

Love of Christ Lutheran Church

1525 North Power Road
Mesa AZ 85205

OCT/NOV/DEC. 2019

Fax: (480) 832-2583
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From Pastor Steve



“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

This is the theme verse of our Vision 2020 Campaign that is being readied to launch on January 1. Over the next two months you will be reading and hearing more about the commitment of the disciples Jesus here at Love of Christ living into the plans for expanding mission and ministry through an intentional appeal and effort to pay down our current indebtedness. In August we celebrated selling our two vacant lots south of our campus netting over \$374,000 to be applied directly to debt reduction. Our target goal for the sale was to net \$350-400,000. During the month of September and October leadership households have been invited to make initial three-year commitments to the campaign, followed by every disciple household at LoC to prayerfully include a commitment to the campaign in addition to their regular annual support of mission and ministry through LoC. Debt reduction leads to mission expansion, and just the sale of the land will probably reduce immediate debt service by \$25-\$30,000 a year!

We have much to be grateful for -the ways in which the Lord is blessing this congregation as we put our trust in God’s presence in our midst. We

anticipate on the first weekend of October the ordination and installation of Nanette Christofferson as our fulltime Associate Pastor for Faith Formation and Faith in Action. We hope to have hired a new fulltime Director of Youth (7th-12th Gr) and Family Faith Formation in October. Some of the Men from LoC will gather in Retreat in October. Young Adults will affirm their faith through the rite of Confirmation on Reformation Sunday, October 27. We will once again serve as a mobile-packing site for Feed My Starving Children, as we put our hands to work to feed children around the world. Many of our Women will gather in retreat in November. We will engage in supporting global families in need by participating in God’s Global Barnyard project through the ELCA World Hunger Appeal during November and December. We will continue to engage in other acts of service and love to our neighbor. We also hopefully will have our Sanctuary/Kitchen/Offices restoration project completed and we can focus on other needs.

December will turn our focus to the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Through worship, “A Walk to Bethlehem”, and our Cantata we will prepare to celebrate the gift of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I am grateful to serve you as Sr. Pastor. I am excited about the present and the future that the Lord is unveiling as we seek to be faithful to the one who has given us everything we could possibly need or want through the gift of unconditional love found in and through Jesus Christ.

With Gratitude,

Pastor Steve

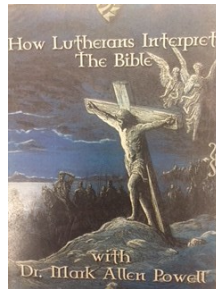
Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Studies

6:00-7:30PM

(thru November 6)

How Lutherans Interpret the Bible

By Dr. Mark Allen Powell



Nanette Christofferson and Steve Talmage will team teach this course consisting of brief lectures from Dr. Mark Allen Powell. Dr. Powell recently retired from teaching the Bible at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio and he and his spouse Melissa purchased a home in Mesa and are regular participants at LoC. Following the video lecture, Nanette and Steve will facilitate discussion on the material. Topics to be covered in this eight-session study:

The Word of God

What Lutherans Say about the Bible

Where the Bible Comes From

Interpreting the Bible in Context

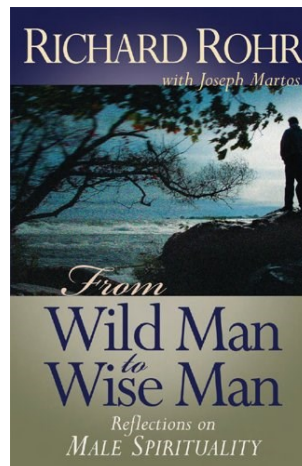
Determining Right from Wrong

The Many Meanings of the Bible

Devotional Reading of the Bible

Q&A Live with Dr. Mark Allen Powell

LoC Men's Retreat



When: 6:30PM Friday, Oct. 18 to 11:00AM Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019

Where: Dave and Jeanne Spice's Cabin-Heber/Overgaard

How Much: \$50.00 with checks payable to Love of Christ (indicate Men's Retreat on envelope or Check Memo)-Limited to the first 25 men to register (Registration covers cost for all meals. Bring your favorite snacks to share, and your own favorite beverage. You will need to bring sleeping bag, pillow and towel. If you have an RV, trailer or tent there is space for those.)

Pastor Steve Talmage will be gleaning insights from the book **From Wild Man to Wise Man: Reflections on Male Spirituality**, by Richard Rohr. Time will also be provided for outdoor recreation, hiking, corn hole, good food, and an opportunity to meet other men at Love of Christ. Plan now to escape the heat and build some new relationships with other Christian men. More information will be provided after registration closes on Oct. 13. **Sign-Up on Sunday at the Ministry Tables.**

“LoC Love Our Neighbor Outreach”



Love of Christ is hosting the Asylees and are asking for donations of any new or gently used clothing and shoes.

*We need new or gently used clothing and shoes for infants and children (boys & girls) in a variety of sizes. We can also use children’s sweaters, jackets and sweatshirts.

*We need new or gently used clothing and shoes for men and women, size small and medium. We can also use sweaters, men’s belts (small/medium), sweatshirts.

*We need donations of new underwear and socks for the children, women and men. We can use underwear and socks of all sizes for the children (boy and girl). We can use size small and medium for the men and women.

We thank you for your donations.

Call Karen Humbert - 480-510-3350 or Cheryl Mertens - 602-885-1391 with any questions.

