



*Life*LINES

Lord of Life Lutheran Church



INSIDE THE ISSUE

- A WORD FROM PASTOR PAM ► Page 1
- PRESIDENTS THOUGHTS ► Page 2
- LIBRARY LINES ► Page 3
- MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE ► Page 4
- AUGUST & SEPTEMBER BIBLE READINGS ► Page 5
- TALENT SHOW ► Page 6
- BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE ► Pages 11 - 12
- AUGUST & SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS ► Page 11
- QUARTERLY BENEVOLENCE ► Page 10
- MUSIC DEPARTMENT ► Page 11
- SNAPSHOTS FROM RECENT MONTHS ► Page 13
- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ► Page 14 - 17
- MEMBER & GIVING UPDATES ► Page 18



Monthly Newsletter
August & September 2025

A WORD FROM PASTOR PAM

As I write this, I am thinking about another season in its waning. We are in what is usually referred to as the “Dog Days” of summer. Ostensibly, the hottest and heaviest days of the season, it is also time to focus attention on the approaching fall, when our snowbird families at Lord of Life begin returning to Arizona and our community life here begins to hum and bustle once more. It is a time to look forward to several things; returning friends, grandchildren returning to school, planning for theological study, football, and hopefully an early return of that crispness in the air when a coolness sets in over the valley.



Something else which is very important and unique is happening this August: the meeting of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix. This is our national church body which is the highest governing body for our denomination. Unlike our local geographical synod which meets once a year, churchwide meets every three years. This particular gathering will be voting on very important business and electing new officers. Two of which will be a new Presiding Bishop and a new Secretary. I will be participating by volunteering to assist in various ways during the three main worship sessions which are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. By the time you get this newsletter, all will be over as the assembly concludes on August 2. By now, we will have publicized the link for you to watch the assembly via LiveStream, and I hope that you chose to do so.

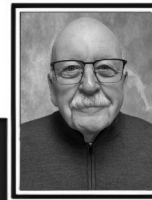
Why is this important? Our churchwide leadership and offices are located in Chicago and we are way out West in Arizona. The theme of this year's assembly is “We are the church together – for the life of the world.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer is quoted as saying, “The church is the church only when it exists for others.” We are the church, and we are better when we are church together. There will be many decision made at this assembly and some of those will impact how our denomination is structured going forward. There will be much to review and discuss once all the voting is done.

I look forward to sharing with all of you what decisions are made, who our new national bishop is, and what our new social statements mean to us at ELCA Lutherans in the West. I hope that you will have watched at least part of the process online. As always, I keep you, the church, and our leaders both local and national in my prayers. Looking forward to sharing what is next!

God's Blessings Upon You All,

Pastor Pam

PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS



JERRY SOMA

We purchased our home in Sun City West over 20 years ago. I had not heard of the word Snowbird. I became aware that I was one of them. I later learned that many of the non-snowbirds leave the Phoenix area and travel to northern Arizona for a few weeks to escape the heat.

Our congregation shrinks considerably during the summer months. Many of the things we do in the winter months are reduced or stopped. I guess that's a negative, but it is also a positive. The respite causes our enthusiasm to regenerate, we are eager to invest our time, talents and gifts into renewing old projects and starting new ones. This fall will be an exciting time at Lord of Life, these are some of the things we will be doing:

- Installing new energy into our worship experience.
- Defining volunteer opportunities for our members.
- Updating our Constitution and other documents.
- Learning how to be a more inclusive congregation.
- Finding a new Senior Pastor.
- Planning changes to our Narthex, bathrooms and music areas along with a long-range strategy.
- Continue to use new ways to communicate with our neighbors that do not have a church home.
- Finding new ways to help those that are less fortunate in our community, state, country and world.

This list could go on and on; these are a few thoughts that I have at this time. I'm anxious to get back in the saddle and I hope you are too.

Jerry Soma
Congregational Council President

NEW PUBLICATION

One of the things that we heard from the Listening Circles were related to communications from the Church Council to the congregation. We are trying to improve this situation by starting a new column that will include Council actions and other pertinent information that pertains to at Lord of Life.

We will be calling this publication "Council Corner." Information may be communicated in several ways. These include the daily Good Word of the Day email, regular email, and the LifeLines newsletter. We will try it for awhile; I would appreciate your feedback.

Jerry Soma
Congregational Council President

COUNCIL CORNER

I submitted information to the congregation in March that our giving was \$33,000 behind after the first two months of the year. If that continued until the end of the year the shortfall would be close to \$180,000. You stepped up and at the end of May we were only behind \$5,000. However, by the end of June we are behind nearly \$42,000.

The summer months are always difficult because of the many people that are in our town to escape the heat. I want to thank you for your continued generosity and your help in resolving the problem. Keep it up, every gift, however small, makes a difference.

Jerry Soma
Congregational Council President

LEGACY OF LOVE HIGHLIGHTS

Although the Legacy of Love Campaign has officially come to an end, there are still things being done. New lights have been installed in the entryway of Ruby Hall. We proceeded with some work in the courtyard this past month, including finishing the "Luther Seal" medallion. The photo to the right shows the medallion after the staining.



