

Saints Alive Newsletter

March 2025 - Issue #525

“Steps of Faith: Lent and the Road Ahead”

by Pastor Daniel Volkmann

Have you ever noticed that Easter is always moving around the calendar? Do you know why?

It's because we determine when Easter will be based not on the solar calendar, which is what we use to create the 365-day calendar we all know and love, but on the lunar calendar. This means that Easter is determined by finding the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox. Because of this, Easter can fall anywhere between March 22nd and April 25th.

This creates a lot of fun in planning the year because an early Easter means an early Lent, which means there is much less time for us and the church staff to recover between Christmas and Easter, the two biggest worship days of the year.

Luckily for us, we have a late Easter this year, not until the 20th of April.

So, as you are reading this, we will be beginning our penitent Lenten journey as a community.

We will begin on Ash Wednesday by remembering that God created us out of the dust, and to dust we shall return when we die (Gen 2:19). We will confess that we have sinned against God by our fault, our own fault, our own most grievous fault (ELW p. 252).

And we will end Lent by remembering and commemorating Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, riding not as a conquering king but as a humble servant of all humanity.

We will remember that it was the night in which he was betrayed that Christ gave the first communion to his disciples, telling them that this sacrifice of his own body and blood is for the forgiveness of sins for you.

And we remember that it was on a Friday our Lord suffered and died alongside thieves and murderers, only to tell them too that “today, you will be with me in paradise” (Luke 23:43).

Lent brings with it a time to remember our sins and faults before God and bring them to the cross of Christ. But we know that the cross and death do not have the final say, but rather Christ has overcome the powers of sin and death once and for all, and through his death and resurrection we have life and life eternal.

Our Lenten journey begins - so let us “run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:1b-2).

In This Issue:

♦ <u>Letter from the Pastor</u>	Cover
♦ <u>NEW Volunteer Options</u>	pg 2
♦ <u>Volunteer Training</u>	pg 2
♦ <u>Annual Meeting Results</u>	pg 3
♦ <u>Anniversaries</u>	pg 3
♦ <u>Budget</u>	pg 3
♦ <u>Prayers/Baptism</u>	pg 3
♦ <u>Senior Ministry</u>	pg 4
♦ <u>Lent & Holy Week</u>	pg 5
♦ <u>Coming Events</u>	pg 6-8
♦ <u>Job Openings</u>	pg 8
♦ <u>Thank You</u>	pg 9
♦ <u>Coming Synod Events</u>	pg 10
♦ <u>Community Events</u>	pg 11
♦ <u>Social Ministry</u>	Back





Love little ones? MomCo could use your help!

**We are still looking
for a few volunteers
who could help
with our childcare**

program on Thursday mornings from now through May - including folks who might be able to "fill in" on an occasional basis.

Paid positions are also available.

Please contact Diane Lensch through the office if you are interested.

Senior Transportation Weekday Volunteers

We are seeking compassionate volunteers who have a few hours to spare during the weekdays, and can help with transportation for errands or appointments for members of our congregation. Every trip could make a significant difference for those unable to drive.

We warmly welcome individuals and families from all walks of life to join us in this rewarding mission. If you're interested in helping or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Deb Hippen Schultz at seniorministries@allsaintsphoenix.org.

Together, we can strengthen our bonds and make our church a more inclusive place for all!

Sign-Up to be a Worship Volunteer

March through May dates now available!

Trained volunteers can now visit allsaintsphoenix.org/volunteer to sign-up as a worship volunteer. Please contact the office with any questions.



Worship Volunteer Training

We will be hosting 4 separate training sessions for all worship volunteer positions.

March 9th and 16th training will be at 12:15pm.

March 23rd and 30th training will be at 8:15am.

Please contact the office with any questions.

“Calling Tree” Returns Telephone Assurance Program

Live alone? Would you like a daily check in by call or text?