Anyone wishing to get involved in this ministry of hospitality and compassion may contact Melissa Weiss-Reiner at

msw@weiss-rinerlaw.com

No regular offerings from LoC are being used to support this ministry so free-will donations may be designated “Love Our Neighbor Outreach” and they will be used to cover the \$200-\$250 cost to feed and host the asylum-seeking families. Thrivent Financial members are invited to apply for a Community Cares \$250 outreach gift Visa Card by going to Thrivent.com <https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/>

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PASTORS



As Pastor Steve and soon to be Pastor Nanette begin working as the Pastoral leaders of Love of Christ, we want to offer a series of opportunities to join in conversation. This will be an opportunity for any member or friend of Love of Christ to join in asking questions, concerns, or share insights about our life together. There is excitement around the development of our Faith Formation for all Ages, Faith in Action outreach, the addition of new staff, paying down our debt, and some have already shared concerns about recent actions or statements made by the ELCA at the national level and what implications that might have on our congregation. These gatherings will be a chance to discuss these and more. We hope that you might find the time to participate. Please sign-up to participate in one of the following times:

Tuesday, 10/1/19 – 7PM (COC Nursery)

Wednesday, 10/2/19 – 3PM (Leadership Room)

Monday, 10/7/19 – 7PM (COC Rooms 48-50)

Saturday, 10/26/19 – 10AM (COC Nursery)

Saturday, 10/26/19 - 1PM (Leadership Room)

Sunday, 10/27/19 – 3PM (Fellowship Hall)

A Note From Intern Nanette

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 2 Corinthians 5:17



Hello Love of Christ!

I write this letter with my Ordination being just around the corner. To say that I am excited is an understatement and the blessing of being called to Love of Christ goes beyond incredible! My call into the ministry began with an innocent job of becoming a Faith Formations Director! Little did I know that God would call me deeper into ministry and eventually into becoming Ordained as an ELCA pastor. I am amazed at God and how our Creator has worked through circumstances and people through this journey into ordained ministry. Thank you all so much for your prayers, encouragement and support.

As we begin to move forward in ministry together, my primary focus will be in the areas of Faith Formation and Faith in Action. Faith Formation encompasses the intergenerational formation of our community meaning all ages from baptism to end of life. While faith is formed in many ways, we have identified four applications of faith known as the "Four Apps of Faith". Faith is formed through trusting and authentic relationships, and so the first app of faith is **Caring Conversation**. Faith grows deeper through **Prayer and Devotion** (second App of Faith). Our faith grows when it is lived out through our **Acts of Service** (third App of Faith). It is through our **Rituals and Traditions** that we become grounded in our faith and our faith becomes a part of our daily life practices.

Faith in Action is also another important aspect of what it means to be a disciple of Christ. This team will represent our outreach ministries. Genesis 12:3 tells us that we are blessed to be a blessing... as we grow in our faith we are called to live it out by serving the other. Questions of what does a church with no walls look like? Who in our neighborhood are we not seeing? Trying to grow deeper the roots of love and serving other people.

These teams will be formed this fall and will begin to meet in January and February. Perhaps you might be interested in serving on one of these teams. If so, please let me know. Other aspects, but not my main focus of this pastorate, will include pastoral care and worship.

There are many events coming up in the next few months and I invite you to pray about where you might be called to serve and where you can invite others to participate. Our faith becomes an act of service this fall as we share God's love through our Love Our Neighbor Project, Feed My Starving Children, and A Night In Bethlehem. All of these outreach ministries need people to help them be successful and each of them serve different purposes in reaching all kinds of neighbors. Please see the newsletter for more details on WoW, Sunday School, and adult class offerings.

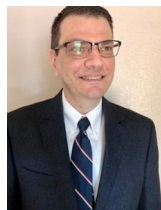
As we move from fall towards Advent, the beginning of our new church year, look for ways we will be encouraging and equipping all of our congregation to embrace the advent season! We will be asking all to join in Advent at Home. Look for more information in the weekly e-news.

In Christ,

Nanette Christofferson



Women's Retreat Sign up on Sundays at the Ministry tables. The retreat's theme this year is "How to be Present". The retreat will be at Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center and will be on **Nov. 16 and 17**. Please look for the brochure at the sign up table. If you have any questions, please contact Nanette at nanette@loclc.org



My World

The noted singer Bryan Duncan is quoted as saying, "I was raised in a Pentecostal Church, but I'm in recovery now!" My story is similar: I like to tell people I grew up on a church pew of the Pentecostal Christian Church of Mullica Hill, N.J. Rev. James Demola, Sr., Pastor. I say this because every time the church doors were open, we were there! A stickler for theology and doctrine, Pastor Demola also bathed the congregation in hymns, hymns, hymns! I believe that the great hymns of the faith are an important part of our culture. They often contain deep doctrinal insight, and they inform us about who we are and what we've come through as a people. That is why I like to program them into our service whenever I can.

I believe in corporate worship. The Psalmist declares, "But You are Holy, O You that inhabit the praises of Israel." Ellicot's Commentary explains that in this passage, "The ever-ascending praises of His people became a throne for the Divine King." I believe this is what happens when we gather as a congregation to worship. We remind ourselves of the things Christ has done for us and of the truths that His Word reveals about all aspects of our journey as disciples of Christ. We celebrate those truths which remind us of the eternal solid foundation for our hope which can reset our perspective as we face the day-to-day challenges that can often discourage us. Our corporate worship experience is a refuge as we face the storms of life!

This is why I say, "I'm expecting great things to happen during our worship experience" during the greeting each Sunday morning; we are meeting God here! I believe our worship service is very much like recharging our batteries! I want people to come here and experience God! How's that for ambition?

I believe music is a gift from God to mankind and is to be shared. I have been involved in music in one form or another throughout my entire life. Music seemed to provide the doors that opened for me in life. I had a thousand piano lessons as a child, played trumpet all through high school in the marching band. I went to college for music and transferred to ASU where I received my degree in instrumental music as a String Bass player. Being a bassist provided me the opportunity to work with some great musicians along the way that I might not have had access to otherwise. I have also taught hundreds of private lessons as a bass teacher, and a few more on guitar, voice and piano. The funny thing about teaching is: the more you share, the more you yourself learn! While continuing my education culminating in my graduating from ASU in 1995, I spent the next 20 years playing bass and singing for weddings, parties, corporate functions and bar mitzvah's and bat mitzvah's. So many of these, in fact, that I think I am actually now a little Jewish strictly through osmosis! Mazel Tov, everyone!

