

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

June 2018

Dear Partners in the Spirit,

Worship is central to our life of faith. The word “worship” comes from the Old English word “*worth-ship*” which indicates the focus of the worshipful action. That focus would be the presence of God. The action of worship includes prayer, giving praise and thanksgiving for all God has given, reading of Scripture, an interpretation of the Scriptural reading for life (the sermon), songs of praise, devotion, and faithfulness.

Our Lutheran heritage of worship has taken many forms over the five centuries of the Reformation. Gregorian chant based worship has not been the center or tradition for 500 years. In fact, the elevation of the Word of God served for decades as the centerpiece of worship. Over the years, new songs and hymns have been brought to the service of worship in hope of creating another step into the presence of God. The music does not bring God’s presence to us. The music seeks to help us transcend into the place of the Spirit. While you may have a favorite hymn, or preferable style of worship, neither of those is the focus.

We worship God in this place, dwelling among all who are gathered to speak to us the oft repeated promises of love given freely without exception, mercy whose love forgives us, and the peace of Christ that weaves the Body of Christ with strands of faith, hope and joy.

Worship is central to our life of faith. And in all candor, worship is not a “consumer activity.” Its core is found in the person of Jesus, in the creative hand of the Almighty, and in the fellowship of the Spirit that connects us. The focus on that presence is not determined by whether we “like” this or that, or by our physical comfort in padded pews and a great air-conditioning system. No, the focus of worship is on the very presence of God among us.

Our Lutheran heritage draws the people of God to the sacrament of the altar, the Eucharist, the Holy Communion. We believe and teach that in that simple meal, we experience the means of grace where Jesus’ sacrifice and ultimate victory is renewed in us. In that meal, kneeling beside other imperfect sinners, God speaks the life-giving word of forgiveness and the on-going call to new life with a New Spirit.

I need to speak this word. During the summer months, New Spirit holds one service on Sunday mornings. The focus of our worship is God’s presence, not whether the accompanying music is played on keyboards or fret-boards. Our worship is guided in the words of the liturgy which always calls us to be honest in our confession, and clear in God’s forgiveness of those sins. Our worship invites us to step up out of ourselves to commune in the presence of the eternal and transcendent One. There is no one-way to worship, but there is one focus: the presence of the Holy and Almighty God, made known to us in Jesus Christ and experienced among us through the Spirit of Holiness.

It is summer here in the Sonoran Desert. Yes, it gets hot here, yet in the same heat we go to work, we shop for groceries, we do our daily routines. Summer should not be a season when you excuse yourself from worship due to the heat, the style or the hour.

And, if you plan on staying away those “other” Sundays, I remind you our focus does not change. In fact, the words of the liturgy are tailored to each Sunday’s readings. The Communion preface is written woven with that Sunday’s readings. Music can be a celebration if the focus remains where the focus belongs...not on the music or music makers....but on the presence of God among us to bless, renew and refresh us...despite the dry-heat in which we have chosen to live.

I love worship in this place. I love when people are surprised by the way God sneaks up on them with a divine “gotcha.” God is delighted when we delight in God’s will and ways. That’s it.

Thoughtfully,

Pastor Alan



Have you met our New Members?

Delores Hannamen was born in Dawson, MN and grew up on the family farm. She worked the fields with her siblings, so she knows hard work. After she graduated from high school she wanted to be a forensic pathologist, but when that path did not open for her she was trained as an X-ray technician where she worked for 20 years. She shifted gears and worked in the insurance industry for a time, and then tried her hand at being a letter carrier for the Post Office. She became a Postmaster in Minnesota until she retired in 2007. She moved to Vail to be near family. Delores enjoys reading, going to movies with her granddaughter, listening to “Jamie’s Gang” at the Radisson, and she sews and quilts. Delores’ Spiritual gifts include: Helps, Hospitality and Mercy.

Kelly Greenler was born in Jakarta, Indonesia, and grew up in a Muslim home. She experienced a “restless soul” as a teenager and looked to other religious expressions apart from Islam. She attended and graduated from a university in Australia. She visited Tucson after being hired by IBM, and was transferred to Minnesota for 2 years, which turned into 24 years. Tired of the cold, her family relocated to Tucson so her daughter could attend UofA. In 2006 she converted to Christianity and was baptized. Her Minnesota connections warmed her to the Lutheran church. Today, Kelly is a consultant for a cosmetics company. She enjoys swimming at the YMCA pool. Kelly’s Spiritual Gifts include Helps, Hospitality and Exhortation.



