



POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

4pm Traditional

SUNDAY

8am Traditional
with communion

9:30am Traditional

11am Contemporary

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Romans 15:13

Overarching Series Theme:

The resurrection of Jesus is only the beginning of God's mission for the world. Before His ascension, Jesus sends out His followers to spread the good news of God's kingdom. The apostles continue Jesus' work, empowered by the Holy Spirit. In this sermon series, we will see that the Holy Spirit also calls us to faith in Jesus Christ by the Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, declares us holy through Christ Jesus, and keeps us in the true faith, as He gathers His Church throughout the ages. The adventure continues for us today, as we eagerly await the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

April 6 & 7 – "Commissioned" - Acts 1:1-14

Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus promises His disciples the Holy Spirit, empowering them to spread the good news of God's kingdom globally. With this charge, Jesus ascends, leaving His disciples to ponder their mission. Filled with anticipation, they return to Jerusalem, ready to fulfill their divine mandate. What is your purpose and readiness to share God's love? How can you use your gifts to make a difference? Step out in faith, knowing the Holy Spirit empowers you. Embrace our calling, being bold witnesses to God's grace, bringing hope to a needy world.

April 13 & 14 – "In the Name of Jesus" - Acts 3:1-10

Peter and John go to the temple to pray where they encounter a man lame from birth. Peter heals the man in the name of Jesus Christ and he walks, leaps, and praises God in front of the crowds. But this story isn't just a historical tale; it's a reminder of the transformative power of faith and

Continued on pg. 2



Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
Susan Westland, Chaplain
Renee Bennett, Pastoral Intern

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480-830-5024 | hello@victorylutheran.com
VictoryLutheran.com

Note from Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor

Since the time my wife Anne and I arrived in Arizona, we remain in awe of the surprising beauty that can blanket the Sonoran Desert. It reminds me of the profound message of renewal and hope found in Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Just as the desert bursts forth with life in this season of rebirth, so too does the power of the Holy Spirit move within and among us, guiding us through the wilderness of life's challenges and preparing pathways to unexpected blessings. May we open our hearts to perceive the new beginnings that God is unfolding within and around us, trusting in His steadfast love to lead us into a season of growth, joy, and growing faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Ashley Strawser & Andria Fennig - Piano Duo April 21 @ 3pm

Join us for another wonderful concert on April 21! Known internationally as "A Squared," Phoenix musicians Ashley Strawser and Andria Fennig will share a potpourri of four-hand works on both one and two pianos, including pieces by Chaminade, Ravel, Milhaud, Schubert and more! Please join us for an afternoon of piano music featuring some of their favorite selections! Concert is at 3pm, with a reception following.

Freewill offerings are always welcome.

Don't forget to invite a friend!



2023/2024
VLC Concert Series



(Sermon Series continued)

compassion. Today, as we navigate our own challenges and encounter those in need around us, let us remember that the Holy Spirit is also at work through us. Let us be willing to offer what we have, whether it's material resources or simply our time and care, trusting in the power of love and the name of Jesus to bring about healing and restoration in our world.

April 20 & 21 – "Scandalous Stories" - Guest Preacher, Erick Sorensen

What are the parables of Jesus all about? For many the answer to that question is focused on what they are called to do for God. While that certainly can be done with the parables, ultimately the focus of these scandalous stories is not us, but God's passionate pursuit of outcasts, weirdos and ne'er-dowells to be members of His family. On April 21st & 22nd, join our guest speaker, Rev. Erick Sorensen, as he shares why these parables are so revolutionary for understanding ourselves and, more importantly, our God.

April 27 & 28 – "Following in the Footsteps of Paul" - Acts 17:1-9

Paul and Silas travel to Thessalonica where Paul preaches in the synagogue. Some are persuaded but others become jealous and attack believers. Today, we tread our own Thessalonican paths, facing doubt and opposition. Like Paul and Silas, let's stand resolute in truth. Let gratitude infuse our faith, showcasing God's transformative love in our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Noisy Offering - April 6 & 7

Our first Noisy Offering of the year will provide supplemental scholarships for those who wish to go on the South Africa Mission Trip in September but cannot pay the entire cost. This is one way you can participate even if you cannot make the trip.