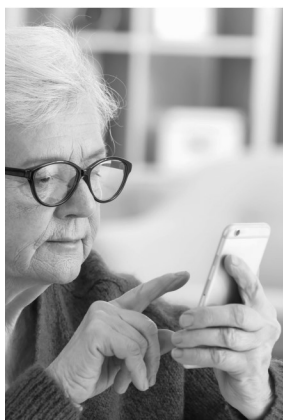
Thanks to all who have completed or are continuing to complete their pledge.

The Legacy of Love Committee

UPDATE YOUR PHONE NUMBER

Have you changed your cell phone number recently? Shut off a landline number? Please make sure your phone number(s) are up to date in our Church Directory!

We have encountered quite a few phone numbers that are out of service lately – and we want to be the number we have for YOU is the right one!



Please check the online directory or call / email the church office to confirm the number we have on file for you.

Thank you for helping us keep the lines of communication open!

Save the Date

"Surviving Our Spouses"
SOS POTLUCK SOCIALS

Sunday, August 31 & Sunday, September 28
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
LOL Social Hall

Look for the monthly invitation with more details!
And remember, if this is the first time you are attending, you don't need to bring a dish to pass. Just bring a non-alcoholic beverage and join us!



The placement of all Lord of Life Library Books is complete! For some time you have seen and been checking out books in the lobby of the Social Hall. NOW...if you walk from the lobby down the hall, you will see a sign directing you to the FINAL section of the library. Just go through the double doors into the Annex, and you'll see the entry doors to the new Lord of Life Library Room.

Many non-fiction books, our library computer and work area are here. There is also a seating area, as well as a table and chairs at which you can study.

In our Library Room you'll find the 40-volume complete works of Martin Luther's, Christian and Bible history, commentaries, and reference books. CDs of TV shows, movies, and music, and children's CDs and books can be found here as well. LOOK AROUND! You'll even discover treasures like CDs of Martin Luther's life as well as many other Christian movies and history CDs.

Please stop in and feed your soul!

Barb Chase



MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND MID-YEAR UPDATE

So far this year, the Mission Endowment Fund Committee has recommended, and the Congregational Council has approved, six grants totaling \$91,700. The six grant recipients are:

- Benevilla: \$15,000 for furniture and IT equipment for the Mary Bovard Center
- Thrive AZ: \$5,000 for furniture for their Family Reunification Room
- Rainbow Acres: \$10,000 for their Ranchers Scholarship Fund
- Kirurumu Health Center in Tanzania: \$6,500 for windows for their new clinic wing
- Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS): \$52,200 for three scholarships for students preparing to become pastors
- University of Arizona Campus Ministry: \$3,000 for their Wednesday evening student meals

The total grant funds for 2025 are \$119,048, leaving \$27,348 for distribution yet this year. The committee will resume regular monthly meetings in September.

The Mission Endowment Fund Committee members are: Shirley Marsh, Marcia Steil (Council Rep), Gary Kakert, Randy Farwell, Dean Lewellen, and the ex-officio members are Pastor Jeff and Treasurer Ron Gusé.



NADABURG SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED



The Nadaburg Unified School District #81 is a K-12 school district in the town of Wittman, AZ. It operates two elementary schools: Nadaburg Elementary (the historical school in the town) as well as Desert Oasis Elementary in the Surprise city limits; eight miles from LOL. Nadaburg also operates Mountainside High School. Lord of Life has a long history of providing volunteers who tutor students and gather school supplies for the classroom teachers to aid in their teaching.

More than 75% of the students in this district receive free or reduced lunches daily, which is an indication of the poverty level in the district. If you have any questions and/or would like to volunteer in this elementary school district, please contact Jack Sellers via the church directory or call the church office for his contact information.

Jack Sellers

A WHEELBARROW THANK YOU



Thank you to all who participated in the June Wheelbarrow for Sweet Treats for the Valley View Food Bank.

For a season when many of our members and friends are not in Arizona, you were able to provide the food bank with **532** treats! That is not only sweet, but very special. We had boxes of mixes for cake, brownies and muffins. You gave cans of frosting, packages of cookies, jars of sprinkles and bags of candy. Someone even donated six 9x13 cake pans! Your generosity never ceases to amaze.

Our dedicated delivery team, Gene and Linda Robertson, always say how they are greeted with open arms when they deliver the food. Lord of Life has made quite an impression on the workers there. If you would like to help with a delivery, please contact Gene or Linda through the church directory.

Thank you again,

Lori Jensen

AUGUST ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Cool down and connect with friends at our Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 2, 2025 from 4-4:45 PM in the Social Hall before the 5:00 PM service.

We will have a variety of ice cream treats for you. Share the sweetness and bring a friend!



AUGUST BIBLE READINGS

AUGUST 3

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11

AUGUST 10

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

AUGUST 17

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2

AUGUST 24

Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29

AUGUST 31

Proverbs 25:6-7a
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

SEPTEMBER BIBLE READINGS

SEPTEMBER 7

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1
Philemon 1-21

SEPTEMBER 14

Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17

SEPTEMBER 21

Amos 8:4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7

SEPTEMBER 28

Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:6-19

LOL UNIVERSITY



Why does education at Lord of Life matter? Because YOU matter!