A Calling Tree volunteer would be happy to accommodate you. People of any age who live alone are welcome to take advantage of daily reassurance check-in calls. Contact Pastor Deb Hippen Schultz in the church office if you are interested.

We also welcome anyone who would like to become a Calling Tree volunteer to help support this ministry.



Lutheran Thrift Shop

10615 West Peoria Ave, Sun City

Open Monday-Saturday 9am-3pm and the 3rd Thursday of the month 5pm-7pm

Helping people live longer since 1994!

According to a Stanford University Longevity Study, “Engaging in productive activities, such as volunteering, may hold significant health benefits for older adults. Compared to their non-volunteering counterparts, older adults who volunteer have reduced risk of hypertension, lower mortality rates, delayed physical disability, enhanced cognition, lower rates of depression, and report higher levels of life satisfaction, and decreased physical dependency.”

The Census Bureau reported in 2023, “more than 23% of people in the US, or 60.7 million people, formally volunteered 4.1 billion hours of their time through an organization contributing \$122.9 billion in economic value to their communities.”

Who knew volunteering could be so beneficial? Helping yourself by helping others and making new friends in the process. I'm sure any of the 200+ folks who already join us weekly to volunteer would tell you this, as well. We would love to help you make a healthy choice for your life with us. Come by and take a tour and see if the LTS is a place where you can make a difference!

Check out our website www.lutheranthrift.com for more shop info, pictures and videos and follow us on [Facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop](https://www.facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop) for weekly sales and special events.

Welcome,

New Members

Please join us in receiving new members at the **9:00am** service on **Sunday, March 9th**

SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS OR ETERNAL LIGHT

Honor a special occasion or remember a loved one by sponsoring the sanctuary altar flowers or eternal light.

- \$45 to donate flowers
- \$10 for the eternal light

Sign up and pay in the church office.

**All Saints Budget
Through January 31, 2025**

	Budgeted	Actual
Income	\$ 113,955	\$ 123,339
Expenses	\$ 103,084	\$ 111,810
Surplus	\$ 10,871	\$ 11,529

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

These couples will be celebrating their marriage in March. We send our prayers, blessings, and thanks for setting wonderful examples of Christian marriage.

Randy/Sara Karg	Mar 4	25th
Bruce/Sherry Myers	Mar 5	20th
Eric/Katie Lewis	Mar 6	21st
Matthew/Christine Gerland	Mar 9	23rd
Scott/Sheri Orrahood	Mar 9	34th
Michael Marion/ Miriam Schantz-Marion	Mar 11	36th
Shannon/Michael Monn	Mar 13	19th
Lloyd/Theresa Brown	Mar 15	34th
Dennis Kaufman/ Cheryl Neils-Kaufman	Mar 17	13th
Thomas/Kathleen Payne	Mar 20	32nd
Jonathan/Sarah Levine	Mar 23	6th
Loring/Lindsey Kohrt	Mar 27	26th
J.W./Diana Henry	Mar 31	25th

Annual Meeting

Thank you to everyone who made the Annual Congregational Meeting a success!

In addition to approving the 2025 Mission Plan the congregation also voted in three new members to our Council:

Karen McLaughlin, Dan Nelson,
and Nance Wabshaw

Thank you Dave Cech, Owen Swenson, Hannah Roberts, and Karen McLaughlin for your service!

HOLY BAPTISM

If you would like to have a baptism at All Saints, please schedule a meeting with a pastor.



Contact Shari Clark in the church office to process the information that the pastor will need before your scheduled meeting.

PRAYER REQUESTS



***LET US PRAY
FOR YOU***

WE WELCOME REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS OF NEED AS WELL AS PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING OR PRAISE.

OUR CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS ON THE PRAYER TEAM WILL PRAY FOR YOUR REQUEST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 602-866-9191 OR YOU CAN ALSO VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE TO SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST.



