



*Life*LINES

Lord of Life Lutheran Church



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Monthly Newsletter
November 2025



A WORD FROM PASTOR PAM

November is the time in the church year that we honor the “saints who have gone before us”. On the first Sunday, known as “All Saints Sunday”, we name aloud all of our loved ones who have been “called home” into the loving arms of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We light a candle to remember and honor the ways that they have touched our lives. It is a time to be intentionally grateful for all the ways that those who have gone on before us have touched our lives. Those whom we will never forget but carry with us in our hearts until we are reunited one day, just as Jesus has promised.

But what does it actually mean to be a saint? Lutherans regard and acknowledge the Saints (you know, the big-name ones), but not in the way that our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters revere them. Lutherans do not believe that we need to pray to an intermediary in order to have our prayers heard by God or that Saints are assigned special guardianship duties over particular matters in our lives. We have access to God because of the loving sacrifice that Jesus Christ made on the cross. We have the promise of life eternal with our God through our baptism and Christ’s own resurrection.

So, why then do we acknowledge Saints and, saints (you and me)? Perhaps you didn’t know that you are a saint? Luther teaches us that we are all saints and sinners, simultaneously! The Latin phrase is “Simul Justus et Peccator”. The meaning is that through our baptism our sins have been cleansed, yes, but we still have the inclination to sin even if we don’t act upon it. So, just the fact that we think about things which are sin, makes us sinners, but we are justified by grace through faith. I know, it feels a little circular, but the good news is that in our baptism and by the gift of Jesus’ death on the cross, we have been redeemed! When I preside at a funeral this is why I remind the bereaved that we need not refer to our loved one as someone we have “lost.” We can take heart and be comforted in knowing that God has already claimed us in our baptism! We do not need to be fearful about where our loved ones are, or what has happened to them. Rest assured, they have only “gone home” where we will one day be reunited with them and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!

Saintly and Sinful Blessings,

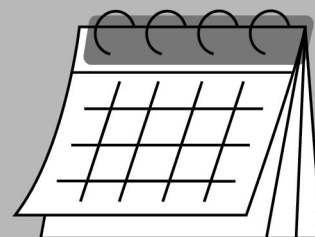
Pastor Pam



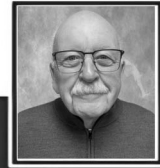
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Mark your calendars!

The Council elections will be held around Worship Services the weekend of Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14.



PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS



JERRY SOMA

A part of the Lord's Prayer that has a special meaning for me is: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

One of the hymns that we sing reflects God's will: *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*.

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give.
To make all the earth a better place to live.
The angels are not sent into a world of pain...
to do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name.
That falls to you and me and all who are made free.
Help us O Lord we pray to do your will today.

Jesus told us the greatest commandment is to "Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your mind."

The second is to "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Lord of Life has many opportunities to serve. There is room for each of us to be a volunteer no matter what abilities we have. I ask that each of us look to how we can fulfill God's Will.

Jerry Soma
President, Congregational Council

NADABURG BUS

On **Saturday, November 15, 2025 from 9 AM to 12 PM**, we will to park the Nadaburg school bus in Lord of Life Church's west parking lot.

This parking arrangement will facilitate a tax credit event supporting over 1,500 students across Nadaburg's elementary and secondary schools.

We greatly appreciate the church's ongoing support for the district's students in need. By granting parking permission, Lord of Life continues to contribute to the success of these vital community events!

Jack Sellers



HELLO FROM THE LOL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

All are welcome to attend the next meeting on **Monday, November 24 at 1 PM** at the church. The book selection chosen for November is *The Many Lives of Mama* by Lara Love Hardin. The author recounts her slide from soccer mom to opioid addict to jailhouse shot-caller and her unlikely comeback as a highly successful ghostwriter in this no-holds-barred memoir.

Two copies of this book may be found and checked out in the office. Please be mindful and read all book club books in a timely fashion so others may also check out the books. Local libraries may also have a copy of this book.

Blessings,

Gail Muehling



A SEASON OF GRATITUDE AT THE LUTHERAN THRIFT SHOP



As we enter this season of thanksgiving, our hearts are full as we reflect on the many blessings God has poured out through the Lutheran Thrift Shop. What a joy it is to witness the generosity of our community, the dedication of our volunteers, and the friendships that have blossomed in this ministry.

