

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP YEHIEL CURRY

Dear friends in Christ,

As Lutherans, we are set free to love our neighbors and seek justice. In Colossians 2, we read: “As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (6-7).

I am abounding in thankfulness for you, church. You are an integral part of this mission as we envision a world experiencing the difference God’s grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation. The ministries of congregations including yours, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together today and every day so more people may know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love. From providing food to people experiencing hunger, to helping train the next generation of leaders that will lead this church, your support is at work here at home and around the world.

Your generosity to each of the three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has made it possible for us to do this work

together. Your financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices are so valued.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to continue to walk in Christ, remembering you are rooted and established in faith, and free to love and serve your neighbors. Thank you, church, for the ways you connect with and support our siblings across the ELCA and in our communities.

In Christ,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yehiel Curry'.

The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

—Colossians 2:6-7

St. John's Lutheran Church Annual Report 2025 - 2026

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CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL REPORT

St. John's Lutheran Church

7205 N. 51st Avenue
Glendale, Arizona 85301

April 1, 2026

Staff

Senior Pastor	Peter S. Perry
Associate Pastor for Outreach	Dan Potaznick
Deacon Intern	Wendy Schulz
Church Secretary	Jennifer Shipley
Custodian	Ron Helvig
Organist/Choir Director	Geert Ruelens

Independent Contractors

Saturday Pianist	Wenqi Du
Digital Minister	Coreen Salcido
Contemporary Band	Tracy Williams
	Suzanne Darby
	Scott Engel
	Garry Hudson
	Lisa Lynch
	Charlie Van

2025-2026 Church Council

		Term Expires
President	Ann Steinhoff	2028
Vice President	Gene Phillips	2027
Council Secretary	Pat Bodine	2028
Treasurer	Kevin Staggs	2026
Caring Liaison	Ann Sueyoshi	2028
Christian Education Liaison	Pat Bodine	2028
Endowment Liaison	Gene Phillips	2027
Fellowship Liaison	Eric Alfredson	2028
Finance Liaison	Kevin Staggs	2026
	Ann Steinhoff	2028
LAMA Liaison	Kevin Staggs	2026
Music & Worship Liaison	Cindy Staggs	2026
Mutual Ministry	Ann Steinhoff	2028
Property/Fellowship Liaison	Mike Lynch	2027
Stewardship Liaison	Ann Steinhoff	2028
	Cindy Staggs	2026
Welcome & Outreach Liaison	Phil Bacon	2027

**ST. JOHNS LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**May 3, 2026
9:45 am**

AGENDA

Meeting call to order: Council President Ann Steinhoff

Opening Prayer:

Opening Remarks: Ann Steinhoff

Minutes - voice vote

Annual Reports – Questions; receive by consensus

Elections

Council Nominees – written ballot – **vote for up to 3**

Janet Stafford

Cindy Staggs

Nominating Committee – voice vote – **vote for up to 6**

Kevin Staggs

Old Business

New Business

Meeting Adjourned

Closing Prayer: Pastor Peter Perry

Pastor Peter's 2025-26 Report to the Congregation

New vision, new opportunities, new challenges are one way for me to summarize 2025.

St John's approved a new vision in June 2025. Please look it over again in this annual report to refamiliarize yourself with it and ask: "what is my part in helping this vision come to reality?" You'll see in committee reports how each group is reframing what they did in the past and developing new habits and activities, including collecting stories and paying more attention to who is participating, inviting beyond the usual circle, and providing opportunities for stepping forward in leadership. How is property work day, for example, centered in Christ? A prayer to begin, perhaps? A word of reminder that it is for God's glory and not our own reputation that we work? Let's encourage each other to think of who's *not* at Bible study or shower ministry, for example, who we could invite to come—and then to offer some role and responsibility in the gathering. My prayer is that God works through our new vision to make us more mindful of Christ, inclusive of people on the edges of each group, and active in relationships and leadership development.

God has brought us new opportunities to empower leaders in 2025! We were approached by Wartburg seminary to host a Deacon Intern, Wendy Schulz. Many at St John's didn't know what a "deacon" was in the Lutheran tradition. It's been an opportunity to explain how deacons are not pastors (who are called to Word and Sacrament ministry for congregations) but they are Word and Service ministers, who help congregations connect in service to the larger community. Deacon Intern Wendy has done a marvelous job helping St John's respond to weekly calls for utility and rent assistance ("Critical Needs"), supporting the Shower Ministry focus on caring for both physical and spiritual needs of our unsheltered neighbors, and learning more about liturgy by serving as assisting minister, and planning and leading Advent and Lenten Wednesday nights. She is doing half of her time at St John's and the other half through Lutheran Social Services, working in advocacy. She helped put together a great Lutheran Day at the Legislature on February 23, 2026 with 175 people from around the state meeting with our state leaders. She officially began October 7, 2025 and will graduate at the end of May 2026.

A new/old opportunity to empower leaders was the relaunch of the Lay Preaching Group. In 2019, we started a group of lay people from St John's and Emmanuel to talk about how we can preach more effectively, doing it, and then reviewing each other's sermons. The pandemic brought that to an end, but in 2025, we started it up again. Our goal is to have at least one lay preacher a month, then meet to talk about how Law and Gospel was proclaimed. In February 2026, we went to the ASU West Communication Lab and participated in one-on-one workshops with public speaking mentors. Preachers were enthusiastic about the experience! We'll likely do it again to help meet our goal to "identify, equip, and mentor new leaders through faith formation, discipleship training, and servant leadership opportunities to ensure sustainable ministry for future generations."

It also has been a time of challenges. I'll write more elsewhere about the closing of the West Valley Young Adult Ministry that St. John's helped to start. Casey Goslin, a St John's member, was the director on behalf of the Grand Canyon Synod. He was arrested in October 2025. As of March 2026, no one from any of the ministries Casey led for the Synod has come forward with any reports that he behaved inappropriately. A trial date has not yet been set. Casey's arrest ended the West Valley Young Adult Ministry and has had ripple effects through St John's and beyond. Please pray for Casey, that God will guide the process to truth and justice.

A continuing challenge is to more effectively reach young adults (ages 19-35). Pastor Dan was working with a small group from Grand Canyon University in 2025, but the leaders have moved away now. There are opportunities at ASU West that we will continue to explore. Here too, please pray that the Lord of the Harvest shows us how to tend the fields that have been planted with the seeds of faith.

Looking forward to following Christ with you,

Pastor Peter

Pastor Dan Potaznick, Associate Pastor for Outreach, 2025-2026 Report to the Congregation

This, my third year as your Associate Pastor for Outreach, has been about living into our vision. As a congregation, we adopted Vision 2025-2030 and spent our first full year implementing what we discerned together. Throughout this year serving ¼ time at St. John's, alongside my work for the Grand Canyon Synod, I've witnessed how the Holy Spirit has guided us to grow as a Christ-centered, inclusive, and active community.

Celebrating God's Love

This year I continued leading worship at least one weekend per month, alternating between preaching and presiding. I was blessed to co-lead Easter Sunrise worship and preach at Easter Celebration. The rhythm of Holy Week, from Maundy Thursday to the Saturday Vigil, prepared us not just for Easter, but for the year of ministry ahead.

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus

New Member Welcome

In March, we welcomed ten new members to St. John's, the fruit of our renewed focus on radical hospitality. Working with Pastor Peter, we redesigned our new member orientation to include pathways into authentic relationship and discipleship.

Campus Ministry: Study & Serve

In August, I supported the launch of "Lutheran Lopes," a gathering of GCU students for weekly Bible study and service. What strikes me most is their desire for authenticity over activity. Some weeks they study scripture, other weeks they serve alongside St. John's members.

Digital Cohesion and Communications

In August, we launched our newsletter revamp, transforming our website into the central hub for all communications. Jennifer creates content on WIX while Coreen structures Mailchimp newsletters to link back to the website, ensuring anyone seeking information about St. John's has one welcoming place to find it, just as our building and community offers welcome.

Serving our Neighbors

Shower Ministry Becomes Partnership Ministry

In February, we welcomed the Church of the Palms UCC Shower Truck Ministry into partnership. Every other Friday, they provide mobile showers while we offer hot meals, clothes, and fellowship. In March, Tennessee shared that he appreciated St. John's because "you don't look down on me for being homeless." This is why we do this work: to walk alongside people, recognizing their dignity.

Arizona Humane Society: From Event to Partnership

Following December 2024's vaccine clinic, the Arizona Humane Society proposed ongoing partnership. Starting in February, the Healthy Tails Mobile Clinic began offering monthly low-cost veterinary services, serving over 200 Glendale pets by December 2025. Through that initial event, Companion Pets in Crisis now supplies all pet food for our pantry indefinitely.

Heat Respite Ministry

Through 117 days of Phoenix's brutal summer, St. John's served 3,568 total individuals. We connected 127 people to housing, made 533 case worker referrals, kept 598 pets safe, and saved one life with Narcan administration. Thanks to Kevin Staggs and the dedicated volunteers who made this possible.

Outreach Committee

In June, Phil Bacon stepped into the Outreach Committee (Formerly Welcome & Outreach) chair role, offering an opportunity to align our efforts with our new congregational vision. See the outreach committee report for more details on our work together.

Parental Leave and New Life

In August, I brought to the council's attention that St. John's lacked a formal parental leave policy. I'm grateful St. John's approved a policy providing staff 8 weeks paid leave plus 4 weeks unpaid family leave.

On December 15th, my wife Randi and I welcomed our daughter Charlie Ann Phelps Potaznick into the world! The outpouring of love, meals, prayers, and support from St. John's during my leave has been overwhelming. You embodied Christ's love in tangible and intangible ways. Thank you for all the gifts, especially the time to focus on being "dad".

Reflections

Our vision states: "So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth" (1 Cor 3:7). This year has taught me that truth. We plant seeds through campus ministry, we water relationships through shower ministry and heat respite, but God gives the growth. Tennessee finding housing. Students gathering around scripture. Companion Pets in Crisis supplying our pantry. These are all God's growth, not our achievements.

Thank you, St. John's, for your partnership in ministry, your prayers for my family, and your willingness to live boldly into the vision God has given us. As we continue living into the promises we've made to God and to one another, I'm grateful for the foundation we've built and excited for what the Holy Spirit will grow in our midst.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Dan Potaznick, Associate Pastor for Outreach

St. John's Lutheran Church, Glendale, AZ

Deacon Intern Wendy Schulz 2025-2026 Report to the Congregation

My internship at St. John's began in September 2025. It is a blessing to serve alongside St. John's Congregation with the Shower Ministry, taking phone calls for Critical Needs, learning about liturgy by being Assisting Minister, Preaching, and planning and leading Advent and Lenten worship. My second internship site is Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest where I focus on Advocacy for our neighbors. These two internship sites have come together to advocate for our neighbors at Lutheran Day at the Legislature. My time at St. John's has been a blessing. It has formed me into my diaconal call giving me firsthand experience, confidence, and opportunity to grow as a public minister.

At the Shower Ministry I learned about and served in all the different volunteer stations. I have encouraged congregation members to pray with each other and our neighbors along with all their service. We reinstated prayer before our service and have invited our guests to join us in prayer. I developed prayer to remind our guest of their baptism as they shower. Most importantly I have begun to develop relationships with our unhoused guests to understand the barriers they face and how best to assist them.

In taking phone calls for rental or utilities assistance, I have learned that a returned phone call and a listening ear mean much more than the promise of financial assistance. In taking the time to listen to our neighbors, allowing them to share their story in their own way I participate in Holy work. The neighbors I talk with are scared, do not know where to turn for help, and feel alone. This ministry is about connecting to human need on varied levels. I am privileged to pray with and for these neighbors.

Beginning my internship, my weakest point was liturgy. With Pastor Peter Perry's encouragement and good humor, I have confidence in my role as Assisting Minister. I also have enjoyed the freedom Pastor Peter has given me to add a time of shared devotion at meals during Advent and Lent, as well as inviting and coaching congregation members to share a unique message around the theme. Another congregational member accepted my invitation to take over my leadership role. Seeing so many fresh faces in leadership roles was fun and exciting. Each person stepped out in faith and was honored by the community and enjoyed the opportunity.