<https://www.allsaintsphoenix.org/care-support>

SENIOR MINISTRY



Senior Ministry Steering Team

Members:

Owen Swenson

Barb Swenson

Margie Olsen

Warren Mitch

Scott Hagen

CC Tomasi

Pastor Deb

Hippen Schultz



Senior Ministry
is looking for some new
volunteers! Contact
Pastor Deb or Pastor
Dan if you are
interested in helping.

We enter the season of Lent this month – Ash Wednesday is March 5th. Ann Weems in her book Kneeling in Jerusalem, says in her poem “A Listening”:

Going through Lent is a listening.
When we listen to the word,
we hear where we are so blatantly unliving.
If we listen to the word,
and hallow it into our lives,
we hear how we can so abundantly live again.

John 10:10 says, “The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” Jesus wants us to live abundantly, and that’s not about money or things. The Holy Spirit is a wonderful gift that enriches our lives. Jesus dying on the cross for us is the best gift we can ever receive. May your Lenten journey to the cross be rich and meaningful, and may our ears be opened to hear something new.

Upcoming Events

- Cindy Rupp and friends will entertain us on **March 14th**. **Lunch is at 12pm and the entertainment starts at 1pm.** We will have a meal first in the fellowship hall – (corned beef and cabbage since it’s close to St. Patrick’s Day) and then move to the sanctuary for the musical treat. The cost is a suggested donation of \$15. Bring a dessert to share if you’d like.
- Put **April 11th** on your calendar for a picnic lunch at Sahuaro Ranch Park (historical buildings, peacocks, walking trails and fruit picking).
- Ron and I will be in Puerto Vallarta with our best friends from March 4-10. I will celebrate my birthday there on the 7th!
- **We will also have activities throughout the summer, so keep us in mind!**

Lenten Mid-Week Services

Jesus tells his disciples in the Gospel of Matthew when they ask him how to pray, to

“Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial,

but rescue us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:9-13)

This year, as we journey through Lent together, we will gather each week on Wednesday nights starting at 6pm to share a meal and then move to the sanctuary at 7pm to sing together, pray together, hear the word of God, and reflect on this prayer Jesus teaches us together.

Each week will focus on a different petition of the Lord’s Prayer, and, with help from Martin Luther and the Small Catechism, we will use this Lenten season to grow closer to God in our communal lives of prayer.

We hope to see you there!



Wednesday Evenings

beginning March 12th

6:00pm Lenten Dinner
in the Fellowship Hall

7:00pm Worship Service
in the Sanctuary



Ash Wednesday Services

March 5th

7:00am / 6:30pm

Lectors, communion assistants, and ushers are needed for both services. If you would like to share the gift of your service please contact Olivia Chaparro at ochaparro@allsaintsphoenix.org.

Lenten Soup Makers Needed

Sign up to provide soup for our mid-week dinners before evening service on March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & 9.

Please call Courtney Krueger in the church office to pick your week, then find your recipe and delight us!

Save the dates for Holy Week



- Palm Sunday: April 13th
- Maundy Thursday: April 17th
- Good Friday: April 18th
- Easter Sunday: April 20th

COMING SOON

Visit www.allsaintsphoenix.org/coming-events

for a full calendar and updated list
of future events at All Saints

MEN'S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY

Meets Wednesdays at 7:00am
in the Fellowship Hall.

C.O.W. (Church on Wednesdays)

Will not meet in March so that families can
attend Lenten Mid-Week Services together.
(see page 5 for more information.)



2025 VBS
June 2 - 6
Children ages 2 through
entering 5th Grade.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Sunday School: Begins at 9:00am in the Sanctuary

Confirmation:

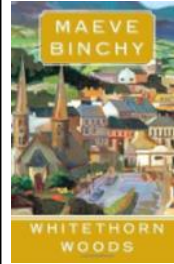
6th Grade meets Sundays at 10:15am in room 203

7th Grade meets Sundays at 10:15am in room 202

8th Grade meets Sundays at 10:15am in the YO Zone

High School Hangout:

Meets Sundays at 10:15am in YO 1 & 2



Book Club

Tuesday, March 11th
at 9:30am in Room 201

This month's selection:
Whitethorn Woods
by Maeve Binchy

The voices we hear in the stories of Whitethorn Woods - men and women deciding between the traditions of the past and the promises of the future, ordinary people brought vividly to life by Binchy's generosity and empathy, and in the vivacity and surprise of her storytelling. Maeve Binchy is at the very top of her form in this irresistible tale.