We are especially grateful for the countless hours given by our faithful volunteers. Their smiles, patience, and commitment bring Christ's love to life each day. Through their service, our shop is not only a place of affordable treasures, but also a place of welcome, kindness, and hope.

We rejoice in the new friendships we've made along the way—each one a reminder of how God knits us together as the Body of Christ. At the same time, we pause to remember and

grieve those beloved friends and volunteers who are no longer with us. Their legacy of service and love continues to inspire us and remains woven into the fabric of this ministry.

As a community of faith, we give thanks for the blessing of the Lutheran Thrift Shop. And we invite YOU to be part of this ministry! If you have ever wondered what volunteering might be like, we would love to show you around. Come take a tour of the shop, meet some of our dedicated volunteers, and see firsthand how your gifts and talents could make a difference.

Together, let us continue to serve with grateful hearts, lifting one another up in love, and shining God's light in all we do.



November Birthdays

01 Phyllis Stageberg
02 Scott Ginsbach
Alan Tasson
Karen Haumann
03 Loren Koppelman
Karin Roff
Dee Sutherland
Bill Reay
04 Linda Terri Kohl
05 Dan Mohwinkel
06 Volene Adams
Bob Kylo
Judy Nelson
Karen Teichman
07 Pauline Bauer
Chris Luttenbacher
08 Ginger Hopkins
Ellie Skon
Gary Worthington
Ellen Kratz
Gary Graunke

09 Mark Johnson
Jack Keyes
Barbara Larson
10 Kristi Houska
11 Mary Pat Vering
Lynn Retzak
Judy Fricke
Ron Guse'
Joan Lents
13 Peggy Boike
14 Bob Erickson
Karen Peterson
15 Sandy Matschke
Carol Thunborg
Nancy Kjellaard
17 Elaine Robinson
Jerry Soma
Rod Nibbe
18 Barb Dixon
19 Norwin Bittner
Barbara Chase

20 Eileen Bannon
Judy Berdahl
Ann Boekhoff
21 Bill Dowling
Shirley Herring
Kirk Margosian
Eric Pedersen
Carol Hager
Rudy Sumpter
22 Tom Teichman
23 Jan Chrisman
Janice Larson
Larry Nordling
Lynn Norton
24 Barbara Paripovich
25 Dave Gross
Don Thunborg
Candice Brostrom
Donald Phillips
Pat McGurin
Lu Ann Mohorne
Toni Spencer
26 Teresa Jackson

27 Joe Hertel
28 Bonnie Suhaysik
29 Muffy Tiede
Betty Reay
John Cable
30 Alva Pryor-Echols
Bonnie Siegel
Cheryl Bosak



LOL UNIVERSITY



Growing on our journey of Faith is important to maintaining our relationship with our Lord. It is the reason LOL University attempts to provide classes/presentations that bring knowledge and better understanding on a variety of topics so that you may have a fuller and better life that brings Glory to God.

► SENIOR SCAMS

As Senior Citizens we are at higher risks for fraud, mostly because as we were growing up in the 1950s and 60s, we were able to trust others.

However, deep fakes, both audio and video have gotten so good, and the language models have gotten so precise, it's hard to tell what's real or true. So how do we protect ourselves? We educate ourselves.

This presentation will be provided by Deputy William Cornwell along with Deputy Services Assistant Jessie Brizendine from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department.

WHEN: Tuesday, November 4 from 2 - 4 PM

WHERE: Social Hall

WHAT: Bring paper and a writing implement, or a notebook, computer or tablet

WOMEN'S MINISTRY THANKOFFERING



We extend an invitation to all women of the Lord of Life family to come together for our Annual Thankoffering event on **Friday, November 21, we will gather at 10 AM** in the Chapel for Worship. After worship, our speakers, Vicar Wanda Frenchman and Mary Louise Frenchman, from Native American Urban Ministries (NAUM) will speak about their ministries.

While there is no cost to you (lunch will be provided), we ask that you register through the church office or, online through SignUpGenius beginning November 1. You can access the LOL SignUpGenius page by visiting the Lord of Life website at www.lolaz.org and scrolling down to the SignUpGenius logo then clicking on it.

Date and Time: Friday, November 21 at 10 AM

Cost: A free-will offering will be collected during the worship service

► ESTATE PLANNING – DID YOU KNOW?

