



Central Lutheran Church

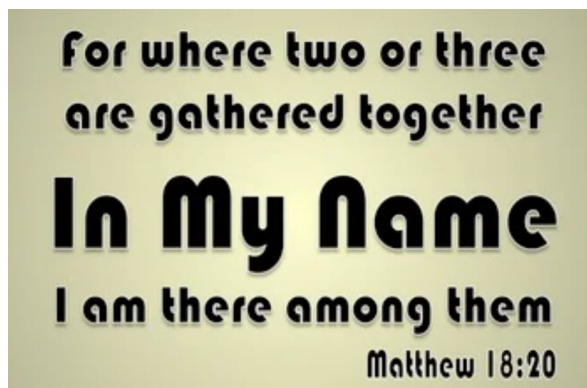
Come Share the Spirit!

Central Newsletter: August 2021

- **Scriptures for the month**
- **Council Message**
- **Call Process update**
- **Treasurer report**
- **Adult Community Education**
- **Youth Group**



Pastor's Message:



Happy August to all.

I hope this newsletter finds you well. We are still having worship services indoors. As most all of our members have had their COVID shots by now, we are not wearing masks in worship, but are still maintaining 6 feet distance between seatings.

It is my hope and prayer that those of you that haven't been to church in quite a while will consider coming back to join us. After all, Jesus said, "Whenever two or three people are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them."

We are in the process of seeking a new pastor. Our Call Committee has been working very hard with the help of God's Holy Spirit to find the right pastor to lead us in worship. It is our hope and prayer that this will happen in several months. Until then, I am leading worship and helping out our Church Council in all the ways I can.

May God bless you as you continue to follow us online or worship with us in person.

Rev. Bob Kleinke
PH: 507-273-2705
Email



Church Council

Greetings from your Church Council,

We have resumed normal communion in Arizona City and will begin the same in Casa Grande as soon as we exhaust our current supply of the wafer & grape juice cups. The 8:30am service is currently being live streamed and recorded for later viewing on the CLC YouTube channel (except when we have interruption to our Wi-Fi service).

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Call Process Expense Fund. Thanks be to GOD for your generosity. I am delighted to report we have received donations directed to this Fund from more than 30 family units and have exceeded our \$20,000 goal. We are getting closer to calling our next pastor so I ask each of you to pray for the Call Committee and the Church Council as we move forward during this very important time for Central Lutheran.

The Casa Grande area has finally received some rain during the monsoon season. This past weekend we had significant moisture the entire weekend. At my home in Casa Grande we received 2-1/2 inches of rain with 1 inch occurring on Sunday morning. The roof at the Casa Grande site had some leaks. The sky opened up during the 8:30am service in Arizona City causing severe flooding on all the streets near the church. Fortunately there was no damage to the Church or the Fellowship Hall. It was nearly impossible to leave the church grounds unless you had an SUV or similar vehicle. Fellowship was extended and I believe all the coffee and goodies were consumed before everyone was able to leave. Thanks to Rick Hagen and Paul Garrison for shuttling some people home.

Blessings and God's peace to each of you,

Gary Erickson, Council President
Church Council Contacts - [click](#)



Financial Report

August 2021

Greetings to all from your Treasurer:

Our July general fund contributions were \$18,346.00 which is up \$11,286.00 from last year. Year to date total is \$112, 875.00 which is down \$5,792.00 from 2020. Our July expenses were not all in by the deadline of this newsletter however I will try to report those next month.



I wish to thank the Cooper Family for agreeing to a lump sum payment of \$4,000.00 for all expenses incurred at the Casa Grande site through July. They have also agreed to defer any rental payments until January 2022. What a financial blessing this is to CLC.

Contributions to the call process fund continue to trickle in and now total \$23,940.00.

Thanks again to all my fellow Central Lutherans. Y'all make me proud to be your Treasurer.

Many blessings
Rick Hagen.
Church Council Treasurer

There is nothing concrete to report on the search for a new minister. We have two candidates we are interviewing, however, no decision

has been made for next steps. They both seem to have some great qualifications. As soon as there is something to report, we will update the congregation.

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 group will meet next at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 26 at the Casa Grande site. We hope to have youth of all ages involved from Arizona City and Casa Grande. Please see Pastor Bob with questions.



