

That's The Spirit!

New Spirit Lutheran Church

Our faith is in Jesus.

Our hope is in grace.

Our strength is in love.

Rev. Alan Field

July 2018

Dear Partners in the Gospel,

Have you ever had a once-in-a-lifetime experience? Maybe it was a vacation, a cruise, a tour or event that you had planned and prepared for. Maybe it was a reunion, or even a chance run-in with an old friend, or people of some celebrity. What has been your once-in-a-lifetime experience?

In the Lutheran Church there are some once-in-a-lifetime moments: your baptism, first communion, confirmation. This year six of our youth are experiencing a once-in-a-lifetime event in Houston. 35,000 Lutheran youth will be gathered for five days of inspiring worship, speakers, music, activities, and more: **For You Have Been Saved by Grace: This Changes Everything.** For most of these youth, the largest Lutheran youth gathering has been at SALCA camps. But, to see 35,000 youth together in a sports stadium, dancing to the music and singing the songs is breath-taking. Seeing the corporate faith of that many young people can impress upon our youth what God can do when the faithful gather. We are going to experience a whole host of activities and events in Houston that are intended to connect the faith of our heads with the presence of the Spirit in our hearts. When that connection is made in a young person, it can be truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

After we return, these young people will be leading worship on August 5th to share how God got their attention in Houston. I always look forward to what the youth will share about how God moved them. We'll see how that happens for our kids.

Did you know that the most frequently identified moment in the lives of young adult Lutherans, that time when God "spoke their name and filled them with the Spirit's power" was.....at Summer Bible Camp. I believe deeply that when we offer the Word of God in a non-competitive, non-partisan community the lives of those youth will be impacted for years and years to come.

I am confident that youth have a window of opportunity to experience the grace of God. The challenge is where that window will fit when school activities, sports practices and games, and developing those adolescent relationships are so important. How can we better connect the children and youth of New Spirit with that "community connection" this Fall?

A second source of strength in development for pre-teens and teens is a positive conversant relationship with an adult who is not their parent or family. While we know the gift that grandparents are; when a child or youth has an adult friend, who is not their parent, they have a jump on confidence, faith-talk, and the skills to develop good interactive relationships.

I wonder how many New Spirit members could name our confirmation students? I wonder how many of you have ever talked with our confirmands about how their life, school, athletics, and church intersect. Have you ever talked to these kids? I encourage you to do so!

I want to remind you of one more thing mid-summer. We are having guests on Sunday mornings. We only get one chance to make a first impression. I need for you to introduce yourself to our Sunday morning guests. We have had guests each week, and I am not sure if we are making the connection that will encourage them to return next Sunday. The people we have had have enjoyed worship, but the "tell" if they will come back to New Spirit is if someone took the chance to welcome a stranger. You know what I say, "We begin as strangers, but soon the Spirit makes strangers friends, and friends family."

Who have you met this past month?

Thoughtfully,

Pastor Alan



The Grand Canyon Synod Assembly was held at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Oro Valley on June 14-16. The agenda was full, but was focused upon the process to elect a new Bishop for the Synod. After 5 ballots the Rev. Deborah Hutterer was elected to the office of Bishop of the Grand Canyon Synod. Her term is six years. We pray God's blessing upon her ministry leading the Grand Canyon Synod into this new chapter of ministry. Pastor Deborah has worked with Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest for the past 5 years, and before that served churches in Illinois, and Minnesota.

Pastor Deborah is the first female Bishop for the Grand Canyon Synod, and joins a host of newly elected women from across the ELCA as newly elected Bishops. God is doing an amazing thing in the life of the ELCA.



God's Work – Our Hands day is September 8th or 9th throughout the ELCA. Across the country Lutherans from thousands of congregations will be putting on their yellow t-shirts and doing projects to help their neighborhoods. Last year, New Spirit members created four community garden beds at Erickson Elementary School. On May 13th a staff member of Erickson Elementary shared with the congregation the school's and the students' thanks and appreciation for the gardens and our Blessings in a Backpack ministry.

Columbarium News

We have contracted with a new company to make the nameplates for Columbarium niches. We are very pleased with their work. We will be replacing all of the nameplates on the Columbarium in the coming months. This is a good thing!

If you have not decided upon your final resting place, New Spirit offers its members both double, and single niches in the bronze columbarium. The Memorial Garden offers a very peaceful place for family members to visit, to remember, and to pray.

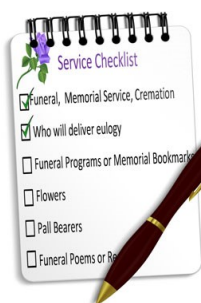
Niches are very reasonably priced. (One-third the cost charged by cemeteries.) Information about the Columbarium and Memorial Garden is available in the church office.



Thanks to **Ron O'Connor** for researching sources for our metal-casting needs. Great job, Ron!

Have you completed your funeral service plan yet?

Our last three funerals were planned by those that we remembered. They took a huge load off of their children and grandchildren by choosing their favorite hymns and Bible verses.



