

Esperanza Lutheran Church (ELCA)
2601 E Thunderhill Place, Phoenix
480-759-1515, www.myesperanza.org
July 27, 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/>

ELCA is taking donations to help the flood victims in Texas. Forms with instructions how to help can be found on the Narthex table.

Blessing of the backpacks! August 3 bring your backpacks, messenger bags and briefcases! We will also be blessing our COH teachers and installing our new preschool director!

Bottled Water and Snacks Drive for Heat Respite Program. For the last three years, Esperanza has prepared sack lunches for Grace Lutheran Church’s heat respite program for the homeless. Grace is located in downtown Phoenix. Grace recently advised of changes to their heat respite program. Grace and eight other organizations (many of them churches) have established a partnership with Arizona Faith Network (AFN). The nine organizations will provide the facilities. AFN will manage the heat respite program and provide bottled water, snacks, hygiene kits, etc. Depending on location, the heat respite program runs from early May through August.

During July, Esperanza will collect donations of bottled water and snacks. You can help by:

1. Purchasing case(s) of bottled water and placing in the Sanctuary. Purchasing snacks and placing in the large box labeled “Snacks For Heat Respite” located in the Fellowship Hall.
2. Placing change and currency in the large water bottle located on the altar platform in the Sanctuary. Esperanza’s Community Outreach Team will use this money to purchase bottled water and snacks.
3. Providing online donations of money and snacks directly to AFN. This is the link:

<https://www.arizonafaitnetwork.org/heatrelief>

Snacks should be healthy, non-perishable, and soft as some homeless have dental issues. Examples are

Nutri-grain bars and squeezable apple sauce. Mandarin “Cuties” oranges are desired. Esperanza’s Community Outreach Team will deliver the bottled water and snacks to First Church UCC, located a few blocks from Grace. AFN will distribute the water and snacks to the ten heat respite centers as needed. Any questions, please contact Larry Hanson or a member of the Community Outreach Team.

Today’s Hymns:

Gathering # 528
Setting 8 front of book page 184
Hymn of day # Seek Ye First
Offertory #186
Communion Hymn # 472
Sending Song: # 543

2025 Mission Plan Results Through June

June 2025 YTD	Revenue	Expense	Net Income/(Loss)
Actual	\$192,091	\$184,833	\$7,258
Plan	\$199,550	\$187,111	\$12,439

June marked the end of the 6-month Stub Mission Plan period as we transition to a new fiscal year beginning July. While revenue exceeded expenses by \$7,258, that surplus fell short of the planned surplus of \$12,439. The shortfall was driven entirely by lower Offerings than expected.

Through June, total receipts were (\$7,500) below plan, driven by a (\$9,800) shortfall in total offerings. Pledged offerings were short by (\$15,200) while non-pledge offerings were \$5,500 better than expected. For the six months, 43 pledge families have met or exceeded their year-to-date pledge while 23 families are behind.

Overall expenses were \$2,300 lower than planned, driven by lower property expense (tree trimming, carpet cleaning) partly offset by higher than expected expense for VBS and Campformation. The latter had not been included in the budget.

We give thanks to each of you for supporting the ministries of Esperanza. While our fiscal year now begins in July, your offerings continue to be recorded and reported on a calendar year basis. Please review your recent giving statement and prayerfully consider meeting or exceeding your 2025 commitment to Esperanza. Thanks be to God.

God’s work our hands t-shirts- are still available for purchase! Cost is \$10 Questions? See Chris Armfield 310-502-7930 chrisarmfield@hotmail.com

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

Food Donations to Kyrene Family Resource Center. Through June Esperanza has donated 856 pounds of

non-perishable food to the center. Our food donation goal for 2025 is 1,300 pounds.

Esperanza is helping with food needs on multiple fronts at the Kyrene Family Resource Center. Currently, the Center needs the following for families: beans- canned or dry, rice, boxed mac-n-cheese, and cereal. 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

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

Jessica Mueller | 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

Cindy Gerrish | Children of Hope Teacher

Katrin Guete | 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

Mark Krach - Treasurer- fordspeed@aol.com

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Donna Sparber- Donnasparber44@gmail.com

KC Quah- quahaz20@gmail.com

This Week At Esperanza

Sunday, July 27, 2025

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

Monday, July 28, 2025

7:30am COH Teacher staff meeting (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Josquin Music (Choir room)

7:00pm Boy Scouts (CR)

Tuesday July 29, 2025

6:00 am Early AA (CR)

6:30am Toastmasters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

4:00pm Josquin Music (SAN)

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

10:00am Mary's Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 3014

Thursday, July 31, 2025

6:00am Men's group AA (CR)

7:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

6:00pm Women's Bible Study (GAR)

Friday, August 1, 2025

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

Saturday, August 2, 2025

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

Sunday, August 3, 2025

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

CR – Community Room (upstairs)

SAN – Sanctuary

FH – Fellowship Hall

GAR – Garden of Eatin'

LC-Lower Courtyard

Today's Worship Leaders

Greeter- Cindy Jackson

Lector- Tom Vega

Communion Assistants- Michelle Ageno, Liz Farquhar

Assisting Minister- Paul Wagner

Power Point-

Ushers- Paul Gerrish, Ray Palomaa

Counters- Tina & Eddie Knoell