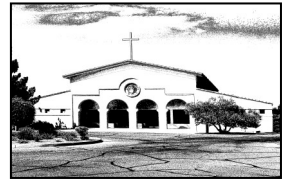


Apostles Lutheran Church Visions

To Know Jesus and make Jesus Known



October 2025

Vol. 31 No. 10



Dear Friends,

Why do we “go” to church? I mean why do we show up to the building at certain times during the week? Its not just about education, we can get that on-line from a lot of places these days. Its not really about the music and “Entertainment Value” we can get that anywhere too! Even the preaching is not the main reason. You can listen to many different preachers on-line, on satellite, on radio, 24 hours a day, if you want to.

One reason we show up is to give God something we Americans consider very valuable: our time. We take the time to show up and say here I am Lord, my relationship with you is important to me. So much so that I’m investing time in it.

Also, we come to have community with each other. We are lifted and encouraged by the sight, the singing, and the presence of other people. Even though we are more connected to information than ever before, we are increasingly lonely and separated. Real community is needed more than ever. Finally, we come to be served, by God himself. We build community with him and each other. In our hymnal each of the 5 main worship services are called, “Divine Service”. There is Divine Service 1,2,3,4,and 5. Each one centers on the Lord’s Supper, Jesus giving us his body and blood with the bread and wine. You can’t get that through a screen, a speaker, or out in nature. To explain the name “Divine Service”, here is another well written article from our sister congregation, Faith Lutheran Church in Bhutan City, The Philippines:

Lutheran Sunday Service: Why We Call It the Divine Service
If you’ve ever stepped into a Lutheran church and heard someone say, “Welcome to the Divine Service,” you might’ve tilted your head a little and thought:

Divine Service? What’s so “divine” about it? Why not just call it worship?

That’s a good question.

In a world that’s full of noise and pressure — pressure to perform, to succeed, to always “do more” for God — the Divine Service offers something radically different. It’s not about you climbing up to God. It’s about God coming down to you.

That’s why we call it Divine — because the heart of this service is God serving us.

Strange idea, right? That the all-powerful Creator of the universe would serve us?

But that’s exactly what Jesus did. He said, “I came not to be served, but to serve, and to give my life.” (Mark 10:45) In the Divine Service, that same Jesus continues to serve His people — not symbolically, not metaphorically — but in a real, present, living way. He speaks His forgiveness to wounded, guilty people who carry regrets they can’t shake. He washes sinners with the waters of Baptism, making them clean when nothing else could. He feeds the hungry and the weary with His own body and blood, reminding us that salvation isn’t just a belief — it’s a gift you can taste. He reminds us that we belong, even when the world tells us we don’t.

And we respond — not out of fear, not out of duty — but with prayers, songs, and hearts that are slowly learning to rest. It’s not a concert. It’s not a show. It’s not a place to prove how holy you are.

It’s a place for the tired. For the broken. For the ones who keep messing up. For the ones who’ve walked away but still hear a whisper calling them back.

The Divine Service is where Jesus meets us. Week after week. With the same grace. The same promises. The same mercy that never runs out.

So if you’ve never experienced it before — if “church” to you has always felt like a place where you had to perform or pretend — maybe it’s time to sit down in a pew, breathe, and simply be served. “Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters... Listen, that your soul may live.” (Isaiah 55:1,3). This is why we call it the Divine Service.

Because when everything else in life tells you to earn love, Jesus comes and gives it freely.

And maybe... that’s exactly what you’ve been needing.