Our guest speaker Lisa Higginbotham, CPFE, Regional Gift Planner, and former financial advisor with the ELCA Foundation, will provide a presentation on Estate Planning options you may not know about. Lisa works in partnership with many Synods including Grand Canyon Synod, and hopes to bring best practices to your estate planning that you can implement easily and efficiently.

Legacy giving to your beloved charities through your estate is often the most impactful gift you can consider and implement. Many consider the "10% of my estate" language in their trust, but new legislation, and best practices might have options for more effective giving to your family and charitable organizations. Join us to discuss ways of giving you might not have considered and can implement now while you have the energy and resources.

WHEN: Tuesday, November 11 from 2 – 3:30 PM

WHERE: Social Hall

WHAT: Workbooks will be provided. Optional: extra paper, writing utensil, laptop.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP AND PIE SOCIAL



You're Invited!

Join us **Wednesday, November 26 at 5 PM** for our Thanksgiving Eve Worship with our friends from community churches! This year, Shepherd of the Hills UMC (13658 W Meeker Blvd, Sun City West, AZ 85375) will be our gracious host for the Service followed by the **Pie Social at 6 PM**. The LOL congregation is invited to bring pies, please drop them by the SHUMC social hall before service.

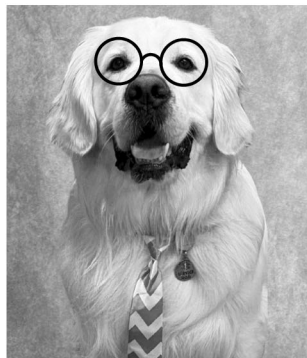
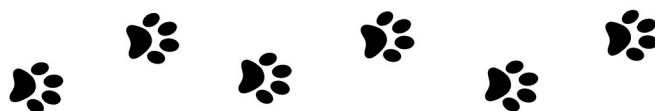
Bring your appetite and your friends—it's a sweet evening you won't want to miss!

Christmas Poinsettias



Keep your eyes open for the poinsettia envelopes, which will be available the weekend after Thanksgiving! Each year, our beautiful poinsettias fill the sanctuary with color & warmth as we celebrate the Christmas season.

As the Tail Wags



Greetings, faithful readers – and tail wagers alike! I'm Mr. Banks: 94 pounds of golden retriever fluff and charm. I live with Pastor Pam, who insists she's the one "in charge," though between you and me, I'm the one who brings the real crowd to church. (Have you ever seen anyone resist a golden retriever? Exactly.)

I'm a registered therapy and service dog – which means I officially have two jobs! On one paw, I'm a licensed expert in spreading joy, cheering up anyone who looks like they need a smile, alerting for people who need help and supervising snack time at fellowship hour. On the other paw, I'm a professional companion, making sure Pastor Pam remembers to take breaks (preferably ones involving whipped cream) and keeping an eye on things around the church. Basically, I juggle two very important careers: comfort-provider extraordinaire and top-notch good-boy consultant.

In this column, I'll be answering some questions submitted by you – stories from my adventures in ministry, wisdom from my walks, and maybe a few confessions (like the mysterious disappearance of one communion roll). So sit, stay, and enjoy my reflections on faith, friendship, and the fine art of living life with your tail held high.

Question 1: Mr. Banks, what do you like to do for fun?

For fun and relaxation, I, Mr. Banks, enjoy the finer things in life: long walks with Pastor Pam (she's pretty good on the leash), power naps in the sunny spots that move across the living room, and, of course, rolling dramatically in freshly cut grass – nature's spa treatment.

When I'm not on official therapy-dog duty, you'll usually find me supervising the kitchen (for safety reasons, of course), catching up on neighborhood news via sniffing every mailbox, or practicing my "resting angel" pose to earn extra ear scratches.

On particularly good days, I like to sit by Pastor Pam while she works on her sermons – she says I'm her "moral support," though between us, I'm mostly there in case she drops a snack.

All in all, I believe the secret to a happy life is simple: wag often, nap deeply, and never underestimate the healing power of a good belly rub.

Question 2: Do you think you can come visit me?

Oh, I would love to come visit you! Visiting people is my specialty – it's literally in my job description (right next to "look adorable" and "shed responsibly").

Now, I'll have to check with Pastor Pam first – she's the one who drives and handles my busy social calendar. But when she says yes, you can bet I'll show up with my tail wagging, my therapy badge shining, and possibly a bit of drool (it's how I show affection).

