

That's The Spirit!

Rev. Carol Breimeier
Rev. Fred Nelson

New Spirit Lutheran Church
*Our faith is in Jesus.
Our hope is in grace.
Our strength is in love.*

March 2021

FOCUS FOR LENT

Two things that make it harder to focus on our relationship with God are: (1) being busy and distracted and (2) having a lot of unscheduled time. Being busy can make finding time for God feel like just one more thing to cram into our schedules. But, when our time is wide open and unscheduled (say, when we're staying home because of a pandemic), days can slip by without our getting to the things we meant to do.

This is one reason why giving something up for Lent is a time-honored tradition. Every time you go to do something you've decided not to do, eat something you've decided not to eat, or feel hungry from fasting, your routine is disrupted and you're reminded to think about why.

But Lent is also a good time to *add* something to our day-to-day lives. It could be something as short and sweet as a specific prayer before meals, a Bible verse on a card on the kitchen counter or taped to the bathroom mirror, or a reminder on the phone that dings once or twice a day with a reminder to thank God for a blessing you've received.

What's one small thing you could add to your day—in a way you'll remember—that will draw your mind back to God?

We can all come through this Lenten season with a stronger, more steady awareness that God is always there, always ready to listen, always ready to love and forgive.

May you be blessed this Lent!

Pastor Carol



SHORTEST NEWSLETTER EVER?



Since we put a newsletter out in mid-February (after the Annual Meeting votes were counted), this March edition is brief. The idea is simply to get back on schedule and to let you know about birthdays and anniversaries before they're past.

LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP

Don't forget to find New Spirit's Lenten Midweek worship services on YouTube each Wednesday after 3:00pm. These will be brief services that will include meditations on the theme "Jesus Speaks." Find them by going to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and typing "New Spirit Lutheran Church Tucson" in the search bar, or find the link on our website.



PRAYER OF LAMENT: COVID-19



Pastor Alan has let us know that he is working with the Grand Canyon Synod to produce a video called "Prayer of Lament: COVID-19 1st Anniversary," which will be available in the middle of this month.

Mid-March is the anniversary of the Sunday when we were first asked to stop gathering in person. At that time, the request was to avoid in-person worship for two weeks, at which point we would see where things stood. Needless to say, much time has passed since then, and it's very appropriate that we pause and raise our lament together to God for what's been lost in this year.

Watch for information about when the video is posted online.

March Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

3/1 John & Carol Lukehart
(Anniversary)

3/2 Shelley Colwell

3/4 Margo Nichols

3/6 Ron Anderson
Linda Anderson



3/11 Don Nibbe

3/12 Tre Garibay

3/13 Flo Vohnoutka

3/17 Bich Francis

3/30 Mark Canterbury

New Spirit Lutheran Church

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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. Stay Safe and Stay Healthy!

Please submit words of thanks and praise to Nancy at nancy@newspiritlutherantucson.org to be placed in the newsletter by the 15th of each month. Thank you!

<p>Sundays: (in usual times) 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) You can currently watch services Sundays on YouTube.</p>	<p><i>How to contact us:</i></p> <p>New Spirit Lutheran Church 8701 E. Old Spanish Trail Tucson, AZ 85710</p> <p>Phone: (520) 296-2461 E-Mail: NewSpiritLutheranTucson@yahoo.com Website: newspiritlutherantucson.org</p>
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