



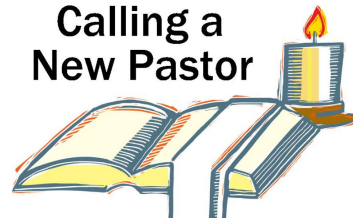
Central Lutheran Church

Come Share the Spirit!

Central Newsletter: September 2021

- Scriptures for the month
- Council Message
- Adult Community Education
- Youth Group
- Pastor's Message
- On-site and Online Worship
-

Calling a New Pastor



Pastor's Message:



We have seen several terrible weather related incidents lately. First hurricane Ida, there are devastated New Orleans and surrounding areas. Then there are terrible wildfires in California. These types of incidents were often called acts of God in the past, but God has nothing to do with the terrible effects of global warming. It is us humans that are responsible for what is happening to our world today.

One way that we can help those who are suffering at the hands of the hurricane and the wildfires is through

Lutheran Disaster Relief. You may not have heard much about Lutheran Disaster Relief because they do not spend money on advertising. In fact, about 95% of the dollars given to LDR are allocated to the people who need the help.

So if you are thinking about offering help to those who have struggled with weather related issues, please consider Lutheran Disaster Relief as a way to use your dollars as effectively as possible.

If you are unsure of how to contribute to [LDR](#), check with me. I can put you in touch with how to help.

Pastor Bob Kleinke

PH: 507-273-2705

[Email](#)



Church Council

Greetings from your Church Council,

Peace and grace from your Church Council. We would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date concerning where we are in regards to the Call Process.

On Monday August 30th, the Church Council met to vote on a motion that was made to recommend Pastor Doug Dill to be our next pastor at Central Lutheran Church. I am pleased to inform you the motion passed and a congregational meeting is being scheduled for the end of September. It is the belief of the Council and the Call Committee that Pastor Dill will be a devoted spiritual leader in the ministry of Central Lutheran Church. In our discussions with him, he is anxious to come and is looking forward to being our Pastor for many years if given the opportunity.

Pastor Dill and his wife Kris will be in Arizona September 25th thru October 1st. Plans are to do a meet and greet at the Arizona City church site on September 26th before a church service. A Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following worship. As plans are finalized, we will notify all members via email and/or special letter to each household. I ask each of you to keep this day open for this special moment in the life of our church.

For those who would like to listen to Pastor Dill's sermons his current church website is flcssc.org.

In closing, between now and the end of September Rick Hagen, Council Treasurer or myself will update the congregation at both sites at the beginning of the service on a weekly basis to keep you all informed of any additional information.

God's Blessing's,

Steve Gal, Council Vice President

[Church Council Contacts - click](#)



Financial Report

September 2021

Hello fellow Central Lutherans:

Just a quick update on our finances. August giving was down a little over \$3000.00 from last year and our expenses were up by \$2500.00. Year to date giving is up about \$1500.00 with our expenses down approximately \$48000.00. I will be very happy when our winter visitors return. Have a blessed month.

Rick Hagen.
Church Council Treasurer



See the Council letter above.

In His Service,

Kara K. Cooper
[Call Committee chair](#)

Call Committee:
Arlan Bergquist
Jim Freng
Tim Irvin
Gary Isaacson
Ron Jung
Jill Lui



Click for Prayer Request option on website

**Youth will have a meet
and greet with the new
minister this fall. The
congregation will vote at
the end of September**

on Pastor Doug's confirmation. If all moves forward, he will be here in early November and a new youth program will be developed under his leadership. More details to follow.



On-site and Live Online Worship

Stay tuned for special worship time/location on September 26th.

- Worship Times 8:30am in AZ City.
- Worship Times 10am in Casa Grande.
- Worship is also available online.
- Social distancing in seating AZ City and Casa Grande.
- Masks optional.

CLC [YouTube Channel](#)

LIVE ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE in Arizona City 8:30am or Casa Grande 10:00am.

