

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

November 2018

Dear Partners in the Gospel,

Part of the holiday season is the return of long-time loved movies and TV shows. A Wonderful Life, A Christmas Carol, Frosty the Snowman, and many more have become traditions in the homes of many people.

My personal favorite is the Wizard of Oz. I have loved that movie since I was a very young child. And my favorite character, I have mentioned often here, is the Cowardly Lion. Although he was born to be majestic and strong, he longed for a measure of ca- ahr- agge! I say it better than I spell it.

Courage is an interesting power. Courage is centered in a person making a decision. Courage is a decision. Courage is a decision made when one is faced with fear. Fear is always a reaction.

This Fall, as we prepare to enter 2019 at New Spirit, you are each being invited to Give and Live Courageously. Stewardship in Christ's church is the personal decision to live this life with all that God has given us, less 10% to be returned in thanksgiving to God. Tithing is a decision. Trusting God to provide is a decision. Trusting there will be enough is a decision.

And, indeed, it takes a courageous decision to commit to give a full 10% of our income to the ministry of the church. Courage is a decision, and it always comes after the considerations of doing something more safe; giving some amount that is very comfortable. Anybody can be comfortable. Comfort comes with ease, and little effort. Comfort comes with relying on what is known, but not stepping into places of the unknown which is where real growth dwells.

You can measure your reliance on comfort by listing the studies or classes you have taken part in at New Spirit. Those classes and studies create discomfort so that new life, and growth can happen. It takes courage to step into the unknown. It takes courage to extend more effort whether that be in financial giving, or even in lengthening your morning walk by a mile or so. Live courageously and the discomfort of going the extra-mile will soon become exhilarating!

Live courageously. Believe with courage. Serve as a team member with hope. Invite your friends with courage and hope that they will meet the Spirit of God who dwells here at New Spirit.

This coming year will be our time to live courageously as we seek to broaden our ministry, and at the same time strengthen and broaden your faithful confidence in God's grace and mercy.

The economy, according to most reports, is strong and is growing. That means the "fear" of scarcity is set aside, and confidence and courage is at hand. We have so many ministry opportunities before us that require more funds than our past Mission Plan (budget) included.

Live courageously! Be confident that God's presence strengthens and calls us. Let your decision to broaden New Spirit's reach in this community be reflected in your increase in your weekly giving to the mission of New Spirit.

It takes courage, to take that step out of the boat, as Peter learned. And before his fear overtook his mind and heart.....Peter did in fact...courageously walk upon the water. Jesus calls us each by name....to a life of courageous life and faith.

Thoughtfully,

Pastor Alan



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is scheduled for **Sunday, December 9th at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** All “confirmed, contributing, members of New Spirit are expected to attend the meeting.” On the agenda will be election of Church Council members, appointment of members to the **Memorial Garden-Columbarium Board** (3-year term), and the **Endowment Board** (3-year term). A **Nominating Committee** will be appointed as well. The **2019 Budget** will be presented for discussion, including a report of **Commitment Sunday Pledges** received on Sunday, November 4th. A youth sponsored supper will be served after the meeting.



Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service will be **Wednesday, November 21st at 6:00 p.m.** Please note the earlier time. This simple service is a prayerful service that focuses on the goodness of God, and the blessings we have received. The Lord’s Supper then serves as an “appetizer” for the family feasts that will take place on Thanksgiving.



Godspeed and Farewell...The time has come for these friends to be leaving Tucson, and New Spirit, and so we bid them God-speed and farewell:

Marlene Junge is moving back to the Midwest to be near her family. Marlene has been a member of Spanish Trail/New Spirit for many years. She and her late husband, Bill, have served on Church Council, on various Ministry Teams, as ushers, and Marlene was an “original” member of the Praise Team. In the past years she has been part of the SOS board.

Phil Pierce is moving back to North Carolina to be near his family. Do you hear the common thread? Phil has been an integral part of the Praise Team for the past couple of years, and is completing his year of service as the Vice President of the Church Council. Phil has been very involved with the growing homeless ministry here. His guitar licks and interludes will be missed.



Ed and Diane Rodriguez adopted their grandsons, Xavier and Jonah, and now that the legalities are settled they have returned to Puerto Rico. Their home there was destroyed in Hurricane Maria, and Ed has spent months there rebuilding and getting the home habitable. Ed and Diane and the boys have faithfully attended the 11:00 service for the past four years. Their address is: **HC5, Box 54880, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico 00680. Their phone is 1-917-854-3374**

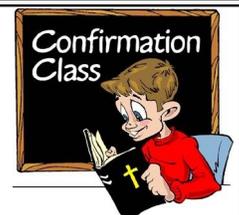
In Memory: Allan Wedemeier Over the Summer months in Iowa Allan developed abdominal pains, and became weak and lethargic. He lost many pounds. In September he was diagnosed with cancer that had spread to his liver. Allan died October 26th. He and Sharon have been attending Spanish Trail/ New Spirit for many years. We ask your prayers for Sharon, and their family as they grieve Allan’s death. He will be buried in Iowa in the family plot. A Service of Celebration for the Life of Allan Wedemeier will be held here at New Spirit at a future time.