Hey, hey!!

My name is Jenny Kwapich. I am currently serving as a Member At Large on the New Spirit Lutheran Church council. I grew up at this church when it was Spanish Trail Lutheran Church. In fact, I was baptized here, as were all of my children. I am married to the love of my life Jeremy. Together, we are raising our 4 monkeys... 3 boys and 1 girl ranging in age from 3 to 14. We literally have one child in every awesome stage of life! I say awesome to convince myself that even at its most challenging moments, it truly is awesome! ;)



Outside of mom and wife, I enjoy running, yoga and anything in the kitchen. I recently completed my 200-hour yoga teacher training and plan to begin teaching some classes in the near future. I am a health food junkie and LOVE to read labels and learn all about the different ingredients we put into our bodies. Grocery shopping alone is one of my favorite things to do! Maybe a nutrition certification is on the horizon....hmmm... time will tell!

Be sure to catch me around and introduce yourself! I’d love to know who I am serving while on the council and also, love idea/suggestions to keep NSLC incredible!

Much love!

Be mindful of guests on Sunday mornings! During the Summer months we often see a number of guests attending worship. Summer is “church shopping season.” Since we only get one opportunity to make a “first impression” we ask that you put on your best “welcoming face” and engage guests with a radical hospitality. That includes inviting people to sit with you for worship. It includes inviting them to coffee (yes, it is before worship so invite them to join you next Sunday.) Encourage guests to fill out the green sheets in the Sunday bulletin and put it in the offering plate. Introduce yourself by name, and wearing a nametag is a huge help! Get their names, and do all you can to “remember them.”

Before this Sunday, practice your answer to these questions: “Why are you a member of this church, and how are you involved here?” “What would this church be able to offer our children? Our teenagers? Us, as we have recently retired?” “What is the best thing New Spirit does?”



ELCA National Youth Gathering is right around the corner. On June 26th, six of us from New Spirit will fly to Houston, and there we will meet Juliette and Justin Nast and together we will attend the **2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering: This Changes Everything!** For five days we will join 35,000 of our best friends from across the U.S. to experience amazing speakers, music, concerts, worship, learning, and serving the people of Houston. In fact, each day for 3 days 12,000 youth and adults will be spread across Houston to help with post-hurricane clean up, work at neighborhood community centers, and a host of other venues. Our work day will be Friday of that week. On **Sunday, June 24th** we will have a blessing of those attending from New Spirit. Our thanks to **Valerie Friend** who has taken personal vacation time to attend as a group leader. Who is going you ask? **Amber Crace, Caitlin Friend, Jakob Rettig, Kati Uidenich, Juliette Nast and Justin Nast. Pastor Alan** is going, too.

Thank you for your prayers and your support as we prepare to head to Houston. Check out our “New Spirit” t-shirts....”Have you been *Mercified?*” on the youth, June 24th. We will be ordering more for congregation members after we return from Houston.



Grand Canyon Synod Assembly is June 14-16 at **Resurrection Lutheran Church, Oro Valley**. We will be electing a new Bishop for the Synod. This will be a historic Assembly as we attend to this very important election. Of special note: In the past month **five female Bishops have been elected in the ELCA, including our first two African-American female Bishops**. These are historic days in the ELCA!!! **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, presiding Bishop of the ELCA, will be present to oversee the election process.**



God's Work, Our Hands will be in September. Last September we built four garden beds at an elementary school. This year we are looking for a project of equal importance. We are asking you to keep your eyes and ears open for a good “service project” for our folks to take on in September. Let Susan Armstrong or Pastor Alan know what you’d like to suggest.



SUMMER WORSHIP

I couldn't help but notice how people wanted to know which worship style was happening when. And they made it clear that only one style would work for them. It caused me to think about why we worship. Yes, it's to get encouragement for the week ahead either through the sermon, the word or music. But I thought that would be extremely selfish. Isn't it about giving praise and glory to our God? After all, he got us through another week. His steadfastness deserves to be honored and thanked and he certainly doesn't care which worship style is observed. He just wants to see us in his house.