As people of faith, bombarded by daily life with responsibilities and distractions, it is difficult at times to learn and grow while we continue on our journey of listening to our Lord so that we can do His will and to have the ability to edify our own lives and the lives of our community.

Therefore, we need to read the scriptures, attend services, and to embrace learning so we never doubt God's love for us – that we may be strengthened when we have to deal with difficult issues, and rejoice when we do see the blessings that have been manifested in our lives.

The Education Committee is working to provide interesting and enlightening classes and presentations for you beginning in November. However, we always seek your input. So, if there is a topic you want addressed, please contact Committee Chair Brenda Reynolds or Council Liaison Barbara Chase to let us know what you'd like to see on the LOL University lineup for 2026.

LOL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The next meeting of the Book Discussion group is scheduled for Monday, September 29, 1:00 PM at the church. All are welcome to attend. The selection for the month is THE WOMEN by Kristen Hannah. This is a portrait of a woman coming of age in the 1960's. The nation was divided by war and the broken politics of a generation fueled by dreams lost on the battlefield. It shines a light on all women who went to war and put themselves in harm's way to help others.

This book can be found in the local libraries and also in the church library. All Book Discussion Group book selections may be checked out (as available) from the church office.

Gail Muehling

FOUNDER OF MODERN NURSING



Founder of Modern Nursing: Before Florence Nightingale, nursing was like that hobby your friend won't stop talking about. Florence turned it into a bonafide, respected profession.

Crimean War: She worked her magic during this conflict, turning nursing into a highly regarded occupation.

Clean Queen: Florence understood that cleanliness saves lives, according to the British Red Cross. By putting hygiene and sanitation first, she saved countless soldiers' lives.



The Lady with the Lamp: This gal was so dedicated, she even made night rounds to tend to her patients. No wonder they called her "The Lady with the Lamp."

Data Darling: Besides nursing, Florence loved crunching numbers. She used data to make healthcare a whole lot better.

Nursing School Pioneer: Florence started the first legit nursing school in 1860.

So, on August 13th, let's raise a (disinfected) glass to Florence Nightingale – the legendary nurse who paved the way for healthcare heroes everywhere.

Parish Nurse Leoma

SEPTEMBER SATURDAY NITE LIFE

Welcome the Fall Season with our "Back to School" themed Potluck following Saturday Worship Service on Saturday, September 27.

Bring a dish to share and drop it off before the 5:00 PM service or bring it with you to the Social Hall before 6:00 PM. The church will provide coffee, iced tea, water, plates, flatware, and napkins. The kitchen will open at 4:30 PM. Remember to put your name on your dishes (tape will be available).

Please also bring some school supplies to donate such as composition notebooks, crayons, pencils, pens, glue, glue sticks, child's scissors, markers, erasable markers, and tape. Entertainment to follow potluck! Don't miss our fun-filled Fall Potluck!



SNL TALENT SHOW

For the entertainment on Saturday, September 27 we'd love to have a Talent Show comprised of our own members. We'd like **YOU** to be a part of it! If you are interested, please contact LOL Musical Director Gloria Lien at the church office or via email.

This can be musical numbers (it doesn't need to be sacred music, but any kind), readings, poetry, juggling, dancing or comedy. Above all, we just want to have fun -- both the performers and the audience.

WISH LIST: Do we have any guitarists, electric or acoustic, or drummers who would like to play with our band of bass, keys, drums? We'd love to incorporate those instruments. Again, if interested, please contact Gloria Lien or Dave Lien.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE AT LORD OF LIFE 2025

Lord of Life is a 42-year-old Sun City West (SCW) Lutheran Church that serves many needs of the congregation and the surrounding community. It is unique since it sits at one of the busiest corners in SCW. The campus is about 4.5 acres and contains five buildings with 250 parking spaces and six golf cart spaces. Buildings and Grounds (B&G) is a committee dedicated to keeping the campus viable and updated for today and the future.

I am James McLinn, present head of B&G. My B&G journey started in March 2015 when I moved into SCW and looked around for a good church. After surveying seven churches in Sun City and SCW, I selected Lord of Life based upon many of its strengths. In October of that year, I attended a meeting for church groups and selected B&G to join. At that time Michael (Mick) Anderson from Sun Village was the head of B&G and I, the newest member. My first few years were spent learning a lot about LOL by trimming bushes and trees and working with the part-time campus maintenance man. These years were mainly maintenance work and doing a few updates around the campus. As time passed, I learned more about the many campus electrical issues, plumbing problems, the heating and cooling issues and some of the audio-visual problems. In October 2023 I began leading the committee and spent increasing time helping rebuild the committee and plan for the future. Luckily in November 2023, Frank Petrella arrived to fill a newly created full-time position. I took him around on a campus walk and showed him the main electrical closets, the water shut-offs, and where other items of importance were found. Not two weeks later, Frank was in on a Saturday afternoon by himself when a 2-inch water line ruptured under a sidewalk in the courtyard. Fast action by Frank prevented a major flood of the courtyard and sanctuary.