When I visit, I like to bring joy, comfort, and a little golden glitter – also known as dog hair – to every place I go. So, if you're up for some smiles, snuggles, and a 94-pound lap dog experience, I'd say there's a very good chance I'll come wagging your way soon!

I love hearing from all my friends! Keep those questions coming, and I promise to sniff out the best answers just for you. Who knows? Your question might be in the next column of *As the Tail Wags*!

So don't be shy – send your questions to info@lolaz.org, and let's keep the tails wagging together.

Mr. Banks 🐾

Thank You

Words of gratitude from organizations that have written to thank Lord of Life for our support over the past month:

- California Lutheran University
- Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
- Valley View Food Bank

WELCA SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2025

Hannah Circle	Katherine Circle	Rachel Circle	Ruth Circle
Monday, November 3 10 AM	Monday, November 10 9:30 AM	Monday, November 10 1:30 PM	Thursday, November 13 10 AM
Conference Room	Conference Room	Offsite	Room 1



LOL EXERCISE SCHEDULE

MOVE AND GROOVE
MONDAY 9 - 9:45 AM
TUESDAY: 9 - 9:30 AM
WEDNESDAY: 9 - 9:45 AM
THURSDAY: 9 - 9:45 AM

CARDIO DRUMMING
THURSDAY: 10 - 11 AM
SATURDAY: 10 - 11 AM



AUTUMN

As the leaves fall and autumn reminds us to chill, let's chat about something refreshing: Self-Care! But don't worry, I'll spare you the usual "eat, sleep, pray, and repeat." Today, let's sprinkle some humor on our spiritual, physical, and emotional wellbeing!



Focusing on mental health reminds us to not just nurture others, but also ourselves. Dance (or sing) like David: Mark 6:31-32

The relentless hustle of modern life often leaves us drained and disconnected from our true selves. Amidst the of expectations and obligations, we find solace in Jesus' timeless invitation to rest. This divine pause grants us the grace to tend to our physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being, fortifying us against the perils of burnout. As we unplug from the world's demands, we reconnect with the Source of our strength and find renewal in the oasis of God's presence.

So, dear spiritual caregivers, care for yourselves holistically and humorously as you care for others! After all, God wants us to flourish like the wildflowers and bloom in His love.

Parish Nurse Leoma



HELP WANTED
BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Thank you to our dedicated team of volunteers for your hard work in keeping our campus looking beautiful and pristine! Your care and effort make such a difference. If you would like to join please call Jim McLinn or the Church Office



Thanksgiving Holiday
CHURCH OFFICE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 26 - Closed At Noon
Thursday, November 27 - Closed All Day
Friday, November 28 - Closed All Day



Upcoming Events

LEGACY OF LOVE CELEBRATION

Celebrate Legacy of Love and join us for cake during Fellowship hour on **Saturday, November 15 at 4 PM and Sunday, November 16 at 9:30 AM.**

VOLUNTEER FAIR

A Volunteer Fair will be held during Fellowship Hour on **Saturday, November 22 at 4 PM & Sunday, November 23 at 9:30 AM.** Learn about opportunities to serve.

LOL Music Programs

Haven't joined one of our choirs/orchestra/bells/sing-along groups? We still have room for you. Call Dave or Gloria for specifics: 602-321-3457 (Dave's Cell) or 602-418-2989 (Gloria's Cell). See below for choir schedule.

Group	Leader	Rehearsal Day(s)	Rehearsal Time	Rehearsal Location	Performs on	Rehearsal Start Date
Worship Choir	Dave Lien	Wednesday & Thursday	1:30 PM	Sanctuary	Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 & 10:30 AM	Ongoing
Chamber Singers	Dave Lien	Thursday	10:30 AM	Chapel	Various Dates	Ongoing
WINK Worship in a New Key)	Gloria Lien	Thursday	2:30 PM	Sanctuary	Saturday Worship Service at 5:00 PM	Ongoing
Sing-Along Choir	Gloria Lien & Barb Chase	N/A	N/A	N/A	1st & 3rd Thursdays	N/A
JuBELLation Handbell Choir	Gloria Lien	Tuesday	Set up at 10:10 AM; rehearse at 10:30 AM	Sanctuary	4th Sunday	Ongoing
Lord of Life Big Band	Bill Fox, Jay Boekhoff, Marsha Kletz	Friday	9:30 AM	Social Hall	Various Dates	Ongoing

UPCOMING CONCERT SERIES

We trust you have enjoyed the first two concerts of the season: Sunny DeGon in September and Warren Fremling in October.