In preparation for Lutheran Day at the Legislature I preached on the Baptism of our Lord. In that worship I shared how the Affirmation of Baptism and the vows we take propelled me into public ministry. Focusing on proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. The next week I facilitated an Adult Forum outlining how advocating for our neighbors was Christian love, historically Lutheran, and how we could do this together at Lutheran Day at the Legislature. We more than doubled our presence at Lutheran Day at the Legislature! Our combined advocacy, 175 strong, led the passage of the rural LIHTC (Low Income Housing Tax Credit) bill moving out of committee and to the floor of the combined Legislative Assembly!

I feel blessed and thankful for the opportunity to serve, worship, and get to know St. John's.

Deacon Intern Wendy Schulz

**2025-2026 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

MEMBERSHIP

Adult membership through 2/28/2025	400
Child membership through 2/28/2025	<u>129</u>
Total membership through 2/28/2025	529
Adult members received from 3/1/2025-2/28/26	10
Child members received from 3/1/2025-2/28/26	<u>0</u>
Total members received from 3/1/2025-2/28/26	10
Adult members removed by death	8
Adult members removed by transfer	6
Adult members removed for other reasons (Statistical Adjustment)	<u>0</u>
Total adults removed	14
Child members removed by death	0
Child members removed by transfer	0
Child members removed for other reasons	<u>0</u>
Total child members removed	0
Total members removed	11

BAPTISMS

Child Baptisms	3
Adult Baptisms	2
Total baptisms	5

FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES

Member funerals/memorial services	6
Non-member funerals/memorial services	2
Total funerals	8

FIRST COMMUNION

One young person received First Communion during this period

CONFIRMATION

Two young people were confirmed during this period

WEDDINGS

One wedding was performed during this period

3/1/2025-2/28/2026

Baptisms

Lidya Samantha Rodriguez
Owyn Michael Bridges
Stellan Bjorn Konadu-Ray Obeng
Raymond Villa
Lockett J. Brooks

First Communion (April 17, 2025)

Alexis Gerloff

Confirmations (June 8, 2025)

Jasmine Beard
Ashlye Moran

Weddings

Rebecca Dezember and Aaron Romans

Members Deaths

Shirley Woolman
Judy Johnson
Joanne Herrick
Ray Gustad
Roy Sievers
Linda Skorheim
Bettye Brashears
Betty Thompson

Non-Member Funerals & Memorials by St. John's

Kenneth Johnson
David Choate
Jay Bushong

Average Weekly Attendance

2025 on-site: 188
2025 online: 77
2025 combined average: 265

St. John's Leadership 2025

Administration

Executive Committee: Ann Steinhoff, President; Gene Phillips, VP; Kevin Staggs, Treasurer; Pat Bodine, Secretary; Pastor Peter Perry
Photographer: Kathy Flatau
Librarian: Laurel Watts
Archivist:
Audit Committee: Tina Johnson(Chair); Jean Gedney; Janet Wendt

Caring

Chair: Martha Miller email: mam3969@gmsil.com Phone : 602-714-0262
Council Liaison: Ann Sueyoshi
Caring Committee: Jane Michaels, Jeri Newnam, Sally Huehn, Sharon Luebkin, Miriam Perry, Ann Steinhoff, Ron Helvig, Amy Beard, Elinor Peterson, Lois Wright
LAMA Liaison: Kevin Staggs
Prayer Ministry: Bill Thompson
Visitation Ministry: Elinor Peterson
Visitation Ministers: Ron Helvig, Jeri Newnam,
Phone Calling Ministry Coordinator:
Calling Ministers:
Prayer Shawl Ministry Lead: Sally Huehn
Birthday cards: Ann Sueyoshi
Anniversary cards: Martha Miller
Get Well cards: Elinor Peterson
Grieving books: Kit Klemp
Food Pantry Director: June Kelsey
Food Pantry: Jane Michaels, Jean Gedney, Christine & Walt Sampson, Carol Quintana, Jan Bean
St John's Manor Board reps: Martha Miller (president), Bill Thompson, Jon Clark

Christian Education

Chair: Tammy Cobos tlcobos@hotmail.com 623-826-3281
Council Liaison: Pat Bodine
Chr Ed Committee: Ann Steinhoff, Mike Kaml, Doris Kaml, Janet Davis
Sunday School Teachers: Mike Kaml, Doris Kaml, Amanda Dawson, Janet Davis,
High School Youth:
Cradle Roll: Lance Anderson
Adult Education Planning: Phil Bacon, Mike Lynch
Camp ALOMA board rep: Dana Perry

Endowment

Chair: Ken Watts kenwatts.suncity@gmail.com 480-225-3870
Council Liaison: Gene Phillips
Secretary: Bev Pepper
Treasurer: Elinor Peterson
Members: Isabel Branes, Herb Schilling, Bill Thompson

Fellowship

Chair: Ann Steinhoff atsteinhoff@msn.com 575-642-2439

Council Liaison: Eric Alfredson

Fellowship Committee: Jan Bean, Lois Wright, Martha Miller, Ron Helvig, Isabel Branes, Sandy Osborne, Bev Pepper, Jan Bean, Isabel Branes, Lois Wright, Bonnie Guerrero, Pam Hansen

Men's Group Leaders: Ron Helvig, Mark Burkhart, Dale Hurless

Women's Group Leaders: Sally Huehn, Dana Perry, Julie Haase

Finance

Chair: Susanne Grose sjgrose@hotmail.com 623-939-0043

Treasurer: Kevin Staggs

Finance Committee: Phil Bacon, Kevin Staggs, Ann Steinhoff, Jackie Lucus

Bookkeeper: Susanne Grose

Financial Recorders: Isabel Branes, Pat Bodine

Counters: Vangie Berry, Martha Erickson, Barbara Shipley, Lois Wright

Memorial Fund

Chair:

Council Liaison:

Memorial Fund Committee:

Memorial Thank You cards: Pam Hansen

Mutual Ministry

Chair: Glenn Vogt gvogt12000@yahoo.com 480-869-7707

Council Liaison: Ann Steinhoff

Members:

Property

Chair: Mark Burkhart markburkhart@cox.net 602-818-8629

Council Liaison: Mike Lynch

Members: Dale Hurless, Ron Helvig, Sandy Osborne, Mike Mealy, Aaron Helvig

Work Day Crew: Bob Hernandez, Ron Helvig, Mark Burkhart, Dale Hurless, Kit Klemp, Bill Thompson, Mark Schulz, Dave Mocko, Aaron Helvig, Mike Mealy, Chris Jacobi, Michael Mocko, Frank Rios, Kathy Linder, Eric Piepenbrock, Amanda Dawson

Stewardship

Chairs: Ann Steinhoff and Cindy Staggs

Council Liaison:

Welcome & Outreach

Chair: Phil Bacon pwbacon1950@yahoo.com 602-399-3629

Council Liaison: Phil Bacon

Members: Eric Alfredson, Herb Shilling, Kit Klemp

Family Promise Coordinators: Phil Bacon & Karina Moran

Family Promise Meals: Janet Stafford, Andria Stafford, Bill Thompson, Bob Hernandez, Martha Miller, Lois Wright, Ron Helvig, Dale Hurless, Catherine Davis, Donna Pickering, Linda Pickering, Vangie Berry, Barb Kapla, Pat Bodine, Ed Moss, Ann Steinhoff, Benny Moran, Karina Moran, Mark Burkhart, Sally Burkhart, Lisa Lynch, Karen Palomo, Craig Hansen, Kelly Hansen, Isabel Branes, Pam Hansen, Janet Davis, Penny Heib, Phil Bacon

Family Promise Overnight Hosts: Herb Schilling, Jeri Newnam, Kevin Staggs, Phil Bacon, Brandy Wells, Daryl Scherrer, Kit Klemp

Family Promise Set-up, Close, Laundry, Fellowship, and Other Duties: Mike Kaml, Doris Kaml, Ken Watts, Ron Kramer, Carla Clouse, Doug Clouse, Rachel Tussing, Christina Williams, Wanda Harris, Wendy Schulz, Kit Klemp, Fred Sueyoshi, Ann Sueyoshi, Isabel Branes

Shower Ministry Coordinator: Herb Schilling

Shower Ministry: Mark Burkhart, Dale Hurless, Phil Bacon, Ann Steinhoff, Joyce McIntosh, Martha Miller, Jon Clark, Lois Wright, Jean Buffington, Kit Klemp, Mike Mealy, Jeri Newnam, Janet Newnam

Worship & Music

Chair: Barb Kapla bakapla3@gmail.com 480-215-3753

Council Liaison: Cindy Staggs

Worship & Music Committee: Dave Beard, Pat Bodine, Ruth DiBene, Elinor Peterson, Gene Phillips, Jean Stanley, Cindy Staggs

Altar Care Lead: Barb Kapla

Altar Care: Pat Bodine, Vangie Berry, Magaly Cheshire, Eric Alfredson, Carolyn Dryer, Eli Gross, Jenny Gross, Janet Newnam

Cantors: Kevin Staggs, Jeri Newnam, Mary Jo Whitfield, Mike Kaml, Herb Schilling

Lectors: 5pm Sat: Barb Kapla, Eli Gross, Elinor Peterson, Larry Flatau, Lance Anderson

8:30am Sun: Matt Ruble, Dale Hurless, Ruth DiBene, Lori Jamison, Ann Steinhoff, Bev Pepper, Bill Thompson, Mary Jo Whitfield, Jeri Newnam, Bev Pepper, Aaron Helvig

11am Sun: Cindy Staggs, Phil Bacon, Ann Steinhoff, Mae Goslin, Jeri Newnam, Hanalei Sueyoshi, Mike Mealy, Cindy Staggs, Laurel Watts, Jon Clark, Janet Davis, Ann Steinhoff, Chris Jacobi, Lisa Lynch

Head Ushers: Larry Flatau, Mike Lynch

Ushers: 5pm Sat: LouAnn Bolick, Jana Malone

8:30am Sun: Dale Hurless, Jean Stanley, Herb & Cindy Schilling, Bruce & Jan Bean, Kevin Staggs, Ellen Gallon, Matt Ruble, Jeri Newnam, Mark Burkhart, Janet Stafford, Aaron Helvig

11am: Phil Bacon, Rachel Tussing, Mae Goslin, Jean Gedney, Jeri Newnam, Gwen Taylor, Mike Lynch, Pat Bodine, Mike Mealy, Chris Jacobi, Randy Buder

Bell Choir Director: Lori Jamison

Bell Choir: Janet Newnam, Jeri Newnam, Mike Kaml, Kevin Staggs, Dana Perry, Julie Haase, Doris Kaml, Mike Voegele, Janet Stafford, Ellen Gallon, Geert Ruelens

Choir: Eric Alfredson, Michael Voegele, Mike Kaml, Herb Schilling, Dale Hurless, Bill Thompson, Kevin Staggs, Cindy Schilling, Mary Jo Whitfield, Janet Newnam, Janet Stafford, Doris Kaml, Annette Cronin, Shannon Cronin, Jean Stanley, Lily Mertens

Streaming: Janet Newnam

Sound: Gene Phillips, Annika Clark, Michelle Olshan

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Glendale, Arizona

Vision 2025-2030

God's grace guides St. John's to grow as a Christ-centered, inclusive, and active community

Eph 4:15: Speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ

Gal 3:26-28: for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

1 Cor 3:7: So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

This vision of a Christ-centered, inclusive, and active community becomes reality through the following goals:

1. growing a culture of Spirit-filled hospitality and inclusion,
2. strengthening a culture of caring,
3. equipping all generations to live out their faith,
4. partnering with community organizations, and
5. empowering leaders.

1. Growing a Culture of Spirit-filled Hospitality and Inclusion

- Create a welcoming culture where all people feel seen, valued, and encouraged to explore faith, belonging, and service.
- Develop **intentional outreach** efforts to invite and engage new individuals and families.
- Celebrate the diversity of God’s call to follow Christ through **inclusive worship, leadership, and ministries**.