Since 2007 I have performed in a duo that performs a music program for seniors at retirement communities all throughout the East Valley. This has been a great way to learn about our national popular culture, which I have made an assiduous study of in order to better communicate with seniors in a language that they uniquely understand. This is important because music has been shown to help these seniors better adapt to the situations they find themselves in today requiring less medication to calm them, and help them re-connect with who they used to be. I guess I believe in music therapy, too!

In addition to the secular music, I have also performed at a number of Churches all throughout the Valley since my graduation. I have worn many hats: Worship Director, bassist, keyboardist, vocalist, guitarist, music producer, arranger, substitute musician, sound man, vacuum cleaner, laundryman, chief cook and bottle washer, if you know what I mean! There was a time when I had hoped for a career in church music. I had some success for awhile but I reached a point where I thought that I had exhausted all of my opportunities. The only "church gig" that I had left, in fact, was here at LOC, where for 12 years I happily played bass in what has come to be a terrific band! In fact, although our weekly Service starts at 9:00 am, I have always felt like worship actually starts when John Lewis takes his sticks out of the bag around 8:00! He and Mike Ozuna have been the nucleus of a terrific bunch of musicians that have come and gone throughout the years. To me they are pure Gold! Being able to perform with musicians of such a high caliber is, in itself, a kind of religious experience. Their high skill level also allows the church to have the ability to successfully utilize a wide variety of music. In other words, there's not much we can't do! Their efforts are buttressed by the guy who has taken my place, Mike King, who is, along with John and Mike, one of the most in-demand bassists in the Valley!

In addition to those in the band, the people for whom I work have also been gracious and helpful. Chief among all these is Jung Csuy, who has endured the 5000 questions and problems I have put before her at all hours of the day and night; all with a smile! I just keep finding myself saying, Thank you, Jung!

Since I have begun leading worship here, I have been overwhelmed by the kindness of the congregation. I have received lots of great feedback, support, music ideas, and tips from everyone I have come in contact with and for that I am really grateful. We have also had a few folks from the congregation come up and sing from time to time, and I trust we will have more to come in the near future as I get up to speed on all of my duties here. As I talk to people here about the things that are going on, and I keep finding myself saying, "I think the best is yet to come!" And I do believe that!

Welcome Kevin Anderson as our Youth & Family Faith Formation Director!



Grace and peace! My name is Kevin Anderson and I am the new Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation here at Love of Christ. My wife, Erin, and our one-year old daughter, Reese, are all Arizona natives. Erin and I grew up in ELCA congregations in the West Valley. We met in college. She graduated from Northern Arizona University, and I from Arizona State University (go Sun Devils!). My wife has been a teacher and is now a full-time mom and babysitter. Previously, I spent eight years involved in Youth Ministry leadership. Throughout that time I served as a volunteer, intern, and a Youth Director. Most recently, I attended Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary where I started my track towards becoming an Ordained Pastor in the ELCA. Erin and I are excited to be a part of the community at Love of Christ and we are looking forward to being a part of God's ministry here with you all!

Grace and peace,
Kevin Anderson



“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

1. Vision

Love of Christ Lutheran Church strives to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to make him known to the world. As a welcoming, growing and diverse community, LOCLC, in response to God's blessings and grace, desires to expand mission and ministry.

2. Challenge and Opportunity

In 2003, at the cost of \$4 million, the Center of Compassion was completed. After capital gifts were made to this project, the remaining debt on the whole campus and the two vacant lots the congregation owned sat close to \$3 million. Our debt was spread across three notes with Thrivent Financial with staggered re-rating dates. Since 2003 regular and some special payments have been made through previous capital campaigns. After application of the \$374,310.00 August 2019 proceeds from the sale of our vacant lots, our current loan debt balance is \$1,348,137.25. Every dollar used for debt servicing is one less dollar available for advancing Christ's mission and ministry.

3. Plan

Vision 2020 is a three-year Capital campaign, aiming to free up general ministry operating funds by cutting our mortgage debt in half. A successful campaign of \$550,000 joined with the recent sale of our vacant lots will help us get close to cutting our debt in half! It will also potentially redirect be-

Vision 2020 (Continued)

tween \$60,000 and \$70,000 a year, currently being applied to debt service, to being used to support LOCLC's mission and ministry into the future. This means LOCLC will be able to sustain and support a second full-time pastor. We will be able to lessen the pressure to raise additional funds outside our budget for our Music Ministry and Youth and Family Ministry. We will be able to increase mission partnerships beyond our own walls, and continue to address ongoing maintenance needs.

Congregation Approved Use of Vision 2020 Capital campaign gifts:

- 80% of the amount raised will be directed to debt reduction allowing us to annually re-amortize our notes and secure lower monthly payments.
- 5% to support critical staffing and sustaining a second fulltime pastor
- 5% to repairs, renovations and improvement to our beautiful campus. (We currently are updating a list of prioritized needs)
- 10% to increasing our support of church wide and synod mission efforts. In 2019 LOCLC plans to share about 4.45% of our unrestricted annual income with the ELCA and Grand Canyon Synod; an increase from 1.98% in 2018. The longstanding goal for ELCA congregations is to share 10%, or a tithe of non-restricted offerings to support our synodical, national, and global work together.

Changes to the planned use of funds are not expected. Should unforeseen events require adjustments, the congregation will be a part of deciding any changes to the distribution formula.

4. "Why Now?"

Each month LOCLC writes checks in excess of \$13,480 for mortgage payments. The sooner we reduce our debt, the sooner LOCLC can begin to redirect general funds to ministry programs. **VISION 2020** complements the congregation's decision to sell unused land and our commitment to debt reduction.

5. Your Call to Action.


Vision 2020 is a campaign **over and above** the regular ongoing giving you make to carry out current mission and ministry at LOCLC. It is an invitation to consider a sacrificial gift. All LOCLC members and friends will have multiple ways for making a three year pledge to VISION 2020. Households are encouraged to donate appreciated assets like stocks, bonds or required IRA distributions to lessen tax liabilities. Achieving the \$550,000 will require broad participation at many levels of giving. Remember, any pledge is **in addition** to your regular support of the general ministry budget.