On **Sunday, November 30 at 3 PM**, back by popular demand is Handel's "Messiah" Sing-Along. That means one can come and sing with our choirs or listen to the voices and orchestra. The "Messiah", Handel's most successful and best-known oratorio, was composed in 1741 in 24 days, from August 22 to September 14. It was performed at a concert given for charitable purposes at Dublin, Ireland, on April 13, 1742, Handel conducting the performance in person.

What will you hear? It is the Christmas portion with the well-known music of *Comfort Ye My People, Every Valley Shall Be Exalted, For Unto Us A Child Is Born, He Shall Feed His Flock*, and more.

If you want to rehearse with our choirs for this event, please come either on **Wednesday or Thursdays at 2 PM** in Sanctuary for "Messiah" practices. (Yes, choir starts at 1:30 PM, but we'll be working on our Sunday Service music for the first half-hour.)

Please invite your friends and neighbors to this exciting event! Freewill offering; suggested donation is \$10 per person.

CHRISTMAS COLLAGE WITH CHRIS LOBDELL

Looking ahead, we have the amazing Chris Lobdell doing a concert of Christmas Music on **Wednesday, December 10 at 5 PM**. He'll also be joined by the Chamber Singers during his "Christmas Collage."

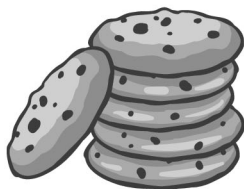


Chris has worked for Warner Brothers in Miami and he's also worked extensively in California with Disney Music, and for FJH publishers on numerous piano books he wrote and arranged. Chris is known for his dynamic playing, fresh chords and nimble, expressive playing. Freewill offering; suggested donation of \$10 per person.

The Women's Ministry is serving dessert after the concert, so eat your dinner at home first, then come to the concert, and end this beautiful evening with a variety of Christmas goodies!

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT!

The women of Lord of Life are excited to host a community outreach event, and we would love for YOU to be a part of it!



On **Wednesday, December 10 at 5 PM**, talented composer and musician Chris Lobdell will be performing a wonderful concert. After the music, we'll continue the celebration with dessert and coffee in the Social Hall—and we need your help to make it memorable!

We're looking for volunteers to serve refreshments and for Lord of Life bakers (or enthusiastic buyers!) to contribute pies, cookies, sheet cakes, and other treats. Desserts can be dropped off in the Social Hall or kitchen on Tuesday (all day) or Wednesday (before noon).

Let's show our community that at Lord of Life, all are welcome. Come, help, and celebrate with us!

2025 CONCERT SERIES UPCOMING



Handel's Messiah Sing-Along, with orchestra
Sunday, November 30 at 3 PM

- Dave Lien, Conductor/Director
- Freewill Offering

Chris Lobdell

Wednesday, December 10 at 5 PM

- Pianist, Arranger, Composer Extraordinaire
- Advent/Christmas Music
- Chamber Choir will also Participate
- Freewill Offering

January date TBD

Desert Winds Steel Orchestra

Sunday, February 22 at 3 PM

- Steel drums and the Sounds of the Caribbean Islands
- Freewill Offering

Wartburg College Castle Singers and Kammerstreicher (Choir and Orchestra)

Thursday, March 5 at 7 PM

- From Waverly, Iowa. Known for its strong musical heritage and is one of our ELCA Colleges.
- Tickets will be \$20.

We'll need housing for about 45 students; Sherry Hoel will coordinate. Please contact her if you are interested in being a host.

Lord of Life Big Band

Sunday, April 12 - Time TBA

- Freewill Offering

HANGING OF THE GREENS



Join us for our joyful Hanging of the Greens - date to be announced! Come share in the spirit of the season as we deck the halls, trim the tree, and fill our church with the beauty and warmth of Christmas. All are welcome—your helping hands and holiday cheer make it shine even brighter!

Snapshots of fellowship, fun, and faith from recent months.