B&G has many small responsibilities, either alone or in cooperation with other important church groups. B&G stays busy. Over the past three years B&G has updated virtually all of the old lights on campus. In many cases a drop-in LED bulb was used to brighten areas and reduce the cost of electricity. At one time, there was a mixture of seven different fluorescent bulbs and four different incandescent bulbs and four different Halogen bulbs in use. B&G was able to get fluorescents down to three types of low-cost LEDs. Today there is only one halogen bulb left and one incandescent.

Also, over the last three years, virtually all, old-style, 15-inch high toilets have been replaced by low flow, 17.5 inch high models. LOL has 37 air conditioners to keep all the buildings cool. About half are on the roof of three buildings. Twice a year (spring and fall) we change out the air filters on all 37 units. We keep them clean and operating and remove debris that impacts their longevity. The oldest unit still operating on campus is 25 years old. B&G also keeps the areas on campus clean. This includes the courtyard, the parking lots, the bushes and trees, the sanctuary, classrooms and columbarium. One B&G member attends all the interments and takes care of the niche covers and bronze plaques.

B&G supports the wonderful music programs by changing out tables, seats and adding platforms as needed. Likewise, we help keep the kitchen going. The ice maker must be maintained as well as coffee pots and the dishwasher. The recent library changeover required books be moved, stored temporarily and made available to church members. Many clubs are dependent upon help for set up of rooms and improvement of storage areas. Chairs and shelves are maintained. B&G decorates the campus at Christmas and Easter and helps with the changeover of decorations throughout the year.

Handicapped access has been improved by adding two new parking lot handicapped ramps and adding additional automatic door over the past year, and updating one of the restrooms in the church office. Another will be added in 2025. One of most important activities was to create a 5-year campus update plan in 2023. This plan is over three pages of possible changes that might occur on campus. This "possible" list is constantly updated, often based upon parishioner's suggestions. Other activities include working with the security team to ensure the campus remains safe. This included "stop the bleed" training and training in use of fire extinguishers in every building and how to use the several heart defibrillators found on campus. Security changes were made in the office at the request of the staff. During the past year two practice fire drills have occurred during church services. Lighting has improved everywhere on campus and selective bushes and trees removed to keep the campus open. B&G also works with the plaza committee to make changes to this area. You might have seen the new fountain or the colorful crest in center courtyard. Planning continues to reduce water use and the need for electricity.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE AT LORD OF LIFE 2025 *CONTINUED*

Presently, our B&G committee is comprised of eight people who are busy and could use additional help. If you have a background in plumbing, electricity, construction, audio-visual or air conditioners, or just have some muscle to share, you would round out our current group. Just leave a note for me at the church office.

Bless you,

James McLinn
B&G

AUGUST WHEELBARROW COLLECTION

AUGUST BRINGS CHOICES!

For the five weeks in August we are making the wheelbarrow as easy as: A...B...C

Collections for the Valley View Food bank will be:

- Jars of **A**pplesauce
- Cans of **B**aked Beans
- Boxes of **C**ereal

Mix or Match. It is your choice.
It is as easy as A...B...C



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

MENS CARING & SHARING

Monday from 9 - 11:30 AM

LOL UNIVERSITY: THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Monday at 2:00 PM

ZOOM AT NOON

Wednesday at 12:00 PM

EYE OPENER BIBLE STUDY

Thursday at 7:30 AM

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday at 1:30 PM

CENTERING PRAYER

Friday at 9:00 AM

MAHJONG GAME GROUP

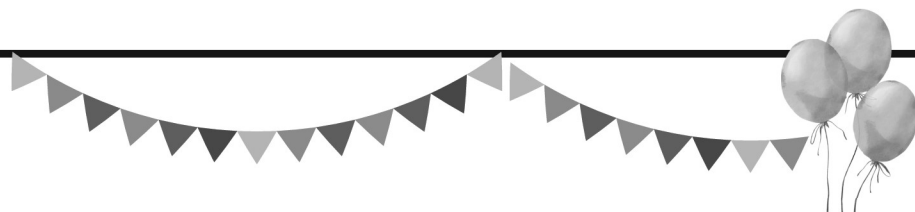
Friday at 11:45 PM

Thank You

- California Lutheran University
- Eve's Place Community Services
- Feed My Starving Children
- Global Health Ministries
- Inside Out Network
- Lutheran Campus Ministry at University of Arizona
- Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
- Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program
- Valley View Food Bank 
- West Valley Lutheran Thrift Shop

The Grand Canyon Synod and Rev. Deborah K. Hutterer express their heartfelt gratitude by presenting a Mission Support Certificate of Thanksgiving, recognizing faithful generosity, committed stewardship, and ongoing partnership through the 2025–2026 period.