There is still time to join the Mission Team. This trip is for year-round and seasonal people alike. Pick up a brochure at the Welcome Desk, call the office with any questions, and pray about making a spiritual and sustainable impact in an area of our world that has great need.



Start collecting your change!

NOISY OFFERING

APRIL 6 & 7

Proceeds to South Africa Mission Trip Scholarships

Perhaps you are unable to go this year, but your generosity can help others to go in your place.

orchardafrica.org



Raise the Roof!

The roof on the North West Impact Center is up! Victory Lutheran Church has been a key partner in the launch of the new Orchard Impact Center in the Northwest. Victory is now entering a 1 year partnership with Orchard: Africa to continue to improve this gathering center that allows local church leaders to have a place to congregate to receive training in small scale agriculture, early childhood education, small business development, orphan care, and church strengthening. The Impact Center is also a gathering network for pastors, empowerment programs for women facing gender based violence, young parent workshops and future leader youth development courses.

We invite you to pray with us for all that God is going to do under this roof in the years to come as church leaders are trained, youth are developed, pastors are encouraged, and community members are empowered. God is moving powerfully in and through the Orchard community!

Orchard: Africa Impact Center The Power of a Skill

Ntombodumo Mange, known by many as Sis Ntosh, was a part of the first group of women to go through Orchard: Africa's Next Step: Women Empowerment Program (WEP) in the Impact Center.

During this time Sis Ntosh rediscovered her passion to care for abandoned babies. Though she knew that her current resources would not allow her to offer babies a safe environment, she continues to take steps that set her up to fulfill that passion one day.

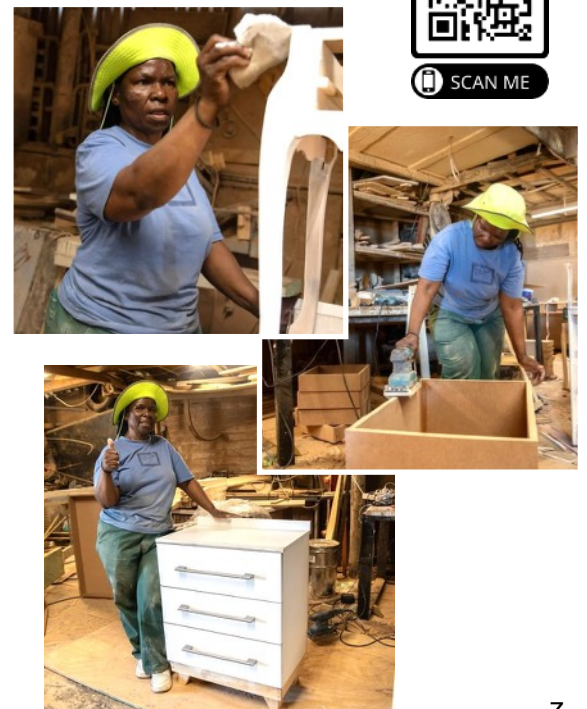
Through the WEP Sis Ntosh was equipped with a variety of skills, one of which was carpentry! She had the opportunity to connect with a local program where she learned to make numerous types of furniture. This meant that she was not only able to furnish her own home, but start a small business selling pieces she had made!

As Sis Ntosh continues to earn income she grows closer to fulfilling her passion of caring for vulnerable babies. **This is why Orchard: Africa wants to see people equipped with tangible skills! People find hope, passions are pursued and communities develop.**

Scan the QR code for a video update from Orchard!