We invite each leadership household to pray and consider a 36-month pledge amount that is meaningful for you. The Vision 2020 Leadership chart, on the following page, may help you as you consider your three year gift.

Leadership Giving Chart

Three Year Pledge	Number of Gifts	Amount per Period		
		Year	Month	Week
\$30,000	1	\$10,000	\$833	\$192
\$20,000	2	\$6,667	\$556	\$128
\$15,000	3	\$5,000	\$417	\$96
\$10,000	4	\$3,333	\$278	\$64
\$8,000	8	\$2,667	\$222	\$51
\$6,000	10	\$2,000	\$167	\$38

Our hope is that by early October 2019 our leadership households will be able to state their intent of support for this campaign. It is also hoped that within this vital circle of supporters, we might achieve intents totaling 50% of the overall campaign, to provide the inspiration to the remaining households involved at LOCLC and help them engage and imagine a future where LOCLC is closer to being debt-free! Thank you for prayerfully considering a leadership gift.



COME JOIN OUR

BIBLE


Study

Four Week Ephesians Bible Study Coming in November!

Taught by Renee Bennett (with Barb Talmage assisting). Wednesday Nights from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. Dates: **November 13, 20 and December 4, 11.**

This study is open to anyone. There is no class size limit and no cost for the class. All are welcome. Paul's letter to the Ephesians teaches important lessons of faith: who we are in Christ, how to live as His follower, and how to gain victory in the spiritual battles we face. As we study Ephesians, we will see how much God loves us and who we are in God's image.

Give a gift that isn't easy to wrap.



Shop ELCA Good Gifts for 50 different gifts that grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives.
ElCA.org/goodgifts

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ELCA Good Gifts-

During the month of November and December, we will once again invite our members and friends to consider giving to God's Global Barnyard through the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Ornaments for Good Gifts will be available beginning in November.

What is the difference between ELCA Good Gifts and similar organizations?

Many other organizations are doing wonderful work around the world, and some do work in similar ways. A main difference between the ELCA and other programs is that this church receives almost all of the money to fund its work directly through its congregations and members, and almost all of the money that we distribute goes to support the work being carried out by our congregations, global companion churches and ecumenical partners. This is unique because the church is our delivery system. It is successful because the church is present in far corners of the world and already connected and trusted in communities. And finally, it is sustainable. Our churches and partners are the ones who identify local needs and solutions; we just help make those dreams a reality.

Preschool
Full & Half Day



LOVE OF CHRIST PRESCHOOL NOW REGISTERING FOR 2019/2020 SCHOOL YEAR



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

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



WE ARE EXCITED FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR OF WOW!!

Please join us!!

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—See Page 20 for details.

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 as to special events, crafting nights and our Walk Through Bethlehem!!

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



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, contact Dianne Oien at dianneoien@loclc.org or 480 681 0941.

Hale Theatre – Saturday, October 19th, 4PM – “Hello Dolly”... Winner of 10 Tony Awards, *Hello, Dolly!* is one of Broadway's most beloved musicals! The show is about Dolly Levi, a New York based matchmaker who merrily arranges things...like furniture, daffodils, and lives. One of Broadway's greatest hits “Hello, Dolly”, this production is a must see for the whole family! **Had to be signed up by September 29th...**Cost: \$27

TBD – November & December events – watch bulletin for info. We are checking into an event at Highland High School in November and a December Christmas event.



**Sunday Morning
Adult Study**

Adult Sunday School in the Leadership room from **10:15 to 11:15**. Come join

Allen Gjersvig for a discussion on the Gospel reading from our Lectionary and worship service.



Our Godly Play Room Is Flourishing!

Our new Godly Play room (shared space with the CoC nursery) is expanding each week. The Godly Play curriculum shares the Biblical story of God's family and God's intentions for us through his Son Jesus Christ. In these sacred stories, we tell of God's People and invite children to become part of the story.

On Sundays, the Godly Play room is experienced by our preschoolers through 4th graders with our current storytellers, Lisa Hansen, Amy Peters and Eric Walberg. This fall our Love of Christ Preschool children will also be visiting the room to experience the wonderful wooden and felt manipulatives. Currently, we have purchased some of the Old Testament stories and will be adding the Parable stories after Christmas. We are creating this sacred space in part through the generosity of the Book Nook, the Pastor John Albrecht Memorial Fund and

Ludwig & Gerda Hief.

Thank you for your donations!



Our preteens (5th & 6th graders), continue to have engaging and faith stretching conversations with teacher, Angie Obert, surrounding such topics as "Does God Really Expect Me to Love Everybody?" and "Who Is the Holy Spirit and What Does the Holy Spirit Do?" while diving into the Biblical Truth of each week's topic.

UPCOMING FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH:

October 6: No S.S. /No Confirmation – MPS October Break
October 13: S.S./Confirmation
October 20: S.S. / Confirmation
October 27: No S.S. /No Confirmation – Reformation/Confirmation Sunday

November 3, 10, 17, 24 – S.S. /Confirmation

December 1: S.S. /Confirmation
December 8: S. S. / Confirmation
December 15: No S.S. / No Confirmation – Christmas Cantata
December 22 & 29: No S. S. /No Confirmation – Christmas Break



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?...HOME NUMBER SIXTEEN!

Please join us for at least one Saturday as we put our faith into action...one nail at a time, starting with the ground-breaking on **October 5th**. We will be building one of thirty new Habitat homes planned for an area near Buckeye and 12th Street. The family for whom we will be building is still being vetted, but as soon as that is complete, we will provide their bio. 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 February 8, 2020. We will also need 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.

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.



Get Your Hairnets Ready 11/7 – 11/9!

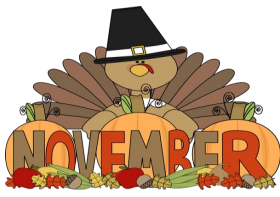
Since 2008 Love of Christ has partnered with “Feed My Starving Children”, a Christian non-profit organization, to provide nutritious meals to starving children around the world. This year we will reach our 2 millionth meal packed as a congregation. Please join us.