Live Worship Service ONLINE thru YouTube Live at on the [Central Lutheran Church YouTube Channel](#).

[Print the Sunday Bulletin](#) ahead of time and enjoy "live" online worship each Sunday.



ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Where are they now?

Where Are They Now? (Part 2)

As the Adult Community Education program continues to celebrate its seventh year of service to the community, this month's update presents Part 2 of the spotlight on our GED graduates to find out where they are now after earning their diplomas.

Kenia was 18 when she enrolled in the GED program. She had already passed some of the exams but was struggling to pass the social studies and language arts tests. With tutoring support, Kenia passed these tests on her next attempts to earn her GED in 2017. Currently, she is a mother of a three-year-old girl and works as a shipping and receiving clerk at a farm equipment distributor in Casa Grande.



Martin, who is in his 50s and grandfather to seven grandchildren, studied for his GED exams for a period of three and a half years. He came to the program as part of his Workman's Compensation retraining program. His GED certificate was a gateway to less physically demanding jobs and safer working conditions. However, Martin's test preparation progress was interrupted by yet another workplace injury for which he required hospitalization and physical therapy. With tutoring help, Martin earned his GED in 2018 and now has a great job as a heavy equipment operator.

Felipe (not his real name) was forced to leave Mexico when corrupt officials threatened his life for reporting the illegal business practices of his employer. Blacklisted from his technical career field in Mexico and fearing for his safety, he entered the U.S. illegally. Due to his undocumented status and because of differing U.S. education and qualification requirements, Felipe could not find work in his career field.

Determined to rebuild his life and career, Felipe applied for a green card and set out to earn his GED which would open the doors to the specialized education he would need to address the deficits in his qualifications. Highly intelligent and self-disciplined, he mastered the test subjects easily with tutors guiding his learning path and providing supportive resources. Despite earning his GED certificate in 2019, immigration laws have denied his permission to work legally in the U.S. Further, his undocumented status blocks his access to



higher education funding and opportunities. Knowing that his return to Mexico could jeopardize his safety, Felipe currently works manual labor and construction jobs where he can find them. While he lives in the shadows hoping and waiting for more opportunities to build on his education and succeed in his career.



Eva graduated with her GED in 2018. She was a quick learner and during her preparation studies, the tutor team noticed Eva's natural gift for teaching others. Combined with her bilingual abilities she was a great fit for the program's part-time Tutoring Coordinator position. Eva's service and time has helped the Adult Community Education program to reach deeper into the Latina community, strengthened our volunteer team's bilingual outreach, and provided continuity for participant enrollment and volunteer recruitment.

For more information about the Adult Community Education program, or if you would like to volunteer as a tutor, [click here](#). To make a donation that helps cover testing fees (\$200 per participant) and online curriculum subscription costs (\$750 per year), direct the donation to:

Central Lutheran Church Adult Community Education Ministry
P.O. Box 677
Arizona City AZ 85123

Questions? Email - [click](#)



**We lift our voices
We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to YOU
We are an offering, We are an offering**

“What You Have First Given Us”

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

On the second weekend of each month we continue to prayerfully consider the challenge to double our offering. The reason for this proposal is the need to increase offerings and the belief many people have the ability to fulfill such a request. As we consider this challenge, we can ask ourselves, “how come I don’t give more?” Thank you for your contributions to our growing ministry.

Please continue to support CLC. Please note if you wish to designate funds.

