



# Central Lutheran Church

*Come Share the Spirit!*

## Mailing Address

PO Box 677

Arizona City, AZ 85123-0677

[www.CentralLutheranAZ.org](http://www.CentralLutheranAZ.org)

[www.facebook.com/  
CentralLutheranAZ](https://www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranAZ)

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**October 2022**

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Sign up for electronic giving on our website or through our app.

Download app:

<https://faithlife.com/clc-az/app>

You can text to give at:

520.605.0516 Text dollar amount.

## Our Locations & Phone

12921 Sunland Gin Road  
Arizona City, AZ 85123  
520.466.5024

324 N Sacaton Street  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122  
520.316.9659

Email at: [office@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:office@CentralLutheranAZ.org)

## Mission Statement

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

**The deadline for the November's Newsletter is October 20<sup>TH</sup>.**

# Church Directory

## Church Office

Arizona City 520-466-5024

Casa Grande 520-316-9659

Douglas Dill 402-235-6969

Pastor

[pastordoug@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:pastordoug@CentralLutheranAZ.org)

Kelsy Rising 360-320-7425

Administrative Assistant

[Office@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:Office@CentralLutheranAZ.org)

## Church Council (\* Executive Council)

\*Gary Erickson, 520.509.7219  
President [gerickson@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:gerickson@CentralLutheranAZ.org)

\*Steve Gal, 520.709.5414  
Vice President [sgal@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:sgal@CentralLutheranAZ.org)

\*Rick Hagen, [rhagen@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:rhagen@CentralLutheranAZ.org)  
Treasurer

\*Karen Debold, [kdebold@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:kdebold@CentralLutheranAZ.org)  
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Dick Christopher [dchristopher@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:dchristopher@CentralLutheranAZ.org)

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Jessica Aasheim, [jaashiem@CentralLutheranAZ.org](mailto:jaashiem@CentralLutheranAZ.org)

Recording Secretary

## Mission Endowment Team

-Jerry Edwardson -Pastor John Donovan -Dell Hoff -Mary Pietrini

## Food Bank Update

August's noisy offering for the Food Bank was \$66.79 and September's was 32.25. We take this offering on the 4th Sunday of every month. Bring your loose change and even dollar bills. **Every Cent Counts!**



## SINGLE SERVICE EXTENSION:

We will continue to rotate our services between sites and worship at 9:15 am through October. Service for the 5th Sunday, October 30th, will be in Arizona City which is also Reformation Day. **Check the calendar on website if you are unsure.**

## OCTOBER BIBLE READINGS:

### Oct. 2 - Rescue at the Sea

Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29

Matt 2:13-15

### Oct. 9 - Covenant & Commandments

Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17

Matthew 5:17

### Oct. 16 - Joshua Renews the Covenant

Joshua 24:1-15

Matthew 4:8-10

### Oct. 23 - David and Bathsheba

2 Samuel 11:1-5, 26-27; 12:1-9;

Psalms 51:1-9

Matthew 21:33-41

### Oct. 30 - Solomon's Wisdom

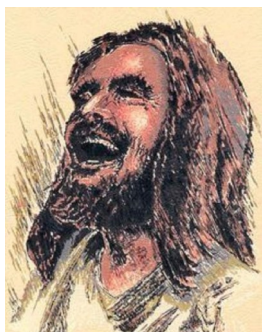
1 Kings 3:4-9, 16-28

Matthew 6:9-10

### November 6 - Elisha Heals Naaman

2 Kings 5:1-15a

Matthew 8:2-3



## Called

By Pastor Doug Dill

I praise God that through the Holy Spirit, God's people of Central Lutheran have called me to be the pastor. I take this call very seriously and with utmost reverence for God's calling to serve as pastor at Central Lutheran. A calling is different than being hired/employed because a calling is from God. That means I am held accountable by God to serve to the best of my abilities, where God has called me. In this case, Central Lutheran Church, as part of the Evangelical Church of America. As such, I do my best to follow God, listen for the Holy Spirit and guidance through the rules and regulations of the ELCA.