Acts 11:17-18: [Peter speaking about the Holy Spirit coming on the Roman Centurion Cornelius] “If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

SMART GOALS

- **Specific:** Implement an invitational strategy with clear outreach messaging and events designed for diverse newcomers.
- **Measurable:** Track the number of new worshippers, repeat worshippers, and personal follow-up and feedback.
- **Achievable:** Utilize social media, community partnerships, and existing member networks to spread the word.
- **Relevant:** Foster a welcoming, inclusive environment that reflects our vision of Spirit-filled hospitality.
- **Time-Bound:** Develop additional benchmarks and milestones based on the following 1, 3, and 5 year goals:
 - **1-Year Goal:**
Develop and test invitation and welcome processes to see what best encourages current worshippers to invite others, to reconnect after participation, and to return to another event.
 - **Measure:** Track new invitations, first-time worshipper return, and follow-up engagement.
 - **3-Year Goal:**
Implement the above process and plan, including 3 new participant-friendly events; and achieve a 25% repeat attendance rate for first-time participants..
 - **Measure:** Monitor new participant growth, return rates, and integration success stories.
 - **5-Year Goal:**
Enhance our invitational approach to boost repeat participants to 40%.
 - **Measure:** Annual analysis of participant return data.

2. Strengthening a Culture of Caring

- Provide regular opportunities for **authentic conversation**
- Create **support networks** for individuals and families navigating life's challenges.
- Encourage mutual **discipleship** through shared worship, study, and service.

1 John 4:20-21: Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

SMART GOALS

- **Specific:** Develop diverse opportunities for authentic conversation.
- **Measurable:** Foster a deeply connected community where 50% of members actively participate in one diverse opportunity for authentic conversation.
- **Achievable:** Utilize existing volunteer leaders and intergenerational ministries to facilitate diverse opportunities.
- **Relevant:** Enhances discipleship, pastoral care, and community support as outlined in our vision.
- **Time-Bound:** Develop additional benchmarks and milestones based on the following 1, 3, and 5 year goals:
 - **1-Year Goal:**
Develop a structure to identify and create diverse opportunities for authentic conversation and support networks, aiming to engage at least 30% of the congregation with monthly meetings focused on discipleship, shared worship, and support.
 - **Measure:** Monitor group membership and monthly attendance.
 - **3-Year Goal:**
Expand small group participation so that 40% of the congregation is involved, with at least half of these groups designed as intergenerational gatherings.
 - **Measure:** Regularly track attendance, intergenerational engagement, and the development of support networks.
 - **5-Year Goal:**
Foster a deeply connected community where 50% of members actively participate in one diverse opportunity for authentic conversation in a 3 month period.
 - **Measure:** Conduct annual community surveys and review participation metrics.

3. Equipping All Generations to Live Out Their Faith

- **Support multigenerational families** – Provide dynamic faith formation, mentorship, and resources to nurture strong families and empower young people in their spiritual journey.
- Provide **faith formation for all ages**, from children’s ministry to lifelong learning opportunities.
- Support **parents and families** with resources, mentorship, and engaging programs.
- Create structures to develop supportive relationships beyond Sunday mornings.

Acts 2:39: For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.

SMART GOALS

- **Specific:** Develop a program that includes workshops, mentorship opportunities, and shared activities for youth and families.
- **Measurable:** Record participation numbers and survey feedback from attendees, including stories/testimonies as part of evaluation metrics for qualitative insight.
- **Achievable:** Tap into existing resources from children’s ministry and adult education programs, and engage volunteer leaders.
- **Relevant:** Supports our mission to equip all generations to integrate faith into daily life.
- **Time-Bound:** Develop additional benchmarks and milestones based on the following 1, 3, and 5 year goals.
 - **1-Year Goal:**
Develop an intergenerational ministry program that engages multigenerational families with relationship building opportunities, activities, and support for each generation with an 85% participation rate over the first year.
 - **Measure:** Track number of participants and stories/testimonies as part of evaluation metrics for qualitative insight.
 - **3-Year Goal:**
Broaden the faith formation initiative to include programs for parents, children, young adults, and seniors, engaging at least 50% of families and 40% of youth in regular programming.
 - **Measure:** Track participation rates across all age groups and evaluate program effectiveness through feedback.
 - **5-Year Goal:**
Develop a comprehensive lifelong faith formation program that institutionalizes everyday discipleship, ensuring that at least 60% of families participate and that youth are actively progressing toward leadership roles.
 - **Measure:** Annual program reviews, participation metrics, and documented progression of youth into leadership opportunities.

4. Partnering with Community Organizations

- Advocate for **justice, equity, and dignity** in our local and global communities.
- Partner with organizations that support the **marginalized, oppressed, and underserved**.
- Educate and empower our congregation to **live out their faith through action**, speaking up for systemic change.

Matt 25:35-36: Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

SMART GOALS

- **Specific:** Establish partnerships and plan outreach events that address justice, equity, and dignity in our local community and increase participation by St John's members.
- **Measurable:** Document partnerships and track participation rates at each event.
- **Achievable:** Leverage existing relationships with local organizations and mobilize volunteer teams.
- **Relevant:** Communicate St John's participation in advocacy and action for the marginalized and how connected to our commitment to follow Christ..
- **Time-Bound:** Develop additional benchmarks and milestones based on the following 1, 3, and 5 year goals:
 - **1-Year Goal:**
Develop a plan for partnering with community organizations that address the bullet points at top.
 - **Measure:** Document partnerships and event attendance.
 - **3-Year Goal:**
Expand our advocacy efforts by incorporating advocacy training for members.
 - **Measure:** Evaluate event impact and participant feedback.
 - **5-Year Goal:**
Become a recognized leader in local social justice efforts by partnering with 6+ organizations, and hosting sustainable, scalable outreach events annually.
 - **Measure:** Track the growth of partnerships, board activities, and community impact assessments.

5. Empowering Leaders

- **Leadership Development** – Identify, equip, and mentor new leaders through faith formation, discipleship training, and servant leadership opportunities to ensure sustainable ministry for future generations. We believe every member is called to use their gifts to build up the church and community.

Ephesians 4:11-13: He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

SMART GOALS

- **Specific:** Develop a mentorship and training process focusing on faith formation, discipleship, and servant leadership.
- **Measurable:** Track progress through pre- and post-program assessments and mentor feedback surveys.
- **Achievable:** Leverage existing small groups and pastoral networks to identify potential leaders.
- **Relevant:** Build a sustainable ministry and encourages every member to use their gifts.
- **Time-Bound:** Develop additional benchmarks and milestones based on the following 1, 3, and 5 year goals.
 - **1-Year Goal:**
Develop a structured leadership development program that includes faith formation, discipleship training, and opportunities for servant leadership.
 - **Measure:** Number of leaders stepping forward to take a piece of responsibilities. Pre- and post-program assessments and mentor feedback.
 - **3-Year Goal:**
Establish a sustainable leadership pipeline where at least 25% of the congregation have participated in leadership training or mentorship initiatives.
 - **Measure:** Track participation rates and leadership roles assumed within various ministries.
 - **5-Year Goal:**
Create a new “leadership development team” composed of at least 7 trained leaders who can guide ministry initiatives and facilitate leadership training, transitions, ensuring continuity and growth.
 - **Measure:** Document “leadership development team” formation, ongoing training sessions, and succession planning outcomes.

St. John's Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting
May 4, 2025

Sign in sheets: Isabel Branes, Barbara Shipley, Mike Lynch, Lisa Lynch, Dorothy Fullmer, Sandy Osborne, Ruth Di Bene, Miriam Perry, Ann Sueyoshi, Evangeline Berry, Val Cobos, Tammy Cobos, Connie Treloar, Lowell Nelson, Jean Stanley, Bill Thompson, David Mocko, Kevin Staggs, Cindy Staggs, Gene Phillips, Amy Beard, Dale Hurless, Ron Helvig, Bev Pepper, Ron Pepper, Martha Miller, Janet Bean, Lois Wright, Mark Burkhardt, Pat Bodine, Susanne Grose, Ken Watts, Laurel Watts, Julie Haase, Joan Haase, Linda Flaim, Eric Alfredson, Herb Schilling, Mike Kaml, Doris Kamil, Phil Bacon, Julie Krohmer, June Kelsey, Bonnie Guerrero, Marilyn Shoemake, Jeri Newnam, Bruce Bean, Fred Sueyoshi, Dana Perry

Via Zoom: Joyce McIntosh, Janet Wendt

Pastor Peter opened the meeting with prayer.

President Steinhoff called the meeting to order at 9:54 and reported quorum had been met.

- Motion to accept the Congregational Minutes from May 5, 2024, July 14, 2024, January 5, 2025 and February 2, 2025.
Motion made by Kevin Staggs
Seconded by Herb Schilling
Motion passes

Committee Reports

Comment from the floor stating it would be helpful if a balance sheet was shown along with the assets and liabilities for the Food Pantry.

President Steinhoff stated she appreciated the suggestion and it will be acted on in future reports.

- Committee Reports were approved by consensus.

President Steinhoff thanked Amy Beard for her three years of serving on council. Pastor Peter presented Amy with a cross.

Sandy Osborne was thanked and recognized as the chair of the 2025 Nominating Committee. Sandy thanked the outgoing nominating committee team and gave the names of the people running for council and stated there would be a nomination from the floor.

The following people are running for council:

Eric Alfredson
Ann Steinhoff for a second term
Pat Bodine for a second term

Ann Sueyoshi was nominated from the floor and she accepted the nomination.

Question from the floor: Asked for a definition of what positions the nominations are for.

Answer: There are four (open) council positions. As per church constitution, the congregation elects the council members and council then decides what office and positions within council they will hold.

Question from the floor: Are we voting for four positions?

President Steinhoff replied yes, four positions.

- Motion to close nominations.
Motion made by Herb Schilling
Seconded by Bill Thompson
Motion passes

Ballots were filled out by the congregation and collected.

President Steinhoff opened the floor for nominations/volunteers for the 2026 Nominating Committee.

Question from the floor: What is the nominating committee?

President Steinhoff explained that the nominating committee is responsible for selecting and recommending candidates for next year's open council seats.

- Motion to nominate the following five people for the 2026 Nominating committee.
Amy Beard (outgoing council member)
Herb Schilling
Ken Watts
Mike Kaml
Jan Bean

Motion made by Bev Pepper
Seconded by Martha Miller
Motion passes

Proposed language change to the Church Constitution

On January 5, 2025 the congregation voted and approved an increase to the amount church council can enter into contract from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Today's vote is to accept the new language to the constitution.

- Motion to accept language change to the Constitution.
Motion made by Ruth DiBene
Seconded by Mike Kaml

Question from the floor: Why didn't council seek an increase to \$20,000 instead of \$15,000?

President Steinhoff stated council had much conversation about it, but determined that an increase to \$15,000 would give council more oversight.

- Call for the question made by Bill Thompson
All in favor except 1 opposed
Language change to the constitution passes

New Church Constitution language:

C12.05c The Congregational Council may enter into contracts of up to \$15,000 for items not included in the budget.

C12.05d The Congregational Council shall prepare an annual budget for adoption by this congregation; shall supervise the expenditure of funds in accordance therewith following its adoption, and may incur obligations of more than \$15,000 in excess of the anticipated receipts only after approval by a Congregation Meeting. The budget shall include this congregation's full indicated share in support of the wider ministry being carried on in partnership with the synod and churchwide organization.

The following people will represent St. John's as delegates at the June Synod assembly (as per congregation approval at February 2, 2025 congregational meeting).

Jeri Newnam
Ann Steinhoff
Val and Tammy Cobos

President Steinhoff reported that Solomon Kuch from the Emmanuel congregation will be ordained on August 24th and encouraged members of St. John to attend his ordination as a show of support.

President Steinhoff thanked and recognized the Vision Team. The Vision Team has a draft of the proposed vision statement and goals and council will discuss at the May council meeting. Once the draft is finalized, there will be a congregational meeting to vote on the proposed vision statement and goals.

President Steinhoff read the results of the votes of people running for council. They will serve a three year term.