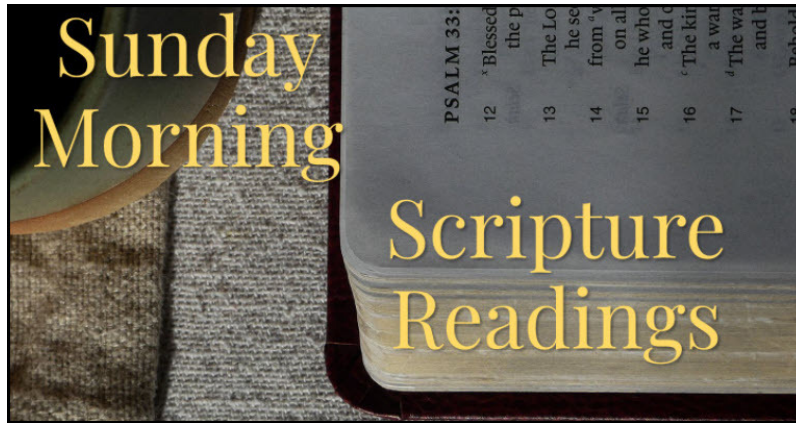
MAIL your offerings (Casa Grande or AZ City) to:

Central Lutheran Church, PO Box 677 Arizona City, AZ 85123

Also consider setting up REGULAR, AUTOMATIC GIVING through your financial institution or PayPal.



Remember to bring in non-perishable food to the Food Bank. A Food Bank Box is set up at both church sites for your donations.



Time After Pentecost - September

Sun. Sept 5 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost Readings

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalms 146 (2)

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 7:24-37



Sun. Sept 12 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 116:1-9 (9)

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

Sun. Sept 19th – 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalms 54 (4)

James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

Sun. Sept 26 – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalms 19:7-14 (8)

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

**Click on images below to find out more about the program!
You can help in so many areas of CLC outreach!**



Quilting Group



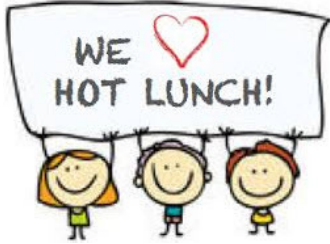
Grief support



Community Food Pantry



Travel Samples



Eloy Free Hot Lunch Program



Manna Bags



Youth Group



Shield a Badge



Volunteer - ESL



GED training/volunteer opportunities



Church Photo Directory



Prayer requests

Remember in Prayer

Please include in your prayers:

Anna, Susan, Sandy, Glenda, Riche, Mary Kay, Josh, Mike, Faye, Patty Jo, Lisa, Neil, Martha, Hal, Brooke, Becky, Karen, Mike T., Patricia, Marge, Sylvia, Samuel, Erika, Gina, Markie, Bunny, Darcy, Sandy, Chris, Ryan, Rayne, Aleata, Matthew and Garcon.



Military Service:

Send us names for Prayer List and Military Servicemen.

Council:

President - Gary Erickson
 Vice President - Steve Gal
 Treasurer - Rick Hagen
 Secretary - Lois Irvin



Current members: Peg Brady, John Pieschl, Mary Pietrini, Dick Jones, Gary Linafelter, Skip Simes

Council Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month

Council Minutes are posted at each site on the bulletin board AND on the church website under [Leadership](#).

Worship at Central

September 26th - one service - watch website/email for times/location

Arizona City ----- Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Casa Grande ----- Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Online worship continues - follow on the [CLC YouTube Channel](#)

Our 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.

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."

Multi-Site Ministry

- Draw upon resources to meet the needs of each campus
- Use of congregational resources based on needs
- Programs at one or both sites
- One governing body, one budget
- Staff active on both campuses
- Capital projects at both campuses

Contact Us

Church Office: churchoffice@centrallutheranaz.org

Pastor Bob: pastor@centrallutheranaz.org

Website: www.centrallutheranaz.org

Pastor Bob is in the office - stop on by!

Tuesdays - AZ City

Thursdays - Casa Grande

Arizona City Campus

12921 S. Sunland Gin Road (PO Box 677), Arizona City, AZ 85123

PH: (520) 466-5024

Casa Grande Campus

324 N Sacaton Street , Casa Grande, AZ 85122

PH: (520) 316-9659

For mail service use PO Box 677 Arizona City, AZ 85123

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