

Esperanza Lutheran Church (ELCA)
2601 E Thunderhill Place, Phoenix
480-759-1515, www.myesperanza.org
December 22, 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/>



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 one 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.**

35th Anniversary team is hard at work to make it a wonderful celebration. We need YOU to register on line at 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: # 265
Hymn of the Day: # Mignificant from Holden
Offertory: # 439 v 1
Communion: # 715
Sending: ELW# 723

Family Promise hosting Thursday, Jan. 2

Once again Esperanza volunteers will be helping the people of St. Benedict's Catholic Church by hosting one evening's dinner for Family Promise families. We'll be serving the families at St.

John Bosco school, located at 16035 S. 48th St., south of Chandler Blvd.

Our evening to provide dinner will be Thursday, January 2. We will need volunteers to provide one course of the meal. Great news - because of the generosity of Esperanza folks, we only need volunteers to bring a side dish and dessert! If you would like to help, please contact Donna Sparber at (480) 205-4143 or donnasparber44@gmail.com. Donna will provide information on how many servings will be needed and if there are any dietary restrictions or food allergies (this information usually is available the Sunday before we host). Rick and Donna Sparber will be the overnight hosts. Food will need to be brought to the school's multipurpose room by 5:30 PM. Hot foods will need to be delivered heated.

The mission of Family Promise is "providing emergency shelter and social services to help families move toward independent housing and self sufficiency." There are 32 greater Phoenix congregations that support this mission by hosting transitioning families with children for the evening meal and overnight accommodations. St. Benedict's is one of these congregations. To learn more about Family Promise, visit their web site at www.familypromiseaz.org.

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

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

Deacon Connie Rose-Kamprath | Family Ministry

Coordinator, Children of Hope Teacher

deacon.connie@myesperanza.org

Lynn Hockenberger | Children of Hope Director

childrenofhope@myesperanza.org

Joni Thorpe | Parish Administrator

esperanza@myesperanza.org

Andrew DeValk | Choir director

Andrew.DeValk@myesperanza.org

Doug Carroll | Writer 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

Outreach Team: outreach@myesperanza.org

Council Members/Team Leadership

Chris Armfield – Council President chrisarmfield@hotmail.com

Paige Somero – Vice President paige.somero@npx.com

Cindy Jackson- Secretary cindyjackson649@gmail.com

Chuck Yount - Treasurer- chuckyount00@gmail.com

Susan Brown - browngary214@gmail.com

Jim Gisselquist - jimgiz@gmail.com

Beth Leaf – leafb7913@gmail.com

Donna Sparber- Donnasparber44@gmail.com

KC Quah- quahaz20@gmail.com

This Week At Esperanza

Sunday, December 22, 2024

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday School (CR)

Monday, December 23, 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 24, 2024

6:30am Toastmasters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics (CR)

4:00pm Children's Message Worship

7:00pm Carols and Candlelight Worship

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

**Office Closed

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

NO Mary's Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

NO Promesa De Esperanza (SAN)

NO Boy Scouts Troop 3014 (CR)

Thursday, December 26, 2024

** Office Closed

7:00am AA (CR)

NO Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

NO Women's Bible Study (GAR)

Friday, December 27, 2024

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Hope for Newborns (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

Saturday, December 28, 2024

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

Sunday, December 29, 2024

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

NO 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- Larry & Peggy Hanson

Lector- Lynn Hockenberger

Communion Assistants- John & Kathy Gemma

Power Point- Michelle Tinsley

Assisting Minister- Craig Peck

Ushers- Larry Hanson, Paul Gerrish, Ray Palomaa

Counters- Kathy & John Gemma

