

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2023

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ- our way, our truth, or life.

Announcements

You can also get announcements and calendar of events at www.MyEsperanza.org

Volunteers Needed: Help With Counting Sunday Offerings.

Each Sunday, offerings for the week are counted and deposited at the bank. Two to three volunteers are needed to assist with this task. The commitment will be one hour approximately once a month. Any questions, please contact Larry Hanson. If you are interested please contact the church office.

Church Council Elections: As the nominating committee, we are presenting the following members for election to the Esperanza church council at the annual meeting on May 21:

Chris Armfield
Susan Brown
Jim Gisselquist
Beth Leaf
Chuck Yount

We approached the current council members who can be elected for a second two-year term and asked them to prayerfully discern their all to service and encouraging them to continue to represent us during this time of transition between pastors. Susan, Jim, Beth and Chuck were first elected in 2021 and all agreed. Chris Armfield was elected by the church council in March to fill out the term of Kelly Edwards after her resignation and Chris has also agreed. All five, if elected, will serve for two more years.

Herb Pinske, Chair
Linda Dickson
Beth Fisher
Jane Gisselquist
Jayne Peterson
Pam Yount

Remembering Heidi Gerrish-Nearly a year ago, our beloved sister in Christ, Heidi Gerrish, was killed tragically in an auto accident. The lives of Stephen and Kat Gerrish were also changed, and so many who know and love the Gerrish family were impacted. The date of May 21, 2023, will be the one-year anniversary of these tragic losses. The sadness and perhaps the anger or disorientation of these losses may continue to permeate our lives. Generally speaking, grief journeys tend to include the following stages:

Shock & Denial

Pain & Guilt

Anger & Bargaining (usually with God)

Depression, Reflection, Loneliness

The Upward Turn

Reconstruction & Working Through

Acceptance & Hope

Unfortunately, the journey of grief does not always go in a straight line from the initial shock to acceptance. Usually, we double back at some point, and the one-year anniversary of any loss often marks the beginning of an even more difficult leg of the grief journey. We must allow the difficulty in order to move through it. To mark the one-year anniversary of Heidi's death, we will be planting a tree as part of worship on Sunday, May 21. As always, all are welcome at worship.

VBS needs- The space man is covered in sticky note request for materials and food for VBS. If you take a sticky please return items by May 28th.

TODAY ! Safeguarding God's Children Training- All are welcome at our first Safeguarding God's Children training at 10:15-11:15 am in the sanctuary. The council recently approved a Safeguarding God's Children policy that aims to prevent child sexual abuse on the Esperanza campus and during Esperanza ministries, including at Children of Hope. The policy includes specific guidelines for how adults and children interact in order to create a safe space for children. Those who regularly volunteer with children are required to go through a Safeguarding God's Children training, and those who volunteer only occasionally, say, at Vacation Bible School once a year, are encouraged to receive the training. However, the training is beneficial for everyone regardless of volunteering with kids. At the one-hour training, we will discuss the finer points of the policy, practice healthy ways of interacting with kids, and learn how we can create a truly safe space for our youngest members!

Journeying through the New Testament in 2023

During 2023, we are reading our way through the New Testament. The reading list is on the Narthex counter and on the website. Everyone reading through the NT is welcome to check in each 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:15 am in the sanctuary.

Sunday, May 7, 2023	Hebrews 1
Monday, May 8, 2023	Hebrews 2
Tuesday, May 9, 2023	Hebrews 3
Wednesday, May 10, 2023	Hebrews 4
Thursday, May 11, 2023	Hebrews 5
Friday, May 12, 2023	Hebrews 6
Saturday, May 13, 2023	Hebrews 7
Sunday, May 14, 2023	Hebrews 8

Kyrene Family Resource Center school supply

The Center has asked for our help in donating school supplies for the 2023-2024 school year for students and families in need. The Center needs new backpacks (for middle school

students), paper, pencils, tab/dividers for notebooks, pocket folders, crayons, markers, spiral notebooks, glue sticks and Elmer's glue, scissors, colored pencils, notebook dividers, loose leaf paper, and pens (blue, black, and red). Esperanza will collect school supplies during May. While KFRC welcomes a variety of non-perishable foods, there is a current need for granola bars, squeezable applesauce, and goldfish crackers (individually packaged). Place donations in box/shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall. Through April 2023, Esperanza has donated 676 lbs. of food to KFRC. Thank you! Any questions, please contact Peggy or Larry Hanson.