SCAN ME



Sign up Online or at the Welcome Desk

NEW MEMBER CLASS 101 DISCOVERING VICTORY

Sunday May 5 @ 12:15pm
with Complimentary Lunch

Discovering Victory: New Member Class 101
Sunday, May 5, 12:15-3:30pm (complimentary lunch included)

You will learn how Victory's mission (being and making disciples) and vision (building people) directly affect your life. We will explore how Victory provides a specific grace-center to your beliefs, life and mission, answering the question: Of all the churches to be part of, why choose Victory? This session counts as our "membership class" and you will be given the opportunity to become a member or associate member of Victory. But this is far more than an orientation; this is the starting point for everyone — members and non-members. And it could revolutionize the way you engage Victory as a spiritual-growth engine in your own Christian faith and life.

Launching of New Contemporary Worship Service

Starting April 7th, Victory Lutheran will introduce a contemporary worship service at 11:00am on Sunday mornings. Following Easter, the 11:00am service will shift from traditional to contemporary music, led by a praise team under the direction of Jackie Jewel, our new Director of Contemporary Worship.

This new service has been a long-requested and carefully planned endeavor. While contemporary worship has been a part of Victory for over twenty years, it hasn't been present at the Mesa campus for quite some time.

It is important to note that traditional worship remains the cornerstone of Victory's worship experience. This is our primary focus. We are not aiming to "blend" traditional and contemporary styles. Our Saturday service at 4pm and Sunday services at 8:00 and 9:30am will continue to uphold traditional styles with excellence. The 11:00am Sunday service will adopt a contemporary style, also delivered with excellence.

JOIN US FOR OUR

PRAYER + PRAISE

WORSHIP SERVICE

Thursday, April 4 @ 10am

VICTORY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer & Praise Worship Service
1st Thursday of the Month

The Holy Spirit has called us into a time of prayer because prayer is vital to the life and health of Victory Lutheran Church. Actively seeking the wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit in this process is very important. In fact, God has told His people to come to Him in prayer many times including in Colossians 4:2 that says, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." God also tells us in Jeremiah 33:3 that if we ... "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

In addition to this monthly gathering, we hold a weekly prayer meeting each Thursday from 10:00-11:00am in Room B7. All are welcome to join us.



LAUNCHING
CONTEMPORARY
LUTHERAN **WORSHIP**

JOIN US **NEXT**
SUNDAY

Date

07
APRIL

Time

11AM

+ MEET &
GREET

12PM





Meet and greet the worship team after the service!
Light conversation and refreshments at the Fellowship Hall.



VICTORY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 OFFICE CLOSED 9-11:30am Food Pantry	2 6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS	3 9-11:30am Food Pantry 9:30am Women's Ministry Leadership, FS 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7 8pm AA Meeting, FS
7 COMMUNION WEEKEND NOISY OFFERING 7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC 12pm Meet & Greet the Band,FH	8 9-11:30am Food Pantry	9 8:30am-2:30pm Quilters, FH 9am Heritage Quilt Presentation, FH 9:30am Esperanza Study, FS 1:30pm Mary Bible Study, meet in home 2pm Naomi Bible Study, FS 6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS	10 8:30am-12:30pm Quilters, FH 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC 1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7 4pm I-HELP, C4 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC 8pm AA Meeting, FS
14 7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 10am Fair Trade Sale, FH 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC	15 9-11:30am Food Pantry	16 3pm Council Meeting, FS 6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS	17 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC 1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC 8pm AA Meeting, FS
Family Promise Host Week: April 14-21, 2024 -->			
21 7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC 3pm Piano Concert, WC 	22 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4	23 1:30-3:00pm Book Club, B7 6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS 	24 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC 1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7 4pm I-HELP, C4 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC 8pm AA Meeting, FS
28 7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC	29 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4  New 13-week Session Begins!	30 6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS 7:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event <u>Off-site</u> Orpheus Male Chorus	1 - MAY 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7 8pm AA Meeting, FS

UPCOMING

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 10am Prayer & Praise Worship Service, CH 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 11am Stephen Ministry, C4 	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6 COMMUNION WEEKEND NOISY OFFERING 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 4pm Worship, WC 
11 10am Prayer Group, B7 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 2:30pm Singles Ministry Kick-Off Event, FH 4pm I-HELP, C4	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 4pm Worship, WC
18 10am Prayer Group, B7 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 11am Stephen Ministry, C4 1pm Dementia/Alzheimer Care Partner Seminar, FH	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 4pm Worship, WC
Family Promise Host Week: April 14-21, 2024		
25 10am Prayer Group, B7 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 4pm I-HELP, C4	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 4pm Worship, WC
2 - MAY 10am Prayer & Praise Worship Service, CH 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 11am Stephen Ministry, C4 		