Questions? Contact Donald Wade at
dwade@allsaintsphoenix.org.

REMINDER: MARCH 31st
DEADLINE TO
DIRECT THRIVENT
CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent Choice Dollars
can help All Saints

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who
have available Choice Dollars have until
March 31, 2025 to direct any remaining
2024 Choice Dollars.

To learn more about Thrivent and
Choice Dollars go to [www.thrivent.com/
about-us/membership/thrivent-choice](http://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice)
or call 800-847-4836 and say
"Thrivent Choice."

thrivent[®]

Card & Jewelry Making Class

Meets on the 1st and 3rd
Thursdays of the month
from 10:00am-2:00pm

Both classes will run simultaneously in Room 201.

Individuals are welcome to come and go as they please
and to work on one or both of the projects.
You are always welcome to invite others.

All materials are furnished and there is no charge.

However, we do ask that you make your first project for
the church, your second is yours to keep or share with
others. **Sign up in the church office or in the Narthex.**

A decorative border of various flowers and greenery surrounds the text. The flowers include large pink and blue daisies, smaller yellow and orange flowers, and green leaves. The border is positioned around the central text area.

March 22nd from 11am to 3pm

SPRING FESTIVAL

We will be gathering family and friends for an afternoon of free food, fun, music, games, bounce house, raffles, and silent auction.

All funds raised go to All Saints Arts Camp.

ENTRY IS FREE

Contact Tim Gaffney for
volunteer opportunities.

SAVE THE DATE

ARTS CAMP RETURNS

July 14-18th, 2025,
Contact Pastor Daniel at
dvolkman@allsaintsphoenix.org
for more information.

All Ages Sunday School / Sunday School Parents Meeting

Sunday, March 2nd at 9:00am
in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday School kids and their
parents / guardians attend together.

JOY CIRCLE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Women of the Old Testament

In the midst of great national drama in Israel, we meet an ordinary woman and her family. Her hospitality leads to unexpected blessings. This month's Old Testament lesson is centered on the Woman of Shunem found in 2 Kings 4:8-37.

The Joy Circle meets on Tuesday, March 4th, from 9:30-11:00am in Room 201.

All women are welcome to join this month's discussion of ordinary people being blessed by God.

The Joy Circle is led by Pastor Pat Reed. For more information, contact her through the church office.

Join Our Staff

Parish Administrator

This is a full-time non-exempt position with normal working hours of 40-50 hours per week.

Purpose:

To assist staff, congregation and leaders with the mission and goals of All Saints Lutheran Church. The Parish Administrator oversees the congregation in administration and communications; provides for a safe and welcoming environment; oversees maintenance of the property/assets of the church; and supervises personnel/independent contractors .

Minimum Qualifications:

- Demonstrates mature faith in Christ and theological views compatible with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Experience and understanding of office administration
- Experience in leading teams to maximize talents of others
- Detailed and timely response to outside vendors and congregational requests
- Strong experience with office software including Microsoft Office - Word/Publisher/Outlook, Website, Social Media

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience in managing employees/independent contractors/vendors
- Knowledge of our local community
- Experience dealing with people in crisis or confusion
- Spanish as a second language

For more information or to set-up an interview please contact Pastor Dan Hoeger in the office (602-866-9191) or via email at dhoeger@allsaintsphoenix.org.

The full job descriptions and application are available in the church office, the All Saints Website (allsaintsphoenix.org) or request by email: aslc@allsaintsphoenix.org.