Another thought I had was how can we be tolerant of others, show acceptance to those different from us, if we can't tolerate a less favored worship style? All worship is for God's glory, nothing less!

See you in church at 10am.

Brigitte Stuetze

New copiers in the Office and Counting Room

We needed to renew our copier maintenance agreement, and the company says our copiers are “ancient dinosaurs” so we have received a new copier in the Church Office and a new smaller copier for the Counting Room. We will need to do some “instructing” of our new machines, so before you try to make copies in the Counting Room, please see Nancy in the Church Office.





Parking Lot Sealing Project June 22nd & 23rd the parking lots will be re-sealed. It has been five years since we put the parking lot in, and to extend its life regular sealing is required. The cost of the project is \$8,330, but since we have been planning on doing this we have the money to pay for it. In the future our Annual Budgets will include a line item for “Parking Lot Resurfacing” for \$1,600. We will set-aside those funds so in five years we will be able to do this required maintenance and not ask for a special offering. It is part of the great financial management we practice at New Spirit.

June Workday is Saturday the 16th 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 June 16th. We’ll be happy to have you help, and we will be happy to feed you a hearty breakfast!



The ELCA has issued a new Social Statement on **“Women and Matters of Justice.”** We are in a period of reading reflecting, and questioning. Pastor Alan would like to lead a group study of the Statement in June and July. If you would be interested in participating, please sign the list on the magnet board. Time and days will be determined by those who sign up.

Thanks to this year’s cook teams! Every Wednesday during the “school year” our Wednesday evening suppers have been wonderful! This was our second year of having “Monthly Cook Teams” preparing the Wednesday suppers. We have had a wide and rich variety of menus! It has been a great year! We will be meeting in August to re-form Cook Teams, and look to the coming year for more amazing Wednesday suppers. Yes, we are “Calling all Cooks” to help in the Fall.



SOS-Thank you to those who directed their Thrivent Choice dollars to the SOS fund. \$760 were directed to the SOS fund.

Remember for this next year that if you don't direct the Choice dollars to a fund of your choice, they go back into the Thrivent accounts.

SOS-What is this fund? SOS stands for Share Our Spirit or Serve Our Saints. It is a program at New Spirit which offers aid to NEW SPIRIT MEMBERS who have unexpected, short term financial needs such as rent, car repair, or utilities .

The money comes from donations and endowment grants. If you have unexpected needs, speak with Pastor Alan or Team leader Gloria Burke.



We have helped members with items such as rent, mortgages, dentistry, medication and home repairs.

Your request is kept confidential by the 7-member SOS team. Donations from members are always appreciated at any time of the year. Just use a regular church envelope and write SOS donation on it . The income is over and above the regular church tithe. There is no item in the regular budget for this.

SHARE
OUR
SPIRIT

Gloria J. Burke, SOS Team Chairman

NEEDS

Due to the normal aging progress we all experience, some jobs around our church have become too difficult to render despite an obvious love for them.

One is providing a reception/luncheon at times of Celebration of Life. Ellie Thompson has filled the role of coordinator for some time but is no longer physically able to handle the job. She's more than happy to train someone. This is a vital ministry and yet, not too demanding on time. It could be you!

We are well aware that not everyone is computer savvy so that our prayer chain doesn't work for them. We're wondering if there are some of you who'd like to participate in a prayer chain facilitated through our phones. It could involve so many more of you who have difficulties in active participation at New Spirit.

Give Nancy your name if you can help for either need!



Deborah's Gathering

On May 9th. Linda Lamb opened the meeting with prayer about our theme-Hospitality. It is listed as a command for every follower of Jesus as an expression of Love and reaching out to those we meet through life where strangers become friends. Hospitality is a way of welcoming others, thereby showing our love for them and for Christ.

We support Sunday School. The children had 19 items at the fair, with all receiving 1st or 2nd! The items will also be on display at the Columbus Library in Sept. Cards will be sent to the Confirmation students. Gift bags for the children at Diamond Cancer Center will be made in December. There will be a brunch for the Mothers and Grandmothers on Mother's day.

