

**Esperanza Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
**2601 E Thunderhill Place, Phoenix**  
**480-759-1515, [www.myesperanza.org](http://www.myesperanza.org)**  
**August 31, 2025**

### **Esperanza Mission Statement**

Esperanza Lutheran Church creates authentic connections and a deep sense of belonging as a Christ-centered community.

### **Esperanza Guiding Principles**

1. We set our goals guided by God.
2. We welcome all and respect diverse opinions.
3. We deepen our spirituality and put our faith in motion.

### **Announcements**

To access our weekly Words of Hope newsletter visit:  
<https://myesperanza.org/woh>

To access our up to date calendar visit:  
<https://myesperanza.org/calendar/>

**Today!** We welcome the talents of Dave Coste as our music leader!

**Thank you for the support!** Children of Hope fundraiser at Chipotle raised \$197.68 !

**Want to learn more about Esperanza?** Pastor will be hosting a New member class on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Please let him know if you are interested.

**Mark Your Calendar for 3rd Adopt-a-Street Day of the Year** Join us on Saturday, Sept. 13, at 7 a.m. for our third Adopt-a-Street cleanup of 2025! We will park and meet at Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary School, which is located at the intersection of South Ranch Circle and 41st Place. Our trash pickup will be along both sides of South Ranch Circle from Mountain Parkway to Ray Road. Esperanza will provide safety vests, trash bags, latex gloves, water, hand sanitizer, a first-aid kit — and prizes for the most unusual trash found! Please wear your “God’s Work, Our Hands” T-shirts so the neighbors know who we are. Everyone is welcome, including children accompanied by a parent or adult. A signup sheet is provided in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, please contact Chris Armfield, Larry Hanson, or a member of the Outreach Team at [outreach@myesperanza.org](mailto:outreach@myesperanza.org).

**Readings today: Proverbs 25:6-7a, Psalm 112, Luke 14:1,7-14**

**Visiting with us on September 14,** will be Connie Phillips, CEO and President of Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest. She has been with LSS of the SW for over 10 years and has given her all in body, mind, and spirit to this organization and its people. From the people they serve to the staff she works with, Connie is a perfect example and exemplifies the commandment to love your neighbor. Come meet her on September 14th during worship, and join us to more about Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest during our coffee hour afterwards.

**Esperanza to Pack Naloxone Kits.** On October 5th, following church service, in the Fellowship Hall, Esperanza will assist Sonoran Prevention Works (SPW) in packing naloxone (Narcan) kits. The event will conclude at approximately noon. Last year we packed 999 kits; our goal this year is 1,100. Naloxone is a medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose. SPW’s core focus is to support individual people through overdose education, naloxone and supply distribution, HIV and hepatitis C testing, and a harm reduction outreach program.

If you would like to help with this packing event, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or online in the newsletter. Please direct any questions to Larry Hanson with the Community Outreach Team.

**God’s work our hands t-shirts-** are still available for purchase! Cost is \$10 Questions? See Chris Armfield 310-502-7930 [chrisarmfield@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisarmfield@hotmail.com)

### **An Opportunity to Serve at Feed My Starving Children**

Fifty spots have been reserved for us at Feed My Starving children! The event is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 11, from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. The address is 1100 West Grove Pkwy, Suite 101, Tempe, 85283. Sign up deadline is Oct. 4. We will be packing bags of “manna” (soy, vitamins, protein, and rice). You can sign up online at the FMSC website, [www.fmsc.org](http://www.fmsc.org) (under “Esperanza Lutheran Church” as the group name). Alternately, you can sign up on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship area and I will add your names to the website, or you can text Peggy Shepherd at 602-570-2377 and let me know to add your name(s). If you are not able to attend this event (or even if you are!), donations are much appreciated (but not required) as that is 100% how FMSC is funded. \$106 feeds a child for a year, but ANY AND EVERY DONATION HELPS. You can donate on the website, or on the day you attend.

Questions? Text Peggy Shepherd at 602-570-2377

**Affirmations for kids-** In the Narthex there are packs of sticky notes, pens, and affirmation ideas. Please stop and write a few or take some home and bring them back. We fill in a bulletin board at Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary School every Tuesday for the students and teachers to brighten their day and inspire!

### **Food Donations to Kyrene Family Resource Center.**

Through Mid-August Esperanza has donated 1,397 pounds of non-perishable food to the center. Our food donation goal for 2025 is 1,300 pounds.

Esperanza is helping with food needs on multiple fronts at the Kyrene Family Resource Center. Currently, the Center needs the following for families: Crackers like goldfish in individual packets, Cup of soup, microwavable mac-n-cheese, and cereal. Some children in the Kyrene School District are coming to class Monday mornings hungry, struggling to focus on learning. The Center is responding to the need by packing a Weekend Food Bag and providing to these children on Fridays. Food items can include any of the following:

- Microwavable mac and cheese
- Microwavable Chef Boyardee

- Microwavable ramen noodles
- Microwavable cup of soup
- Breakfast cereal
- Granola bars.
- Applesauce or fruit cup

The Center prefers these be a single serving, and a suggestion would be to purchase single serving containers in bulk at Costco, etc. The Center will pack the food in bags.

Please place donations in the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your generosity. For questions, please contact Larry Hanson at [lhanson2@msn.com](mailto:lhanson2@msn.com)

#### **Esperanza Staff Members**

**Pastor Chris Heller**, [Pastor.Chris@myesperanza.org](mailto:Pastor.Chris@myesperanza.org)

**Deacon Connie Rose-Kamprath** | Family Ministry

Coordinator, Children of Hope Teacher

[deacon.connie@myesperanza.org](mailto:deacon.connie@myesperanza.org)

**Jessica Mueller** | Children of Hope Director

[childrenofhope@myesperanza.org](mailto:childrenofhope@myesperanza.org)

**Joni Thorpe** | Parish Administrator

[esperanza@myesperanza.org](mailto:esperanza@myesperanza.org)

**Andrew DeValk** | Choir director

[Andrew.DeValk@myesperanza.org](mailto:Andrew.DeValk@myesperanza.org)

**Doug Carroll** | Writer [doug.carroll721@gmail.com](mailto:doug.carroll721@gmail.com),  
480-213-0599

**Lai Gates** | Accompanist

**Cindy Gerrish** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Katrin Guete** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Rebecca Paterson** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Jess Pierce** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Vanessa Smith** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Jane Gisselquist** | Financial Secretary

[finsec@myesperanza.org](mailto:finsec@myesperanza.org)

**Outreach Team:** [outreach@myesperanza.org](mailto:outreach@myesperanza.org)

#### **Council Members/Team Leadership**

Chris Armfield – Council President [chrisarmfield@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisarmfield@hotmail.com)

Paige Somero – Vice President [paige.somero@nxp.com](mailto:paige.somero@nxp.com)

Cindy Jackson- Secretary [cindyjackson649@gmail.com](mailto:cindyjackson649@gmail.com)

Mark Krach - Treasurer- [fordspeed@aol.com](mailto:fordspeed@aol.com)

Dan Beeks- [danbeeks@gmail.com](mailto:danbeeks@gmail.com)

Kelly Edwards- [kelly@kellypsychiatryllc.com](mailto:kelly@kellypsychiatryllc.com)

Tim Klandrud- [T.Klandrud@gmail.com](mailto:T.Klandrud@gmail.com)

Donna Sparber- [Donnasparber44@gmail.com](mailto:Donnasparber44@gmail.com)

KC Quah- [quahaz20@gmail.com](mailto:quahaz20@gmail.com)

#### **This Week At Esperanza**

##### **Sunday, August 31, 2025**

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Confirmation (Music Room)

3:00pm Girl Scouts (CR)

##### **Monday, September 1, 2025**

**\*\*Office will be closed**

9:00am Women in solution (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Josquin Music (Choir room)

6:00pm Girl Scouts (CR)

##### **Tuesday September 2, 2025**

6:00 am Early AA (CR)

6:30am Toastmasters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

4:00pm Josquin Music (SAN)

6:30pm Community Outreach team (FH)

6:30pm Adults of Alcoholics (CR)

##### **Wednesday, September 3, 2025**

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

10:00am Mary's Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

##### **Thursday, September 4, 2025**

6:00am Men's group AA (CR)

7:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Women's Bible Study (GAR)

##### **Friday, September 5, 2025**

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

##### **Saturday, September 6, 2025**

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

##### **Sunday, September 7, 2025**

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Confirmation (Choir Room)

.CR – Community Room (upstairs)

SAN – Sanctuary

FH – Fellowship Hall

GAR – Garden of Eatin'

LC-Lower Courtyard

#### **Today's Worship Leaders**

Greeter- Cindy Jackson

Lector- Jim Nelson

Communion Assistants- Jim & Josie Nelson

Assisting Minister- Paul Wagner

Power Point- Jim or Josie Nelson

Ushers- Cindy Jackson, Paul Gerrish, Jan Beeks, Julie

Valenzuela

Counters- Linda Dickson, Randy Wright