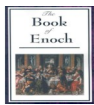
See you Sunday! Peace,
Pastor Andrew





10/06/1990 John & Dorothy Nicol
 10/07 Connie Schluz
 10/07/2017 Kevin & Cathy Wenker
 10/09 Gebru Abaha
 10/10 Sawyer Edmondson
 Ruby Ortiz-Ordaz
 10/14 Earl Pixley
 10/15 Diane Clements
 10/17/1998 Russ & Lynn Hodgden
 10/18 Octavio Figueuroa

10/21 Jed Byars
 10/22 Steve Sears
 10/22/1999 Ismael Meruz & Brenda Felix
 10/25 Izzy Scott
 10/30/1993 Mike & Karen Scheerer



Not Quite the Bible Study

2nd and 4th Fridays 7pm
 Room 5 (Admin. Bldg)



Men's Bible Study

2nd and 4th Saturdays 9:00
 am Admin Building Rm 5



Apostles Women's Bible Study

Mondays 10:00 am
 Office Building Library



Prayer Shawl Ministry

"The Prayer Shawl ministry has shawls available upon request. If you have a special request let us know. We will make a shawl with prayers for that specific person. Email Mary Otte at Mbotte52779@gmail.com with your request.



If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please contact the church office so that we can pray for you and so that one of the Pastors or Elders can visit.

Prayer requests can be made through the church office either by sending an email to secre-tary.apostles@phxcoxmail.com or calling 623-979-3497. These requests will then be forwarded on to all our members to include in their daily prayers.



Human Care Ministry

The Free Food Box Giveaway is the 3rd Saturday of the month.

Thank you to those who are responsible for getting the word out by providing a sign and a stand for the sign.

Included in the food box is information designed to help them in their walk with Jesus or to bring them to Jesus.

The grant from the Lutheran Thrift Shop helps to fill our food pantry, and your donations fill in the gap. Thank you for your donations to the food pantry and remember to shop at the West Valley Lutheran Thrift Shop on 107th and Peoria Ave. Volunteers are needed to process, cashier, or help as needed. It's a pressure free job with great benefits – like making new friends!

We need your help! Households cannot use SNAP benefits to buy any nonfood items such as cleaning supplies, paper products, and other household supplies. Therefore, in addition to food, we want to help with: **deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels, shower gel, shaving gel, shampoo, soap, toothpaste (we have a lot of toothbrushes), feminine products, and baby supplies. Items must be unopened.** We make available these types of items when they pick up their box if they need them.



MOVIE NIGHT

Classroom Building rooms 1 & 2
Movie begins at 6:00pm each month

Bring your own beverage and a snack to share.
If you do not think you can sit on those folding chairs
that long, bring in a comfy chair .

October 14 God's Not Dead: In God We Trust

November 11 Luther

December 13 TBT

January 13 Woodlawn



Lutheran Thrift Shop
10615 W Peoria Ave
Sun City, AZ 85351
623815.7061

Summer's Finally Over!

According to the calendar it's finally Fall! Any day now the temperatures will catch up with that calendar and it's a darn good thing because, at the Lutheran Thrift Shop, we're done with summer! Our snowbirds are returning – it's probably already snowing in Minnesota – and we're happy to be welcoming them back!

Now is a great time to join the LTS nation! We are currently seeking people in all areas of the shop. However, cashiers and jewelry counter people are an immediate need. Whatever your interest or talent, though, we have a place for you! Call us for a tour today and get a "behind the scenes look".

Right now, you'll be blown away by our huge selection of Halloween, Fall and Thanksgiving items in the Holiday House and, of course, our halls are **always** decked for Christmas!

Time to do some fall cleaning and get rid of stuff you don't use or need anymore? Maybe clean out those closets and the garage and discover extra space you didn't know you had? Bring it to the backdoor of the LTS on Tuesday or Thursday from 9-2 and help us help others. We will gladly pick up furniture from your pet-free, smoke-free home that's too big for you to handle. Our courteous truckers still come inside to pick up your things. Give us a call today to schedule a pick up.

Keep up with the LTS by following us on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop/>
Or at our website: www.lutheranthrift.com



Are we missing your picture?