Donations of art supplies such as card stock would be appreciated especially red and green for Christmas.

Sunshine Chairman Sandra reported on cards she has sent including notes to Sunday church visitors. Visitors need to be reminded to fill in the green attendance sheets.

All women are invited to the next meeting June 13 in Joyce Dow's apartment in Villa 4 #225 , 2nd. floor at FELLOWSHIP SQUARE.

Each person will choose an article in the Gather magazine and lead that study. Past Gather magazines can be picked up at the Visitor's Center and the articles are timely, not just for that month.

Our hymn was All Are Welcome. Gloria read an article which said how much people like to sing in church and how they receive blessings from the singing as well as the sermon. Favorite hymn numbers were written down and Sandy and Gloria will use them during the year for our music.

The lesson was titled All Are Welcome and we discussed our own stories of a time when we received an unexpected welcome.

Our bible lesson was the story of God calling Jeremiah and giving his promises to Abram and Sarah.

Martha and Mary had different ways of welcoming Jesus. He wanted them to recognize that each were welcoming him in different ways.

Eli spoke words of blessing to Hannah and listened to her sadness because she had no children. He assured her that God would answer her prayer.

Ruth was determined to go with her mother-in-law because she loved her.

An unknown woman came to Simon's house and washed Jesus' feet as her way of extending hospitality.

What challenges do we as a congregation have in becoming more inclusive? We need to welcome everyone into the community we have created.

Gloria Burke
Secretary



Dynamic Duo

That's who the Dobbses are. There's not a day that goes by when I don't see Ken at the church, either as head of Building and Grounds or helping with the food bank or whatever seems to need his attention.

Then there's Sharon who is the financial wizard behind our Restricted Funds or proof reading bulletins or newsletter. Both helped with cook teams and Sharon is also part of the workday cook team.

They both also volunteer at the Food Bank monthly. As you can see they deserve our many thank yous!

I know I feel grateful for all they do! God's work in their hands!

Brigitte



Vacation Bible School 2018– Hero Central

There's still time to sign up!

WHEN: June 18th - 22nd 9:00am – noon

WHERE: Immanuel Presbyterian campus, 9252 E. 22nd St.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$15.00 for 1 child, \$25.00 for 2 children and \$40.00

for 3 or more children

The church will pay the fee for any children of New Spirit Lutheran Church going to VBS. Parents will need to contact Nancy at the church office so that we know how many children will attend. Registration forms are in the Narthex soon.



Thank you to the workday crew for taking the workday cook team out for breakfast last workday. Bich Francis, Darlene Paape, Ellie Thompson and Sharon Dobbs



June Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations



06/02 Austin Crace

06/04 Alan Field

Ted Matthews

Jessica West

06/05 Paul Bloomquist

06/16 Betty Cooley

06/17 Robin Hughes

06/19 William Lynch & Carol

Westover (Anniversary)



06/22 Ron Cermak

06/22 Marilyn Linderkamp

06/22 Eugene & Marilyn
Linderkamp (Anniversary)

06/24 Joy Wolfe

06/26 Jeanette Sather

06/27 Archie & Gloria Burke
(Anniversary)

06/30 Barbara Kotlaba



BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

SCHOOL IS OUT FOR SUMMER VACATION!

While we won't be delivering snack packs to the children until August, we are busy replenishing the \$22,900 in funds needed to support sending home weekend food for the 2018-2019 school year. Team members are selling the 2018 Jim Click Raffle Tickets for a chance to win a Jeep Grand Cherokee Summit. The second prize is 2 round-trip, international, first-class plane tickets and third prize is \$5000 cash. The proceeds of the raffle stay with our program. See any team member for tickets or contact the church office for more information. Cost is \$25 for one ticket or \$100 for five tickets

Here at New Spirit, we feed **229** children from Erickson, Ford, Steele and Henry Elementary Schools, providing snack packs to take home on the weekend. Typical items include a macaroni and cheese box, canned sausages, chicken or tuna, oatmeal, canned beans or pasta, cereal, hot cocoa, canned vegetable, and fruit cup.

