

That's The Spirit!

New Spirit Lutheran Church

Our faith is in Jesus.

Our hope is in grace.

Our strength is in love.

Rev. Carol Breimeier

Rev. Fred Nelson

June 2020

During this massive time of change, I would like to formally thank everyone who makes up our Congregation for staying safe and caring for those close to you. Also, I know we all thank and wish Pastor Alan all the very best as he transitions into retirement. And just rest assured a proper group farewell and retirement recognition will be held later on this year when we are able to fully come together as a whole Congregation.

I also am proud to confirm that our interim pastoral coverage is in place. We are fortunate to welcome the pastoral team of Carol Breimeier and her husband Pastor Fred Nelson. They will be co-pastoring, with Carol covering 3/4 of the contracted coverage and Pastor Fred covering the rest along with a prison ministry that he is involved with. Pastor Fred will start on June first and Pastor Carol will join us on August first. Some of our Congregation have met them as they have visited our church services in the past. They have extensive experience that will compliment us very nicely.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone for keeping connected to each other and New Spirit. Our presence continues to make a difference in people's lives in many ways—some seen and some unseen. I want to thank those involved with the telephone tree helping people stay connected and informed. A big thank you to Terry, Don, and Ken for the yard work accomplished, to Nancy and John for all the multiple ways they have kept things running.

The Synod will help guide the process of re-holding in-church services, time frame still unclear. We have been able to identify and are in the process of upgrading our ability to live stream services. More to come as things finalize.

As one of Pastor Alan's last messages to us noted, having patience in these unique times is center to successfully navigating these uncharted waters.

David Grundstrom,
Council President



Good News! Great News!

We are pleased to introduce you to Pastors Carol Breimeier & Fred Nelson who will be serving as New Spirit's interim pastors. Pastor Carol will be finishing her interim work at Esperanza Lutheran Church in Phoenix in July, and she will transition to New Spirit $\frac{3}{4}$ time on August 1st. Pastor Fred will begin his work on June 1st in a part-time position, and he will continue in a $\frac{1}{4}$ time role after Pastor Carol comes in early August. Pastors Carol and Fred live in Tucson and have worshipped with New Spirit on occasion over the past year.



The "interim process" is an intentional ministry of the Grand Canyon Synod. In the coming months you will be asked to participate in conversations about how New Spirit might develop new growing edges and areas of ministry.

Pastor Alan

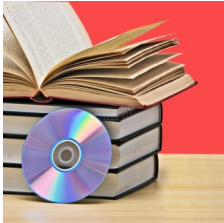
Ginny Gearhart died May 5th at 6:10 p.m., at Peppi's House Hospice. She stepped into the arms of Jesus peacefully, and Max welcomed her home.

*In
Memory
of*

Books & CDs....from Pastor Alan

Over the years Pastor Alan has accumulated many books and music CDs. He would like to share the excess with you. He will put those books and CDs on a table in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to stop by the church during Office Hours to "take a few."

Those books and CDs are available in the Fellowship Hall.



In addition to these books, there are books, CDs in the office for the following people to pick up: Edna Walton, Cathy Cermak, Barbara Rebok, Barb Verthein, Dennis Armstrong and Marilyn Carter.

Confirmation update... Allison Uidenich, Katie Uidenich, and Ethan Rettig have completed their studies of the Catechism, Scripture, and the Christian life. We were to celebrate their **Affirmation of Baptism on Mother's Day, May 10th**. Because of the "shelter-in-place mode" the Service of Affirmation of Baptism will be scheduled after we are able to gather together. We want the entire congregation to celebrate this milestone for these young people so the date will be some time in the future. Pastor Alan will return to New Spirit for that day to preach and to celebrate their affirming the Promises of their Baptism.

Confirmation



The 2020 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly has been cancelled. The 2021 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly will be held in Las Vegas in June 2021. Dates will be published soon.

Summer Worship Schedule

When the CDC lifts the “shelter-in-place” order so “large groups can gather”, or when we get word from the Grand Canyon Synod, we will resume weekly worship in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion. During the summer months we will be doing one service @ 10:00 am.



Please remember to keep your tithes and pledges up-to-date. While summer in the desert is hot and dry, it is important to remember that our income drops when winter guests return to their homes. Their giving is nearly 15% of our annual budget, so the summer months can be difficult for paying our obligations. You can give by mailing in your checks, stopping by the church office, or by using the “Donations” icon on the New Spirit website: www.newspiritlutherantucson.org.

