

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 2019

Dear Partners on the Trail..

Have you noticed the “shout outs” that appear every month in the newsletter? We have a very faithful group of people who volunteer their time, energy, expertise, and love of Christ to make the ministry life of New Spirit operate. If you have applauded the efforts of these people, I am wondering if you noticed something. That “something” is the fact that the same few names are appearing month after month after month.

Now, it is wonderful that the necessary work at New Spirit is getting done, but there are lots of people who worship here every week and partake in the weekly coffee-fellowship time, whose names don't appear on the list of thanks. That does not bode well for a congregation these days.

I am reminded of Ghandi's warning for cultures and society:

Wealth without work Pleasure without conscience Knowledge without character Business without ethics
Science without humanity Religion without sacrifice Politics without principles.

Those warning signs have become the fully-bloated news cycle of the loss of ethics and character in the waging of vitriol and pettiness in politics. In each of those ways we have become prisoners!

Religion without sacrifice is an oxymoron.

The ministry of any Lutheran Church works because of the good stewardship of its members. Certainly each member has responsibility to ensure the financial dealings of the church are supported. Salaries, utilities, insurances, maintenance, preventive maintenance, foresight, and preparations are essential for a congregation to keep pace with the needs of our neighborhood and of the church-wide expression. We have been committed to encourage our members to tithe of your income. 10% of weekly income given to the ministry of the church would enable us to do so much more than we are able. If our members were to make the meaningful sacrifice of praise in tithing 10% of your income, we would not need to write about our financial needs, ever!

But, and there's always a but, when the call to sacrifice is set aside as another inconvenience, the overall health of the congregation will suffer.

The same holds true to serving on teams, Council, classes, groups, or in witnessing to God's grace in our lives.

I like to consider these days of summer as times when you can consider deeply how you can better grow in your confidence in God's mercy, and add to the ministry of Christ at New Spirit.

Ghandi's words can be haunting. These coming months and days will be lived in the shadow of a deeply polarized political climate. That being said, the ministry of the church continues to be the source of hope and peace in troubling times.

I have born witness to the fact that when people sacrifice their time by investing in taking a class or leading a study that the Holy Spirit's power becomes evident in those who participate.

I am looking forward to working new ways for each of you to take on two areas for “religious sacrifice” above what you are committed to doing now. Each of us can take up no less than two additional areas for service and care.

Ghandi's seven warnings for the congregation are prophetic to say the least.

Wealth without work Pleasure without conscience Knowledge without character Business without ethics
Science without humanity Religion without sacrifice Politics without principles.

Thoughtfully,

Pastor Alan



Thank you, New Spirit! And thank you to all of you who blessed us by your gifts and cards on the occasion of our marriage. Bishop Deborah and I want to thank the Church Council for “holding our news” back in March, f and for those who coordinated the Reception on May 26th.

We especially want to thank Mark & Jamie Buglewicz for “Jamie’s Gang’s” playing at the Reception with special guest drummer, Harry Bolin!

Your generosity has provided direct aid in re-unifying families through Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest, and families affected by fires, floods and tornados through the ELCA Disaster Relief Fund. We are still collecting numbers but it appears your gifts have exceeded \$5,000 giving direct aid to people in need.

You have honored us, and we humbly offer our thanks to you.

Bishop Deborah Hutterer and Pastor Alan Field



Coming this Fall

On October 26th we are planning to hold an ***Oktoberfest*** as an outreach to our neighbors. We are planning to have food, activities for children and youth, and the members of ***Open Space Church*** will be here to paint a forty foot mural on large panels. Open Space is a congregation of the Grand Canyon Synod, and was developed by **Pastor Lars Hammar** around a group of ***graffiti artists***. These young people have developed a genre of “faith based graffiti art”. That day you will have an opportunity to experience the creative Spirit of God moving in “the unlikeliest of characters.” That’s what God does....just sayin’!



Open Space has painted permanent murals on churches here in Tucson, San Juan Bautista and Reformation Lutheran in Las Vegas. The art has to be seen to experience its power and message. **We would like a team of 6 to 8 people to be the planning team for this event. If God is whispering, or shouting your name, please let Laurie Bernard know!!!**

Wednesday evening supper reminder for the past ten years we have met on Wednesday evenings for supper and adult classes. This past year the teams of members who have cooked a month at a time, twice a year...have expressed a desire to retire. In addition, the numbers of members coming on Wednesdays has dropped significantly. So, we will not be providing Wednesday evening Suppers this Fall. We will re-evaluate this decision in November.

Adult Education classes will be offered at 4:00 p.m. each Wednesday afternoon starting September 11th.



Summer worship thoughts and reflections.....