Hospitality booklets will soon be arriving. Please take a look and find your month. Hopefully it will suit you. If not, maybe you can swap with someone. Remember, we don’t need to outdo each other. It’s whatever suits your style. Do keep in mind not everyone can do sweets. And if your name is not listed but you want to help, contact a team leader and let them know. Cash donations are also always welcome. See you at the coffee hour!

Confirmation class update.....

The end is in sight! We have completed most of their instruction in the faith, and we are looking forward to scheduling the Service of Affirmation of Baptism for Amber Crace, Caitlin Friend, and Jakob Rettig. A December date may be in the works!!!



Hello everyone. Here's hoping you had a great summer. As we move into the fall season Terry Mysak and I are getting ready for yet another tax season. Every year for the past 12 years our volunteers have helped people save quite a bit of money getting their taxes done for free. Last year we did over 1000 tax returns and it grows every year. The first year we did this we only did 70 returns! If you would like to be part of this ministry either as a tax preparer or a greeter we would love to have you. Classes for the tax preparers begin in January and we will open the first week of February. Our hours will be Thursdays and Fridays from 2:00PM – 6:00 PM and on Saturdays from 9:00AM-1:00PM. Please let me know if you are interested and I'll get you signed up.

I would also like to mention that this ministry is pretty much self-supporting by donations from church members and tax site clients. You won't see a line item in the church operating budget, but we do have a designated fund you can donate to. So if you would like to make a donation just write Tax Site on the memo line of the check and either drop it off at the church office or put it in the offering plate on Sunday.

I would be remiss if I didn't say we appreciate the use of the churches facilities during the tax season, so we'll be in your way at the Fellowship Hall again this taxing year.

Blessings,

John E. Lukecart



WELCA - Deborah's Gathering Bible Study – Oct. 10, 2018.

Sunshine chair Sandra reported sending 11 cards to new church members, visitors and people who have illness in their family.

Barbara Rebok, Gloria Burke, Linda Lamb and her daughter will be attending the Grand Canyon Synod convention in Phoenix, November 9-11. We will put together a Fiesta Basket for the fundraiser there.

Joyce has applied to the Endowment Fund for money to go to Navajo Mission in Rock Point, AZ. It is their 65th year and the first time it is all Navajo managed. New Spirit has had connections with the Mission for many years. Our Gathering group includes them in our budget.

November is Thank Offering month for the Women. Information about WELCA and offering envelopes will be handed out at a November service and collected at a later service.

Linda Lamb gave the devotions and Joyce Dow led the study. Our lesson was on the works of repentance, repenting to God and to repent and restore our relationships with other people in our lives. Hymns related to the lesson were sung – God When Human Hearts Are Broken and ended with Blest Be The Tie That Binds!

November meeting will be Wednesday, November 14th. at 1:30 p.m. in room 105. ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

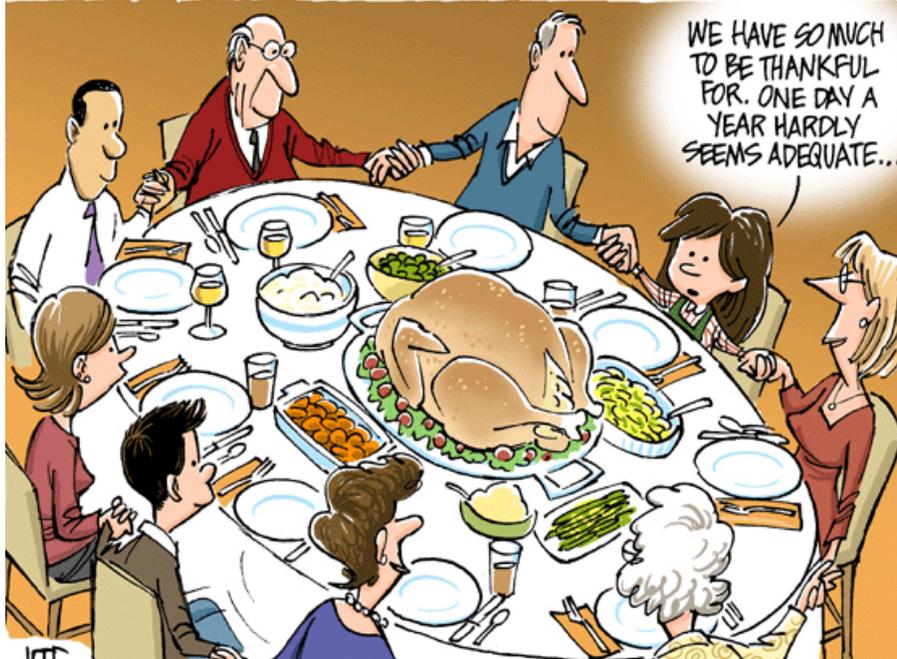
Leader – Joyce Dow Devotions – Sandra Colwell Music – Gloria Burke



