

# *That's The Spirit!*

Rev. Alan Field

New Spirit Lutheran Church

*Our faith is in Jesus.*

*Our hope is in grace.*

*Our strength is in love.*

August 2016

Dear Partners in the Gospel,

These have been horribly difficult days. The continuing onslaught of domestic shootings, terror incidents, hateful gatherings, divided communities have fractured the spirit of community. Too many closed-minds, stiff-necks, and immovable egos make any sort of peace impossible. In the country that boasts of freedoms and blessings, our society is as unsteady as a house of cards.

I can tell the weight of the news has had an effect on our gatherings, and even our conversations. I can feel the frustration with continuing grief, and the difficulty of peaceful conversation about matters that can become “political” so quickly. I miss our times of conversations spiced with laughter and the willingness to be open to new or different ideas.

My guess is as Jesus and his disciples continued toward Jerusalem, stopping each night along the road, that around the campfire words of worry were woven with words of mercy and hope. Three times Jesus would tell the disciples he would be arrested, tried and killed. Times were getting darker for the followers of Jesus.

But, along the way Jesus introduced the twelve and the multitudes who would follow that God's ways are life-giving and mercy-filled. Luke's Gospel has those parables and words of Jesus offering a broad welcome, and the broad brush of God's love and mercy for all people...no matter the color of their skin, the nationality of their birth, their means of worshipping God (even God under another name)...and that welcome would be peaceful.

It is into that ultimate reality that I continue to seek to lead you and this congregation toward the place where we will celebrate diversity, welcome unconditionally, and embrace the children of God from every tribe, nation, or faith. Some may call that foolishness. I call it faithfulness in the grace and mercy of God.

Thoughtfully,

Pastor Alan



**We have a real need!** On July 10<sup>th</sup> we had our thirteen campers lead worship. That group is the youth ministry of New Spirit today!!! It is important for these youth to have a group here at New Spirit that is theirs, a group they can grow in faith with, a group they can do activities with, a group they can bond with as we look forward to the **2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas.** We need two or more adults who will lead that new youth group into a vital, active group. Is that you?



**Wednesday Courses** - We are wanting to enhance your Wednesday education experiences this year. We understand many members are not able to drive at night. Would you be willing and able to attend a study or video discussion at 4:00 p.m. or earlier? We'd like to enable more people to share in our Wednesday evening Suppers, and by offering courses before and after supper we'll connect with many more friends and members.

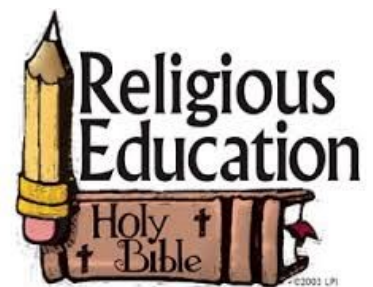
We are excited about a new resource for short-term Adult video discussion series on a wide-variety of subjects and presenters.

Once we subscribe to the service we will be able to share more info on it.

In addition to Wednesdays, we are planning more **at-home Koinonia groups** to begin, again seeking to connect you with other New Spirit folks.

**Wednesdays @ New Spirit** will begin September 14<sup>th</sup>. Watch for info on the magnet board in the Narthex.

**Read-thru-the-Bible** is a discipline where you are encouraged to read 3 chapters of the Bible each day for a year. We will begin in Genesis, and read straight through to the Revelation. In the midst of our year, we will gather for a 90-minute conversation about what you read, learned, and have questions about. We are still looking for that time and day that will work for you. Sign-up on the magnet board in the Narthex.

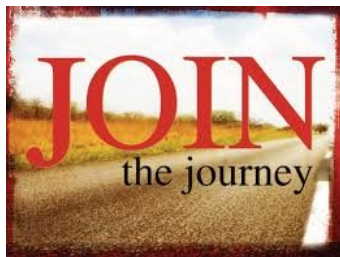


**Confirmation Classes** will begin Sunday, Sept. 11th, after the 11:00 am service. Half of our students live in Vail, so we will be announcing times and days for the classes to begin. Students 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to participate in Confirmation.



