

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

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023**

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lords's coming. The reading from Isaiah give the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

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/>

Big THANK YOU! To Peggy Wagner & Kristie Wright for putting on another successful progressive dinner!

Christmas Caroling! Saturday, December 16th 9:30am, any and all carolers are invited to meet in the Esperanza parking lot to share some Christmas spirit with our homebound members! Please put this on your calendar and plan to come with bells on!

Promesa de Esperanza- will be giving their Christmas Cantata next Sunday! You don't want to miss it!

Poinsettia orders- are being taken now! Forms are on the Narthex table.

Mid-Week Advent Worship- Wednesday December 13 at 7:00pm

Blue Christmas- Wednesday, December 20, 7 pm At Blue Christmas worship, pain and sorrow are acknowledged; there is space for however you are. When we gather, even to acknowledge pain, community can lift us up and give hope. Please join us.

Christmas Eve Schedule:

- 9:00am Worship Service
- 4:00pm Children's service
- 7:00pm Lessons and Carols

Habitat for Humanity Tax credit donations-every house we build is funded by the coalition. There is information on the Narthex table of how to make your donation for 2023 on the Narthex table.

Habitat House- The new build has begun! See John Fisher or John Gemma for more information.

Hope Talks- On **Sunday, Jan. 21, from 1-3 p.m.**, we will open our sanctuary to the community and of course the Esperanza congregation for our second Hope Talk addressing Senior Care Planning. Helping our parents, spouse, or even ourselves plan for housing and care needs prior to life changes can bring relief and calm. Perhaps surprisingly, there are many resources available in our community for senior adults who wish to age in place. There are also many options for seniors who wish to live in some type of community in their later years. This Hope Talk on Senior Care Planning will include presentations from senior care social workers as well as an estate law attorney. **If you have specific questions you would like the social worker or attorney to address, please send them to Paige Somero at paige.somero@nxp.com.** Take-home resources and community contacts will be provided. All are welcome!

You Are Generous! Your belief that God has plans for our congregation is evident as you are declaring your generosity! So far, we have received 51 intents toward our goal of 61 (84%).

If you haven't yet responded, please submit your 2024 giving intent in one of the following ways:

- Fill out the online version of the card online at <https://myesperanza.org/intent-card/>
- Bring your intent card to church this Sunday and drop it the basket on the altar.
- If you misplaced your card or never received one, you may pick one up in the church office or narthex.
- Mail or take your card to the church office.

Your generosity will make a tremendous difference as we seek to strengthen our ministry.

Kyrene Family Resource Center: While KFRC welcomes a variety of non-perishable foods, there is a current need for granola bars, pasta sauce, dried pinto beans, rice, cereal, and shampoo. Thru Nov. 2023, Esperanza has donated 1091 lbs of food to KFRC. Thank you! You can place donations in box/shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you! Any questions, please contact Peggy or Larry Hanson.

Voices For CASA: \$10 fast-food gift cards go to CASAs (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for their meetings with the foster children they help. Please bring any gift cards to the church office. Questions? Contact John Gemma at jgemma@cox.net.

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).

Promesa de Esperanza Rehearsal! The choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the sanctuary. All adults are welcome--even if you have not participated in choir before! Questions? Contact Kazin Cole at (480) 550-0852.

Esperanza Staff Members

Interim Pastor Sarah Stadler

pastor.sarah@myesperanza.org 602-318-6876

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

Kazin Cole | Choir Director

kazin.cole@myesperanza.org

Doug Carroll | Writer doug.carroll721@gmail.com,
480-213-0599

Lai Gates | Accompanist

Amy Angilletta | Children of Hope Teacher

Kathy Dolny | Children of Hope Teacher

Cindy Gerrish | Children of Hope Teacher

Jessica Mueller | Children of Hope Teacher

Rebecca Paterson | Children of Hope Teacher

Jess Pierce | Children of Hope Teacher

Caleb Rose-Kamprath | Children of Hope Teacher

Jane Gisselquist | Financial Secretary

finsec@myesperanza.org

Council Members/Team Leadership

Jim Gisselquist - President (Personnel) -

jimgiz@gmail.com

Craig Peck - Vice President (Property) -

craigpeck.esperanza@gmail.com

Michael Paradise – Treasurer (Communications)

michaelparadise.esperanza@gmail.com

Chris Armfield – Secretary chrisarmfield@hotmail.com

Susan Brown –Outreach - browngary214@gmail.com

Julie Valenzuela - (Fellowship) - jvalenz150@gmail.com

Beth Leaf - (Education) – leafmanaz@cox.net

Paige Somero - (Worship and Music) -

paige.somero@nxp.com

Chuck Yount - (Stewardship) -

chuckyount00@gmail.com

This Week At Esperanza

Sunday, December 10th

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday Funday School (CR)

10:30am Adult Education (SAN)

2:00pm Josquin Music recital (SAN/FH)

3:00 Girl Scouts (CR)

Monday, December 11th

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

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

3:30pm Music Lessons (SAN)

6:00pm Jazz practice (SAN)

Tuesday, December 12th

6:30am Toastmasters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

2:00pm Finance team Meeting (FH)

4:30pm Music Lessons (SAN)

6:00pm Call Committee (GAR)

Wednesday, December 13th

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

10:00am Mary's Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

12:30pm Staff Meeting (FH)

2:00pm Community Outreach team (FH)

7:00pm Mid-Week Advent Worship (SAN)

7:00pm Boy Scouts (CR)

7:30pm Promesa de Esperanza Rehearsal (SAN)

Thursday, December 14th

7:00am AA (CR)

9:00am COH Christmas Program (SAN)

10:00am Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

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

Friday, December 15th

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Hope for Newborns (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

Saturday, December 16th

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

9:30am Christmas Caroling- meet at Church

4:00 Yoga with Aubrey

5:00 Alanon meeting (CR)

7:00pm Recital- Joy Pan

Sunday, December 17th

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday Funday School (CR)

10:30am Adult Education (SAN)

CR – Community Room (upstairs)

SAN – Sanctuary

FH – Fellowship Hall

GAR – Garden of Eatin'

LC-Lower Courtyard

Today's Worship Leaders

Greeter- Michelle Tinsley

Lector- Doris Dorwart

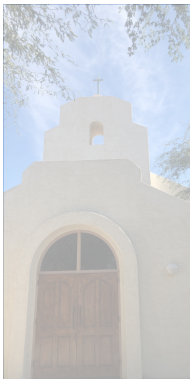
Communion Assistants- John Fisher, Paul Wagner

Power Point- Kristie Wright

Assisting Minister- Judi Wold

Ushers- Paul Wagner, Duane Fish

Counters- Shirley Huntley, Larry Hanson



Welcome to Worship!

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

Hymnals and Bibles are found under the seats.

Gathering Song: # 257 v 3-4
Song of the Day: # 905 We Are Waiting
Offertory: # 253
Communion Hymn: # 240
Sending Song: # 264

We live stream our worship services.