Yes, we don't like to talk about death, but planning your funeral will not hasten yours. It will give you and your family peace of mind to know that your desires will be celebrated at your service.

You can pick up your Funeral Planning booklet and worksheet in the Church Office. It is included in every New Member packet, too.

Fill them out and turn them into the church office. Thank you from the bottom of your kids and grandkids' hearts

Interfaith Community Services Wholistic End of Life Program



*How do you hope to spend the final stage of your life?
Have you planned adequately for any medical situations that might arise for you?*

Who else needs to know what your wishes are so that you can receive what you want?

Attend this *free* two-hour workshop and learn...

Why deciding what kind of healthcare you want late in life is so important

How to talk to your loved ones and healthcare professionals about what you want

How to document your decisions so your wants will be made known when appropriate

How to revise and update any advance care plans you might have already

Enhance your present by planning your future, then get on with living!

“Honoring a Life: Advance Care Planning Conversations”

Thursday, July 19, 2018

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail (at Camino Seco)

Pre-registration for the workshop is recommended. Please contact...

Suzanne Morrison at 520-526-9296 / smorrison@icstucson.org or

Karen MacDonald at 520-526-9309 / kmacdonald@icstucson.org

Looking forward to the Fall months.

With fewer and fewer people able to navigate night classes and meetings, we are looking at holding some **classes on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.** followed by supper, and then home. We have a number of



folks who are interested in leading book studies including **Made to Crave: Satisfying our Deepest Desire with God, Not Food;** and a reading of C.S. Lewis’ “Screwtape Letters.” In addition, Pastor Alan is trying to complete a study similar to his **Anger Class** but with a practical look at **Fear: Be Very Afraid.** There are more studies we would like to offer to more and more people. ***Let this be the year that you choose to grow in your faith by joining in with a book study or class! It will benefit the entire church!***

New-New Spirit T-shirts

If you were present at worship on June 24th you saw the Youths’ hot pink t-shirts with equally hot message. Nope, if you weren’t here you don’t get to see it, yet.

We are going to order t-shirts for the Congregation, but in a little more subdued color scheme. Order yours from August 12 – September 9. Cost will be announced soon.

The shirts will be a hit in Houston!!! They’ll create good conversations! It is all about invitations to understanding. More to come!!!!



Thank you Ken Dobbs! This is a shout-out that is going to take more room than the outside of this newsletter. In late May, ICS asked that we move the “Medical Loan Chest” items to another room, away from the food. We identified the “purple Sunday School classroom” in K-Hall. For the past month Ken has built and hung shelves and brackets to hold the medical equipment we loan out. He has worked many, many hours building, painting, moving, and storing lots of medical equipment. **Thank you, Ken, for all of your efforts in and around New Spirit!!!!**

*danke!
thanks!
merci!*



July Workday is Saturday the 21st at 6:00 a.m. Weeds are appearing in lots of places. Buffle grass is showing its resurgence. Trees need pruning. Granite needs to be evened out in most areas. You are invited to join us in these very manual tasks on July 21st. We'll be happy to have you help, and we will be happy to feed you a hearty breakfast!

Ken Dobbs & John Lukecart spent many hours on the K-Hall roof working on one of the swamp coolers up there. Much of May was spent by Ken and John on the K-Hall roof trying to repair a pretty sick swamp cooler. Quietly they did what they could. **Thank you Ken Dobbs & John Lukecart!!!!**

**YOU GUYS
ROCK!**

HOMELESS BLESSINGS

NEXT EVENT IS July 14TH

9AM -11AM

COME OUT AND SEE HOW WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



July Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations



07/01 Dennis Armstrong
Dominic West

07/02 Delores Hanneman

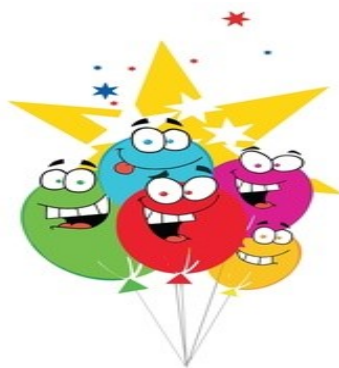
07/03 Zachary Buglewicz

07/05 Eugene Linderkamp

07/07 Michael Ansbro

07/09 Bruce Drath
Ron & Shereen O'Connor
(Anniversary)

07/12 Ron & Cathy Cermak
(Anniversary)



07/16 Marilyn Stoeckig

07/20 Judy McFarland
(Anniversary)

07/22 Chrystal Wood

07/24 Stanley & Lee Horley
(Anniversary)

07/27 Esther Hopkins

07/29 Marilyn Roberts
Linda Kurowski
June Rhoades-Witt

07/31 Nancy Daliege

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail

Tucson, AZ 85710



Shout-Outs



SHOUT OUT- Don Crow for cleaning the parking lot after the much needed rain.

Please submit words of thanks and praise to Nancy at 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:

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