November Bible Readings

NOVEMBER 2

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Psalm 149
Ephesians 1:11-23

NOVEMBER 9

Job 19:23-27a
Psalm 17:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

NOVEMBER 16

Malachi 4:1-2a
Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

NOVEMBER 23

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20

NOVEMBER 30

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND THIRD QUARTER UPDATE

So far this year, the Mission Endowment Fund Committee has recommended, and the Congregational Council has approved, eight grants totaling \$114,490.00. The grant recipients are:

- Benevilla: \$15,000.00 for furniture and IT equipment for the Mary Bovard Center.
- Thrive AZ: \$5,000.00 for furniture for their Family Reunification Room.
- Rainbow Acres: \$10,000.00 for their Ranchers Scholarship Fund.
- Kirurumu Health Center in Tanzania: \$6,500.00 for windows for their new clinic wing.
- Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS): \$52,200.00 for 3 Scholarships for students preparing to become Pastors.
- University of Arizona Campus Ministry: \$3,000.00 for their Wednesday evening student meals.
- Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church: \$12,300.00 for a new Air Conditioner and smart thermostats for their Social Hall.
- Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church: \$10,490.00 for Five Community Outreach Programs' Support including a Pancake Breakfast; a Trunk or Treat Event; and Game, Paint and Bingo Nights.

The total grant funds for 2025 are \$119,048.00, leaving \$4,558.00 remaining for distribution this year.

The committee members are: Marcia Steil (Council Rep), Randy Farwell, Gary Kakert, Dean Lewellen and Shirley Marsh. Ex-officio members are Pastor Jeff and Treasurer Ron Guse.

Library Lines

Welcome back to all our returning snowbirds! Look forward to a library Open House some weekend near the end of this month, during social hours on Saturday and Sunday. Until then, please explore as much as you want on your own!

Since we now have an "Out of the Box" library, here are some requests for check outs and returns. You will find at least three different places (clipboard with check-out forms) that you may sign out items on. Please sign on only one and we will take care of all check-ins! **WITH ALL RETURNS, PLEASE PLACE THEM ON THE LITTLE BLACK METAL CART AS YOU ENTER THE SOCIAL HALL.** No need to write anything down as you return items.

PUZZLES: When you check one out, please describe or list the title on the title line. The number of pieces helps too. When we are checking them in we can now ID who had this puzzle.

This is YOUR library. Feel free to check out any amount that you would like to enjoy. For instance, an impending surgery might require a couple extra checkouts while you recuperate. Just return them to the black cart when you are done. Enjoy browsing the shelves for new finds and, as always, Happy Reading!!

Barbara Chase

Save the Date

SOS (Survived our Spouses)

Potluck Social

Sunday, November 23

4 PM – 6 PM

LOL Social Hall



YOU ARE INVITED

Lord of Life Christmas Dinner 2025

Date: Thursday, December 4, 2025

Place: The Colonnade (19116 N Colonnade Way, Surprise, AZ 85375)

Time: Doors open at 5:30 PM with dinner being served at 6 PM

Guests will enjoy a delicious meal featuring a house salad, fresh bread, roasted red potatoes, green beans with shallots and bacon, and New York cheesecake topped with berries. Coffee and iced tea will be served with dinner. Information regarding wine and beer service is provided below.

Entrée Selections

Guests may select one of the following entrées at the time of ticket purchase:

- Sliced Beef Tenderloin with Demi-Glace
- Chicken Marsala

Wine and Beer

Wine and beer tickets will be available for advance purchase November 3–21 at \$6 per glass of wine or bottle of beer. Prepaid tickets must be presented to the bartender to receive your beverage. Please note that lost or forgotten tickets cannot be replaced or purchased the evening of the event.

Seating and Ticket Information

Tables will seat ten guests. Those wishing to sit together are encouraged to organize their group and purchase tickets at the same time.

- Dinner Tickets: \$35 per person
- Ticket Sales: Available exclusively through the church office, November 3–21, 2025

Entertainment to follow dinner.

We look forward to sharing a wonderful night of dining, music, and fellowship with our church community.

2025 CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE PROGRAM



The Giving Tree Program aims to provide Christmas gifts and food vouchers for needy families and their children. The Giving Trees will be on display in the Narthex beginning the weekend of November 1. This year we will be helping the children and families of Desert Oasis, Nadaburg, and Thomas Ranch elementary schools, and Pan de Vida Lutheran Church. Also, the Giving Tree Committee will be buying gifts for the children at Midtown Primary School.