August Birthdays



01 Lance Berglund Eugene Maul Beverly Stokebrand Gene Zulk Cindy Thompson	09 Jane Stelman 10 Donalu Diestler Delores Huebner Kenneth Kvam Van Butler Richard Jensen	17 Alden Averkamp Janae Wise Michael Eberle	25 Marilyn Jaster Linwood Koffel George Mackanic Bonnie Harbour Diane Vaughn
02 James Krause Margaret Boll James Price	11 Peny Schaefer Alfred Klaasmeyer	18 Richard Crosby Marilyn Plath Fern Stauffer Maureen Holt	26 Christine Diede Mike Trent
03 Roxanne Butler	12 Jack Cutler Brown	19 Ruth Baumann David Robinson	27 William Clark Linda Keyes Connie Minnes Jean Kiernat Beth Blake
04 Marie Forman Dennis Muehling John Tilton Bruce Nelson	13 Eric Stelter Bryan Updegraff Daphne Greenwood Gail Peterson Michael Timken	20 Julie Peck Robert Sabatke Judith Stiles	28 Zandra Hensel Daphne Reynolds Marcia Steil R. Joe Marsh
05 Richard Tiede Diane Worthington	14 Carole Halverson Ray Kutz Richard Sorensen	21 Janice Erlandson 22 J. Stuart Salter Henry Trangsrud	29 Edward Bowman Alice Mau Linda Snyder Victoria Miller
06 Martha Alfrey	15 Les Brattain Ruth Lundeen Marian Horan Carol Perko	23 Ronald Gliot Donna Mills Allen Pearson Dennis Roff Kathleen Tiede	30 Timothy Wise Linda Kempen
07 Joyce Chamberlain Neal Johnson Elizabeth Martin John Stanerson	16 Mary Jo Gaulke Norman Schnabel	24 Mai Iszler	31 Jacquelin Knuth
08 Dale Jorgensen Becky Trower			

September Birthdays

01 Richard Stiles	10 Michael Bannon Lori Jensen Gary Patten Dennis Peterson	19 Sherril Hoel Roger Matschke Donald Hild Ervin Opsal Sheryl Saddoris Christi Rich H. John Staupe Robert Harbour David Quintana	25 Judith Roskens Julie Borgmeier Randy Noecker
02 Linda Engebretson Constance Johnson Joan Nieman Mary Butler	12 Ann Braun Brenda Burchill Elsa Heinemann	20 Donna Kramber	26 Jeanette Cooper Ted Repsholdt Patricia O'Neil
03 Joel Skogen Marlys Stannebein	14 Nancy Laible Janet Arnold	21 Sandra Carlson Robert Vaughn, Jr.	27 Doris Larson Mary Wilcynski Karen Carroll
04 Robert Bromme Terry Petrick Marlene Tucker	15 David Schneider Roger Norrell	22 Glorice Hansen	28 Bonnie Neitz Mary Etta Schaffler Ronald Thorkelson Donna Weihofen Richard Holt Mark Ottemann
05 Sharron Riebe Patricia Simeon Connie Kvam	16 Susan Cuttone Barbara Staupe Billie Spencer Dorothy Johnson	23 Wilma Goldmann Norman Hagberg Dale Hahn George Neitz Karin Olsen Robert Olson	29 Beryl Flathman-Braaten Shari Jones Shelly Abner
06 Elinor Workman Steven Laible Richard Towner	17 John Fahey Harvey Faust Christine Stelter	24 Duane Stokebrand James DeCoe	30 Emil Authelet Kandy Husbands Robin Hanus
07 Diane Jordan JoAnn Spangler	18 Sherril Hoel Roger Matschke		
08 Joan Seefeldt Audrey Opal			
09 Wayne Harbison			

First Quarter Benevolence

Total - \$271,587

Other Mission Benevolence

Eve's Place	\$-
Grand Canyon Synod	\$600
Ministries	\$34,800
PLTS	\$500
Salvation Army	\$75
St. Joseph's Indian School	\$500
St. Jude's Children's Hospital	

\$ 36,475

Gratitude Gifts

Barbell Saves	\$-
ELCA Disaster Response	\$7,225
ELCA Good Gifts	\$560
ELCA World Hunger	\$3,500
Feed My Starving Children	\$19,463
Friends of SJF	\$430
Grace Lutheran Homeless	\$-
LSS Refugee Integration	\$5,415
Nadaburg Desert Oasis	\$50
Navajo Mission	\$799
SCW Community Fund	\$-
Thompson Ranch	\$300
Valley View Food Bank	\$138

\$ 37,880

40-40-40 Lenten Challenge

Navajo Mission	\$2,300
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\$ 2,300

Special Benevolence - Krogh

Camp Aloma	\$30,000
Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church	\$15,000
Foster AZ	\$10,000
Grace Lutheran Homeless	\$10,000
Lutheran Social Services	\$30,000
Mission Africa	\$12,500
Mosaic	\$10,000

\$ 117,500

WM/WELCA Benevolence

Red Cross	\$415
Valley View Food Bank	\$175

\$590

Mission Endowment Fund

Benevilla	\$15,000
Rainbow Acres	\$10,000
Thrive AZ	\$5,000

\$30,000

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Do you like Gospel music, especially spirituals? Be sure to worship on Saturday, August 16 & Sunday, August 17. It will be a toe-tapping, foot stomping, and handclapping event - at least as much as Lutherans can handle!

Let your neighbors and friends know about this – and who knows -- you may want to attend both services! Arrive early for some extra music before 5:00 PM on Saturday and 9:30 AM on Sunday.

Pictured below, is Isabelle DeMer, a world-class organist, who played and demonstrated our organ to many organists from throughout the US who were attending the National American Guild of Organists Conference in Scottsdale in June. Isabelle is from Quebec and teaches organ at the university there, as well as concertizes around the world.

My apologies about the time changes for that event, but I had no control over that aspect of it. Thank you for the many of you who came at such short notice!