Eric Alfredson	45
Ann Steinhoff	45
Pat Bodine	44
Ann Sueyoshi	45

Motion to adjourn made by Herb Schilling
Seconded by Dorothy Fullmer

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Bodine, Secretary

St. John's Lutheran Church
Special Congregational Meeting
October 5, 2025

Sign-in Sheets: Mary Jo Whitfield, Lori Jamison, Miriam Perry, Barbara Shipley, Philip Bacon, David Beard, Evangeline Berry, Carol Quintana, Isabel Branes, Marilyn Shoemake, Kevin Staggs, Dale Hurless, Eugene Phillips, Lisa Lynch, Jeri Newnam, Connie Treloar, Mark Burkhart, Janet Newnam, Nancy Snell, Susanne Grose, Dana Perry, Dorothy Fullmer, Mike Lynch, Herb Schilling, Janet Bean, Bruce Bean, Lois Wright, Glenn Vogt, Pat Bodine

President Ann Steinhoff called the meeting to order at 9:56 and reported quorum was met.

Pastor Peter opened the meeting with prayer.

The purpose of this meeting is to consider and vote on creating a diaconal internship position.

The intern would be focused on homelessness and housing affordability and would work with Lutheran Social Services and advocacy at the Legislature. There would be no financial impact to the congregation, as a special gift was given to the congregation for this position and Wartburg Seminary has a grant that would pay the intern a stipend. Pastor Peter would supervise this person weekly and an internship committee would need to be formed at St. John's.

Question from the floor: Does Pastor Peter have the time to do this?

Answer: Pastor Peter replied he feels he does and whenever God wants him to do something, enough time always seems to emerge.

Question from the floor: Will the intern be attending the Shower Ministry?

Answer: Yes, some of the intern's time would be with the Shower Ministry, Heat Respite and Family Promise.

Question from the floor: Is it a certain number of hours each week?

Answer: It's a total of 500 hours over about 6 ½ months. It works out to 10-15 hours per week.

Question from the floor: Does Lutheran Social Services still exist since there is no grant?

Answer: Lutheran Social Services is in disarray right now and they are hoping to find a new way forward, as it is unclear right now.

Question from the floor: Do you have a person in mind for the intern position?

Answer: The Seminary has someone in mind and asked us to create a position for this particular candidate.

- Motion to create this diaconal internship position
Motion made by Herb Schilling
Seconded by Jeri Newnam
Motion passes

Pastor Peter closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Bodine, Council Secretary

St. John's Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting
January 4, 2026

Sign in sheets: Phil Bacon, Lisa Lynch, Dorothy Fullmer, Bill Thompson, Dale Hurless, Matt Ruble, Vee Ruble, Evangeline Berry, Jean Gedney, Carol Quintana, Susan Sporleder, Ron Pepper, Beverly Pepper, Jeri Newnam, June Kelsey, Herb Schilling, Cindy Schilling, Val Cobos, Pat Bodine, Ann Sueyoshi, Rich Tollefson, David Mocko, Bonnie Hennings-Guerrero, Martha Miller, Eric Alfredson, Ken Watts, Laurel Watts, Miriam Perry, Mike Lynch, Ron Helvig, Mary Jo Whitfield, Pastor Peter (non voting), Janet Bean, Bruce Bean, Mark Burkhart, Connie Treloar, Nancy Snell, Eugene Phillips

Via Zoom: Julie Haase, Joan Haase, Fred Sueyoshi

Pastor Peter opened the meeting with prayer.

President Ann Steinhoff called the meeting to order at 9:54.

There are two orders of business:

- 1) Consider and vote on the 2026 budget
 - 2) Select representatives for the 2026 Synod Assembly in June in Mesa, AZ
- Motion to increase Chaplaincy for the Homeless Ministry (5.23.014) from \$600 to \$1,200.
Motion made by Gene Phillips
Seconded by Ken Watts
(Voted on later in the meeting)

Question: Why are we increasing?

Reply: One of the challenges our homeless population faces is the services are spread around. Chaplaincy for the Homeless provides rehabilitation, mental health, clothing, jobs and job training at one location. Council recommends restoring the amount to what it previously was; which is \$1,200 (discussion followed reply).

Question: Where are they located?

Reply: 12th and Watkins

Question: Why not put this money toward our Shower Ministry instead of it going somewhere else?

Reply: We have \$5,000 that is allocated to our Shower Ministry. We are also suggesting that we reach out to our sister congregations and give them the opportunity to contribute to some of the needs we have.

Question: How much have we spent on our Shower Ministry?

Reply: We are at about 60% of our budget (discussion followed reply).

- Call for the question to increase the budget \$600
Made by Bill Thompson
(Motion made earlier by Gene Philips and Seconded by Ken Watts)
Motion carries
 - By adding the additional \$600, our budget is increased to \$471,352

Question: What does Critical Needs entail?

Reply: Critical Needs is how we support our neighbors who are having housing and utility problems such as being evicted or having their water or electricity shut off. This money is administrated by Pastor Peter and Deacon Intern Wendy Schultz.

Question: Is this first come, first serve?

Reply: Yes, if we have funds in Critical Needs, we hand it out first come, first served.

Martha Miller thanked the congregation for their Magi Project offerings, which totaled almost \$3,000.

Question: Last year we budgeted \$4,000 for Critical Needs support and we spent \$3663, yet we raised it another \$2,000. Are we just raising the amount without knowing how much we will need throughout the year?

Reply: Critical Needs is funded by the General Fund that you're about to vote on. It is also funded by members and non members of the congregation who give money directly to the Critical Needs Fund. Money donated specifically to Critical Needs does not show up on the General Fund budget. The requests for Critical Needs have increased greatly and it is likely that \$6,000 will not be enough, but it is where we will start.

Question: Is this for members and non members and is the money given directly to the person?

Reply: When we help someone with critical needs, it doesn't matter if they're a member or not. The money is not given directly to the person. The checks are made out to the landlords and utility companies.

Question: For the 2026 draft budget we have total expenses of \$470,752, a difference of minus \$17,495.36. What does this actually mean?

Reply: We are asking you to approve a budget that is going to be in a deficit. Last year the congregation approved a budget that was in a deficit of a little over \$30,000. This year the deficit has been cut to about \$17,500. However, we just increased the budget by \$600, so the 2026 expenses are now \$471,352.

Comment from member: Just because we budgeted for something, it doesn't necessarily mean that the full amount will be spent. Over the course of the year, some give more than we had budgeted for.

Question: How did that work with the 2025 budget when we had a deficit of almost \$34,000?

Reply: We will have the final expenditure reports in a few weeks. The deficit is not carried over; we zero out at the end of the year and start over.

- Call for the Question to vote on the 2026 budget
Made by Bill Thompson

Question: On the budget, what is the very last project under Mission?

Reply: That is a project in Thailand where Kristen and Sprite work with orphans.

- Call for the Question has already been requested. We are voting on approving the 2026 budget as amended of \$471,352.
Motion carries

2026 Synod Assembly

President Ann Steinhoff asked for two or three delegates to represent St. John's at this year's Synod Assembly in Mesa, AZ in June. Four people volunteered:

Ken Watts
Jeri Newnam
Cindy Schilling
Herb Schilling

Ken Watts deferred to bring it to three delegates.

- Motion to accept Jeri Newnam, Cindy Schilling and Herb Schilling as delegates for the Synod Assembly in June.
Motion made by Susan Sporleder
Seconded by Eric Alfredson
Motion carries
- Motion to adjourn
Motion made by Mark Burkhart
Seconded by Cindy Schilling

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Bodine
Council Secretary

St. John's Lutheran Church -- Glendale AZ
2026 GENERAL OPERATING FUND BUDGET
Approval received at January 4, 2026 Congregational Meeting

Account #	Account Name	Amount
INCOME		
4.11.000 Offerings		
4.11.100	Weekly Envelope Offerings	370,457
4.11.101	Weekly Loose Offerings	32,000
4.11.102	Seasonal Offerings	11,000
Total Offerings		\$413,457.00
4.11.002 Other Income		
4.11.103	Additional Gifts	4,500
4.11.702	Facility Usage Fees	28,000
4.11.703	Misc. Income / Donations	7,300
Total Other Income		\$39,800.00
Total INCOME		\$453,257.00

EXPENSES		
5.11.000 MISSION		
5.11.001	Synod Benevolence (11% of total offerings)	45,480
5.11.002	Vida Nueva Mission Partnership	1,200
5.11.004	WVC Food Pantry Support	1,200
5.11.005	CRITICAL NEEDS Support	6,000
5.11.006	Lutheran Campus Ministries	1,200
5.11.007	LSS-SW (Partners in Caring)	1,800
5.15.008	Camp ALOMA Ministry Support	1,200
5.15.009	Additional Mission	1,000
5.17.010	Solution Church International	1,200
5.22.012	CC Youth Ministry	1,000
5.23.013	WV Young Adult Ministry	3,000
5.23.014	Chaplaincy for the Homeless	1,200
5.25.015	Project Saan Jai Rak	2,000
Total MISSION		\$67,480.27

St. John's Lutheran Church -- Glendale AZ
2026 GENERAL OPERATING FUND BUDGET
Approval received at January 4, 2026 Congregational Meeting

Account #	Account Name	Amount
5.11.100 <i>Worship Life & Music</i>		
5.11.107	Altar Care / Communion expenses	700
5.11.109	Music & Supplies	500
5.11.110	Copyrights	1,200
5.11.111	Devotionals	600
5.11.115	Organ & Piano Upkeep	650
Total Worship Life & Music		\$3,650.00
5.11.300 <i>Christian Education</i>		
5.11.301	Sunday School Curriculum/Supplies	1,200
5.11.302	Confirmation	2,100
5.11.303	Vacation Bible School	1,500
5.11.304	Adult Education	150
5.11.305	Camp Scholarships	5,000
5.11.306	Special Events	600
5.11.308	Cradle Roll	300
5.11.309	Youth Activities / Events	500
Total Christian Education		\$11,350.00
5.11.500 <i>CARING</i>		
5.11.501	Caring Project Expenses	225
5.11.502	Receptions	200
5.11.504	Prayer Shawl Ministry	35
5.11.505	Grief Support / Cradle Roll	175
Total Caring		\$635.00
5.11.600 <i>WELCOME & FELLOWSHIP</i>		
5.11.601	Refreshments & Coffee Hours	300
5.11.602	Paper & Plastic Goods	200
5.11.603	Fellowship Event expenses	2,500
5.26.604	SWAG	1,500
Total Fellowship		\$4,500.00

St. John's Lutheran Church -- Glendale AZ
2026 GENERAL OPERATING FUND BUDGET
Approval received at January 4, 2026 Congregational Meeting

Account #	Account Name	Amount
5.11.800 OUTREACH		
5.11.802	Social Media	1,000
5.11.803	Outreach Program Expenses	500
5.25.804	Shower/Hot Meal Ministry	5,000
5.25.805	Family Promise	600
Total Welcome & Outreach		\$7,100.00
5.11.900 PROPERTY		
5.11.901	Landscaping	7,000
5.11.902	Janitorial supplies/cleaning	2,600
5.11.903	Electrical maintenance/repairs	600
5.11.904	Plumbing maintenance/repairs	4,000
5.11.905	Heating/Cooling maint./repairs	3,000
5.11.906	Periodic Inspections/Maintenance	2,000
5.11.907	Misc. Tools & Supplies	1,200
5.15.908	Misc. Maintenance/Repairs	1,200
5.11.909	Building Fund Transfer	18,000
5.11.910	Other Projects / Improvements	5,000
Total Property		\$44,600.00
5.11.950 UTILITIES		
5.11.951	COX telephone & internet	3,700
5.11.952	SRP-002 (Chapel/classrooms)	8,875
5.11.953	SRP-003 (Sanctuary)	8,100
5.11.954	City of Glendale (H2O/waste)	4,000
5.11.955	Southwest Gas	750
5.11.956	SRP-006 (Security lighting)	1,800
Total Utilities		\$27,225.00