Thank You!

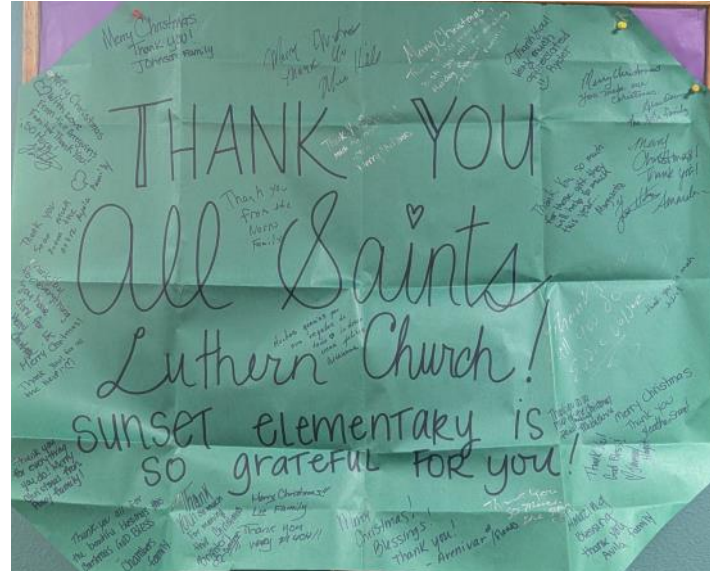
THANK YOU!

MOMCO THANK YOU!!



Thank you to all of the many of you who participated in the Barro's Pizza fundraiser in support of our MomCo ministries. Our percentage of proceeds from January 26th totaled \$226, which means over \$1000 of pizza and other goods were consumed! As always, we are grateful for the congregation's generous support.

All Saints Angel Tree



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the West Valley Community Food Pantry, we would like to thank you for your continued financial support, the Thanksgiving gift cards, and the Thanksgiving Meal Bags in 2024. These generous donations allow us to continue to serve those in need. As grocery prices and needs rise, we depend even more on donations from our community. We sincerely appreciate your generosity and support!

During 2024, we continued to see a substantial increase in the number of individuals and families facing emergency situations and were in need of a food box. We served 29,801 clients in 2024 during our normal working hours which shows the constant need for service. In November of 2024, we provided 130 families with food to prepare the traditional Thanksgiving dinner. In December, we were able to provide 290 families with gifts at our Christmas Shop.

It is gifts of food, funds, and other donations that make our emergency food pantry possible. We depend totally on donations. You have made a difference in the lives of many!

Blessings,
Janet Bean,
Treasurer
West Valley
Community
Food Pantry



West Valley
COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Dear All Saints Lutheran,

Because of you, the vulnerable are made stronger. Hungry stomachs are silenced. Adults with special care needs have a safe space with daily enrichment and young children learn and grow in a creative classroom where education helps them find their wings.

Thank you for your recent donation to Desert Mission. Because of compassionate and generous donors like you, HonorHealth Desert Mission remains a beacon of hope to the most vulnerable members of our community. Through your support, Desert Mission's critical community services continue to uplift our neighbors in need today and for generations to come.

You are changing lives - and we honor your generosity and kindness.

With gratitude,
Jared A. Langkilde, MBA, CFRE
President and CEO
HonorHealth Foundation

HONORHEALTH®

Foundation

UPCOMING SYNOD EVENTS



Sunday,
March 16th 3pm
TO
Thursday, March
20th 12:30pm
Spirit in the Desert
Retreat Center

National Faith + Climate Forum 2025

Thursday, March 27th 9:00am - 2:30pm Online and In-Person

On March 27, 2025, faith leaders and communities across the nation will come together for the National Faith + Climate Forum. This event, themed *Seven Acts of Faith for Building Thriving Congregations*, will offer both in-person and online participation, providing an opportunity to integrate faith and creation care in profound and practical ways.