Putting names and faces together is much easier if you provide a picture for the directory. Bring a picture to the secretary to be scanned, email a picture, or ask Pastor to take one on Sunday morning. Getting updates for your church directory is as easy as requesting that service to be provided to you. Drop your directory off in the church office (labeled with your name) and it will be updated for you. We make every attempt to print address changes and additions in the monthly newsletter so you can update your own directory. If you do not currently have a directory and would like one, we can print one for you. (The cost to print a directory in color is approx. \$8.)

Those Serving Us This Month

October 5 Video operator: Counters - Joyce Heil & Ron Bissey Pew Maintenance - Sharon Ferraro	Joel Helsper, elder Joyce Heil & Frank Morano, ushers Vicki Sears, reader Gayle Andrejack, altar guild Henry Baldwin, acolyte
October 12 Video operator: Counters - Karen Nicol & Judi Markosian Pew Maintenance - Sharon Ferraro	Skip Kamps, elder Stephen Waltz & DeWayne Klockow, ushers Lisa Lonsberry, reader Sawyer Edmondson, acolyte
October 19 Video operator: Counters - Joyce Heil & Ron Bissey Pew Maintenance - Sharon Ferraro	Don Miller, elder Lyle Schlenz & John Nicol, ushers Mary Otte, reader Gayle Andrejack, altar guild Henry Baldwin, acolyte
October 26 Video operator: Counters - Brenda Smith & Joel Helsper Pew Maintenance - Sharon Ferraro	Tom Nass, elder Barry Yohnka & Meghan Allen, ushers Pat Bilovesky, reader Sawyer Edmonson, acolyte



If you wish to donate flowers for a special occasion, the cost is \$25. Please sign the flower chart located in the Fellowship Hall. If you sign up for flowers after the newsletter has been sent for that month, please call the church office. We have space for 2 arrangements per Sunday with a cost of \$25 per arrangement. You can place your payment in the offering box clearly marked FLOWERS. Our florist is Four Seasons located at 67th Ave. and Cactus 623-878-2740. Please keep them in mind for your floral needs.

Oct. 5 Skip & Deb Kamps in celebration of children's anniversary

Oct. 12

Oct. 19

Oct. 26 Skip & Deb Kamps in celebration of children's anniversary



1329 N 29th Ave, Suite E-15 Phoenix, AZ

Our front door faces I-10 south of McDowell Rd. on 29th Ave
(see our sign by the gate)

Secretary Susan Thomas @ 480.621.9251 414stthomas@gmail.com.

**Friends of Orphan Grain Train,
Arizona Branch, Phoenix Collection Center**

We are gearing up for our 1st Fundraiser on November 8th with Paydown with Paella. Paella is a Spanish dish that will be made on the premises. There will be a quilt raffle and door prizes. If you would like to attend our fundraiser, please talk to Susan Thomas.

We are trying to get as many donations sorted and packed as possible before the big event. We also need to deep clean the warehouse floor so that we can entertain our guests.

UPCOMING WORK DATES:

THURSDAY, Oct 2, FROM 9AM – NOON

THURSDAY, Oct 9, FROM 9AM – NOON

SATURDAY, Oct 11 , FROM 8 AM – NOON

THURSDAY, Oct 16, FROM 9AM – NOON

THURSDAY, Oct 23, FROM 9AM – NOON

SATURDAY Oct 25 , FROM 8 AM – NOON

THURSDAY, Oct 30, FROM 9AM – NOON

Lots of extra sorting days have been added if you would like to help. 1329 N 29th Ave, Suite E15, Phoe-

Save the Date

All events will be held at Apostles Lutheran Church Additional details will be available closer to each event



Saturday
October 18



Friday
November 14



Saturday
December 13



As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

LWML Mission Statement

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

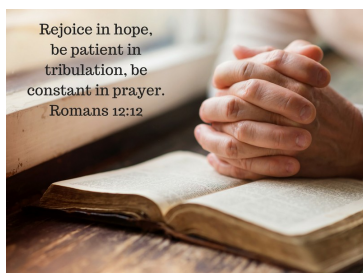
When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice" (John 10:4)



LWML Sunday

October 19, 2025

There will be a 2nd freewill offering taken at the 9am service.