Habitat House 2023- Our 26th year!! Site: 3610 S Roosevelt St. Tempe, AZ. Contact John Fisher, Jim Gisselquist or John Gemma if you have any questions. Thank you to all who have made our past builds a success.

Voices For CASA- On an ongoing basis, we support Voices for CASA with \$10 fast-food gift cards. These 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. If you have any questions about this program or about Voices, please contact John Gemma at jgemma@cox.net.

Prayer Shawls- Each week a group of knitters gather on campus to make prayer shawls for our community. These shawls can be found on the rack by the altar. These prayer shawls are for ANYONE who is in need (illness, birth of a baby, marriage, or in need of a pick me up). Please remember to 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). Let's spread God's comfort and peace into the world.

Esperanza Staff Members

Interim Pastor Sarah Stadler

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

Deacon Connie Rose-Kamprath | Children's 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

Ma 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

Council Members/Team Leadership

Jim Gisselquist - President (Personnel) - jimgiz@gmail.com

Chuck Yount - Vice President (Stewardship) -

chuckyount00@gmail.com

Michael Paradise – Treasurer (Communications)

michaelparadise.esperanza@gmail.com

Susan Brown – Secretary - browngary214@gmail.com

Craig Peck - (Property) - craigpeck.esperanza@gmail.com

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

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

Paige Somero - (Worship and Music) -

paige.somero@nxp.com

Chris Armfield – (Outreach) chrisarmfield@hotmail.com

This Week At Esperanza

Sunday, May 7th

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:15am Sunday Funday (CR)

10:15am Safeguarding God's children

2:00pm Girl Scouts (CR)

2:30pm Josquin Music Recital (SAN)

Monday, May 8th

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

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

5:30pm Girl Scouts (CR)

7:00pm Boy Scouts (CR)

Tuesday, May 9th

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

2:00pm Finance Team Meeting (FH)

Wednesday, May 10th

6:30am Toastmasters(FH)

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

10:00am Mary Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

11:30 FMSC (Offsite)

1:00pm Staff meeting (FH)

7:00pm Boy Scouts (CR)

Thursday, May 11th

7:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

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

Friday, May 12th

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

Saturday, May 13th

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

Sunday, May 14th

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:15am Sunday Funday (CR)

10:15am Safeguarding God's Children Training (SAN)

2:00pm Girl Scouts (CR)

2:30 Josquin Music recitals (SAN)

CR – Community Room (upstairs)

SAN – Sanctuary

FH – Fellowship Hall

GAR – Garden of Eatin'

Today's Worship Leaders

Greeter- Molly Hurst

Lector- Paul Beeks

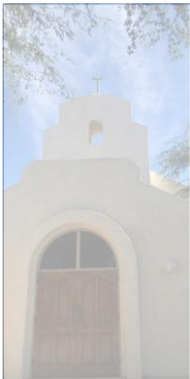
Communion Assistants- Jim & Jane Gisselquist

Power Point- Kristie Wright

Assisting Minister- Deacon Connie

Ushers- Susan Brown, Michelle Ageno, Ron Tuszyński, Tom Vega

Counters- Peggy & Larry Hanson



Welcome to Worship!

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

Hymnals and Bibles are found under the seats.

Gathering Song: # 645
Song of the Day: # 816
Offertory: # 465
Communion Hymn: # 781
Sending Song: # 654 v.1,3,5

We live stream our worship services.