- Help pack 150,000 plus meals November 7-9 in the COC**
- Sign up at the ministry tables**
- Opportunities for those 5-95 years of age**
- Contact walterscott@loclc.org**

Matthew 25:40

“...I tell you the truth, that whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.”

All Saints' Sunday Nov. 3



All Saints' Day is the day Christians give thanks for all the good people lives, especially

are ordinary, everyday people who allow the Holy Spirit to work through them, doing the mighty deeds of the Lord.

Martin Luther writes, "the Holy Scriptures call Christians saints and the people of God. To forget that we are saints is to forget Christ and to forget our baptism."

All Saints is a day for remembering and giving thanks, as Christians remember the good people they have known and give thanks for the unending goodness of God.

All Saints is celebrated the first Sunday in November, during the season of Pentecost.

God has placed in their those who are already with God in heaven.

It is also a day when Christians give thanks for the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives and in the lives of all people.

It is not because people are special in and of themselves that we call them saints, but it is because they



Save the date: Sunday, November 3, 2019, 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

or www.bloodhero.com

BAKE SALE ANNOUNCEMENT!!

Sunday, November 24, 2019 after each service: Bake Sale for your Thanksgiving dessert!

Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 28 this year! We are asking all of the Love of Christ Congregation to please help us out and bring baked goods so that we can raise money for the music ministry budget. You can bring pies, brownies, bars, muffins, and cookies. Please mark your calendar to bring the baked goods and **drop them off in the CoC kitchen on Sat, Nov. 23 between 8am ~ 5pm**. Please let me know if you can help receive and wrap the baked goods as they come in. Sign-up sheets for the donation and helpers will be available at the music ministry table.



Order Your Poinsettias!

Order by December 1

We will be decorating both our chancel areas with red poinsettias this Christmas season. We will be ordering the foil wrapped plants from a local greenhouse at a cost of \$18 ea. We invite you to give a red poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one. Your order and check must be received by December 1.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

Name _____

Phone # _____

___ Given to the glory of God.

___ Given in honor of _____

___ Given in loving memory of: _____

Please make checks out to "Love of Christ Poinsettia" and return to the church office or place in the Sunday offering as soon as possible.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Thanksgiving Eve

Service 7 p.m.

in our Sanctuary

(Wed., Nov. 27)

Come and Give Thanks!

(Bring a pie for fellowship following the service.)



Come Join "The Soul Ringers"



**Are you in 4th grade or higher?
Come join in the fun on Tuesdays
From 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. in the Green Room
Email jungmusic@loclc.org to reserve your spot!
#musicrocks #gotbells #soulringers**

2019 Christmas Cantata Calling for Singers!

**Sunday, December 15 at 9am & 10:45 am
in our Center of Compassion building**

Rehearsal dates: 7:00pm~8:30pm in sanctuary

Thursdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 November 7, 14, 21,

Monday, November 25, December 5, 12, &

Saturday, Dec 14 (dress rehearsal from 9am to 12pm in CoC)

Please contact me @ 480-832-2449 or jungmusic@loclc.org

Dear LOC Music Ministry,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer! It is now time to resume choir rehearsals and sing praise to the Lord!

Soul Ringers (Youth Hand Bell Choir) rehearsals are **Tuesdays from 5:15pm ~6:15pm** in the green room.

Alleluia Ringers (Hand Bell Choir) rehearsals are **Tuesdays from 6:30pm ~8:00pm** in the green room.

Women's Ensemble rehearsals are **Thursdays from 5:45pm ~6:30pm** in the sanctuary.

Chancel Choir rehearsals are **Thursdays from 7:00~8:30pm** in the sanctuary.

We welcome back all former choir members and are delighted to have new ones join us!

What is needed for newcomers? Have Tuesday or Thursday nights FREE, have a teachable spirit, a heart for worship, a desire to grow musically and spiritually, the ability to sing in tune (bell ringers do not have to sing in tune!) I look forward to getting our choirs back into action! Contact Jung Csuy: jungmusic@loclc.org or 480-832-2449.



You're Invited to the Christmas Cantata!

**Sunday, Dec. 15th at 9AM & 10:45AM
in our COC**

A joyous shout celebrating the birth of Christ...
An intimate and grateful acknowledgment that "now He is born, now He is here, now all is well..."

These epic songs and heroic arrangements are firmly connected to the heart of the Christmas story, filled with a message that is the heartbeat of God...the timeless message of love, hope, and redemption. Christmas – God’s love and mercy expressed to us through the birth of His holy Son, Jesus.

Please invite all your family and friends, co-workers and neighbors to join us for this joyful celebration. We will have the LOC mass choir, children’s choir, youth and adult handbells, full orchestra, and worship band as well as featured soloists and narration.



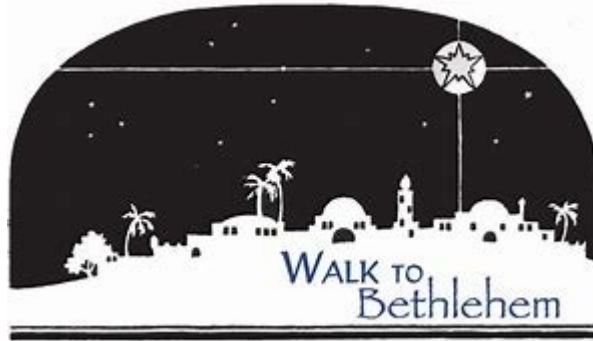
BE PREPARED FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a little over 3 months away and the African Orphans Project would like you to be aware of African gifts that will be available for sale in December.