Inside and Live Online Worship



- 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

8:30am LIVE ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE in Arizona City during the summer months

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 1)

This year the Adult Community Education program will celebrate its seventh year of service to the community. The 25 volunteers who have dedicated their time through the years have served at least 50 participants to improve their English and over 30 adults who sought to get their GED certificate. This month we caught up with some of the GED

graduates to find out where they are now after earning their diplomas. Here is what we learned....

Hector earned his GED in 2018. He was a mechanic and with his GED he was able to get full-time jobs at two major employers in the Casa Grande area. Hector still lives in Casa Grande and is raising his family of two girls (8 and 17 years) and one boy (11 years). He plans to attend college classes to broaden his career opportunities in the welding trade.



Claudia received her GED in 2019 and since then has pursued her dream to work in cosmetology. She recently graduated from beauty college where faculty selected her as Student of the Year. With her cosmetology license now in hand,

Claudia plans to style and color hair at a local beauty salon and gain as much experience as she can so that she may one day run her own salon. As she pursues that goal, she is also applying for U.S. citizenship and studying for the related test.

Since her graduation in 2018, **Yazmin** has been busy caring for her family, including her elderly father-in-law. Now that her daughter is 16 and her son is 20, Yazmin is ready to step into the job market. Her career interests are in food service and caregiving. She is currently awaiting hiring decisions for related jobs at local Casa Grande employers to which she has applied.



Sandra received her GED in 2019. She is a mother of two girls, ages 15 and 10 years. Following her graduation, she got a job as a behavioral health technician working in health clinics and group homes to serve

the needs of the patients and residents. Her future plans include attending college to study either nursing or criminal justice.

Jaime and his wife have three children, ages 3, 9 and 16. While studying for the GED tests he shared his dream to be an auto mechanic with his own business. After earning his diploma in 2017, he worked at Pep Boys and then another mechanic shop, learning and doing what he loves. Laid off during the pandemic, he continues to work on friends' and family vehicles when he isn't working his full-time position at a cattle ranch as a feed technician.



Watch for Part 2 of "Where Are They Now?" With more updates on Adult Community Education program graduates in next month's newsletter. 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](#)



"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.

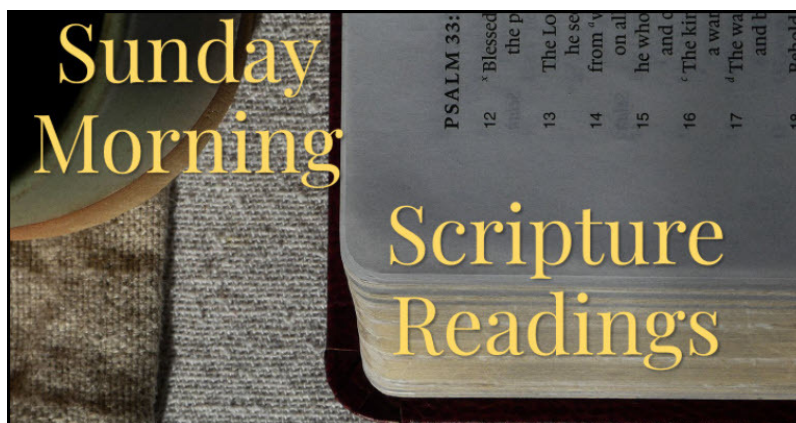
On the second weekend of each month we continue to prayerfully consider the challenge to double our offering. The reason for this proposal is the need to increase offerings and the belief many people have the ability to fulfill such a request. As we consider this challenge, we can ask ourselves, "how 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 - August



Sun. Aug. 1 — Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29 (24, 25)
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

Sun. Aug. 8— Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8 (8)
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

Sun. Aug. 15 — Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14 (10)
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

Sun. Aug. 22 — Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22 (15)
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

Sun. Aug. 29 — Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15 (1)
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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



Quilting Group



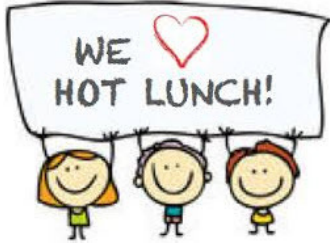
Grief support



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, Fritz Gardener, Darcy, Sandy, Chris, Ryan, Rayne and Aleata



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.

There will be no regularly scheduled council meetings for July and August.

Worship at Central

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 postal service use PO Box 677 Arizona City, AZ 85123

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