

“Step Out with Jesus”

During our stewardship program we have received 115 pledges from our members and non-members/winter residents. The cards that have been received showed a total commitment of \$112,000. Of these cards 42 indicated growth in giving for a total of approximately \$13,000.

Reminder: Don't forget your offering for the Sundays you may miss worship, this will be a great help during the summer months.

“Framing OUR Mission”

“And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some teachers, to equip the saints for the work of mission, for building up the body of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:11-12)

With great anticipation we look ahead, filled with praise and thanks to God!

Framing OUR Mission: Pledges of more than \$135,000 through March 2012.

From April 2009 to March 2010 donations have totaled nearly \$50,000.

Emergency Roof Repair

The repairs on the roof of the activity building were completed over three days in April. Thanks to Harold Hall and the crew of Leigh Riese, Calvin Moths, and Gary Schneuer.

Child Care and Pre-School – “Be a Partner”

A graduation ceremony will be held on Wed, May 19th for those students entering kindergarten. Registration has begun for the upcoming school year.

Over \$500 was raised at the yard sale in April. Thanks for your donations.

Many thanks for your monthly contributions of over \$4,000 to the child care ministry during the past few months.

The child care committee and the council will continue to keep the congregation apprised of the ministry's ongoing needs.

You can continue to help by donating snacks and school supplies.

Contact Julie Rivas for the latest update.

- Committee meeting is the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

Board members: Karen Nelson (Pres), Barbara Doty (Vice Pres),
Linda Gal (Sec.), Gary Linafelter.

Coordinator – Julie Rivas (Office: 466-5174).

Congregational Financial News

Account balances – through March: General fund \$6,759

“Framing OUR Mission”: \$39,487 Mission Partners/Internship: \$15,400

Special Gifts/Memorial: \$9,043 Money Market: \$1,103 (from building fund)

Central News

May 2010

“The Things Moms Carry”

*“The Lord your God is in your midst, the mighty one, will save;
He will rejoice over you with gladness, he will quiet you with his love,
He will rejoice over you with singing.” (Zephaniah 3:17)*

It is often amazing what a mom can find in her purse. There's the typical stuff, like a tissue for a running nose, a quarter for the gumball machine, a library card to check out a book. But then there's the incredible stuff, like a blowup beach ball, a map of the United States, a collection of medicine that could cure any illness.

Moms learn early to be prepared. It all begins with a diaper bag that has zippers galore and compartments begging to be filled, so that no mother need be caught unprepared for any situation.

Moms carry a lot of stuff; maybe even some unnecessary items. Chances are moms' not only have purses filled with stuff, but also their minds filled with burdens. The kind of burdens moms carry. Draping a bag of weariness on one shoulder and hanging a bag of worry on the other. Toting these kinds of bags is exhausting.

God is saying to moms, “Set that stuff down! You're carrying burdens you don't need to bear.”

*“Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest,” says Jesus. (Matthew 11:28)*

There are certain weights in life we simply cannot carry. Our Lord is asking us to set them down and trust him. He is like the father at the baggage claim. When a dad sees his young son trying to drag the family suitcase off the carousel, he will say to his son what God is saying to us. “Set it down, child. I'll carry that one.”

“Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:17)

Central Lutheran Church

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(520) 316-9659

www.centrallutheranaz.org

Sunday Worship

Our focus is on the good news shared by God through Jesus Christ, and is celebrated through the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at all services.

Arizona City

9 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

For information contact Linda Gal (705-1450) or Karen Nelson (518-0048).

Worship Assistants

If you would like to serve as an assistant or need more information contact Bev Linafelter (466-6530).

Worship Nursery

Child care is offered for our youngest children during worship. Contact the office or Suzanne Walker (466-5790).

Casa Grande

9 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

Call Kara Cooper (426-9228 evenings).

Fellowship is held after worship at both sites each Sunday.

Altar Flowers -- Sign-up to provide flowers on the altar for a special remembrance or event.

Worship Assistant -- Sign-up at both our sites to assist with worship – usher, reader, communion server.

Women of Central Lutheran

Quilting is scheduled for Wednesday afternoons at 12:30 p.m. in AZ City. For information on the women's ministry and quilting contact Elaine Zechmann (466-5960) or Shar Jung (836-7949).

Lutheran World Relief Coffee

The Equal Exchange project allows farmers to earn a fair price for their products. The "Small Farmer Fund" pools resources to invest in education, health care, and agricultural programs. Coffee, tea and hot chocolate are available for purchase – select your item(s) and deposit payment.

The Alpha Course

Sundays at 10:15 a.m. through May 23rd
The Alpha Course is centered on study, care for one another, and prayer. Discussion focuses on common questions about Jesus, God, the church, and our role in God's kingdom. Pastor Thom and Chase will lead the study each week at both sites.

Youth Night Class

Weekday Bible studies and events for elementary, middle school and high school students are scheduled for ***Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.*** Location alternates between Arizona City and Casa Grande.

Our Mission

"We are a Spirit-filled community of loving and caring, light-hearted people who joyfully invite all to share, through the Gospel, the love of Christ."

Softball Season Wrap-Up

The *Faithball* team ended the regular season with a record of 4 and 10 – 11th place in the 16 team league.

The post-season tournament ended with one hard played loss. The summer season begins on Monday, June 7th. One game will be played each week as the *Faithball* team will be playing in the lower of two divisions of the co-ed league.

Thanks for the support of the loyal fans each week.

9-Hole Golf Scramble Event Arizona City Golf Course

Saturday, May 15th at 3:30 p.m.

Players of all abilities are invited to play in our next golf event. Sign-up up to play.

"Get Linked"

www.centrallutheranaz.org
Remember to check the church's website for the schedule of events and news. Go to the "Get Linked" page for the monthly newsletter and Sunday sermons.

Remember in Prayer

Ron Anderson, Peter Ask, Maxine Cadman, Gene Erickson, Dorothy Everett, Dave Forbush, Patricia Hedblum, Art Hilburn, Rolland Karlin, Gertie Kenyon, Bill Liebhart, Gene Luft, Sean Mallory, Jean Muchmore, Neil Northey, Cleo Oakland, Carol and Pierce Owens, Jim Smith, Helen Zaudtke.

Our Mission Partner for Internship

The East Valley Thrift Shop has once again partnered with us to help support our internship program for 2010-11. The shop is an ELCA ministry in the east valley of Phoenix that uses its proceeds to fund mission programs. We have received \$10,000 for next year, which brings the total to \$25,000 contributed by the thrift shop. The funds will be applied to the intern's monthly expenses.

We are grateful for their partnership making our multi-site ministry in Casa Grande possible.

Council News

- Grand Canyon Synod Assembly is June 17-19 in Tucson
- East Valley Thrift Shop is partnering with us for internship in 2010-11
- Kelli Wilder, a student at the Lutheran School of Theology has been assigned to be our intern beginning in September

President – Francis Harrison (316-0272)

Vice Pres – Jeff Pehlke (423-8144)

Treas – Linda Nelson (426-9134)

Sec – Ron Jung (836-7940)

Upcoming Meetings

Multi-Site -- Tue, May 11th at 6:30 p.m. in Casa Grande

Council -- Tue, May 18th at 6:30 p.m. in Arizona City