When I began this call at Central Lutheran, it was with a walk of faith that this congregation could afford a full-time pastor, knowing that although the compensation was lower than the suggested guidelines, that would change and the people of CLC would faithfully give to the ministries of CLC. We have lots of ministries, some small and some larger. We have more that can begin as well. (see article on a new ministry possibility) We recently started the Food Bank distribution out of Arizona City. Many more ministries we are a part of. Some have slowed, some are waiting to be revitalized. Here is what we have listed on our website.

- Angle Tree
- City of Joy
- Fellowship
- Food Bank Distribution
- Food Pantry
- Good Gifts
- Grief Support
- Hot Lunch
- Manna Bags
- Prayer Shawl
- Quilting
- Senior Center
- Shield a Badge
- Spiritual Direction
- Travelers

If you would like to look at this, see ones that you want to re-vitalize/re-engage just let a council member know. As pastor, I have from day one, been permission giving when it comes to ministries. We need the disciples to go forth and do ministry. This is not one single person, but all actively engaged. How that looks for each person can be starkly different. It can range from being a cheerleader and financial support, to being the team lead. Either way, we as a congregation are called into ministry.

I was looking at my call paperwork today, and was reminded of what I was asked to be involved in as part of my call, in addition to preaching the Word and providing the sacraments, and what the congregation will be involved in as part of my call. Below is both.

### Special emphases of the pastor and special encouragement by the congregation:

- Building relationships with the Synod & church-wide, with help from the congregation.
- Training others to do ministry & admin, work, especially Evangelism, Youth & Young Adults.
- Work towards building a music ministry with the help of the congregation.
- Teaching and preaching including on stewardship in all its forms.
- Help the congregation to improve presence in social media, on-line and in the community.

All the above I am doing, have started to do and will continue to do and improve upon. Please note, even in the above, I need your help. I need others who are willing to be trained and we need youth and young adults to come to CLC.

... CONTINUED ON PG 6

Acquire the habit of speaking to God as if you were alone with God. Speak with familiarity and confidence as to your dearest and most loving friend. Speak of your life, your plans, your troubles, your joys, your fears. In return, God will speak to you—not that you will hear audible words in your ears, but words that you will clearly understand in your heart.

-Alphonsus Liguori



## Laundry Love Ministry

Here is a brief report on Laundry Love:

Laundry Love started about 5 years ago. Its purpose is to provide soap and money to the needy of our community so they can do their laundry. We do the laundry twice a month (the 2nd and last Wednesday of the month). Currently there are 5 local churches working together to provide this service. We provide

this service at the Quick Clean Laundromat on Florence Blvd. We are able to provide this service through Church outreach services and individual donations.

Over the last few years, we have seen the need increase, so we are serving the homeless, senior citizens on fixed incomes, and families.

This service is a true community effort. Seeds

of Hope, St. Vincent de Paul, CG Helps, and the Elementary School district provide vouchers for those who need our service. currently there are 5 Churches that work together to provide this laundry service (First Presbyterian, United Methodist, St. Peter's Episcopal, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and St. Anthony's Catholic).

-Barbara Sundust

## From pastor Doug:

As we continue the visioning process, I see more clearly how we help those that need help until they can help themselves. We are helping others through the power and abundance of God. This ministry, if you want to get behind it, does not give money to do the laundry, but vouchers. The Laundromat also gives back to the ministry. We would be

responsible financially to help pay for the vouchers.

We would be expected to commit to paying for vouchers, one Wednesday every three months.

That anticipated cost today is around \$600

We would assist onsite laundry service from 3:00 - 7:00 pm, often in two hour shifts

Would you like to be part

of this ministry? Please reach out to a council member to let them know if this is a ministry you want to be part of. If there is enough interest in this, we can setup a fund that will be designated towards this. We seek donation assistance from the entire congregation, if anyone is interested in being part of this most valuable ministry.