Rejoice in hope,
be patient in
tribulation, be
constant in prayer.
Romans 12:12



For more ways to serve the Lord
with gladness visit
www.lwml.org

New Missions

Healing You Heart – Faith-based Child Counseling, Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin, \$100,000 – Protecting and nourishing the mental health and well-being of children is the mission of Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin. They protect a child's integrity, self-worth, spiritual well-being, and mental health through professional compassionate Christian counseling. The outpatient child therapy clinic was expanded in August 20023 and the number of children served by LCFS grew beyond capacity in six months. The clinic needs to expand its services again to meet the demands and needs of countless children in the greater Milwaukee community. As children get better and stronger, the lives of parents, siblings, and other family members often improve. LCFS also deploys trained therapists to respond to community crises and offer Christ's healing. This grant will increase the number of therapists working in the clinic from five to seven, purchase therapeutic toys, and develop promotional materials to present to LCMS churches and groups.

The Teaching of Lutheran Pastors in West Africa – Sierra Leone and Liberia, Project: Pastoral Education West Africa, \$86,000 – The project will send two LCMS Pastors to both Sierra Leone and Liberia to teach principles of doctrine and practice to Lutheran pastors in West Africa. LCMS pastors will make two trips per year (four for the biennium). The estimated cost for the team to travel and stay in West Africa is \$21,000. Students selected by their church body attend training for Pastoral Ministry. In countries where witch doctors, Muslims, animism, proprietary preachers, and a mix of all of these is prevalent, to have the pure Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed and taught is vital. The project also goes to purchase kindles or electronic books since paper books do not last long in this climate. A web portal will be established to allow teaching and completion of assignments between sessions. This grant will cover the cost of travel, rental facilities for teaching, lodging, meals, and materials.

Local society/team – Currently Apostles does not have a society or team. Good news is that if you are a woman confirmed in the LCMS and a member of Apostles you are automatically a member of Lutheran Women in Mission. No dues, no secret handshakes, nothing is required of you except a willingness to serve the Lord. If you want to know more see Susan Thomas.

Apostles Lutheran Church

7020 W. Cactus Rd. Peoria, AZ 85381-5318

Office: 623-979-3497 Fax: 623-979-5778

Email: secretary@apostlesaz.org

www.apostles-az.org

WORSHIP

9:00 am Worship

(communion on 1st & 3rd & 5th Sundays)

10:30 am Bible Study

10:30 am Spanish Language Service

11:30 am Spanish Language Bible Study

[Facebook.com/apostleslutheranchurchaz](https://www.facebook.com/apostleslutheranchurchaz)

[www.Youtube.com/ApostlesLutheranChurch Peoria AZ](https://www.youtube.com/ApostlesLutheranChurchPeoriaAZ)

www.apostles-az.org

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

November newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, October 15

(All information and articles **must** be on the secretary's desk
by 9am on deadline day)

Prayer Chain

Church Office (Mon—Fri) Phone 623-979-3497

Email: secretary.apostles@phxcoxmail.com

Senior Pastor

Rev. Andrew Byars pastorbyars@apostlesaz.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Ramon Cabrales preacherrc@hotmail.com

Deaconess

Maria del Carmen Cabrales

Parish Administrator

Kris Lindsay secretary.apostlesaz.org

LUTHERAN OLYMPICS



PEW SPRINT
(TRYING TO GET YOUR
USUAL SEAT BEFORE
THE VISITORS DO)



**ONE-HAND COFFEE
& COOKIE GRAB**
DURING FELLOWSHIP HOUR



**FASTEST TO SAY ALL
THE WORDS OF THE
NICENE CREED WITHOUT
TAKING A BREATH**