For regular contributions, please make your tax deductible check to Blessings in a Backpack. You can drop it in the offering plate, drop it off at the church office, or drop it directly in the mail to BIB Lockbox, PO Box 950291, Louisville, KY 40295. **Remember to put Steele Elementary on the memo line.**

Our team members are hard at work to keep up with the added students each week. Learn more about what we do and how you can help. **We need volunteers to help with fund raising, planning, purchasing, packing, and delivery.** Contact Laurie Bernard at lbernard2008@hotmail.com

"Like" our page on Facebook *Blessings at New Spirit Lutheran Church*

OUR AWESOME TEAM MEMBERS

"T" Baker	Maxine Nibbe
Cathy Cermak	Margo Nichols
Joyce Dow	Philip Pierce
Sarah Elmquist	Marilyn Roberts
Craig Geiger	Marilyn Stoeckig
Marlene Hanson	Nancy Strait
Dave & Joanne Kingston	Paul Stuetze
John Lukehart	Mike Terrell
Marty Mosthaff	Phyllis Wagner



HOMELESS BLESSINGS

A special THANKS to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for bringing their portable showers to our event on May 12th. WOW! Lots of clean shiny faces! MARTY MOSTHAFF – you are the best for setting up the connection with St. Andrew's. Then, off to Sande for haircuts and beard trims. THANKS SANDE WADDELL!

St. Andrew's also gifted us with new socks. New Spirit had clean underwear and clothes to finish the look. It is really a feat to sort the clothing donations we receive, but with our new storage shed, we have a place for everything. ANOTHER THANKS TO THE CLOTHING TEAM!

May brought us 40 clients! We are seeing more “marginal” clients (they have shelter but still struggle with having enough food to eat). We now offer haircuts, 1-day bus passes, access to housing, packaged food, protein drinks, hygiene products, first aid products, and a great home cooked meal. We ran out of food early and had to run out to buy some breakfast burritos! THANK YOU FOOD TEAM!

There are collection boxes in NSLC's narthex. See the list below of items we always need. As we grow, we are looking to put donation boxes in area businesses and churches. The Arizona Beer House (we serve Thanksgiving dinner there) has delivered items to us several times from the donation box in their entryway. IF YOU KNOW SOME BUSINESS THAT WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP US, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

Want to help? Contact NSLC Office or Laurie Bernard at lbernard2008@hotmail.com

PLEASE DONATE:

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S NEW UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS
SHOES
SUMMER CLOTHES
BACKPACKS AND TARPS
AA AND AAA BATTERIES
FULL SIZE SHAMPOO, LOTION, TOOTHPASTE, DEODORANT
RAZORS, COMBS, BRUSHES
PEANUT BUTTER, CANNED MEATS
PROTEIN DRINKS

OUR AWESOME TEAM MEMBERS

Sarah Drath	Maxine Nibbe
Sarah Elmquist	Phil Pierce
Naida Granmo	Robin Ploueffe
Dan & Jan Joslin	Marilyn Stoeckig
Dave & Joanne Kingston	Carl & Nancy Strait
Lauren Meadows	Jack French & Teresa Westoff
Marty Mosthaff	

NEXT EVENT IS JUNE 9TH
9AM -11AM

COME OUT AND SEE HOW WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail
Tucson, AZ 85710



SHOUT OUT- Stephan Rivers for abundance of food at hospitality time during the year.

SHOUT OUT- Hospitality Team for May!

SHOUT OUT- Homeless Blessings team led by Laurie Bernard & Phil Pierce; It's growth is noteworthy and encouraging.

SHOUT OUT- Don Crow for replacing the exhaust fan in the men's bathroom.

SHOUT OUT- Don Austin and Steve Lamb for preparing Sunday worship screens.

Shout-Outs



SHOUT OUT- Sandra , Shelley and Karen Colwell for Mother's Day brunch. Food was plenty and yummy. The goodies in our gift bags were fun.

SHOUT OUT- Ken Dobbs for coming to the church at a moment's notice to access a water leak.

SHOUT OUT- Toni Nemetz for her every week distribution of bulletins at 9:00.

SHOUT OUT- Ana Mackay, Mary Lou Rex and Sharon Dobbs for proof reading bulletins and newsletters.

Please submit words of thanks and praise to Nancy at nancy@newspiritleutheran.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

Website: newspiritleutherantucson.org