A few members of the AOP are visiting South Africa in October and plan to check in on our Shongweni Lutheran Church and day school and meet with the Deaconesses that we are funding. We have also provided scholarships to a local nursing student and boys that are in a welding school. While in Shongweni, time will be spent with the sewing ladies and their plans for a new larger building since their work has increased. The trip will also take this group to Johannesburg to visit a creche we helped start and also visit the local seminary. A visit to Newcastle is planned to visit a Lutheran Pastor and preview his new three room creche. They are in need of equipment and supplies that we will be looking to fund and partner with them to provide these items and some of the supplies. Some supplies will be in the luggage our group is carrying. God has provided us a very close knit group of German Lutherans in South Africa and this really helps in the area of trust allowing us to accomplish positive things.

This small group from the AOP will be able to arrange to have some African merchandise sent back to us and also carry some in their luggage on their return trip. They will be setting up a table for this merchandise on **December 8th and 15th** here at LOC after services at both the COC and the sanctuary. We have been blessed to have the funding from previous functions to continue our work. Whatever this sale produces will go 100% to our projects in South Africa. At our sales in the past we have had hand made items both large and small. Please plan to visit our tables and take advantage of unusual Christmas gifts for that special person. Thank you.

Questions and Comments to:
Ken Ondrejko, 602-692-7492



SAVE THE DATE!

Invite your family, friends and neighbors!

Wednesday, December 18th

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Center of Compassion

Experience a living nativity with live animals,
interactive booths in the city of Bethlehem

and

refreshments and fellowship

as we prepare our hearts for the birth of our Savior!

Watch for more information through the church bulletin
and weekly e-news inviting you to be a part of this meaningful
community outreach event!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services



4 p.m. Family Service in our Center of Compassion

7 p.m. Holy Communion in our Center of Compassion

9 p.m. Holy Communion in our Sanctuary

Christmas Day 10 a.m.

Holy Communion

in our Sanctuary



Music Ministry Concert Series



December



Live Jazz Night/Dinner, Silent Auction

Friday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m.

On Friday December 6 at 6:00 p.m., come hear the innovative sounds of live jazz featuring Bill Nunes on keyboard. Improvised riffs and bent notes will prevail throughout the evening for those longing for the distinctive, elusive sounds of jazz. Bill's multi-component band will highlight special guest vocalists. A delicious dinner will be served and a new approach to the church's Silent Auction will help benefit the Music Ministry. It all takes place at the Love of Christ Lutheran Church, located at 1525 N Power Road in Mesa in the Center of Compassion building.

Dinner will be Coq au Vin, a flavorful chicken dish in a burgundy garlic sauce with onions, carrots and mushrooms. It will be complemented with herb roasted potatoes and a crisp pear and walnut salad. The dessert is yet to be determined.

We've upped the ante for this year's Silent Auction. Although we appreciated the smaller donations of years past, this year we're looking for higher-end donations such as a week's use of a Northern Arizona cabin, a getaway weekend, tickets to plays, productions or other events, Saguaro Lake boat tour tickets – let your imagination run free! Nicely made gift baskets containing a good wine, cheese and cracker mix or a

health/wellness/beauty assortment add some excitement to the evening. As always, gift cards are always welcome. And of course, it wouldn't be LoC's auction without our 50/50 Raffle!

Tickets are \$20 per person. This special event promises to sell out quickly, so reserve your tickets online now and get more details at www.loveofchristchurch.net

January



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 barefoot (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@loclc.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@loclc.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 Intern Nanette Christofferson

Mondays 10-11:30 AM in the Center of Compassion Room #48.

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 Saunder's Fall Session



Kevin Saunders' The Bible Between the Lines

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

ArizonaBibleClass.com

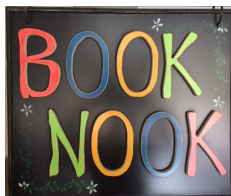
Men's Morning Java!



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

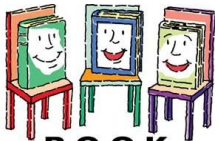
Join other men of the congregation for a morning devotion, a little coffee, some breakfast (optional). Village Inn, (Southwest corner of Recker and McKellips).

Book Nook and Book Club



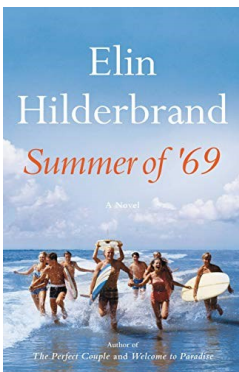
Do you like mysteries that aren't full of violence? The Blue Hill Mysteries might be just the right set of books for you. They all include mysteries in or around the Blue Hill Inn. The main characters are the same ones with different characters introduced in each book.

Though they are connected this way, they can be sold as a complete set or individually. Guide Post has published them so the actions in the book should not cause you to have your hair stand up on end while reading any of them. I call them light mysteries. Come to the Book Nook and pick one up.



**BOOK
DISCUSSION
GROUP**

We will meet on, **Sunday, November 10th**, after the 9:00, service to discuss **Summer of '69** by Elin Hilderbrand. Our new meeting place is in the Green Room located off the COC. Please grab a cup of coffee and join us. Here is a synopsis of the book:



Welcome to the most tumultuous summer of the twentieth century. It's 1969, and for the Levin family, the times they are a-changing. Every year the children have looked forward to spending the summer at their grandmother's historic home in downtown Nantucket. But like so much else in America, nothing is the same: Blair, the oldest sister, is marooned in Boston, pregnant with twins and unable to travel. Middle sister Kirby, caught up in the thrilling vortex of civil rights protests and determined to be independent, takes a summer job on Martha's Vineyard. Only-son Tiger is an infantry soldier, recently deployed to Vietnam. Thirteen-year-old Jessie suddenly feels like an only child, marooned in the house with her out-of-touch grandmother and her worried mother, each of them hiding a troubling secret. As the summer heats up, Ted Kennedy sinks a car in Chappaquiddick, man flies to the moon, and Jessie and her family experience their own dramatic upheavals along with the rest of the country.

If you have any questions about the Book Club, please contact Barbara Hummel at otempori-um@aol.com or Penny Day at ptdayster@gmail.com.

Thanks for your continuing interest in the Book Club. We always have room for one more at our table!