St. John's Lutheran Church -- Glendale AZ

2026 GENERAL OPERATING FUND BUDGET

Approval received at January 4, 2026 Congregational Meeting

Account #	Account Name	amount
5.21.200	Administration	
5.11.207	Continuing Education	1,000
5.11.208	Mileage Reimbursement	2,700
5.11.209	Conferences/Assemblies/Retreats	1,200
5.11.210	Insurance (Property/Worker's Comp)	16,000
5.11.212	Payroll Expenses	150
5.11.213	Leased Office Equipment	2,000
5.11.214	Office Supplies	1,200
5.11.215	Postage	1,200
5.11.216	Technical Support/Software/Hardware	2,500
5.11.217	Miscellaneous expenses	1,000
5.18.219	Stewardship expenses	400
5.18.220	Bonus / Gifts	1,500
Total Administration		\$30,850.00
5.22.201	Salaries, Wages, taxes...	
5.11.201	Pastoral Base Salary	40,000
5.11.202	Pastoral Housing Allowance	25,000
5.11.203	Portico Benefits - pastor	35,345
5.11.204	Church Secretary	47,362
5.11.211	Employer payroll taxes	8,584
5.16.912	Custodian	26,000
5.21.101	Organist / Choir Director	34,536
5.24.301	Worship Streamer	6,883
5.23.300	Associate Pastor for Outreach*	6,016
<small>*additional \$13,500 from JF Outreach fund</small>		
Total Salaries, Wages, taxes...		\$229,726.09
5.22.202	Independent Contractors (1099-NEC)	
5.11.103	Contemporary Band	23,650
5.11.105	Special Musicians	500
5.11.106	Substitute Organist/Pianist	1,000
5.11.206	Supply Pastors	1,000
5.21.116	Pianist	8,000
5.22.207	Digital Ministry/Social Media Spec.	10,086
Total Independent Contractors		\$44,236.00
Total EXPENSES		\$471,352.36
Difference		-\$18,095.36 -3.84%

Congregation approved 2026 General Operating Fund Budget

St. John's Lutheran Church - Glendale AZ

**2025
MISSION BENEVOLENCE**

ALOMA Ministry Support	\$1,200.00
Back-to-School Supplies	\$270.00
Chaplaincy for the Homeless	\$1,200.00
Critical Needs Support	\$22,677.00
ELCA Disaster Response	\$1,991.00
ELCA Good Gifts	\$2,204.50
GCS: Love Your Neighbor	\$1,282.00
Grand Canyon Synod Unrestricted Benevolence	\$43,008.00
Little Free Library Endowment Award	\$250.00
Lutheran Campus Ministries (UA, NAU, ASU)	\$1,200.00
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest	\$1,800.00
LSS-SW Endowment Award	\$2,000.00
Magi Gifts	\$3,439.00
Mosaic Endowment Award	\$1,000.00
Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission	\$1,832.50
Project Saan-Jai-Rak	\$410.00
Project Saan-Jai-Rak Endowment Award	\$2,285.00
Solution Church International	\$1,200.00
Vida Nueva Mission Partnership	\$1,200.00
West Valley Community Food Pantry	\$8,450.00
West Valley Young Adult Ministry	\$2,400.00
TOTAL	\$101,299.00

**St. John's Lutheran Church - Glendale AZ
Balance Sheet**

Account #	Account Name	January 1, 2025 Beginning Balance	December 31, 2025 Ending Balance
Assets			
1.11.001	Office FRY'S Card	305.84	463.91
1.11.004	Fundraising Cash Box	50.00	50.00
1.11.005	Petty Cash Box	50.00	50.00
1.11.008	Mission Investment Fund	114,946.63	103,451.78
1.21.100	Thrivent Charitable Investing	137,384.77	159,026.91
1.22.100	ELCA Ministry Growth Fund	53,160.20	59,737.80
1.23.000	Mission Investment term accounts		
1.23.001	MIF-9021 1 YR (ends 5/05/26)	26,913.37	28,126.64
1.23.002	MIF-1719 2 YR (ends 6/08/27)	53,819.81	11,428.93
1.24.003	MIF-6589 3 YR (ends 4/23/2027)	10,247.64	10,761.46
1.25.004	MIF-3541 5 YR (ends 7/13/2030)	N/A	22,285.48
1.25.005	MIF-3632 3 YR (ends 7/14/2028)	N/A	22,285.48
	Total Mission Investment term accounts	90,980.82	\$94,887.99
1.24.101	CHASE Checking 7769	63,112.95	32,205.09
	Total Assets	\$459,991.21	\$449,873.48
Liabilities			
2.11.000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	10,385.00	8,269.22
2.11.100	MISSION OUTREACH	496.00	0.00
2.11.200	PASS THRU	169.34	754.98
2.21.400	CW PAYROLL	937.70	4,629.27
2.22.500	ELCA Ministry Growth	1,868.60	8,446.20
2.23.600	ADMINISTERED for OTHERS		
2.23.660	SAOM: WV Young Adult Ministry	25,727.78	32,607.63
2.23.670	CC Youth Ministry	12,412.93	12,412.93
	Total ADMINISTERED for OTHERS	38,140.71	\$45,020.56
	Total Liabilities	\$51,997.35	\$67,120.23
Fund Balances			
3.11.000	2025 GENERAL OPERATING FUND	74,071.43	51,661.03
3.11.010	RESTRICTED Funds		
3.11.030	OUTREACH 2026	4,992.63	0.00
3.12.011	CRITICAL NEEDS	3,663.51	1,781.77
3.15.010	Camp Scholarships	203.00	0.00
3.21.001	STJ Women's Group	990.32	1,445.32
3.22.100	JF-Property Improvement	19,126.66	19,126.66
3.22.200	JF-Outreach	54,969.59	41,469.59
3.24.100	2025 Refreshing St. John's Balance	2,929.90	0.00
3.25.110	Diaconal Internship Fund	N/A	4,424.44
	Total RESTRICTED Funds	86,875.61	\$68,247.78
3.11.090	DEDICATED FUNDS		
3.11.091	Columbarium/Memorial Garden	27,788.82	28,052.02
3.11.092	Memorial Gifts	13,048.92	13,123.43
3.11.093	Building Improvement	66,759.69	51,207.35
	Total DEDICATED FUNDS	107,597.43	\$92,382.80
3.21.100	ENDOWMENT FUND Accounts		
3.21.101	Endowment Cash Balance	2,064.63	11,434.74
3.21.102	Thrivent ChII Balance	137,384.77	159,026.91
	Total ENDOWMENT FUND Accounts	139,449.40	\$170,461.65
	Total Funds Balance	\$407,993.87	\$382,753.26
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$459,991.22	\$449,873.49

Audit Committee *2025 Audit Report*

To: St. John's Church Council

From: St. John's Audit Committee

Tina Johnson

Janet Wendt

Jean Gedney

Susanne Grose (ex-officio)

With this report the audit committee presents its audit of the financial books and records of the church to the Congregational Council. The ELCA Congregational Audit Guide was used for reference in conducting the Audit.

Church: St. John's ELCA

Synod: Grand Canyon Synod

From the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025.

General Statements

Financial Records filing for 2025 were found to be in order. The Green Sheet monthly financial reports to the council, reconciled bank statements, invoices, insurance documents, and payroll records were all readily available and presented for 2025. As a result, the audit process for the year 2025 only found a few recommendations for best practices. Susanne and the financial team have maintained and reported the financial records well. Good job, team.

Specific Findings/Recommendations:

- Insurance – The insurance binder contained the necessary insurance documents and were reviewed and found to be in order.
- Check signature authorization—Two signers are required on all checks issued by St. John's and the bank authorization documentation is current for both J.P. Morgan Chase and Mission Investment Accounts. No pre-signed checks exist, blank checks are stored in a locked area.
- Two non-related congregational members are involved in the placement of the Sunday collections into the safe and the counting of the contributions.
- Bank statements are reconciled during the month end close process by two unrelated people. No issues were found.
- Petty Cash and Cash Box records were reviewed by the audit committee and found to be current and accurate.
- Finance Committee reports and meeting minutes were consolidated in a single book binder and were available to review.
- Several vendor invoices were checked against check payment stubs and they matched. Charges to specific accounts are dependent on the assignment of the proper account number and looked to be in order as they were posted to the proper GL accounts.
- Vendor Invoices were found to be properly authorized with initials/signatures.
- The finance team provided a Comparative Treasurer's Report that summarized yearly account balances for 2023, 2024, and 2025. Fluctuations in Confirmation increased due to students now attending Lutheran CampFormation in Prescott; Promotional Materials increased due to Cups/Swag; New Budget

lines were created for Shower/Hot Meal Ministry and Family Promise Heat Respite actually isn't a budget line.... Pastor asked to track any specific expenses last year – they were negligible, and should have been transferred afterwards to correct property line; Insurance for Property/Worker's Comp has increased year over year; Office Equipment increased due to charges for color copies (we are since leasing a refurbished copier where the maintenance agreement includes color copies at a lower per copy charge); Technical Support increased for texting and newsletters; Stewardship decreased due to donors now using Zelle more than Tithely; Bonus/Gifts increased due to the Christmas Bonuses.

- Payroll records were reviewed. Finance Team reviewed process for filing tax records is done thru an outside vendor, Aatrix. Church Windows is the software used with the Payroll System as part of the software. Time sheets are handled on the “honor system” as the hourly employees write down the time worked. At this time, no authorizing signatures are required to approve the hours worked. It is **recommended** to review all personnel files to ensure they include proper state and federal requirements. IE: proper I-9 forms, W-4, and State tax forms. We were not able to see all of the I-9 forms at the time of the audit. This appears to still need to be addressed for the 2025 audit. We were not able to match the tax rates signed by the employees to the taxes charged thru payroll.
- Certificates of Insurance need to be obtained from all vendors that are using St. John's Church property. These will need to be updated annually. The list of vendors is:
 - AZ HUMANE SOCIETY
 - VIDA NUEVA
 - AZ FAITH NETWORK
 - CITY OF GLENDALE (ASK FOR STATEMENT... THEY ARE SELF INSURED)
 - MARICOPA COUNTY POLLING (FOR ELECTIONS)
 - FAMILY PROMISE
 - GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
 - WEST VALLEY COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY
 - DUET
 - EMMANUEL SUDANESE
 - LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES
 - CHURCH OF THE PALMS SHOWER MINISTRY
- Microsoft Antivirus security software is utilized to secure St. John's computers
- Verified that users each possess their own log ins to the software.
- Council Members are provided with financial record reports on a monthly basis and reviewed at the Finance and Council Meetings.

It was a pleasure working with Susanne, Janet and Jean. They were very helpful and made the auditing process quick, easy, and fun! Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Tina Johnson

Janet Wendt

Jean Gedney

March 24, 2025

2026 Council Nominating Committee

The nominating committee this year consisted of Herb Shilling, Amy Beard, Jan Bean and Mike Kaml. One person needed to be nominated to replace Kevin Staggs who is rotating off the church council. Cindy Staggs is willing to run for a second term.

The committee met on January 24, 2026, to discuss the role of the committee and the qualifications any candidate should show. We began talking to prospective people after that date. A preliminary goal was to try to have a congregant from the Saturday service nominated so those who worship at that service could be better represented on the church council

Ken Watts spoke to Elinor Peterson who worships on Saturday to ask her to canvas that service. Elinor reported back that a nominee could not be found.

Jan Bean reported back that Janet Stafford agreed to be nominated to the church council.

I want to thank the volunteers on the nominating committee for the hard work this year.

Respectfully,

Ken Watts

Nominating Committee Chair

Janet Stafford

I have been involved with the Lutheran church since adulthood. I was at Concordia Lutheran church for 25 plus years, where I was Choir director and also served on church council a few different time periods. I was also involved with the youth ministry when my children were growing up. I joined St John's several years ago. I retired almost 2 years ago, and am active in the bell choir and the choir. I have started ushering as well.