**1<sup>st</sup> Communion Instruction** – Pastor Alan will be leading a 3-session 1<sup>st</sup> Communion class in August for children who have expressed a desire to receive the sacrament. Parents are encouraged to attend these classes too. You'd be amazed at what you can learn about the sacrament.

**Rally Day** is scheduled for **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**. On that day, Sunday School will resume in K-Hall. We are hoping to engage many members of New Spirit in Bible study and through Faith Formation classes and activities.



**New Members' Class** has been scheduled for **Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 2:00**. Persons interested in becoming part of the New Spirit community are urged to attend. If you have questions, please contact the Church Office. New Members will be received at both worship services on **September 11<sup>th</sup>, Rally Day**.

**Feed My Starving Children Million Meal Packing Event – From Tucson with Love.** January 19-21, 2017, 5,000 Tucsonans will gather at the TCC for a 2-hour packing session, creating Manna Packs for children at orphanages and schools in over 130 countries. Manna Packs are nutritionally engineered rice-based food packs that have proven to counter the debilitating effects of malnutrition.

Pastor Alan is part of the Event Planning Team and has requested the Saturday morning, January 21<sup>st</sup>, as "The Lutheran Packing Session." He has asked for 300 spaces for that morning to be manned by Lutherans from Tucson churches.

Packing participants are asked to donate \$50 toward the cost of the food packed. The per pack cost is 31 cents and feeds ten children.

As soon as our packing time is finalized, a sign-up sheet will appear on the magnet board.

Packing events are fun, high energy, somewhat competitive, and group building opportunities. New Spirit has a ten year history of participating in FMSC packings!



500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation is the entire year of 2017. Would you be interested in serving on a 4-6 person team to plan New Spirit's celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have a great resource, but we need people to help piece-together our celebrations during the year.





## CALLING ALL COOKS!!!

Help! Do you have a few favorite recipes that you love to cook for your family? Well, we need you! We need folks to step up to form cook teams for the upcoming Wednesday night dinners that we all enjoy together. "I can't commit to that," you say, "I'll be stuck doing it week after week forever!!!" **Not so!** I know the dedicated cook teams in the past (*God bless them all!*) have taken the task on for a couple of years at a time, and it has been a tremendous amount of work for them. But we want to try a different approach this year.

What we're proposing is to get 24 or more folks to commit to forming six to eight cook teams to take turns preparing Wednesday night dinners. We are looking at 36 weeks between Sept. 14, when we start, and mid-May when we end. Subtract out a couple of weeks around holidays or other events when we would not have a Wednesday meal, and the once monthly potluck dinners, and we're down to around 28 dinners or less. If we share the responsibility, each team would only have to cook four or five times throughout the year, and it won't be overwhelming for anyone. Plus, it might be an opportunity to get to know someone on your team better, and there would be a variety of dishes and styles for us all to experience.

"But I don't think I'm that great of a cook, and I've never cooked for that many people before," you say. Well, can you act as sous chef for someone else, prepare a salad or side dish, or help with set up, serving food and clean up?? There's a role for everyone here! "Will this come out of my pocket? I can't afford to feed 30-40 people." You will be reimbursed for what you spend on groceries. The money we collect from people has covered the costs in the past and there is a small fund in the budget in the event a meal doesn't pay for itself.

Please consider serving in a way that may or may not be new to you. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the board in the narthex. We will look to have an organizational meeting towards the end of August so we're ready to go!

Cathy Cermak, Council President



## God's Work-Our Hands

Missions and Service will be collecting cleaning supplies August 21 through September 18 for Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest Refugee and Luminaria programs as our God's Work, Our Hands project.

Below is a list of needed supplies. A list will also be posted on the magnet board in the Narthex.

## Rubber gloves

## Scrubbing brush

## Comet

## Sponges

## Paper towels

## Glass Cleaner

All purpose cleaner

Toilet cleaner

## Baking soda



**THRIVENT NEWS-**For the 5th. straight year , Thrivent has been named one of the world's most ethical companies by Ethisphere Institute the full list of companies can be found at:

<http://ethisphere.com/worlds-most-ethical-wme-honorees/>

THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL



Through Thrivent Choice program, our SOS fund has received \$681 from Jan. through April.



