

**Esperanza Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
**2601 E Thunderhill Place, Phoenix**  
**480-759-1515, [www.myesperanza.org](http://www.myesperanza.org)**  
**December 15, 2024**

#### **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/>

**Advent Mid-Week services** on Wednesday at 7:00pm Blue Christmas this week.



**Christmas Eve Services-** 4:00pm Children's Message, 7:00pm Candles and carols.

**Poinsette's-** we have ordered 30 plants. If you would like to purchase on in Honor of, memory of or in celebration of **to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas Eve please use the form on the Narthex table. Cost is \$20 per plant and you may take them after the 7:00pm service on Christmas Eve.**

**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** team is hard at work to make it a wonderful celebration. We need YOU to register on line at [www.MyEsperanza.org](http://www.MyEsperanza.org) on the home page click the register button. We need head counts for food ordering!

#### **Today's Hymns:**

Setting# 4 beginning on page 149 in front of book  
Lighting of Advent Candle # 257 vs 1,6  
Gathering: # 242  
Hymn of the Day: # 254  
Offertory: # 439 v 1  
Communion: # 715  
Sending: ELW# 625

**Ladies Christmas Bunco** Thursday December 12th. 6:30 pm. Bring a wrapped Christmas themed item \$25 max to fight over.

Feel free to invite a friend, ride share and bring either an appetizer or dessert for every two or three of you. If you are so moved...we will be collecting gift cards for teens as a part of LLSW- Target, Walmart, Amazon, Starbucks Please RSVP [Jayne476@cox.net](mailto:Jayne476@cox.net) or 480-277-5186 to get directions

#### **ELCA World Hunger 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Esperanza Lutheran Challenge**

*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 – Matthew 25:35.*

Fifty years ago, Lutherans in the U.S. launched the World Hunger appeals to stand with neighbors experiencing hunger. Today, working through congregations and other partners, ELCA World Hunger reaches out to communities in need with community meals, microloans, water wells, animal husbandry, health clinics, and advocacy. ELCA is focused on supporting sustainable solutions that go to the root causes of hunger and poverty. According to the ELCA website, almost 10% of the world's population is hungry. ELCA World Hunger is working with communities in 64 countries including the United States. Through your generosity, the Esperanza Lutheran Church Council is making a \$1,200 donation from the Benevolence Line in our Mission Plan to the ELCA World Hunger 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Esperanza is now challenging members and friends to provide a match of \$1200 or more by December 15.

You can respond to this challenge in one of the following ways:

- Place loose currency and coins in a glass jar located on the altar platform.
- Make a check payable to "ELCA World Hunger" and place in a World Hunger 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary envelope located in the Narthex or in a plain enveloped marked ELCA World Hunger donation with the dollar amount. Place the envelope in the offering, and Esperanza will gather all the donations and forward to ELCA.
- Make donations on-line at [ELCA.org/hunger/donate](http://ELCA.org/hunger/donate)

Click on "I would like to choose an area for this gift to support". Click on "ELCA World Hunger". In the Donor Information field, click on "This donation is on behalf of a congregation or organization". Indicate Esperanza Lutheran with requested information. If you make an online donation, please advise Joni at [esperanza@myesperanza.org](mailto:esperanza@myesperanza.org). We don't need to know dollar amount of donation, just that you made a donation. Any questions, please contact Larry Hanson, Community Outreach Team.

**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 a bulletin board at Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary School every month for the students and teachers to brighten their day and inspire!

#### **With Multiple Food Needs at Family Resource Center -**

Esperanza is helping with food needs on multiple fronts at the Kyrene Family Resource Center. Currently, the Center needs the following for families: peanut butter, gallon-freezer bags, and spaghetti pasta and sauce. 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. Two weeks ago, the Center indicating they were distributing approximately 150 Weekend Food Bags every Friday.

Through November, Esperanza has donated a total of 1381 pounds of food to the Center. Our food donation goal for 2024 is 1,250 pounds. 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)

**Prayer Shawls:** Prayers shawls can be found on the rack by the altar and are for ANYONE who is in need (illness, birth of a baby, marriage, or in need of a pick me up). Please fill out the white card that is attached and place the card in the Prayer Shawl container (on the counter in the entryway to the sanctuary).

#### **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)

**Lynn Hockenberger** | 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

**Amy Angilletta** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Cindy Gerrish** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Katrin Guete** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Jessica Mueller** | 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)

Chuck Yount - Treasurer- [chuckyount00@gmail.com](mailto:chuckyount00@gmail.com)

Susan Brown - [browngary214@gmail.com](mailto:browngary214@gmail.com)

Jim Gisselquist - [jimgiz@gmail.com](mailto:jimgiz@gmail.com)

Beth Leaf – [leafb7913@gmail.com](mailto:leafb7913@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, December 15, 2024**

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday School (CR)

10:15am Confirmation (choir room)

2:30pm Josquin Music recitals (SAN/FH)

##### **Monday, December 16, 2024**

9:00am Women's AA group (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Jazz Practice (SAN)

6:00pm Girl Scouts (CR)

7:00pm Boy Scouts (CR)

##### **Tuesday, December 17, 2024**

6:30am Toastmasters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics (CR)

##### **Wednesday, December 18, 2024**

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

10:00am Mary's Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

7:00pm Blue Christmas Service (SAN)

7:00pm Promesa De Esperanza (SAN)

7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 3014 (CR)

##### **Thursday, December 19, 2024**

7:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

5:30pm Women's Bible Study (GAR)

6:30pm 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team meeting (FH)

##### **Friday, December 20, 2024**

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Hope for Newborns (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

##### **Saturday, December 21, 2024**

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

4:00pm Joy Pan recitals SAN?FH)

5:00 Alanon (CR)

##### **Sunday, December 22, 2024**

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday School (CR)

3:00pm Girl Scouts (CR)

CR – Community Room (upstairs)

SAN – Sanctuary

FH – Fellowship Hall

GAR – Garden of Eatin'

LC-Lower Courtyard

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

Greeter- Debbie Grayson

Communion Assistants- Chuck & Pamela Yount

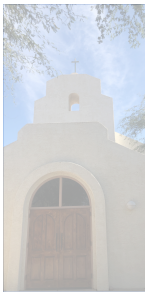
Power Point- John Gemma

Assisting Minister- Deacon Connie

Ushers- Julie Valenzulea, Dennis Fox, KC & Christine

Quah

Counters- Linda Dickson, Rich & Tami Hass



## Welcome to Worship!

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

*Hymnals and Bibles are found under the seats.*

Gathering Song: # 242

Song of the Day: # 254

Offertory: # 439 v 1

Communion Hymn: # 715

Sending Song: # 625

**We live stream our worship services.**