Cindy Staggs

My name is Cindy Staggs. I am a native of Arizona, born and raised in Tucson. I have been married to Kevin since 1975. We have four grown children and 3 grandchildren. Two of our grown children are adopted, one from Russia and one from China. I am blessed because all of them live within 20 minutes of us. I am a retired RN, most of my career spent in school nursing. My last and most rewarding nursing position was on staff for 6 years as a parish nurse at an ELCA Lutheran church in Peoria. I was able to combine my medical knowledge with my spiritual beliefs. I was able assist individuals during illnesses and with health resources in the community. I had the honor of walking with families as loved ones were transitioning at end of life on earth. I shared my health knowledge with individuals and the congregation about how our health impacts and connects the heart, soul, strength and mind. I was also a pastoral assistant; I made hospital and home visits and served communion to those unable to physically attend church. I was an assisting minister, involved in worship once a month. I started the Stephen ministry program at this church as a Stephen Leader. I serve two to three times per month here at St. John's as an assisting minister at the 11am service. I have been on church council for 3 years. Currently I work with my daughter's business. We hire and employ caregivers to provide services for families of individuals with disabilities. I teach the mandatory classes such as CPR, First- aid and a class mandated for all of our employees which teaches them about the rights of individuals with disabilities in Arizona. I have also taught CPR and First Aid to the ushers and other interested individuals here at St. John's. I look forward to serving another term on church council here at St. John's.

Caring Committee

2025-2026 Annual Report

Purpose Statement: The Caring Committee guides St. John's to grow as a Christ-centered, inclusive, and active community.

Committee Members: Ann Sueyoshi (Council Liaison), Martha Miller (Chair), Jane Michaels, Jeri Newnam, Sally Huehn, Sharon Lubekin, Amy Beard, Elinor Peterson, Lois Wright, Ann Steinhoff, Ron Helvig

The Caring Committee meets four times a year, including a December joint meeting with the women of WELCA. We have a visitation ministry to share a loving time with those who are homebound, and sending get well cards. We seek to minister to the needs of the church community by sending cards for birthdays and anniversaries as well. Prayer shawls are also given to the homebound.

The committee provides funeral care and grief support by providing receptions as requested by the families at funeral or memorial services. Thank you to all of you who helped with the funeral receptions. Columbarium support is offered as needed.

The Caring committee seeks to minister to the larger community by annually asking for donations from the congregation for local and global giving projects.

- 1) School supplies for Burton School
- 2) Magi Project, with donations, we provide gift cards to the families needing help during the holiday season.
- 3) Family Promise, we work together with hosting families that are homeless 4 times a year.
- 4) We also support the food pantry.

Our Global giving projects include projects for Lent and Easter through ELCA Good Gifts, we offered four gifts for giving, Water Filters, Honeybees, Chicks and Tree Seedlings.

The Caring Committee appreciates all those who make calls to our homebound or others in our congregation as the need arises. We also provide Grief Booklets to families who have lost loved ones in the past year.

Respectfully Submitted, Martha Miller

Christian Education Committee

2025 Annual Report

Purpose Statement: To provide opportunities and resources that make disciples of all ages.

Members of the Christian Education Committee Include: Tammy Cobos (chairman), Doris Kaml, Mike Kaml, Ann Steinhoff, Patricia Bodine (liaison), Janet Davis and Pastor Peter.

The 2025 theme for Vacation Bible School was “True North”. Ann Steinhoff served as director. The program was staffed by dedicated adults who led the children in activities, such as crafts, music, snacks, and games. Leaders and other volunteers helped ensure that the children enjoyed the week. On Sunday, VBS participants shared what they learned during their exciting week, with the congregation at the 11am service.

Sunday School attendance was lower this year, with up to 12 K-6 and 5 first year and 2 second year confirmation students.

We continue to have a wonderful, committed core group of Sunday School leaders – Mike and Doris Kaml, Tammy and Val Cobos and Janet Davis. The K-6 group of children renamed their program *F.R.O.G.—Fully Relying on God*. Pastor Perry taught the confirmation class.

The Preparation for Communion class was taught by Ann Steinhoff over 4 weeks. The student, Lexie Gerloff, took her first communion at the 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday service.

The annual family Advent night was held. Approximately 22 children and their families participated in an evening of make-and-take-crafts, hot chocolate and cookies. Advent family devotionals and candles were available to participating families.

The children had a day of service, in November, creating over 60 Christmas cards and Easter cards to be distributed to St. John’s shut-ins, with their Christmas cookies and Easter baskets.

The 2025 Christmas pageant told the Christmas story with a lot of “animals” joining the presentation. There was plenty of Christmas Carols, sung from a kids’ perspective. Over 20 children participated in the pageant, with a lot of last minute additions to the cast. Tammy Cobos was the director.

The Sunday School leaders organized the annual Celebration of New Life, held on Easter Sunday. A kids sermon was included at the 8:30 and 11:00 services. Children enjoyed the egg hunt and crafts between the Sunday services.

Youth currently in grades 3-9 may again take advantage of attending Camp Aloma this summer. We are encouraging our confirmation youth to attend Camp Faith Formation.

Respectfully,

Tammy Cobos, Christian Education Committee Chair

Fellowship Committee

2025 Annual Report

Purpose Statement: The Fellowship Committee encourages the building of community through programs and events that enable face to face contacts between members and friends of St. John's.

The committee chair is Ann Steinhoff. Members of the committee include Ron Helvig, Martha Miller, Sandy Osborne, Bev Pepper, Jan Bean, Isabel Branes, Sally Huehn, Lois Wright, Bonnie Guerrero, Pam Hansen

The Fellowship Committee met in August after the new vision and goals for St. John's were adopted by the congregation and decided that we would continue with the title of "Fellowship" rather than "Hospitality". The committee felt that "fellowship" gave others the understanding that we are looking to make connections with others.

Goal 1: Growing a Culture of Spirit-filled Hospitality and Inclusion

Create a welcoming culture where all people feel seen, valued, and encouraged to explore faith, belonging, and service.

- Develop intentional outreach efforts to invite and engage new individuals and families.
- Celebrate the diversity of God's call to follow Christ through inclusive worship, leadership, and ministries

1-Year Goal:

- Develop and test invitation and welcome processes to see what best encourages current worshippers to invite others, to reconnect after participation, and to return to another event.
 - Measure: Track new invitations, first-time worshipper return, and follow-up engagement.

To begin gathering data to review for the Year 1 goal, the committee is doing the following:

1. First-time worshipers:

- a. The committee developed a Visitor's Log for the ushers to use,
 - i. First time visitors are welcomed. Usher introduces him/herself and asks for their name. The individual's name and date of the visit is entered on the log sheet. If the visitor indicates who invited them to worship with us, that name is written down as well. A mug and information about St. John's is given to the visitor.
 - ii. If the visitor comes a second time, the usher welcomes them again and makes note of the date. Pastor would like to reach out to these visitors. The usher asks for a phone number or a way we can contact them.

Goal 2: Strengthening a Culture of Caring

Provide regular opportunities for authentic conversation

- Create support networks for individuals and families navigating life's challenges.
- Encourage mutual discipleship through shared worship, study, and service

1-Year Goal:

- Develop a structure to identify and create diverse opportunities for authentic conversation and support networks, aiming to engage at least 30% of the congregation with monthly meetings focused on discipleship, shared worship, and support.
 - Measure: Monitor group membership and monthly attendance

The committee wants to not only have information as to who is attending events but also wants to be aware of who is not there and who we can invite. The aim is to care for each other more deeply.

- b. Groups that we are monitoring include:
 - i. Monthly Women's Brunch (Martha Miller)
 - ii. Monthly Men's Breakfast (Gene Phillips)
 - iii. St. John's Book Club (Ann Steinhoff)
 - iv. Adult Forum (Phil Bacon; Mike Lynch)
 - v. Bible studies – Monday (Lois Wright) and Thursday (Bev Peppers)
 - vi. Other as needed

The Fellowship Committee plans, organizes, and promotes fellowship events for our congregation throughout the year.

Events sponsored by the committee are:

Weekly Events:

- Coffee hour between services – on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month
- Wednesday Fun Day (games) at the Manor
- Adult Forum (Sunday between services)
- Bible Studies – Monday virtually (on-line) and Thursday in Chapel & virtually (on-line)

Monthly Events:

- Book club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month
- Women's Brunch
- Men's Breakfast

Special Events:

- Joint worship service with Vida Nueva and Emmanuel Sudanese
- Thanksgiving potluck meal
- Advent pot-luck suppers
- Collaborated with Vida Nueva to host La Posada
- Christmas Day potluck brunch
- New Year's Eve potluck & White Elephant Exchange
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Lenten Soup Suppers
- Chili Supper/Basket Raffle
- Easter Brunch beginning at 7:00 a.m. and continuing until noon
- Cake for 2026 high school and college graduates
- Cake for Confirmands

The committee is very appreciative of its members and other volunteers who help with the events. We urge others to join us.

Finance Committee

2025 Annual Report

Purpose Statement: The Finance Committee supports St. John's Council in the management of congregational finances by providing reports, by recommending fiscal policies & procedures and by preparing the annual budget.

Finance Committee members, year 2025 and continuing to date, are *Phil Bacon, Jackie Lucas, Susanne Grose* (chair), *Pastor Peter Perry*, Treasurer *Kevin Staggs*, and President *Ann Steinhoff*.

Early in 2025 *Diana Mendez* resigned. At scheduled monthly meetings the committee reviews the "Green Sheets" report, deliberates concerns, helps to create policy, and makes fiscal recommendations to Council.

Ever faithful volunteer team members include *Vangie Berry, Martha Erickson, Barb Shipley*, and *Lois Wright* as money-counters; *Susanne Grose*, bookkeeper; *Isabel Branes*, assistant; and *Pat Bodine* now doing data entry in place of *Diana Herrington*.

2025 Activity

- Provided monthly *Green Sheet* reports to council by email and print
- Processed employee payroll using Church Windows Payroll software
- Processed payroll & provided accounting for West Valley Young Adult Ministry
- Recommended utilizing the "laddering" investment strategy with our Mission Investment account—resulting in multiple fixed-income accounts with staggered maturity dates providing an annual stream of reserved monies available
- Utilized and continue with ACH debit block and Chase check fraud protection services
- Wire and ACH online transfer ability by key signers allows for convenient movement of funds if needed
- Ordered undated boxed weekly offering envelopes, available by request for those not using Zelle or Tithe.ly for donations. The new logo pew envelopes are also available for all.
- Recommended replacement of the old office copier with a newer refurbished Sharp copier on a 5-year lease and with a favorable maintenance agreement
- Always thanking God and **YOU** for your generous support and faithful gifts!

Susanne Janka Grose, bookkeeper
Kevin Staggs, Treasurer

submitted: March 14, 2026

Music and Worship Committee

2025 Annual Report

Purpose Statement: The Worship and Music Committee plans and evaluates worship and music to share God's love with our church and community.

This committee plans and evaluates worship and music to share God's love with our church and community. We focus our planning from this point, always returning to the congregational mission question: how is this committee already Christ-centered; Inclusive? Active? And how can we grow to be more so?

Music and Worship Planning Team-

Pastor Perry, Pastor Dan, Pat Bodine, Barb Kapla, Elinor Peterson, Gene Phillips, Cindy Staggs, and Jean Stanley

Council Liaison – Cindy Staggs

Bell Choir Director – Lori Jamison

Choir Director/Organist – Geert Ruelens

Saturday Pianist – Wenqi Du

Band Scott Engel, Charles Van, Gary Hudson, Suzanne Darby and Tracy Williams, Leader

Team Leaders/ Representatives Acolytes –

Altar Care – Barb Kapla

Communion Assistants and Lectors-Ushers – Mike Lynch

Sound – Gene Phillips

Contemporary slides – Janet Newnam

Streaming Services - St. John's continues to offer both 8:30 traditional, and 11:00 contemporary services Sunday mornings in the sanctuary and online; modified traditional 5pm – Saturdays in the chapel and online.

We use music from the ELW hymnal, Holden Evening Prayer and contemporary music, as selected by the Organist/Choir Director, in conjunction with the committee.

We collaborate with other church committees to plan for seasonal events, including: All Saints Sunday picnic; holiday Song Fest; funerals; confirmation Sunday; baptisms, etc.