I also thought it was fun to watch the organists, including a 15-year-old boy, who all seemed so eager to try out our Glotter-Gotz organ. They had to be reminded to share the "joy" and not be selfish! LOL (laugh out loud).

Finally, I hope (and pray) that we'll have both new members and returning members for our choirs this year. We welcome you with open arms. Our worship choirs rehearse on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 1:30 PM (your choice) starting in October. The first few weeks might be just on one of those two dates.

Keep in mind:

- 1. We are praising the Lord.
- 2. We are making friends, becoming part of a family.
- 3. It's good for our health--deep breathing, enunciating, sitting, standing.
- 4. It keeps our brain active.
- 5. It gives us a positive outlook on life!

Below is a list of musical groups at Lord of Life:



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	October 1
Chamber Singers	Dave Lien	Thursday	10:30 AM	Chapel	Various Dates	October 2
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	Retrieve bells at 10:10 AM; rehearse at 10:30 AM	Sanctuary	Various Dates	October 7
Glory Singers	Bill Shelly	Monday	1:00 PM	Chapel	Various Dates	TBD soon
Lord of Life Big Band	Bill Fox, Jay Boekhoff, Marsha Kletz	Friday	9:30 AM	Social Hall	Various Dates	Ongoing

MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONTINUED

To learn more about any of these groups, please contact the leader listed.

We also have several smaller groups that perform, which we also are most thankful for.

If you would like to sing/play for a worship service, special event or a Saturday Night Life, let Gloria Lien or Dave Lien know by sending them an email or calling the church office.

PARISH NURSE SURVEY

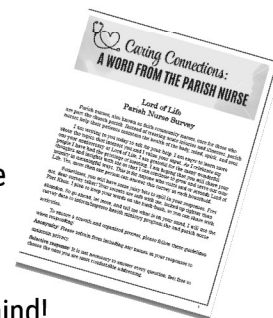
Attention everyone! We've got some exciting news—our Parish Nurse's survey is now live and ready for your input. We're eager to hear your thoughts, opinions, and suggestions on how we can improve our services and better serve our community.

Your feedback is invaluable, and we'll be carefully reviewing each response to identify areas where we can grow and make a positive impact. So, don't hold back—tell us what's on your mind!

The survey is quick and, easy to complete, and your responses will remain anonymous. The link for the online survey is in the GWOD or emailed if requested. A printed version of the survey is also available in the Narthex and church office. Once completed, you may return it to the church office, submit your responses by email, or send them by mail.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your thoughts. We appreciate your ongoing support and can't wait to hear what you have to say.

Parish Nurse Leoma



EMERGENCY CONTACT

Does Lord of Life have your Emergency Contact on file?

For members of Lord of Life, do you recall completing the "Request for Membership" form when you first joined the church? One of the questions is about your "Emergency Contact." This information is helpful when we receive word about a member's illness or hospitalization, and we're trying to reach the emergency contact to confirm or learn more about the situation. Or if you have a health incident on campus, it is helpful to know who to call.

For many, the emergency contact (or their phone number) may have changed since you joined the church. If you would like to confirm or update your emergency contact, please email Office Manager Vicki Repsholdt at vicki@lolaz.org, or call the church office at 623-584-2000. Thank you!

LOL EXERCISE SCHEDULE



MOVE AND GROOVE

TUESDAY: 9:00 - 9:30 AM

WEDNESDAY: 10:30 - 11:30 AM

THURSDAY: 9:00 - 9:45 AM

CARDIO DRUMMING

SATURDAY: 10:00 - 11:00 AM



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



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

at Lord of Life

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. —Romans 12:4-5

We invite you to become as active in volunteer activities as you would like. In this article, you will find a wealth of opportunities for meeting new friends, growing in faith and engaging the world in Christian service.

If you are interested in any of these ministries or have further questions, please feel free to call the church office at 623-584-2000 or you can e-mail us at info@lolaz.org.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

ACOLYTE

Acolytes serve at the Sunday worship services by lighting and extinguishing the altar candles. They may also be involved in a processional for special worship services.

ALTAR GUILD

This is an opportunity to participate in preparing and serving communion and decorating the altar for special occasions.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Communion is served at all Lord of Life worship services. Many volunteers are needed to help serve at various services.

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

BIG BAND

The Lord of Life Big Band rehearses January through April and performs at several functions throughout the winter months.

CHAMBER CHOIR

This a cappella choir sings periodically at Sunday Services and special concerts. This is the only Lord of Life choir that requires an audition.

GLORY SINGERS

The choir consists of members from several local churches and performs at local retirement residences throughout the community.

HANDBELL CHOIR (JUBELLATION)

Handbell choir performs periodically at Sunday services. Participants are required to read music.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

A variety of string instruments (guitar, bass, violin, cello, etc.) and wind instruments (brass, flute, clarinet, oboe, percussion, etc.) add depth and diversity to our worship of God.

GREETERS

Lord of Life is a welcoming community. Greeters welcome visitors and congregation members in the Narthex prior to worship services.

LECTORS

The Biblical lessons for the worship services are read by the Lectors at each service.

USHERS

As well as assisting worshippers to their seats, the Ushers maintain many "behind the scenes" tasks throughout the worship service.

