

Esperanza Lutheran Church (ELCA)
2601 E Thunderhill Place, Phoenix
480-759-1515, www.myesperanza.org
January 5, 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/>

We welcome Pastor Glen Stadler today.

New Member meeting- January 19th after service. If you want to know more about Esperanza and considering membership Pastor Heller will be doing a new member meeting. Please join us!

Pastor Heller will be on vacation thru January 7th. If you need pastoral care during that time please call Deacon Connie or Joni in the office.

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!

January 19th New Member Class- if you would be interested in finding out more about Esperanza or would like to become a member. Please contact Pastor Heller.

2024 Mission Plan Results Through November

November 2024 YTD	Revenue	Expense	Net Income/(Loss)
Actual	\$346,296	\$298,692	\$47,605
Plan	\$296,200	\$302,735	(\$6,535)

Through November, total receipts continue to run well ahead of our plan. Pledge giving is about 4% ahead of expectation while non pledge giving is well ahead, with the latter driven by a large one-time donation earlier in the year. Rental donations are also a bit favorable. Total expenses are slightly lower than expected but much of this is timing. Revenue less expense continues to run well ahead of our plan. The full year surplus will be rolled over into unrestricted fund reserves.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the ministry of Esperanza this year. Thanks be to God.

Today's Hymns:

- Gathering Song: # 275
- Song of the Day: This Little Light of Mine
- Offertory: # 531 v. 1,2
- Communion Song: # 631
- Sending Song: # 283

Esperanza Supports ELCA World Hunger Efforts - 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, micro loans, 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. To help support ELCA World Hunger, Esperanza conducted a Challenge from late November to mid-December. With your generosity, \$4,060 was raised. These donations plus the \$1,200 donation from the benevolence line of Esperanza's Mission Plan was sent to ELCA World Hunger in late December.

Thank you from the 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!

2024 Food Donations to Kyrene Family Resource Center. During 2024, Esperanza donated 1,446 pounds of non-perishable food to the Center, which is a 20.5% increase from 2023. Our food donation goal for 2024 was 1,250 pounds.

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. 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).

Join the Meal Brigade- You're invited! Every now and then, a church friend is in need of a meal or more, delivered to their home. Peggy Wagner is organizing the meals and the process, emailing team members when there is a need. Could you help provide a meal? Costco/Sam's Club meals, restaurant takeout or homemade — all of these are appreciated. If you like, you can join forces with another team member and share the prep/cost. Email Peggy at pwagner255@cox.net if you are interested in helping out with this ministry.

Street Clean up! Please join us on Sunday, March, at 4 p.m. for our fourth Adopt-a-Street cleanup! We will park and meet at Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary School (with whom we partner), 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, gloves, water, hand sanitizer and prizes for the most unusual trash! 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. Sign up online (via our E-Newsletter) or on the Sign up sheet that will be provided in February. If you have questions, please see Chris Armfield or the Outreach Team at outreach@myesperanza.org

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@nxp.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, January 5, 2025

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday School (CR)

3:00 Girl Scouts (CR)

Monday, January 6, 2025

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, January 7, 2025

6:30am Toastmasters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics (CR)

6:30pm Out Reach Team (FH)

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

10:00am Mary's Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm 35th Anniversary Committee (choir room)

7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 3014 (CR)

7:00pm Choir (SAN)

Thursday, January 9, 2025

7:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

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

Friday, January 10, 2025

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

Saturday, January 11, 2025

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

Sunday, January 12, 2025

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday School (CR)

10:15am Confirmation (Choir room)

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- Hal & Debbie Hoover

Lector- Dan Beeks

Communion Assistants- Tom & Susan Vega

Power Point- Julie Valenzuela

Ushers- Susan Brown, Michelle Ageno, Tom Vega

Counters- Tina & Eddie Knoell



Welcome to Worship!

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2025

Hymnals and Bibles are found under the seats.

Gathering Song:	# 275
Song of the Day:	# This little Light of Mine
Offertory:	# 531 v 1,2
Communion Hymn:	# 631
Sending Song:	# 283

We live stream our worship services.