## The Spiritual Corner - Kris Dill Spiritual Director

### An open letter to God:

*Hi God-*

*I don't know how you do it. Well, I guess, maybe I do. You love the sinners and the broken pieces; you love us in every way, even when we push you out of your own house.*

*Today, on behalf of everyone, I want to invite you back into your house. Thank you for letting us keep the residence while, you waited on us outside looking in. You never left the window or doors. Shame on us for not seeing you still out there.*

*You stood by and watched as we divided ourselves. You stood by us when we decided it was "all about me (us)", and no longer about you. You gave us the gift of free will and now sadly we are lost, fighting amongst ourselves. The room that was once so big to hold us all, now seems cramped and claustrophobic.*

*God, you asked us to be good stewards of your home, to grow as leaders and invite everyone in to feel hope, love, and security. Sadly, we have forgotten and lost sight of you, and your son Jesus.*

*Today, I ask you with every fiber within me, to come back inside your home. I ask this for all of us, those who realize it and those who don't. Guide us again and teach us your ways. Continue to provide us with human leadership, future visions, and the big picture. One day every knee will bow, as I (we) bow before you.*

*Welcome home God, you have been so missed.*

*Sincerely,  
Me, Myself and I*

## Bible Women

Join Kris Dill, Spiritual Director for Central Lutheran, as she leads the study of the book, Bible Women, By Lindsay Hardin Freeman. Each study will last about one hour every Tuesday evening in Casa Grande at 6 pm. Email Kris if you have questions, [kdill@centrallutheranaz.org](mailto:kdill@centrallutheranaz.org)

### Can you Hear me?

As some of you are aware, there is hearing assistance available in Arizona City. We have devices that you wear over your ears. These devices receive a FM transmission of the worship service to help you hear. There are multiple devices available. But.....

We found that we have a similar setup in Casa Grande. If you would like, we have multiple devices there also. Pastor Doug found this device and spent a couple of hours testing and setting up the equipment. It has been reported that it was a good first run few weeks ago. If you need the equipment, see one the ushers or pastor Doug.

## Quilting Wednesdays

Although the quilters are not meeting during the summer, they are still planning for when they meet again in the fall. The quilters donate them locally, to such places as Eloy and Casa Grande Police, Nursing Services, Assisted Living facilities, Oasis rehabilitation, Indian reservations and many other locations.

The quilters need to purchase or construct cabinets to hold their tools and supplies. However, they only have a few hundred dollars in the quilting fund. Please consider helping support this valuable ministry. Please direct your support by putting envelopes with Central Lutheran Quilters written on the envelope, in the offering plate. Send monies to Central Lutheran Church, PO Box 677, Arizona City AZ 85123 or contribute online, by choosing WedQuilters

## Spirituality & Stewardship

CONTINUED FROM PG 3

The congregation will encourage and support this pastor's ministry in the following ways:

- Willing involvement and volunteerism. Work with Pastor to accomplish the mutual goals of the congregation.
- Giving of the congregation's time, talent, and treasure.
- Appreciate the Pastor's sermons and worship leadership.
- Be respectful to the pastor and let them know their efforts are noticed and appreciated.
- Be respectful of Pastor & family's time & privacy. Contact during the day unless an emergency.

I ask you to prayerfully consider how you have been engaged individually and as a whole as a congregation in supporting my ministry.

God has great things in mind for Central Lutheran, that I am sure. We have so much to offer. I know many of you are "old". Old is only how you want to treat it. Let's frame it another way. Many of you God has worked with for many years to give you wisdom and experience, so God can call upon you for the next generations.

**Let's respond together in abundance.**

-Pastor Doug

*You are a Christian  
today because  
somebody cared.  
Now it's your turn.*

WARREN WIERSBE

### Volunteers Needed

Would you like to teach adults to speak English or tutor them for GED test preparation? If you enjoy helping others achieve their personal development goals, this is the right opportunity for you. The flexible, one-on-one approach to teaching allows you to really focus on individuals' unique learning needs. A volunteer orientation will provide you with what you need to get started. Just complete and submit the Volunteer Interest Form on the website or write to **CommunityEd@centrallutheranaz.org** to find out more about how you can get involved.

### Proverbs 29:18-22 (NIV)

- <sup>18</sup> Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction.
- <sup>19</sup> Servants cannot be corrected by mere words; though they understand, they will not respond.
- <sup>20</sup> Do you see someone who speaks in haste?  
There is more hope for a fool than for them.
- <sup>21</sup> A servant pampered from youth will turn out to be insolent.
- <sup>22</sup> An angry person stirs up conflict, and a hot-tempered person commits many sins



## TRUNK OR TREAT

**When:** Saturday October 29th, 2022

**From:** 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**What:** Bring your car to the Casa Grande Worship site full of candy.