SING ALONG CHOIR

This group travels to local care facilities to bring the love of Christ to those who are unable to attend church services. No rehearsals are required – just come and enjoy sharing music all year long.

VOCALISTS

Soloists and small groups are always welcome to share their gifts in a worship setting.

WORSHIP CHOIR

This choir sings at Sunday Services from October to May.

WINK (Worship in a New Key)

This group of singers performs contemporary music at Saturday night services.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

at Lord of Life

CARE MINISTRIES OPPORTUNITIES

CENTERING PRAYER

This group meets weekly for a meditative prayer session to cultivate a deeper relationship with God.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Holy Communion is brought to our homebound members.

GRIEF SUPPORT

This is for anyone who has experienced a loss. They meet every Thursday at 1:30 pm, excluding holidays and summer months.

MEMORIAL/FUNERAL RECEPTION

Assistance is always welcome to help serve receptions for the grieving family following a memorial service.

EXERCISE CLASSES

Move & Groove / Cardio Drumming

Join in the fun at two different forms of exercise classes that are offered several times a week. Please contact our Parish Nurse if you have questions about the impact level or equipment needed. Classes are open to viewing/participation to members and non-members.

PRAYER CHAIN

Each weekday, prayer requests are collected and sent out via email to Lord of Life's Prayer Chain Participants, to pray for specific people and needs. To be added to our list of Prayer Chain Participants, contact the church office.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

COFFEE HOUR HOST/MAKE COFFEE

On Sundays following early worship we gather in the Social Hall; make coffee, provide the treats and help serve.

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

This is a great way to get to meet other members. Hosts provide entrées, beverage; the guests contribute other items.

DISHWASHER

When we use glass for special occasions, we need volunteers to run the dishwasher.

SOS (SURVIVED OUR SPOUSES)

This is a group of widows and widowers who have an interest in being involved in outreach to our community and various social events.

TELEPHONE MINISTRY

This team of caring callers reaches out two weeks and four weeks after Lord of Life Members are discharged from the hospital or rehab facility, to see how their recovery is progressing.

THURSDAY PRAYER GROUP

Every Thursday during the Winter season, this group of pray-ers meets to pray for Lord of Life members, leaders and staff, the church at large, and ministries we support.

TRANSPORTATION/MEAL PREPARATION

Provide transportation to local doctor appointments when usual means are not available, or prepare meals which are delivered in the first days after hospitalization when needed.

SERVER

Volunteers are always needed to help serve at various dinners/meetings.

SET-UP & CLEAN-UP

Here is a chance to help our Events Coordinator set the tables and clean up at the end of an event.

TICKET SALES

Selling tickets for various events takes place around worship services.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

at Lord of Life

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

ARTS COMMITTEE

- Select Concert Series performers
- Establish and review recommended tier levels for performer compensation
- Establish performer compensation guidelines
- Establish guidelines for on campus sale of art, music or promotional items related to a concert or art display
- Coordinate and manage visual arts displays on campus
- Advise on campus aesthetics

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Subcommittee: Safety & Security Committee

- Maintain all campus resources including buildings, parking lots, common areas and equipment
- Negotiate and contract with vendors for ongoing services, inspections and/or maintenance required to keep the campus and its equipment in good repair
- Plan and budget for capital replacement of equipment
- Respond to emergency or crisis on campus or failure of vital equipment
- Keep campus clean and welcoming
- Negotiate and coordinate maintenance of pipe organ
- Recommend upgrade or improvement to organ

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Make recommendations for various Bible study opportunities for the congregation
- Make recommendations regarding educational forums on various topics
- Select topic and coordinate Lenten Bible study program
- Maintain the church library
- Develop and present programs that highlight areas of social justice

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

- Management of coffee hour
- Plan all social activities, dinners, receptions and support for meetings for the congregation of LOL
- Promote "Dinners for 6" groups, friendship groups and the formation of other fellowship opportunities for the congregation

AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Safety and Security
- Ruby Legacy Society
- West Valley Ministry Initiative

AUDIT COMMITTEE

- Following ELCA specified guidelines, perform an internal audit on all financial matters of the church
- Committee meets in non-professional audit years

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

- Fully vet applicants for benevolence from LOL
- Recommend both budgeted benevolence and synod benevolence to the Congregational Council
- Recommend the recipients and month designation for gratitude gift each year

FINANCIAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE

- Determine focus and direction of long term gift planning effort
- Develop and administer stewardship program
- Plan and administer capital campaigns

MISSION ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

- Fully vet applicants requesting funds from the Mission Endowment Fund
- Recommend distribution of annual disbursement of funds

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Develop the list of candidates for vacant Congregational Council positions

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

- Coordinate all aspects of the worship experience at LOL (Greeters, Ushers, Altar Guild, Acolyte, Lectors, Musicians and Pastors)
- Make recommendations on liturgy and music programs for worship
- Recommendation for worship materials such as hymnals, devotional materials and musical instruments

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

at Lord of Life

SERVICE & MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

BIRTHDAY SINGERS

This team calls every member on their birthday to wish them a happy and blessed birthday.