Just a reminder that we continually collect the following items: Aluminum cans for the youth, aluminum pull tabs for the Ronald Mc Donald House, Box Tops for Education coupons for the Navajo Mission School at Rock Point, AZ. and PLASTIC bottle caps (no metal!!!) collected and sent to Mexico where every thousand gets a cancer treatment for a child. Items can be placed in the drawers in the back cupboard of the Narthex. Any questions, ask Gloria Burke.

November Workday is Saturday the 17th at 8:00 a.m.

We could use a few good hands to help clean up. This will be the last workday for the year. Breakfast will be served afterward.



HOMELESS THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS

Thursday, November 22nd

11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

ARIZONA BEER HOUSE

150 S. Kolb Road

Please help us distribute a holiday meal

Sign-up sheets on metal board in Narthex to share a dish and deliver to
Arizona Beer House at 10:30 on Thanksgiving Day

For information, contact NSLC Office or
Laurie Bernard at 886-3242 or lbernard2008@hotmail.com



DAYS OF CARING 2018

United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona



New Spirit participated on Saturday, October 20th in the Days of Caring for our annual God's Work Our Hands event. We helped start vegetable and flower beds for 12 group home gardens.

November Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

11/01 Joel Carty

11/04 Cordelia Lundquist

11/07 Barbara Rebok

11/09 Mark Buglewicz
LaSandra Matthews

11/11 Edna Walton
Cathy Cermak

11/12 Craig Geiger



11/14 Caitlyn Friend

11/18 Virginia Gearhart

11/20 Nikole Garibay
Sharon Wedemeier

11/25 Barbara Carty

11/26 Victor & Cori Garibay
(Anniversary)



On a cold and rainy October Saturday, 23 brave souls showed up to share a hot meal and receive much needed supplies. In addition to 5 haircuts, we provided 1-day bus passes, access to housing, packaged food, protein drinks, hygiene products, first aid products, clothing, tarps, ponchos.

IF YOU KNOW SOME BUSINESS THAT WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP US WITH A COLLECTION BOX AT THEIR LOCATION, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

PLEASE DONATE FOR THE WINTER:

**MEN'S AND WOMEN'S NEW UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS
BLANKETS, SLEEPING BAGS, WARM JACKETS
SHOES
FLASHLIGHTS
AA AND AAA BATTERIES
FULL SIZE SHAMPOO, LOTION, TOOTHPASTE, DEODORANT
RAZORS AND SHAVING CREAM
PEANUT BUTTER, CANNED MEATS
PROTEIN DRINKS**

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.

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



This school year, we are feeding **279** children from Erickson, Ford, Steele and Henry Elementary Schools, providing snack packs to take home on the weekend. Typical items include macaroni n' cheese box, canned sausages, chicken or tuna, oatmeal, canned beans or pasta, cereal, hot cocoa, canned vegetable, and fruit cup.

In October, 160 backpacks were donated from Vera Bradley, a famous handbag company. Each of our schools will be receiving 40, to be distributed to the kids most in need of a new backpack.

This is the last month to purchase your tickets for The Jim Click Millions for Tucson Raffle 2018! **Mr. Click is raffling off a 2018 Jeep Grand Cherokee Summit as the grand prize.** In addition, there are two new prizes this year, as well. Second prize is two first-class, round-trip airline tickets anywhere in the world and third prize is \$5,000. Ticket prices are one for \$25 or five for \$100. **ALL PROCEEDS FROM TICKET SALES STAY WITH THE NEW SPIRIT BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK PROGRAM.**

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.**

You can designate our program through your Fry's Community Rewards program. A percentage of what you spend on groceries can be donated to Blessings in a Backpack. Sign up online or in your local Fry's store. Our account number is XL431. Help feed the kids as you feed yourself!

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*

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail
Tucson, AZ 85710

Shout-Outs

SHOUT OUT- *Marty Mosthaff, Jenny Kwapich, Jakob & Ethan Rettig, Phil Pierce, John Lukecart, and Laurie Bernard for helping with United Way Days of Caring.*

SHOUT OUT - *Homeless Blessings Cook Team for providing a hot, nutritious meal at each Homeless Blessings event.*



SHOUT OUT - *Blessings in a Backpack delivery team who make sure all the snack packs get to the schools every week.*

SHOUT OUT - *October hospitality team.*

SHOUT OUT - *October Wednesday cook team.*

SHOUT OUT - *October Workday crew & breakfast cooks.*

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, 4:00 & 6:15 pm
Classes

How to contact us:

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