Halloween is almost here, are you ready to Trunk or Treat?

Are you thinking, *“What in the world?”*

Central Lutheran Church has a great opportunity to participate in the Historic Downtown Halloween Stroll!



More details for those interested...

We have been asked to participate with local businesses downtown in the Casa Grande Truck or Treat event .

### TO PARTICIPATE:

- Park as close to Florence as you can.
- Dress up your car and yourself.
- Come ready to hand out sweets, tricks and have lots of fun.



Let's help make this a big event even more successful than it was last year when there were 800-1000 participants in the event. Don't Forget to bring chairs to sit on, and maybe a cooler of drinks for yourself.

**We will have handouts about the congregation to be given with candy.**







## HELP WANTED for CLC Fundraiser

Thank you for all the contributions have received at this time!

Bake sale items will be needed for OCT 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Baked goods can be dropped off on Friday evening and Saturday all day. Craft items for the CLC craft table can also be dropped off on those days.

The Craft/Vendor team is calling on the congregation for help for the Craft/Vendor Fairs on October 15<sup>th</sup> and October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Can you please donate any or all of the following:

- Case of pop
- 11 LBS Hamburger (we have 10 pounds already)
- Hamburger buns
- Picnic prepackaged condiments Available on Amazon
- Individual bags of chips
- Prepackaged dessert items
- Paper plates, napkins, and utensils
- Your time to assist with set up and take down
- Your time to assist with sitting at the welcome/Church table



## COME JOIN US!

**WHO:** CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**WHAT:** CRAFT FAIR  
**WHEN & WHERE:** ARIZONA CITY, SAT. OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>  
CASA GRANDE, SAT. OCTOBER 22<sup>ND</sup>

**9AM-3PM BOTH DATES**

**Free Entrance for shoppers**

**Food & bake sale onsite to support  
Central Lutheran Church Ministries.**

**To register for a Crafter/Vendor spot please visit:**

**[www.CentralLutheranAZ.org/craft-fair](http://www.CentralLutheranAZ.org/craft-fair)**

Donated items can be dropped off at either location no later than October 8<sup>th</sup> at either site.

Sing up sheets to volunteer your time are available in both locations. Without able bodies we cannot offer all the services.

In leu of purchasing items, a cash donation can be made. If send a check, just put in the memo "Craft Fair" .

Remember, the more donations we can receive, the more funds can be directed back to the church. We are hoping to be able to keep 100% of the profits, but only your donations will help with that.

*Let us all become disciples for God!*



## SOMEBODY

*There was a rich man ...  
and at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus...  
- Luke 16.19, 20*

Admit it: society thinks of the well-to-do as “somebody,” treating them with respect and honor, while we treat the destitute with scorn and judgment; we think of them as a “nobody.”

In Jesus’ a story of a rich man and a poor man notice how he reverses that.

The rich man is not named; other than his riches he’s nobody in particular. But the poor man is somebody. He has a name: Lazarus. When Lazarus dies he is carried by angels to the bosom of Abraham. When the the rich man dies... well, he dies. He’s buried. Period. No further ado.

The poor, the abandoned, the nameless—they are somebody.

The guy at the intersection with the ragged cardboard sign, the refugee with everything in a plastic bag, the old woman in the wheelchair at the nursing home, the addict wasting away in the upstairs room, the inmate languishing in prison, they have a name, a story. They’re somebody.

(So is the rich man, but he has forfeited his identity for his riches.)

They’re not fixtures, objects, symbols of something. They’re somebody. Look at them and see. See them. Maybe you can help them, maybe not. But you can see them.



By Steve Garnaas-Holmes  
[www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)

## October Council Update

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, In May we started a 9:15am worship schedule each Sunday morning. The council has decided to continue this schedule through October. The services will alternate between our two sites with worship in Casa Grande on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday and worship in Arizona City on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Fellowship will be after each service.

A CLC Stewardship Team was formed in May. This summer they attended an online “Stewardship For All Seasons” educational program organized by the ELCA. You will soon begin to receive information from this team concerning a Stewardship Special Appeal and a 2023 Stewardship Campaign. CLC has not had an Annual Stewardship Campaign in the last 10 years.