This Summer we decided to mix up our Sunday morning worship settings. To date we have had six Sundays this Summer, and our attendance is rising! We have now had two “media worship” services, and the comments have, for the most part, been very positive! We have much more flexibility to include in worship both traditional



hymns and new contemporary songs that connect closely with the theme for each Sunday. During this Summer we will have four “Media Worship” services, five traditional services, and four contemporary services. The one comment expressed by the most people has been: “I really liked being able to sing the traditional hymns with the arrangements we used.” Very Cool!!!!

God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday is September 8th. We are looking for a project that members, youth, and kids can help with on **Saturday, Sept. 7th**. **If you have an idea for a project that we might do, please let any Church Council member know! Thanks in advance.....!**



“Just Sayin”

We have a lot of volunteers at this church and all are appreciated. I would like to take this opportunity to mention one in particular, Mr. Terry Wolfe. If something is being done at the church, more than likely you will find Terry somewhere in the middle of it. Terry quietly goes about the business of getting done what needs to be done without a lot of fanfare or atta-boys required. I would like to mention some of the things Terry does to serve the church and I’m sure there’s more.

He has served on multiple church councils and committees and is currently serving as treasurer on our present council. He helps out on cook teams. You can usually count on him to be there on work days. He’s pretty good at fixing things and is always willing to help. He helps out on the counting team on Sundays. Also on Sundays he helps take up the collection, ushers and plays in the bell choir when needed.

His latest venture has been trimming trees and clearing brush on the west side of the church for the last few weeks and has almost single-handedly completed that task!

Terry is one of those rare people who sees a need and decides to do something about it.

Thank you, Terry, for all of the service you do for the church. I hope this letter hasn’t embarrassed you too much, but I wanted you to know that your work has been noticed and appreciated. John Lukecart.



Great thanks to Don Austin for his long hours of work uploading videos, music, and liturgy components. Don has been amazing getting our Sunday morning worship on screens.

Thank you, Ellie Thompson, Funeral Lunch Coordinator!!! For over a decade, Ellie Thompson has coordinated the post-funeral luncheons in Fellowship Hall. Those times for family and friends to gather over food to tell stories is a distinctive ministry. As with many of us, age has caused Ellie to have to rely on her son, Scott, to do the shopping for the lunches.

We are recruiting for our next Funeral Lunch Coordinator. No, you don’t have to serve for ten years. We ask for only one year. If you enjoy phone calling and asking people to help prepare a family lunch after a funeral, please let Nancy in the Church office, or Susan Armstrong, Council President, know.

Ellie....thank you for your persistence, and your servant’s heart!

**We couldn't have done it
without YOU!**



Thank you Terry Wolfe for your herculean task on the “front forty!” Have you noticed that all of the palo verde and mesquite trees in our “front yard” have been pruned and shaped? Two benefits have come. We can now see Camino Seco from our south parking lot!!! And, the trees have been “lifted up” so that campers and homeless folks will be easier to see. Terry spent hours with a chain saw, and “will to work!” Thanks, Terry, it looks great!!!

Columbarium News

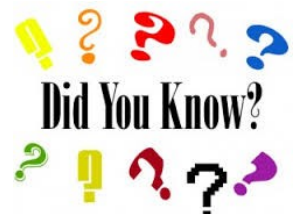
We have replaced all of the nameplates on the Columbarium in the past four months. This is a good thing!

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 and for his hours and hours of work in the Memorial Garden. Oh, and Ron’s on the north side of 80 years. Great job, Ron!



Confirmation Class Update

The Confirmation Class continues to meet through the Summer on Sundays after the 10:00 service. We are finishing up our study of the Ten Commandments. We have read lots of stories that put each commandment in perspective for living in 2019. We will begin the Lord's Prayer in the next few weeks.

Pastor Alan is wanting to figure a time these youth can gather not for class, but for games, and food, and fun, and learning like real Youth Groups do! They are missing out on a huge part of church life by not having the Youth Group experience. If anybody has an idea to gather our kids from Vail to the Eastside....let Pastor know.



In Memory.....Verola Halvorson



Verola died unexpectedly on June 26th after a brief medical episode. She was surrounded by her family when she died. She and Lyle were long, long time members of Spanish Trail/New Spirit Lutheran Church. Verola's spirit was one that lit up the room. A person of compassion and grace, Verola was always ready to help or contribute to any worthwhile need. We will celebrate Verola's life on Saturday, July 6th at 11:15 a.m. at New Spirit.

K-Hall getting a secure, roll-up delivery door. Interfaith Community Services has won a grant to improve their facilities and with a portion of that grant they have asked to install a secure roll-up door in K-Hall. The door would lead directly into the Food Bag storage room. For the past 12 years, when Food Bank deliveries are made, volunteers must hand carry food bags into the K-Hall room. This is a great improvement for K-Hall! Watch for installation dates.

The Church Council approved the installation of the roll-up door at its May Council Meeting.