Whether you're just beginning your journey in environmental stewardship or you've been advocating for climate action within your congregation for years, this free event is designed for you. Register by scanning the QR code.



Looking for a meaningful and exciting opportunity for your child this spring? Camp ALOMA is hosting an Elementary Retreat for kids in grades 1-6 from **Friday, March 14th, at 6pm to Sunday, March 16th, at 2pm**. For just \$100, your child can experience a weekend filled with engaging activities, faith-filled community, and the beauty of God's creation in Prescott, Arizona.

This retreat is a perfect introduction to Camp ALOMA's summer programs. Your child will enjoy classic camp activities like Bible study, archery, campfires, and exploring the outdoors, all while forging new friendships and deepening their faith.



Camp ALOMA has a long tradition of combining fun and faith to create lasting memories. Rooted in Lutheran values, the retreat fosters a safe and welcoming environment for children to grow spiritually, emotionally, and socially.

Don't let your child miss this incredible opportunity to connect with others and experience God's love in a new way. Spaces are limited, so be sure to secure your spot soon!

To register or learn more, visit campaloma.com or scan the QR code.

Please contact Pastor Daniel at dvolkman@allsaintsphoenix.org for information about scholarships.

Visit gcsynod.org/calendar for a full list of upcoming Synod events or to register for these events.

ONE NIGHT • 3 HOURS • 3 NATIONAL SPEAKERS / COMEDY / WORSHIP



Artist & Songwriter
APRIL CUSHMAN

Comedian
MICHELLE MILLER-MCNAIR

Author & Speaker
MELISSA SPOELSTRA



Coming to Phoenix, AZ

Saturday, March 29, 2025
6:00pm Show

Moon Valley Bible Church
15602 N. 7th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85022

WWW.ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.COM



ProMusica Arizona Performs Dan Forrest's *Creation*

When and where:

Saturday, March 29, 3:00 pm at ASLC

Sunday, March 30, 3:00 pm at

American Lutheran Church

17200 N. Del Webb Blvd, Sun City

Details:

\$30 adults, \$25 65+ or military

\$15 students 16-22, \$5 under 15

What if music could make you feel the awe of creation itself - the rush of wind over mountaintops, the quiet hum of life, the dazzling beauty of nature unfolding before your eyes? ProMusica Arizona Chorale & Orchestra invites you to experience Dan Forrest's breathtaking new *Creation* - a live musical journey capturing the wonder and majesty of our planet.

ProMusica Arizona Chorale & Orchestra is a high-energy mix of amateur and professional musicians who are passionate about excellence. Under Artistic Director/Principal Conductor Patti Graetz, they consistently perform innovative, engaging live concerts that blend exciting new works with fresh takes on familiar pieces. Their unique combination of chorale, orchestra, and projected visuals makes this performance a must-see event that will leave you transformed.

For more information and tickets, visit www.PMAZ.org, scan the QR code or call (623) 920-1194.



FOOD DRIVE **OFFERING**

1st Sunday of the Month:
March 2nd

Bring your offering of non-perishable food to stock our campus food cupboard for those in need and to contribute to other local food pantries.

We are in need of cereal, pasta, canned goods, peanut butter, canned fruit, crackers, and canned tuna

Donation carts will be located by the outside elevator and office doors.

MISSION SUPPORT **RELIEF OFFERING**

March 30th:
Lutheran Social
Services of the Southwest

These offerings may be brought forward and placed in the baskets at the altar during the worship offering.

Mail-in, on-line, and text donations also welcome!

We raised \$840 for WHEAT & Desert Mission in January!

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and ministries.

(602) 866-9191

asl@allsaintsphoenix.org

Visit us on the web at
www.allsaintsphoenix.org

Office Hours:
Mon-Thur 9am-3pm

Follow us:



Our mission is ... "to bring people the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ."

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
15649 N 7TH ST
PHOENIX, AZ 85022