### **FROM -Zambian Chishawasha newsletter**

A 40 ft. container was sent on April 23rd. Thank you for the bikes you donated. 50 bikes and parts were sent to start a bike shop and train students in bike repair at the skill center.

One of the students who attend the primary school was the top student for the entire Central Province of Zambia. Before we helped start the school several years ago, there was no school at all and the students who have now grown and have jobs were all street children.

**Our website** is being rebuilt, thanks to Christina White, Laurie Bernard's co-worker. She is going to help us get an operational, welcoming, and easy to navigate site to enhance New Spirit's story on the internet. Thanks to Laurie, Nancy DiFebbo, Elise Stone, and Pastor Alan as we get our new website operational.



**The Church Council** is going on Retreat, August 26-27<sup>th</sup>, at the Redemptorist Center at Picture Rocks. We will be addressing a number of areas that concern New Spirit and will have a report for the congregation after we return. The retreat is a Friday and Saturday, so all of us will be in church on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>, IS THE DATE YOU NEED TO REMEMBER. PARTICIPANTS MAY RE-ENROLL IN THE 2016-2017 FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM WITH YOUR ORGANIZATION BEGINNING AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>. (New Spirit is the Organization which benefits Blessings in a Backpack)**

**How to Re-Enroll for the Fry's Community Rewards Program**

1. \* Go to [www.FrysCommunityRewards.com](http://www.FrysCommunityRewards.com)
2. \* Click on 'Sign-In'.
3. Enter your email and password, click on 'sign in'.
4. Click on your name (top right hand corner), under 'Account Summary' scroll down to "Community Rewards".
5. Click on 'Edit' under Community Rewards.
6. Under Find Your Organization: Enter the NPO number or name of organization then select 'search'.(You can get the NPO number from your organization.)
7. Under 'Select Your Organization', click on the circle next to your organization.
8. Click on 'Enroll' if you have re-enrolled correctly, you should see a green box with 'Your enrollment in the Community Rewards Program has been updated. Thank you for participating!' You will also see the information listed under 'Community Rewards' on your Account Summary page.



## Happy Summer Everyone!

We have scheduled a Paint Nite Party on Thursday, August 18th, from 7-9 pm at Mimi's Cafe located at 120 S. Wilmot Road. The cost is \$45 per person with \$15 per ticket donated to our Blessings in a Backpack Program. I know, I know....you are thinking, "I don't have an artistic bone in my body!".....I said the same thing too, before I attended one of these parties and finished with an awesome painting proudly hanging on a wall at my home. (My girlfriend bought it for my birthday - a great idea for a gift!) A professional artist will be on hand to show you just how easy the methods are to create a beautiful painting of your own.

The bonus is that you will be helping feed 205 children every weekend of the 2016-2017 school year! We need 35 participants to receive the funds from the party, so tell everyone you know! Please register as soon as possible at the link below for a fun night of painting and companionship and laughs.

<https://paintnite.com/events/1096213.html>



Working together, we are making a dif-

ference!

**If you would rather pay by check, Lutheran Church, turn in to the 1<sup>st</sup>, and we will register online for you.**

**make checks payable to New Spirit church office no later than August**

### August Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

08/01 Charles Beardmore  
Dolores Gran

08/01 Lee Horley

08/03 Craig & Renee Geiger  
(Anniversary)

08/05 Gladys Mack  
Jim & Nancy Jindrick  
(Anniversary)

08/08 Ben Burch  
Ray & Lis Schafer  
(Anniversary)

08/09 Verola Halvorson

08/12 Richard & Carol Hughes  
(Anniversary)



08/14 Ciana Maple  
Allison Uidenich  
Terry Wolfe

08/15 Christina Payette

08/16 Lis Schafer  
Terry & Joy Wolfe  
(Anniversary)

08/17 Paul & Edna Walton  
(Anniversary)

08/19 Paul & Brigitte Stuetze  
(Anniversary)

08/20 Ted & Lasandra  
Matthews  
(Anniversary)