The Church Council is also ready to begin a project in K-Hall to create a "new youth space". We have several ideas for painting rooms, furnishing the area, and making it "youth friendly."

More information to come.....soon!



July Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

07/01 Dennis Armstrong
Dominic West

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

07/22 Chrystal Wood

07/02 Delores Hanneman

07/12 Ron & Cathy Cermak
(Anniversary)

07/27 Esther Hopkins

07/03 Zachary Buglewicz

Linda Kurowski

June Rhoades-Witt

07/05 Eugene Linderkamp
Cori Garibay

07/16 Marilyn Stoeckig

07/31 Nancy Daliege

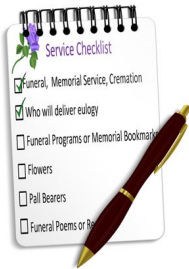
07/07 Michael Ansbro

07/20 Judy McFarland
(Anniversary)



Have you completed your funeral service plan yet?

Only one of our past four funerals were planned by those that we remembered. That one took a huge load off of their children and grandchildren by choosing their favorite hymns and Bible verses. The other three forced their grieving children and spouse to have to decide what Scripture passages gave them comfort and what hymns they liked? Those answers are not known by 95% of your kids. They do not have a clue, so if you don't write that stuff down, they will pick "whatever is easiest." Do your kids a favor....plan your Memorial service!



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 yours into the church office. Thank you from the bottom of your kid's and grandkids' hearts.

New Spirit Musicians performing in Tucson I have asked all three for their July schedules. I would like for us to bring back this info in each month's newsletter.

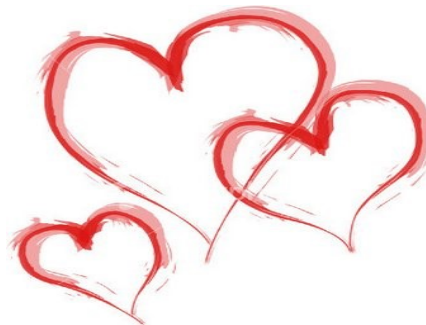
Jay Schreiber's band, "The Quarter", plays the first Saturday of each month at El Sagarito, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Jamie's Gang is on hiatus for the summer.

Harry Bolin plays with the Clear Country Band.



Feed My Starving Children – Million Meal Packing Event will be happening in February, 2020. We have been invited to schedule our packing time at **Resurrection Lutheran Church in Oro Valley on Saturday, February 8th. Mark your calendar now!!!**



MEALS FROM THE HEART

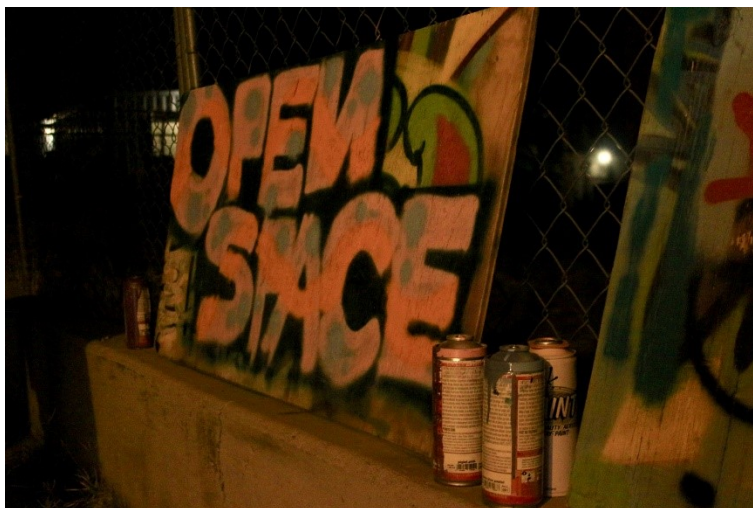
Join our new ministry delivering meals to our homebound church members

Share your good cooking!

We are looking for volunteers to prepare 1-3 supplemental meals and deliver to the homes of our faithful members who are no longer mobile. New Spirit will identify those in need and schedule team members for weekly delivery. Currently, each volunteer delivers once a month. Contact Susan Armstrong or the NSLC office for more information on how you can help.



OCTOBER 26TH FROM 11 TO 3
Food....Games....Music



New Spirit will be hosting Open Space Church who will be giving demonstrations of mural painting. Kids will be welcome to try their hand at painting too!

If you'd like to volunteer to be a planning team member for this event, contact Laurie Bernard

MORE INFORMATION TO COME!!!

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail
Tucson, AZ 85710



Shout-Outs



SHOUT OUT - To the June hospitality team.
SHOUT OUT- To Parker Hammontree for making pancakes and scrambled eggs for breakfast

SHOUT OUT- To Elisha De la Cruz for helping with Sunday School.

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: 4:00 pm Classes

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