Women's Ministry



EXPLORE ARIZONA..... On **October 19th**, the LOC Women's Hiking Group will be traveling north to **Payson** and hiking 2 separate trails. First trail: **Ellison Creek Cascades**. This **1.75 mile** easy hike takes you to a waterfall, along with a unique log used for jumping into the creek. After that, we will drive to the **Washington Park Trailhead**. This trail follows the East Verde River and is shaded with tall Ponderosa pines, fall colors, ferns, and pretty little waterfalls. This trail hooks up with many other trails in the area but hoping for about **3 - 4 miles** total. We will meet at **7:00 am** in the COC

parking lot and return by **6:00 pm**.

On **November 30th**, the LOC Women's Hiking Group will be traveling to **Camp Verde** and hiking the **8 mile Parsons Trail**. This trail starts overlooking the sycamore & cottonwood lined Verde River and then drops down to hiking on level ground close to the river. We will meet at **7:00 am** in the COC parking lot and return by **6:00 pm**

On **December 28th**, the LOC Women's Hiking Group will be traveling to **Apache Junction** and hiking the many trails of **Silly Mountain**, for a total of about **2.8 miles**. The trails take us by a mine and a miner's grave, meditation point and other lookout points. 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

Women of the ELCA "JUST LOVE" July 16 - 19, 2020

~11+ Triennial Gathering of Women of the ELCA~

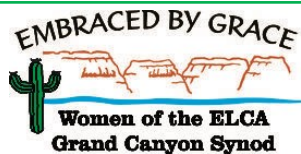
Our Grand Canyon Synod is the host synod for this every three-year gathering of several thousand women from across our entire ELCA. We know how to party! It's an event that will inspire and renew your faith journey. We'll be in the downtown area of Phoenix, inside the convention center where it will be "cool" to be in Phoenix in July! Early Bird registration opens on Sept. 30 and 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.



"Beauty from Ashes"

Isaiah 61

Love of Christ is hosting the 2019 Grand Canyon Synod

Women's Retreat on **November 8-9, 2019**

7 pm Friday evening & 9-4 pm Saturday

Our keynote speaker: Rev. Canon Debbie Royals

Cost - \$45 Deadline - Nov. 1st

Registration - <http://grandcanyonwomen.org/events/>

"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.

Women's Ministry (Continued)



Naomi Circle

They meet the 2nd Monday of the month September—May. **Mondays, Oct. 14, Nov. 11 & Dec. 9, 1pm** are their next scheduled Bible Study. All Women Welcome! See you in October!

WOW—Ladies' Night Out



Come join us for the first craft night of the new WOW season. No previous painting experience needed. We will be walked through the process step-by-step by our instructors from Ty Creations. We will each create a custom pair of wooden pumpkins for only \$20. You select the colors & adornments for your treasures!

There are three convenient payment methods to secure your seat.

- Zelle is: lynn7582@aol.com
- Venmo is: @Lindsey-Ferree
- PayPal is: PayPal.me/TyCreations

Please note in the comments section of your \$20 payment your name & Love of Christ.

A hot meal for the whole family is served at 5:30 p.m. in the COC followed by programming for all ages from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Staffed nursery available. Classes held in Rooms 13/14
Across from playground.

For questions, please call Karen Thompson at 480-330-6654

Class fees are non-refundable, but can be applied to a future class. Be sure to get a punch card when you come to class. Collect 6 punches & your next \$20 project is free.

Community Garden



Meet One of the LOC Gardeners:

My family moved here four years ago from colorful Colorado. I had a delightful garden in my back yard and enjoyed the harvest of many different types of fruits and vegetables. I loved teaching my children about where food came from, not the grocery store, and watching the plants slowly grow. Learning all too well about the plights of a farmer the hard way. I always hurried to get my garden in quick, tired of the snow and cold weather... even when the experts said to wait until at least Mother's Day. Some years that worked out ok and others, mother nature would win, and I would have to start all over again. I am starting to get that itch to plan my garden again. Of course, the climate is very different here! I am still trying to figure out which seeds will grow better here or if it is just easier to start off with little plants. I never know what's going to happen and that makes the good harvest even taste better. Gardeners start dreaming about your garden plots and new gardens; we would love to have you join us out at the community garden. There are still plots available. I am learning what it is like gardening in the desert and it has been fun. Not only has the fresh produce been nice, but the fellowship has been even better! Getting to socialize about plants and life has been a great joy to me and my family. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a plot, please contact Nancy at tollef@cox.net.

See you out at the garden,
Erika Barker

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!**



I-HELP! Your continued support of the I-HELP program is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, lately there has been a notable increase in homeless, single women with a greater number of "senior" ladies in their 60's and young women. Fortunately God has provided people like yourselves to fill the needs for others. We continue to need travel size hygiene products, especially deodorant and dental products; we are also in need of fruit cups.

In October we will again have Christmas Cards for people to sign and to write a note of support and love. The ladies were so appreciative of the notes they read in their Christmas cards last year that we would hope to increase the number of Christmas cards they receive this year. Start flexing those writing hands. God's blessings.

Prayer Chapel

Hours: 8:30 am-11 am

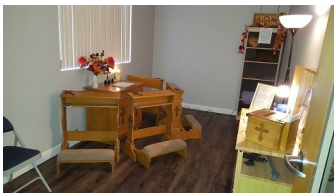
Room #45 (East side of COC—enter thru doors on outside of building).

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.

Cursillo

Cursillo Retreats

Cursillo has its roots in the Catholic Church. It is a retreat centered on the events of Holy Week, with talks and worship grounded in God’s amazing grace. Through a Cursillo weekend, men gather with other men and women gather with other women, to experience an opportunity to affirm and strengthen their relationship with Christ and share in intentional Christian Community. The Lutheran Cursillo Movement of Arizona invites men and women from across Lutheran denominations to share in this retreat as it reflects our Lutheran lens for understanding what God has done for the world through Jesus Christ. The retreats are offered at 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church, 142 N Date, Mesa, AZ 85201. There is no charge to attend one of these retreats. The Cursillo Community practices a pay-it-forward philosophy,

so that no one is denied an opportunity to attend a weekend due to finances. Previous weekend participants make a gift to Cursillo to provide for an upcoming weekend. If you would like to learn more about a Cursillo Weekend Retreat, you are welcome to speak with our LoC Parish Representatives: Clyde and Sally Anderson moose308lover@cox.net or moose3081947@cox.net) or you can speak to Pastor Steve Talmage.