You have the opportunity to make a difference for these children this holiday season by selecting a tag for a child from a tree. When you select a tag be sure to leave your name with one of the volunteers. The gifts should be wrapped with the tag affixed to the outside of the package

and returned to the church by **Tuesday, December 2**. For those of you who wish to contribute without having to shop, envelopes will be available at each of the tables in the Narthex that you may use to make a monetary donation to be used to buy food vouchers for each of the 84 families we are sponsoring this year. Envelopes may be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office - also by December 2.

Thank you in advance for your generous support of this year's Giving Tree Program and for helping us share the love and hope of the Christmas season with the neighbors God has given us. If you have any questions, please contact John and Lisa Harris, or Gene and Linda Robertson.

TOURS WITH LEOMA Sun Health Communities

Discover the vibrant retirement lifestyle of Sun Health Communities on a tour with Leoma, our parish nurse. Join us on **Monday, November 17 at 12:30 PM!** We'll begin at the Colonnade and continue to the beautiful Grandview Terrace. Enjoy light refreshments, explore community amenities, and take part in a panel Q&A on life care planning and managing long-term care costs.

Sign up soon through SignUpGenius (link coming soon). Questions? Contact Parish Nurse Leoma. Don't miss this opportunity to plan, learn, and connect!

JOIN THE LORD OF LIFE COURTESY WATCH TEAM!

Looking for a fun and meaningful way to serve? Our Cart Team helps welcome and assist everyone coming and going from our parking lots — offering friendly greetings, helpful directions, and an extra layer of safety for our members and guests.



Join one of our experienced lead drivers for a ride-along and learn as you go — no prior training needed! Each session lasts about two hours, and participants serve in four-week (or more) rotations.

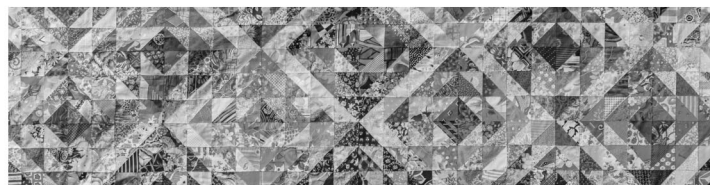
If you're interested, please call the church office!

WE'LL KEEP YOU IN STICHES

Did you know Lord of Life has its own quilting team? **They meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 12 PM — and no sewing skills are required!** If you can measure, cut, tie knots, iron, or organize, you're already a quilting MVP. Bonus: snacks are known to mysteriously appear.

Not ready to join but still want to help? They are always happy to accept donations of clean sheets of any size.

Come for the quilts, stay for the laughs and treats! Want to learn more? Call Sally Jo Brown at 623-444-8442.



THIRD QUARTER BENEVOLENCE

Total - \$70,034

GRATITUDE GIFTS

Community Fund of Sun City West	\$ 400
Friends of SJF (Haiti)	\$ 2,486
LSS Refugee Integration	\$ 25
Nadaburg Desert Oasis Schools	\$ 4,344
Navajo Evangelical	\$ 635
The Barbell Saves Project	\$ 2,136
Thompson Ranch School	\$ 5,313

\$15,338

BUDGETED BENEVOLENCE

Benevilla	\$ 1,500
Cal Lutheran	\$ 1,002
Campus Ministry	\$ 1,752
ELCA Fund for Leaders	\$ 252
ELCA Missionary Support	\$ 2,502
Friends of SJF (Haiti)	\$ 1,002
Grace Lutheran Homeless	\$ 1,200
Grand Canyon Synod ELCA	\$ 33,330
Lutheran Social Services of the SW	\$ 2,502
Native American Urban Ministry	\$ 1,251
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary	\$ 1,251
Pan de Vida	\$ 1,500
Valley View Food Bank	\$ 2,502

\$51,546

OTHER MISSION BENEVOLENCE

ELCA Disaster Response	\$ 2,550
Grand Canyon Synod ELCA	\$ 600

\$3,150

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Treasurer's Report

September 2025

Membership Count:

664 – Full
 249 – Associate
 913 – Total

Hospitalized/Surgery
(since last Lifelines):

Karen Austad
 Doug Gering
 Janet Horst
 Blanka Schuster
 Ron Tellefson

In Memoriam:

Nona Evans
 Marian Horan

Removal from Membership:

