Mae Warren.
- ✠ Agnes Weaver upon the death of friend, Ann.
- ✠ Karen Thompson & especially Dolly upon the death of Dolly's son, Logan.
- ✠ Donna T. upon the death of her mother, Ida M. Hill.
- ✠ Donna Larson upon the death of her sister, Sharon.
- ✠ Cheryl Bulck upon the death of her brother, Peter.



Shut-In & Spouse Birthdays!

Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating a Birthday in January, February and March.



Columbarium: A final resting place. This is a great opportunity to take advantage of our special pricing for purchasing a niche in the new section of our columbarium to the first 40 people.

SPECIAL PRICING-----NICHE FOR TWO PARTIES \$1,000.00

SPECIAL PRICING-----NICHE FOR ONE PARTY \$ 700.00

Once the first 40 limit is reached, the pricing will be \$1,500.00 for a two-party niche and \$900.00 for a one-party niche.

If you are interested in purchasing a niche, please call the church office and talk to either Darlene Fleischhauer at 480-981-6198 or Dick Beckman at 480 981-3550 .

INDEX

40 Days of Giving	6
Altar Flowers	20
Annual Meeting	7
Ash Wednesday & Mid-Week Services	5
Baptism, The Sacrament of Holy	10
Bible Study, Kevin Saunders	15
Bible Study, Monday Mornings	15
Bible Study, Wednesday	5
Blood Drive	13
Book Nook/Club	15
Children's Ministry	12
Christmas CD/DVD	10
Columbarium	20
Community Garden	17
Discovering the Gift of Spiritual Discipline	6
Easter Singers	9
Ending the Year Well	8
Endowment Fund and Meetings	7
Faith Stepping Stones	12
Feed My Starving Children	6
Food Bank	17
Friend in Faith	13
God's Work, Our Hands	11
Habitat for Humanity	11
I-Help	13
Intergenerational Fellowship	12
Kevin Anderson, Youth & Family Faith Formation Director	3
Lutheran Social Services	7
Martial Arts	19
Men's Morning Java	11
Musical for Kids	9
New Member Classes	13
New Members Received in Oct., 2019	8
Newsletter Deadline	20
Online Giving	19
Pastor Nanette Christofferson	2
Pastor Steve Talmage	1
Prayer Chapel	17
Preschool	10
Processing Grief	4

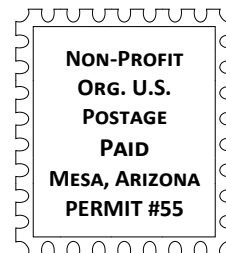
Serving Opportunities	18
Simply Giving	19
Staff/Board	20
Sympathy	20
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans	19
Umbrella of Care	4
Upcoming Musical Events	14
What is Lent?	5
Women's Ministry	16/17
Worship Times	20
WOW (The Word on Wednesday)	10

January February March 2020



Love of Christ Lutheran Church

Fax 480 832-2583 Office 480 981-6199
1525 North Power Road, Mesa AZ 85205



Time Valued for Immediate delivery – Return Service Requested

Worship and Communion

Sunday Morning

Holy Communion during Sunday worship every Sunday.
(2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays by intinction.)

7:50 & 10:30 A.M. Traditional Worship Services, COC (off Indigo)
9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service,
Center of Compassion (casual attire)
10:15-11:10 A.M. Sunday School (3 yr. old-4th grade)
11:30 A.M.-12:15 Confirmation (Sept. - May)
8:00am-11:30 PM Prayer Chapel— See page 17

Weekdays at LOC:

Weekday Preschool

Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. The Bible Between the Lines

Wednesdays: WOW (Sept. - May)

Website: www.LoveofChristChurch.Net

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/LOCLC>

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
(ELCA) Grand Synod



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

THE APR/MAY/JUN 2020 NEWSLETTER WILL BE
MAILED ON MARCH 17. If you have any questions or
articles to submit, please submit by March 5 at Noon,
please contact Darlene at 480 981 6198 or dar-
lene@loc.org with questions.

**OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, JAN. 20 IN OB-
SERVANCE OF MLK DAY AND FEB. 17 IN OB-
SERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS' DAY.**