08/21 Colin Uidenich

08/22 Paul Stuetze

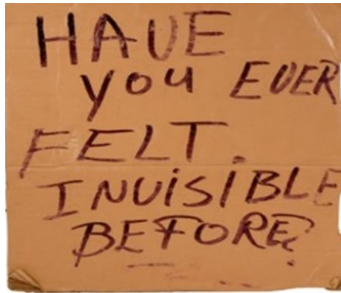
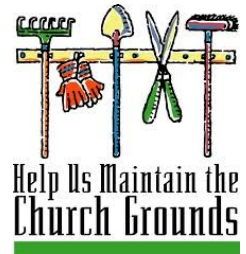
08/25 Carri Crace

08/28 Wesley Mengert

08/29 Tyler Arlig  
Chieko Casey  
Katharina Morales  
Mia Payette

08/31 Victor Garibay  
Amber Jindrick

**The August Work Day is scheduled for Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 a.m.** If the Monsoons have given Tucson much needed rain, we'll have lots of weeds and buffle grass to be removed. Delicious breakfast is served at 8:00 a.m. by the breakfast team: **Sharon Dobbs, Bich Francis, Darlene Paape and Ellie Thompson.** We could use more help. Thank you, all, who support the vital life of New Spirit



### HOMELESS BLESSINGS

The Homeless Blessings team is changing focus to reach out to the eastside homeless population who miss out on many of the services provided in mid-town and west-side Tucson. The Church Council has approved holding a trial monthly event on the New Spirit Patio for 3 months. We will be posting and distributing flyers to the public in the few weeks preceding each event, knowing that it will take time for the word to get out and build up this new mission outreach. We are excited to bring more services to those in need nearer to us. The scheduled dates are:

SATURDAY, August 13<sup>TH</sup> at 9:00 A.M.  
SATURDAY, September 10<sup>TH</sup> at 9:00 A.M.  
SATURDAY, October 8<sup>TH</sup> at 9:00 A.M.

For information on how you can help, contact the NSLC Office or Laurie Bernard at 886-3242 or [lbernard2008@hotmail.com](mailto:lbernard2008@hotmail.com)

Boxes will be available in the Narthex to collect contributions. Items needed:

Disposal razors/shaving gel  
Full size Deodorant  
Full size Bar Soap  
Band-aids/antiseptic gel  
Full size Lotion  
Full size Shampoo  
Toothbrushes/toothpaste  
Sunscreen/Lip Balm  
AA and AAA Batteries

Canned meat/beans (preferably with pull tab opening) - vienna sausage, tuna, roast beef, chicken, spam  
Peanut butter  
Refillable Water Bottles  
Gently Used Clothing  
New Underwear & Socks  
Men/Women's shoes

# New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail  
Tucson, AZ 85710

## Shout-Outs

*SHOUT OUT-* to **Ken Dobbs, Archie Burke and Don Crow**, for coming out on a hot July morning at 6:00 am for the work day.

*SHOUT OUT-* to **Sharon Dobbs, Darlene Paape and Bich Francis** for preparing a great breakfast and to **Ellie Thompson** for supporting the breakfast.

*SHOUT OUT-* to **Edna Walton** for constantly changing out the decorations in Fellowship Hall.

*SHOUT OUT-* to **Ron O'Connor** for continuously taking care of the memorial garden.



Please submit words of thanks and praise to Nancy at [nancy@newspiritlutheran.com](mailto:nancy@newspiritlutheran.com) to be placed in the newsletter by the 15th of each month. Thank you!

### Sundays:

9:00 am Arise to Praise

(Spirited Contemporary Worship)

10:15 – 11:00 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Traditions

(Classic Hymns & Liturgies)

**Wednesdays:** 5:30 pm Dinner, 6:15 pm Classes

### How to contact us:

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail

Tucson, AZ 85710

**Phone:** (520) 296-2461

**E-Mail:** [NewSpiritLutheranTucson@yahoo.com](mailto:NewSpiritLutheranTucson@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [newspiritlutherantucson.org](http://newspiritlutherantucson.org)