Dean & Kathy Bender
 Jacqueline Moline

Income

Envelope Offering
 Loose Plate Offering
 Other Income

Total Regular Income**Expense****General Expenses:**

Salaries & Benefits
 General Operations
 Regular Ministries
 Building & Grounds
 Utilities
 Insurance

Sub-Total General Expenses**Mission Support:**

G/C Synod Support
 G/C Synod Pass-Thru
 Non-Synod Direct

Sub-Total Mission Support**Total Regular Expenses****Net Operating Income - Month****Net Operating Income - Year-to-Date****Variance to Month Budget****Variance to Year-to-Date Budget****Mission Endowment Fund Balance****Online Giving**

Sep Actual	Sep Plan	YTD Actual	YTD Plan
65,142	105,000	832,952	863,800
1,213	1,237	16,755	17,446
2,755	837	42,287	54,446
69,110	107,074	891,994	935,692
64,724	67,299	587,610	603,787
4,943	5,846	52,965	56,030
1,275	4,532	26,492	50,362
2,525	5,971	44,585	51,943
3,208	1,995	24,124	17,485
1,830	1,888	15,750	16,849
78,506	87,531	751,525	796,456
11,110	11,110	99,990	99,990
4,544	4,544	40,236	40,776
834	834	7,506	7,506
16,488	16,488	147,732	148,272
94,994	104,019	899,257	944,728
-25,884	3,055		
		-7,263	-9,036
-28,939			
1,773			
2,038,343			
26,549	34%		

GIVING OPTIONS

It is important to remember it still takes this community to keep the church doors open and working in the world. Please remember to continue your contribution by:

- Donate online at www.lolaz.org/donate
- Use Bill Pay from your bank
- Ask your financial advisor about a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA
- Talk to us about gifting if you have a 401(k) account
- Mail contributions to 13724 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375
- Drop contributions in the mailbox next to the front door of the office

Please note that all electronic forms of giving are protected and secured by PCI compliant methods. We are also grateful for the directed gifts from Thrivent Choice Dollars and any other charitable groups through your financial institution.

WORSHIP HOURS

Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM
Sunday Fellowship: 9:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

PHONE: (623) 584-2000
EMAIL: INFO@LOLAZ.ORG
WEBSITE: WWW.LOLAZ.ORG

STAFF

The Rev. Jeff Hackler
pastorjeff@lolaz.org

The Rev. Pam Reynolds
pastorpam@lolaz.org

Deb Dorough
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Vicki Repsholdt
Office Manager
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Parish Nurse
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Sheila Wright
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Dan Lien
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Sound Tech
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LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
13724 W. Meeker Blvd.
Sun City West, AZ 85375-3730

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SUN CITY, AZ
PERMIT NO. 17

TIME DATED MATERIAL
NOVEMBER 2025

CURRENT RESIDENT/OR



ITEMS OF INTEREST

- **Worship Services on the Web.** If you are out of town or not able to attend services, visit our website and listen to the service at www.lolaz.org, or subscribe to Lord of Life on YouTube at www.youtube.com/c/LordOfLifeLutheranChurch.
- **Listening Devices.** Assisted listening devices are available as part of our sound system during worship services.
- **Holy Communion in the Pew.** If you wish to receive Holy Communion in the pew during worship, please notify one of the ushers prior to the beginning of the service. We are always happy to offer the sacrament to anyone who is unable to come forward to the altar.
- **Unisex Handicap Restrooms.** The restrooms in the Chapel are Unisex Handicap Restrooms and are available for people who need family member assistance or are in wheelchairs.
- **Wheelchairs.** Wheelchairs are available in the Narthex for those who may have difficulty walking from the parking lot to the Sanctuary for worship. The door into the Sanctuary on the east side of the building (next to the Columbarium) is handicap accessible for those in wheelchairs, walkers or who have difficulty walking.
- **Pastors on Call.** One of your pastors is on call after office hours, on weekends and on holidays for emergencies. If you need to contact a pastor during those times, call the church office answering system at (623) 584-2000 and leave a message. The on-call pastor will return your call as soon as they are able.
- **Hospitalizations.** If you are having surgery or in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. You can also request to add your name or those you care about to the prayer list (for any reason), for up to two weeks.
- **Council Minutes and Financial Statements.** These documents are available for your perusal in the church office or on our Member's Only website.
- **Lost & Found.** Check the Narthex counter or come to the church office to claim lost items.
- **Visit** www.lolaz.org/donate to give today!