CHRISMON ORNAMENT PROGRAM

This group handmakes "Chrismon" ornaments featuring Christian symbols that are used for decorating Christmas trees during the holidays.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

We provide gifts and food baskets for local families at Christmas.

DAYS FOR GIRLS PACKING TEAM

This group sews and packs handmade and reusable feminine hygiene items for girls in countries where such items are not available.

FARMER'S MARKET BOOTH

This group hosts the Lord of Life booth at the Farmer's Market that takes place on Fridays in the LOL Parking Lot, greeting patrons and sharing information about our church.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECT

We furnish the kitchen suppliers for all the new Habitat homes in the West Valley, and volunteers can also help with various homebuilding tasks as homes are built in the local area.

LIBRARY

Did you know Lord of Life has its own library nestled in the Social Hall? A variety of books (and puzzles) on a multitude of topics are yours to check out and return at your leisure. Donations are accepted too!

LIFELINES MAILING TEAM

This group assembles, labels and sorts the church newsletter for bulk mailing through the US Postal Service. They meet monthly in season, and bi-monthly over the summer.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN PROGRAM

FMSC is a Christian non-profit organization committed to feeding God's children hungry in body and spirit. Children and adults hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children.

GLEANNING OF FRUIT TREES

This group gleans fruit trees for residents of Sun City West and The Grand at a minimal cost, which is then donated to the local food bank.

GRACE LUTHERAN HOMELESS PROJECT

We collect donations and water, sort and distribute clothes, and prepare lunches in the summer to aid those who are homeless in downtown Phoenix.

QUILTERS

This creative group meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month to make quilts that are donated to local causes and Lutheran World Relief.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (WELCA)

Women's Ministries at Lord of Life is comprised of women's circles that provide an opportunity to participate in bible studies, to share prayer concerns, for fellowship and to grow together within a small group. Circles also come together for various events throughout the year.

OFFICE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

COLLECTION COUNTER

We count the church offerings on Monday morning at 8:15 AM. Some background working with numbers and/or accounting is helpful.

AS OF JULY 22, 2025**Membership Count:**

Full	667
Associate	257
Total	924

In Memoriam

Rick Berdahl
Jean Block
Ron Hein
Marge Peterson
The Rev. David Swanson
Leah Tinglestad

Hospitalized/Surgery
(since last LifeLines)

Carol Buck
Doug Gering
Ron Guse'
Maxine Hegg
Terry Horst
Don Johnson
Dave Lien
Alice Mau
Dan Mohwinkel
Merv Nelson
Judy Onnen
Kathy Schillinger
Lynne Syverson
Jerry Weinsheimer

Removal from Membership

Gary & Sharon Gorden
Virginia Templeman
Jane Runestad

New Members

William and Carole Beghein
Ken Larson

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Treasurer's Report

June 2025

	Jun Actual	Jun Plan	YTD Actual	YTD Plan
Income				
Envelope Offering	95,443	122,000	554,392	616,000
Loose Plate Offering	1,188	1,025	13,443	14,574
Other Income	2,225	20,484	35,811	44,153
Total Regular Income	98,856	143,509	603,646	674,727
Expense				
General Expenses:				
Salaries & Benefits	64,476	67,364	394,378	401,825
General Operations	3,903	5,592	36,138	36,968
Regular Ministries	2,740	6,847	19,932	37,073
Building & Grounds	6,464	6,671	32,257	38,210
Utilities	1,928	1,875	14,349	10,860
Insurance	1,847	1,865	10,085	11,186
Sub-Total General Expenses	81,358	90,214	507,139	536,122
Mission Support:				
G/C Synod Support	11,110	11,110	66,660	66,660
G/C Synod Pass-Thru	4,504	4,544	27,024	27,144
Non-Synod Direct	834	834	5,004	5,004
Sub-Total Mission Support	16,448	16,488	98,688	98,808
Total Regular Expenses	97,806	106,702	605,827	634,930
Net Operating Income - Month	1,050	36,807		
Net Operating Income - Year-to-Date			-2,182	39,797
Variance to Month Budget	-35,757			
Variance to Year-to-Date Budget	-41,979			
Mission Endowment Fund Balance	1,921,693			
Online Giving	26,522	23%		

Estate Gift**Notes:**

None

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:

- Texting LOLAZGIVE to (833) 750-9316
- Donate online at www.lolaz.org/donate
- Use Bill Pay from your bank
- Consider asking your financial planner about a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA or 401K
- Mail your contribution to us at 13724 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375
- Drop your contribution 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

Summer Worship
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:30 AM
Sunday Fellowship: 10:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - 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
Director of Administration
deb@lolaz.org

Gloria Lien
Music Director
gloria@lolaz.org

Jess Lunceford
Communication Coordinator
jess@lolaz.org

Frank Petrella
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frank@lolaz.org

Vicki Repsholdt
Office Manager
vicki@lolaz.org

Leoma Lightner
Parish Nurse
leoma@lolaz.org

Dave Lien
Choir Director
dave@lolaz.org

Sheila Wright
Events Coordinator
sheila@lolaz.org

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
13724 W. Meeker Blvd.
Sun City West, AZ 85375-3730

TIME DATED MATERIAL
AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

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

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.
- **Text LOLAZGIVE** to (833) 750-3196 to give today!