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

Our Blessings Team delivered 2400 snack packs to Erickson, Steele, and Ford Elementary Schools for drive-by distribution during the COVID19 shutdown. Here is part of a letter from one of the School Counselors.

"Today I have personally delivered 57 snack packs to the homes of families who were unable to come to any of our distribution days, for whatever reason. These tend to be the families that are the most in need of assistance right now. Among the families that I visited were a mother who is on bedrest due to a high-risk pregnancy and is managing her household with the help of her 8-year-old son while the father is deployed overseas, a family that has been quarantined for weeks because one family member unfortunately contracted COVID, a home of four boys who are left alone all day while their mother is hard at work, two mothers that I met at their places of work as they are essential workers, and an elderly grandmother who has taken in her grandchildren but is deathly afraid of leaving the house due to her risk factors. Every single parent to whom I have given snack packs has been incredibly appreciative and has mentioned some type of hardship—whether it be tripled food expenses due to children being home all day or the unexpected loss of employment. When I am blessed enough to give the snack packs directly to the children, their faces immediately light up and many are touched to know that the tradition of “Backpack Buddies” still carries on, despite these difficult times. We are so thankful to have these resources to give to our families in need, as every day we become aware of another hardship that a member of our community has had to take on. Thank you Backpack Buddies and thank you to all of the incredible donors that have made this possible!



Thank you, THANK YOU for all that you do!"

June Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

06/02 Austin Crace	06/19 William Lynch & Carol	06/24 Joy Wolfe
06/04 Ted Matthews	Westover (Anniversary)	06/26 Jeanette Sather
Jessica West	06/22 Ron Cermak	06/27 Archie & Gloria Burke
06/05 Paul Blomquist	Marilyn Linderkamp	(Anniversary)
06/16 Betty Cooley	06/22 Eugene & Marilyn	06/30 Barbara Kotlaba
06/17 Robin Hughes	Linderkamp (Anniversary)	





*Faces blurred for privacy
actual students receiving our snack packs*

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

We have been able to continue distribution of our snack packs during the school shutdown because of a generous funding grant from Blessings in a Backpack and a matching fund grant from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

A special Thank You goes out to all the school workers who have not only been getting food to the kids through drive-by distributions at the schools, but also personally delivering them to the homes of families that were not able to pick them up.

Look for our team making Jim Click Ford raffle tickets available for purchase soon. This effort, with your help, is our biggest fund raiser of the year.

School is officially out for the summer. We are getting ready for the new school year with a food donation from the Gospel Rescue Mission. Look for more information next month.

Hunger stops for no shutdown. Help us help our kids. We are in this together and we can make this work.

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***



HOMELESS EVENTS CANCELLED IN APRIL MAY AND JUNE. POSSIBLE JULY EVENT. CONTACT NSLC OFFICE FOR DETAILS.

Everyone can get involved in helping those less fortunate. Each event, our fabulous cook team comes up with a wonderful menu of home cooking...a rare event for many homeless people. Like to cook? Once a month, help us provide some of your “yummy” talent!

Our event the 2nd Saturday of each month has representatives from City of Tucson and Office of the Independent Police Examiner to provide help for those who face adversity every day just to live.

New Spirit’s Homeless Blessings Team shares a hot meal, tarps, blankets, hats, gloves, coats and warm socks, 1-day bus passes, packaged food, protein drinks, hygiene products, first aid products, and clothing.

PLEASE DONATE: MEN’S JEANS – ESPECIALLY 32-34 SIZES BLANKETS, SLEEPING BAGS, SHOES AND SOCKS

IF YOU ARE A THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBER, PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING AN ACTION TEAM FOR HOMELESS BLESSINGS. WE WILL RECEIVE \$250 TO HELP TOWARDS THIS MINISTRY.

If you’d like to help our ministry with a cash donation, please make your tax deductible check to New Spirit Lutheran Church with the notation for Homeless Blessings in the memo. You can drop it in the offering plate, drop it off at the church office, or mail it to NSLC, 8701 E. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85710.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS MISSION

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

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail
Tucson, AZ 85710

Shout-Outs

SPECIAL NOTE: Due to the uncertainty of dates that the church will re-open, we have not included a calendar with this newsletter. Please check the calendar posted on the website. If changes occur for re-opening, the Council will make phone calls to notify members. Stay Safe and Stay Healthy!

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)

How to contact us:

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