Thank you! The Worship Committee would like to thank our musicians – Geert Reulens, organist and choir director; Wenqi Du, pianist; and Tracy Williams, contemporary band leader; as well as the volunteers in the music program and the volunteers who support M/W by decorating for the holidays. We thank Lois Wright and those who help her with funeral refreshments. We thank Pastor Peter Perry and Pastor Dan Potaznick for their help and support. We also want to thank Jennifer Shipley for her help as church secretary. We thank the congregation at large, for their support, which allows us to share God's love with our church and community

Goals - We always welcome new members and volunteers to the Music and Worship Team. We still strive to grow the choir, bell choir, and need additional help with funeral support. We want to continue including youth in the liturgy, as well as other members seeking new ways to work within the church. We have expanded the number of volunteers for readers, ushers, and greeters this past year. We work to provide opportunities for the congregation to learn, enjoy and participate in the worship experience of St. John's.

Goals Met - We continue to train young members to serve in the Sunday services. Assistant Ministers continue to serve at the 11:00 service, and we hope to expand it to the other services in the coming year.

We thank the congregation for their financial support, and contributions to the memorial fund, which allow us to purchase new worship materials. This year we have purchased new banners for the sanctuary, for both Reformation, and Pentecostal seasons.

With the departure of Daphne Collins as our Saturday pianist, we conducted a new search, interviewed, and ultimately hired Wenqi Du as our new congregational pianist. She will play for Saturday service weekly, and assist Geert Ruelens, Organist and Choir Director, on special occasions.

The committee voted to increase pianist compensation from \$100 to \$125 per performance.

Barbara Kapla, Chair Music and Worship

Property Committee

2025 Annual Report

Purpose Statement: The Property Committee is responsible for maintaining the facilities and grounds of St. John's Lutheran Church for the glory of God and the hospitality of all who come.

Property Committee Team: Mike Lynch (Council Liason), Mark Burkhart (Chairman), Dale Hurless, Ron Helvig, Sandy Osborne, Mike Mealy and Aaron Helvig

2025 was a busy year for property at St. John's. Besides the regular on-going maintenance, we completed multiple major projects that are listed below.

- Bumblebee Plumbing installed all new gas line(s) from the gas meter going up on the classroom's roof tying into the 2 HVAC units up there. Continued into the suspended ceiling in the Sanctuary and installed all new gas lines up there and to all the 5 HVAC units on top of the Sanctuary ending at the gas water heater.
- Plumbing Masters installed a new backflow/vacuum breaker out at our main water box out on Myrtle. This new backflow/vacuum breaker was installed at the correct height as per City of Glendale's specifications. This one new backflow/vacuum breaker replaced all the other ones.
- Replaced door hardware on the left sanctuary door.
- Had a new HVAC unit (compressor & air handler) installed for the Chapel.
- 3 new kitchen cabinets were installed in the kitchen.
- A portable stainless-steel dishwasher was bought.
- Had 3 outstanding workdays with an abundance of volunteers and we accomplished quite a bit at each workday. Thanks to all who came out.
- Painted the Sanctuary's women's bathroom countertop with a counter top paint and it turned out fairly well. Planning this year (2026) of remodeling both Sanctuary bathrooms or at least one of them depending on how things go.

Thanks to the Property Committee team for being there and doing such a great job!

Respectfully submitted, Mark Burkhart

Outreach Committee

2025 Annual Report

Purpose Statement: The Outreach Committee provides ideas, tools, and events for the spreading the love of Christ in and beyond our congregation. We encourage members to strengthen personal relationships and invite non-members to participate in the life of the church.

Our mission is to invite all into a welcoming and inclusive community, to serve by responding to the needs of our neighbors, and to educate through programs that share God's love.

Ongoing Ministries

Family Promise

For the seventh year in a row St John's hosted four weeks of Family Promise. We provided 28 evening meals and 28 overnight stays. We hosted 16 families consisting of 41 individuals made up of 20 adults and 21 children. We did this with 50 volunteers serving meals, staying overnight, visiting with the families, and helping with set-up, cleaning up and laundry.

Shower and Hot Meals

The "showers" ministry continued through 2025 with several changes, but serving our neighbors went ahead with the work of our gracious St. John's volunteers and our partnership with The Church of the Palms UCC congregation from Sun City and the Circle of the City medical team. St. John's and Vida Nueva supplied about 25 volunteers per session along with five or six from Church of the Palms and two or three from Circle of the City.

Throughout the year, every other Friday, we were able to give an average of about 25 to 30 showers and meals along with haircuts and clean clothes to wear after the shower.

Little Library

This year the Outreach committee began the 'little library' ministry in the courtyard. We set out free books for anyone who wants them. This service has provided free reading material to members, friends and neighbors of St. John's. Each week we replenish the library with around 20 books, making the usage over 1000 books per year. A very good startup year.

Arizona Humane Society

Starting in February, the Healthy Trails Mobile Clinic began offering monthly low-cost veterinary services in our parking lot. They served over 200 of our neighbor's pets by December 2025. Through this contact Companion Pets in Crisis now supplies pet food to the West Valley Food Bank.

Heat Respite

In partnership with Arizona Faith Network (AFN) last summer St. John's provided shelter from the heat, food and water to 3,568 of our local neighbors. During these visits with the assistance of the Pheonix Rescue Mission there were 533 case worker referrals. In addition, we protected 598 pets from the heat. AFN employees saved one individual's life by reviving them with Marcan.

The Outreach Committee thanks St. John's for its generous financial support and the congregation for supporting our work with prayer and faithful volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phil Bacon, Committee Chair

2025 Memorial Gifts

Gifts to St. John’s Memorial Fund are given in the memory of or in honor of loved ones, family members and friends. These gifts are generally used to purchase long-lasting items which enhance the worship life of the congregation.

Beginning Balance: \$13,048.92
Donations: \$5,446.00.00
Ending Balance: \$13,123.33

Donations in 2025 were given in remembrance of:
Gloria Anderson, Laverne Bengé,
Fred Cheshire, Ray Gustad, JoAnn Herrick,
Diana Herrington, Judy Johnson, Jack Neimi,
Ginni Sjoquist, Linda Skorheim, and Larry Sporleder

With regard to donor designation and family requests, many memorial gifts in 2025 were transferred to the St. John’s Lutheran Church Endowment Fund to become perpetually available for scholarships, additional mission, or enhancement of St. John’s Lutheran Church.
Seasonal flower donations & expenses at Easter and Christmas are also a part of the Memorial Fund accounting.

The Jorgensen Memorial

In memory and with continued gratitude

Walter B. Jorgensen, 1908 – 1989 Lulu Grace Jorgensen 1910 – 1977

We acknowledge and appreciate over 35 years of gifts bestowed upon St. John’s from the estate of Walter and Lulu Jorgensen. Since 2023 the JF-Outreach Fund continues as the predominant source of income for Pr. Dan Potaznick, our Associate Pastor for Outreach. There also remains a balance in the JF-Property Improvement Fund.

St. John's Endowment Committee

Annual Report, 2025

Committee members: Bill Thompson, Elinor Peterson, Herb Shilling, Isabel Branes, Ken Watts, Bev Pepper.

St. John's Church established the Endowment Fund in February 2019 with Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investments provide financial growth which provide stability for the future of God's work at St. John's Lutheran Church. The endowment grants funds through three categories: Education, Enhancement and Service. Education grants help people attend vocational training, college, university, and seminary. Enhancement grants are used to fund special projects that fortify the congregation's ministry. Service grants are for causes and work beyond the congregation.

The endowment fund on January 1, 2025 had a value of \$137,384.77 and ended the year on December 31, 2025 with a value of \$159,026.91

In February 2025 the Endowment Committee awarded the following grants: Avery Morales Perez \$500, Solomen Kuch \$500, Mosaic \$1000, Little Library (Laurel Watts, librarian) \$500, Sprite and Kristen Chuenchum \$2285, Lutheran Social Services \$2000, Makenna Mulder \$1000.

The total granted was \$7785, which was 6% at the end of the third quarter 2024 total in the Thrivent Charitable fund. This is per the Endowment Committee bylaws.

We wish to thank everyone for the generous contributions during 2025. Each recipient of grants have been so thankful for your selfless generosity done in the name of Christ.

West Valley Community Food Pantry

2025 – The year in review

The pantry is open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9-12. In 2025 clients were able to come to the pantry for a food box two times a month. Unsheltered individuals were able to come in once a week. The volunteers prepared 9,523 food boxes. We served a total of 29,960 people which included 2,053 new families and 1,811 unsheltered individuals. At Thanksgiving we were able to provide 140 families with food. Each family received a turkey or gift card and a bag of food for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. We will do gift cards again for Thanksgiving in 2026. We had 334 families go through the Christmas shop in 2025. Each family was able to select household items, holiday decorations, toys/games, clothing, and a quilt.

We were fortunate to have the continued support of many churches, businesses, and organizations who provide food, quilts, items for our Christmas shop, hygiene kits, baby kits, school kits, as well as funds. We are grateful to continue to receive a grant from The West Valley Lutheran Thrift Shop. They also donate canned and dry food and bags of clothes every week. We received two new grants in 2025, one from the City of Glendale From the Heart, and one from BHHS Legacy Foundation. We maintain our 501(c)(3) status and are very thankful to the many people who donated their Arizona state tax credit funds to the pantry. People are also able to donate to the pantry from our website (www.westvalleycommunityfoodpantry.org).

Several area businesses also contribute to the pantry, which allow our families to receive extra items such as fresh produce, milk, eggs and pastries among other miscellaneous items. We continue to receive bagels from Einstein's (2 locations), cakes from Nothing Bundt cakes (4 locations), pizza and wings from Pizza Hut (2 locations), and our weekly delivery from Waste Not. We also get food items donated from Olive Garden, Axcion, and Sodexo (USAA and Cox Communications). We have one Safeway and the Albertson's on 51st Avenue and Cactus that allow our volunteers to pick up food that has been pulled from their shelves. The WinCo at 5850 W Bell donates bakery items two times a week. In 2025, the pantry continued to partner with Roots, an organization that develops manufactured housing communities. Two times a month the pantry prepares 10-12 food boxes that are picked up by Door Dash and delivered to people living in Grand Missouri, a Roots community. We received many anonymous donations of food during the holiday season. We are grateful for the many businesses and organizations that help us feed the hungry.

WVCFP continues to reach out to other organizations to help find resources for our families. This past year United Health Care, Archwell, and Oak Street Medical were available to assist clients during operating hours. We also partnered with Samaritan's Touch, CASS, Lutheran Social Services, Pediatric Dentistry and Diversity Insurance. Maricopa County also provided free vaccinations to our clients. To support the showers for the homeless the pantry posted signs and passed out flyers with upcoming shower dates. During heat respite, we were able to provide many unsheltered individuals with bags of food.

The pantry remains an all-volunteer organization. There are NO paid staff. Our volunteers come from 11 different churches of different denominations. The WVCFP board members are: June Kelsey, Mark and Chris Clist, Jan Lopez, Janet Bean, Barbara Volk, Lori Beverick, Jennifer Tremose, and Walt Sampson.

We greatly appreciate the generosity and continued support of our St. John's family that continues to help us feed our neighborhood and surrounding communities.