It has been quite some time since CLC has developed a Strategic Plan or Vision. Council is currently working on a Vision for CLC with the help of a consultant in Phoenix. You will be hearing more about this in the near future.

Pastor Doug and the Executive Council are updating CLC’s Constitution and By-Laws. They will be submitted to the congregation for approval at our Annual Meeting in January. They have not been updated since CLC was founded.

Many of our Winter Residents have or soon will depart for their winter homes & “Winter Church” here in Arizona. We pray for your safe travels and look forward to seeing you again.

Blessings and God’s peace to each of you,

-Gary Erickson, Council President

## Online Automated Giving helps CLC Support Mission

Remember, as a congregation have committed to a significant increase in expenses. We all need to step up in whatever way we can, so we do not need to draw down on our savings. We have made giving as easy as we can. You can give via the app, through text, check in person or mail. You can also setup automated or one time giving in the app or online. Setting up a reoccurring gift via electronic giving is very convenient and worth considering. Also please consider covering the processing fees, it is an option via the electronic giving. Don't forget, while you are away, mission still continues. Give or set up auto-giving on the faithlife app or at <https://www.centrallutheranaz.org/give>



## Prayer Shawl/Patch Ministry

Join Kris Dill at the Casa Grande site for a time of fellowship, prayer, knitting and crocheting. Meetings are the first Saturday of each month at 9am. You can download patterns on our website under ministries/ Prayer Shawl. If you are away for the winter, feel free to download the patterns and bring some shawls and patches back in the winter. Reach Kris at [kdill@centrallutheranaz.org](mailto:kdill@centrallutheranaz.org) or at 715-680-9062.

# October at a glance:

Date	Time	Event	Site
10/2	9:15a	Sunday Worship	■
10/3	5:30 PM	AA Meeting	■
10/4	6:00 PM	Bible Women	■
10/5	9 a-2 p	Pastor Doug's Office Hours	■
10/6	6:30 PM	Praise Band Practice	■
10/9	9:15 AM	Sunday Worship	■
10/10	5:30 PM	AA Meeting	■
10/11	6:00 PM	Bible Women	■
10/11	6:00 PM	Council Meeting	■
10/12	9 a-2 p	Pastor Doug's Office Hours	■
10/13	6:30 PM	Praise Band Practice	■
10/15	9:00 AM	Craft Fair	■
10/15	1:00 PM	Dieter's Meeting	■
10/16	9:15 AM	Sunday Worship	■
10/17	8:30 AM	Men's Group	■
10/17	5:30 PM	AA Meeting	■
10/18	6:00 PM	Bible Women	■
10/19	9 a-2 p	Pastor Doug's Office Hours	■
10/20	8:00 AM	Itty Bitty Bottle Babies	■
10/20	6:30 PM	Praise Band Practice	■
10/20	9:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due	■
10/22	9:00 AM	Craft Fair	■
10/23	9:15 AM	Sunday Worship	■
10/24	5:30 PM	AA Meeting	■
10/25	6:00 PM	Bible Women	■
10/26	9 a-2 p	Pastor Doug's Office Hours	■
10/27	9:00 AM	Food Bank Distribution	■
10/27	6:30 PM	Praise Band Practice	■
10/29	12:00 PM	Truck or Treat	■
10/30	9:15 AM	Sunday Worship	■
10/31	5:30 PM	AA Meeting	■
11/1	6:00 PM	Bible Women	■

<b>Site Key:</b> ■ = Casa Grande ■ = Arizona City ■ = Online	A full & most up-to-date calendar online at: <a href="https://centrallutheranaz.org/events-calendar">https://centrallutheranaz.org/events-calendar</a>
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## Proverbs 29:18-22 - The Voice

<sup>18</sup>Where there is no vision from God, the people run wild, but those who adhere to God's Instruction now genuine happiness.

<sup>19</sup>Words are not enough to correct a servant; even if he understands, he will not respond.

<sup>20</sup>Have you ever met someone who is overly eager to talk?

There is more hope for a fool than for him.

<sup>21</sup>If you indulge your servant from early in life, in the end it won't go well for either of you.

<sup>22</sup>A hot-head provokes quarrels, and one mastered by anger commits all kinds of sins.