Dates for the next Weekend Retreat

Men’s Weekend, 5PM Thursday, October 3 thru 5PM Sunday, October 6.

Women’s Weekend, 5PM Thursday, October 10 thru 5PM Sunday, October 13.



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

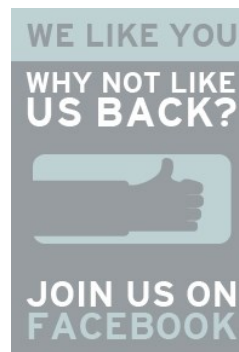
Read and follow the instructions on the page.

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

Church Directory Ext. / Phone Email

LOC Office	480 981-6199	
Senior Pastor Steve Talmage	stevetalmage@loclc.org	480 681 0939
Intern Pastor Nanette Christofferson, Nanette@loclc.org		480 681 0940
Kevin Anderson, Youth & Family Faith Formation Director,	kevinanderson@loclc.org	480 681 0935
Dick Beckman, Finance, dickbeckman@loclc.org		480 981 3550
Joey Bogushesky, Audio Visual		
Children's Music Ministry—Brooke Osterman & Laura Ontiveros		
Anita Christensen, Children's Ministry Leader, anitachristensen@loclc.org		
Mark Cloud, Facilities		
Jung Eun Csuy, Dir. of Music Jungmusic@loclc.org		480 832 2449
Darlene Fleischhauer darlene@loclc.org		480 981 6198
Office Manager/Church Secretary		
Gary Fuller-Facilities		
Janice Herron, Preschool, janiceherron@loclc.org		480 681 0937
William Hewes, Contemporary Worship Leader wicchhe12@gmail.com		
Bill Nunes, 7:50 & 10:30 Pianist		
Dianne Oien, dianneoien@loclc.org		480 681 0941
Ivan Ontiveros, Audio Visual		
Heather Parker (WOW), heatherparker@loclc.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@loclc.org.

Prayers of Sympathy and Comfort to...

- † Joe & Carla Strand upon the death of Joe's brother
- † Gloria Brunette upon the loss of her father.
- † Barb Norton upon the death of her husband, Ron.
- † Evangeline Schneider upon the death of her dear husband, Fred.
- † Craig & Connie Rients upon the death of Craig's cousin.
- † Dianne Oien, family & friends upon the death of her dear husband, Terry.
- † David Johnson & Kerstin Marshall families upon the death of wife and mother, Erna Johnson.
- † Family & friends of Tom Kendall upon his death.
- † Maxine Benewith upon the death of her sister, Loretta.
- † Tracey Lee & Mom Lois upon the death of Tracey's father, Wally Brown, Jr.
- † Becky & Debbie Schilling upon the death of husband and father, Bob.
- † Marie Brothers, family & friends upon the death of her dear husband, Bruce Rod.
- † Marilyn McCall upon the death of her husband, Eddie.
- † The family of Dennis Olson, upon his death.
- † Pastor Steve, family & friends upon the death of his uncle John Britton.
- † Tamra Busch-Johnson, family & friends upon the death of Aunt Darlene Burch, LOC charter member.
- † Sue Strebe, family & friends upon the death of her brother, Steve.
- † Sona & Walter Scott upon the death of Sona's sister, Connie.
- † Larry Dray, family & friends upon the death of his dear wife, Lynn.
- † The Holm family upon the death of Betty and Dean Holm. A Memorial Service for Betty & Dean will be held **Sat. Nov. 2, 2pm in our Sanctuary.**

Continued on Page 27

Shut-In & Spouse Birthdays!



Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating a Birthday in October, November and December.



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 .



Lutheran
Social Services
of the Southwest



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 (LSS-SW) 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.

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LEFSE SALES

On Sundays, Oct 27 & Nov. 3
ASU Lutheran Campus Minis-
tries ELCA will be selling lefse
(yum) to raise dollars for vari-
ous service projects...buy some
for your family and friends!

Prayers of Sympathy and Comfort to...

✝ Betty McCahan, family & friends upon the death of her Aunt.

✝ Syd Smith, family & friends upon the death of his dear wife, Ann. **A Celebration of Life will be/was held Sat., Sept. 28th, 10am in our Sanctuary.**

Annual Congregational Meeting Feb. 16

11:45am in our Sanctuary

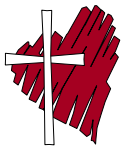


Love of Christ members, staff and our Board will gather in the sanctuary for our annual meeting to celebrate and give thanks for the 2019 ministries and missions and the 2020 business of the church.

The Annual Reports will be available *late January/early February in the Sanctuary and COC narthexes for you to pick up prior to the meeting. You can also view and/or download the report by going to our website "loveofchristchurch.net" "What's Going On", "Special Events", "Annual Report" when available.*

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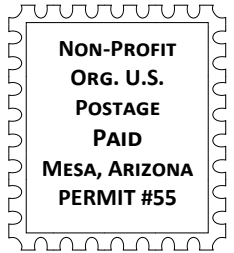
OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2019



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, Sanctuary

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 22

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 JAN/FEB/MAR 2020 NEWSLETTER WILL BE MAILED ON DEC. 16. If you have any questions or articles to submit, please submit by Dec. 5 at Noon, please contact Darlene at 480 981 6198 or darlene@loclc.org.

**OFFICE CLOSED THURSDAY, NOV. 28 & FRIDAY, NOV. 29
IN OBSERVANCE OF THANKSGIVING.
OFFICE CLOSED WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25 AND WEDNESDAY,
JAN. 1.**