Blessings,

June Kelsey

June Kelsey

Executive Director

WVCFP 2025 Operating Budget Income/Expense by Category - Last year

1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025

2/5/2026

Page 1

Category	1/1/2025- 12/31/2025	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME		
AZ Tax Credit Funds	3,436.00	3,436.00
Business Donation	349.00	349.00
cash contribution Anonymous	94.00	94.00
church contribution	28,522.47	28,522.47
Dispute Refund	164.11	164.11
Grant City Of Glendale	10,000.00	10,000.00
Grant Legacy Foundation	25,000.00	25,000.00
Grant WVLTs Quarterly	33,000.00	33,000.00
Interest Inc	1,055.02	1,055.02
Organization Contribution	11,866.43	11,866.43
Other Inc	2,839.78	2,839.78
Other Inc Frys' Card	291.80	291.80
personal contribution	53,657.93	53,657.93
Refund Into Account	182.03	182.03
Tax Credit 2024, person contribution	3,934.00	3,934.00
Tax Credit 2025, person contribution	8,561.00	8,561.00
Thanksgiving donation	390.00	390.00
TOTAL INCOME	183,343.57	183,343.57
EXPENSES		
Uncategorized	0.00	0.00
Bus Exp Equipment	5,701.56	5,701.56
Bus Exp Equipment Repair	323.00	323.00
Bus Exp Exterminator	420.00	420.00
Bus Exp Food Packing Supplies	577.86	577.86
Bus Exp For Tax Credits	1,000.00	1,000.00
Bus Exp Fuel	1,332.66	1,332.66
Bus Exp Gift Cards	300.00	300.00
Bus Exp Office Supplies	723.42	723.42
Bus Exp Phone	213.87	213.87
Bus Exp Report Filing Fee	10.00	10.00
Bus Exp Tax Prep	850.00	850.00
Bus Exp Website Design	315.00	315.00
Business Expense, Insurance	1,150.00	1,150.00
Debit Card Mis-use	197.58	197.58
Food Purchase	79,487.62	79,487.62
Fraud	39.00	39.00
Rent	3,000.00	3,000.00
VOID	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	95,641.57	95,641.57
OVERALL TOTAL	87,702.00	87,702.00

WVCFP Balance Sheet for 2025 - As of 12/31/2025

Account	12/31/2025 Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Chase WVCFP Operating Account	104,409.17
Desert Financial Checking; PayPal	65,366.22
Desert Financial Emergency Account	66,925.56
Desert Financial Saving	25.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	236,725.95
TOTAL ASSETS	236,725.95
LIABILITIES	
	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	236,725.95

ST JOHN'S MANOR
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

St John's Manor, located adjacent to the church, is a 43 unit Income Assisted Housing Development for seniors (62+). It is the result of a Not-for-Profit Collaborative Initiative by St John's Lutheran Church, California Lutheran Homes and Communities. Our goal is to meet a growing need for safe, pleasant and affordable housing for seniors. Monthly rents at the Manor are subsidized by the Federal Govt, and are calculated at 30% of the residents gross income minus medical expenses.

The Manor was funded by a \$3,429,000 Federal HUD Section 202 Grant. The funds from this grant were utilized to purchase the land from St John's Lutheran Church and to design and construct the complex as it exists today. Construction began in December 2004 and completed in August 2005. The first residents began moving in in September 2005. Caring Housing Ministries manages the Manor and reports to the Board of Directors who meet 4 times a year at the Manor.

The 34,000 square foot complex includes 42 one bedroom resident apartments, a management apartment and office, 4 laundry rooms, library, common sitting areas and patios on each floor and a community room with a service kitchen. Located at the rear of the building, there is a park-like setting with a winding walkway with benches and gazebo. We currently have approximately 90 individuals on the waiting list. Since the opening of the Manor, the relationship between our church and the residents has flourished. Several residents have joined the church or worship regularly. Adult Forum meets in the Community room on Sundays. St John's Manor is an Arizona Not for Profit Corporation. St John's Manor Board members are Jon Clark, Bill Thompson, Secretary and Martha Miller, President.

The church bears no financial responsibility for St John's Manor

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Miller
President, SJM Board of Directors

West Valley Young Adult Ministry

2025 Annual Report

Thank you for your support of the West Valley Young Adult Ministry (WVYAM) since its inception in 2022! St John's and congregations in the Cactus Conference, together with the Grand Canyon Synod and the ELCA Churchwide have contributed to make this ministry happen. From 2022 to 2025, WVYAM brought together young adults ages 19-35 in over 200 events including three leadership development retreats. In 2024, there were an average of 12 young adults per event and at the beginning of 2025, there were over 80 young adults who participated. In addition, the West Valley group helped organize a Valley-wide young adult group in 2025. We can give thanks to God for the way God worked to form new relationships between young adults and plant seeds of faith in God. These relationships continue to this day--please pray that God will nurture them!

I remind you (and myself) of these successes because it is easy to grieve the closure of this ministry following the arrest of the director, Casey Goslin, in October 2025 on charges unrelated to the Young Adult Ministry. This was a blow that the nascent ministry could not survive. We still do not know how Casey's story will proceed. Please pray for speedy and compassionate justice for all involved. We can trust that in Christ there is hope!

St John's served as fiscal agent for this ministry (you can see it in balance sheets under "Funds administered for others"). A huge thanks to Susanne Grose who administered it! In March 2026, St John's returned the unspent money that was contributed. See below how we computed the amount we are returning. To summarize, we took the total amount donors gave in 2025 and computed what percentage was contributed by your organization. We then used that percentage to divide the remaining amount in the fund. St John's Council voted to allocate the returned \$3,744.52 to Critical Needs, to be used to provide rental, utility and other emergency assistance.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Perry

2026 Distribution of Assets held for West Valley Young Adult Ministry

WVYAM Fund 2025 Ending Balance: 32,607.63

Donor	Amount Given in 2025	%	disbursement
Community of Grace Lutheran Church	2,500.00	5%	\$1,485.92
ELCA-Churchwide	19,340.00	35%	\$11,495.08
Grand Canyon Synod, ELCA	20,000.00	36%	\$11,887.36
Peace Lutheran Church of Peoria	470.00	1%	\$279.35
Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church	751.00	1%	\$446.37
Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church	1,500.00	3%	\$891.55
St John's Lutheran Church	6,300.00	11%	\$3,744.52
West Valley Lutheran Thrift Shop	4,000.00	7%	\$2,377.47
2025 Income total to compute percentage:	54,861.00	100%	\$32,607.63

PEOPLE

Staff	
Camp Director	Leah McKean
Property Manager	Bob McNaughton
Camp Assistant	Cuinn Richards
Year-round Volunteers:	
Mike Skala	Morgan Carr
Jennifer Hammerstein	Doug Gerber

Member Congregations and Representatives	
All Saints*, Phoenix	Hannah Orrahood Luke Zaddack
Apostles, Glendale	Pastor Andrew Byars
Atonement, Phoenix	Rick Born (Treasurer)
Christ Church, Phoenix	Peter Flynn Bob McNaughton
Hope, Phoenix	Bob Nixon Linda Nixon
Life in Christ, Phoenix	Diane Guzman Gerald Last (Vice President) Mark Peapenburg
Living Word, Kingman	Brandon Scroggins
Mountain View, Phoenix	Cindy Beers Greg Beers (President) Bev Lichty
St John's, Glendale	Christie Hernandez Queseta Hernandez Dana Perry (Secretary)

* New Member Congregation 2025

ALOMA is an association of Lutheran churches across Arizona and southern Nevada. ALOMA is not affiliated with any particular Lutheran denomination but has representatives from the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS), the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the Lutheran Churches in Mission for Christ (LCMC) and one congregation affiliated with The American Association of Lutheran Churches (TAALC) and the Alliance of Renewal Churches (ARC).

Camp ALOMA and Retreat Center Annual Report 2025



Providing Places and Programs Pointing to Christ
Where All Encounter God's Grace in His Creation

The Camp ALOMA ministry:

Offers High-Quality Christ-Centered Summer Camps

- For children and youth in a safe, nurturing, and joyful community

Facilitates Year-Round Retreats

- For churches, families, and other compatible groups of all ages

Complements the Ministries and Programs of our Constituent Churches

- Including nurturing Christ-like servant leaders

Delivers Biblical Teaching in the Lutheran Tradition

- For a solid theological foundation

Faithfully and Responsibly Stewards our Facilities and Financial Resources

- For positive ministry growth in the future, while being respectful of the legacy passed down to us



campaloma.com
office@campaloma.com
 928-778-1690
 300 Margaret Dr, Prescott, AZ 86305

Follow Us!



PROGRAMS

2025 Summer Camp Program They Will Know We Are Christians...

- 7 Camp Weeks: June 1 – July 18
- 271 Total Campers throughout the summer
- Weekly Camp Cost: \$365, \$415 High School, \$275 Mini, Bus \$60 RT
- 72 campers received scholarships (by West Valley Lutheran Thrift Store)

Summer Camp Leadership

- Leah McKean, Camp Director
- Luke Zaddack, Program Director
- Deb Richards, Craft Director
- Kristen Mangan, Support Staff
- Randi Bock, Camp Nurse
- David Eacott, Kitchen

Summer Camp Staff

- 8 Senior Counselors
- 10 Youth Counselors
- 20 Junior Servants



2025 ALOMA Events

- New Year's High School Retreat
- Elementary Retreat
- Worship by the Fire
- Burger Bash
- Camp Omega Staff/Board Retreat
- Thanksgiving Dinner

Approx Attendance

- 24 campers cancelled
- 5 attendees
- 130, ~\$5,000 raised
- 40
- 45

Year-Round Retreat Programs During 2025

- ~35 private groups
- Sizes ranged from single families to groups of 100+
- Durations ranged from one day to five nights
- Examples of groups include:
 - District Pastor meetings
 - School retreats
 - Congregation retreats:
 - Family camp
 - Weddings, Family reunions
 - Staff
 - College sports teams
 - Women's, men's

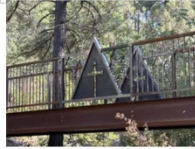
ALOMA Member Congregation: \$26.00/night, \$8.00/meal
Nonmember: \$33.00/night, \$10.00/meal

PLACES

Completed Property Improvement

- Camp bus
- Golf cart
- Chapel remodel
- Bridge replacement
- High speed WiFi
- Gagaball pit

- Funds from past donors
- Funds donated
- Contributions from Lord of Life LWML
- Donation and labor by Christ Church Lutheran
- Donation and labor by Christ Church Lutheran
- Pastor Burk



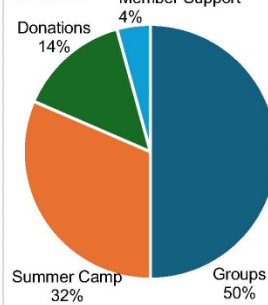
Ongoing/Upcoming Property Improvement

- Medical building (major funding provided by Lord of Life Benevolence Fund)
- Pavilion shelter (private memorial donation)
- Faith Lodge flooring
- Faith Lodge widen sidewalk
- Director's house flooring
- Water storage

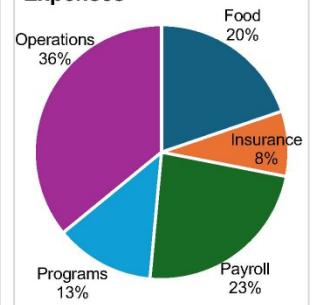
Individual or church sponsorship of projects is welcome!

Financial Report

Income



Expenses



Detailed financial reports available for member churches and those considering membership.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

And also with you.

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

Receive our prayer, O God.

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

Amen.

Founded on Faith



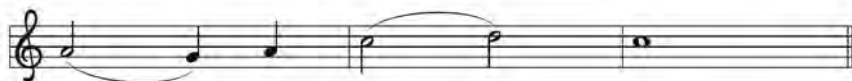
1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow' red to serve,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Em - pow' red to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!



Al - le - lu - ia!

All Creation Sings, 1048

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THROUGH YOUR GENEROSITY, GOD IS AT WORK ACROSS THE ELCA.

MISSION SUPPORT

A portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church, helping the ELCA nurture Christian community, raise up leaders, serve our neighbors and strive for justice.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

Part of our church's long tradition of meeting human needs, ELCA World Hunger testifies to our hope for and commitment to God's promise of a time when we will hunger and thirst no more. ELCA World Hunger walks alongside communities in more than 60 countries — including the United States — to create unique solutions to hunger and poverty.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

WHERE NEEDED MOST

Where Needed Most supports the powerful ways we work together around the world — supporting leaders, inspiring young people, fueling ministries and championing global mission. Gifts to Where Needed Most support and sustain the people, congregations, synods and ministries working around the world to realize the hope-filled future God promises.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Sign up to hear more stories of impact from the ELCA churchwide organization at [ELCA.org/subscribe](https://elca.org/subscribe).

Read about Mission Support and learn more at LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA.