

Building Bridges into Our Community

Esperanza's Outreach Ministries

Bible Verse of the Week Mark 16:15

"[Jesus] said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.'"

This Biblical quote implies that Jesus wants his followers to share the story of his life, death, and resurrection with everyone regardless of their nationality, culture or status. This verse underscores the transformative power of Jesus' resurrection - turning fear into joy, doubt into belief, and grief into hope.

Community happens when people are given ways to come together and connect. Much of our life as a community together at Esperanza involves chances to live our faith by signing up and showing up.

In order for us to build bridges into our community, we must make an intentional effort to move outside of our church campus, often beyond

our individual comfort zone to share our love, joy and hope in Jesus with others.

Some of the ways we build bridges into our community include partnering with other ministries and organizations in service to others.



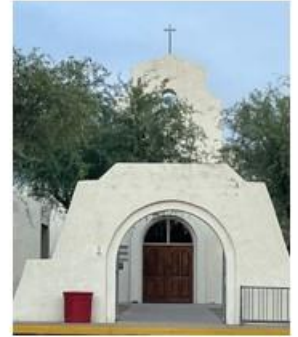
How can we embrace and communicate the joy and hope of the Resurrection in our daily lives?

Ever striving to live our mission, Esperanza has established a solid presence in the Ahwatukee community and beyond. During the past year Esperanza has

- Hosted dinner for I-HELP (interfaith homeless emergency lodging program) guests and prepared lunches for these guests to eat the next day
- Collected cases of water for Keys to Change / Thirst Aid
- Created an affirmation board at Esperanza Elementary
- Joined the Phoenix Adopt-A-Street program
- Packed Naloxone kits through Sonoran Prevention Works
- Continued to welcome Scouts, Ahwatukee Nooners, Hope for Newborns, Alanon, Toastmasters, AA, recovery programs, Children of Alcoholics, Jazzperanza, and others to use our facilities
- Participated in community events, such as the Kiwanis Easter Parade and the Ahwatukee Chamber of Commerce 4th of July Bicycle Parade
- Created prayer shawls
- Hosted Vacation Bible School

- Grew faith and food in the Garden of Eatin' community garden
- Contributed financially to Grand Canyon Synod, ELCA World Hunger, St. Mary's Food Bank, and Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest

We ask as you prayerfully complete your 2025 financial intent that you reflect on how your commitment will strengthen the bridges we are building with our local, regional, and global ministry partners.



ESPERANZA TRIVIA

Thirty-five years ago on February eleventh, 209 individuals representing 75 families joined together to found Esperanza Lutheran Church.