MAY 5
 Discovering Victory
 New Member Class 101
 @ 12:15pm

MAY 5
 Violin & Piano Concert @ 3pm



MAY 11 & 12
MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND
 We invite all to wear a special hat or fancy outfit to mark the occasion!

MAY 18 & 19
 New Member Commissioning

MAY 21 & 22
 Quilters Group @ 8:30am

MAY 27
 Office Closed - Memorial Day



Victory's Weekly bulletin
 In case you missed any of the stories or would like to read again, you go to below to read or share!
victorylutheran.com/the-pulse/

If you have a story to share of healing, praise, gratitude, serving in a mission or ministry at Victory, please send to hello@victorylutheran.com. (200-300 word limit)

- CH = Chapel
- FH = Fellowship Hall
- FS = Fireside Room
- LR = Luther Room
- PC = Prayer Chapel
- WD = Welcome Desk
- WC = Worship Center
- C4 = Community Room (formerly Rm. 23)

Happy Hour

Kickoff Event!

▲ APRIL 11 @ 2:30PM ▲

- AN OPPORTUNITY TO SOCIALIZE WITH SOME NEW FRIENDS
- ENJOY REFRESHMENTS, SNACKS AND MUSIC!
- COME & LEARN ABOUT OUR UPCOMING OUTINGS

LOOK FOR THE S.A.F.E. TABLE



**SINGLES
ACTIVITIES
FELLOWSHIP
EVENTS**

KICK-OFF EVENT!

Thursday, April 11 @ 2:30-4:00pm

Join us on April 11th in the Fellowship Hall to kick off the new **Singles Activity Fellowship Events (S.A.F.E.)** program! This will be an opportunity to meet and socialize with some new friends!

Beer, wine, and soda will be available along with "bar snacks" (cheese, crackers, pretzels and veggies and dip). This FREE event is open for all who have found themselves alone as a single person or a caregiver.

We will have:

- Name tags and an opportunity to meet and socialize with some new friends
- Music from the "good old days"
- Information about our upcoming events including the Orpheus Male Chorus Concert on April 30th.
- Fun ice-breakers and a surprise activity!

Questions? Contact Linda Kilkenny, Project Chairperson or Jim Grosnick, Church Council Sponsor.

**Look for the S.A.F.E. table
in the lobby on April 6 & 7!**

FAMILY PROMISE

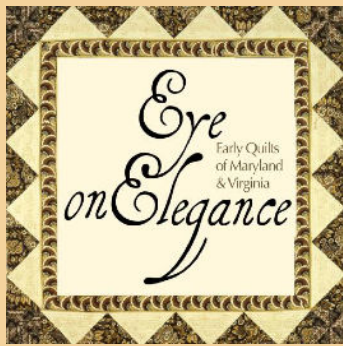
Host Week: April 14-21, 2024

As hosts, we support homeless families on their paths to independence. Although volunteers cannot solve all the guests' problems, the volunteers' small acts of kindness make a difference in the lives of the homeless families we serve.

Look for sign-up tables in the lobby on April 6 & 7. We hope you would be willing to volunteer by helping set up & take down rooms, preparing and serving meals, hosting evenings and overnights, baking, and do laundry.

If you would like to learn more about Family Promise or for additional ways that you can help, please contact:

Kathy Michel at 480-830-5024 ext. 113
or email Bonnie Brehmer at bonnie.brehmer@gmail.com.



*Every Quilt
Has a Story!*



HERITAGE QUILT PRESENTATION

Wednesday, April 10 @ 9:00am

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) organization was founded in 1890 with the simple mission of promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism. The DAR Museum collection has grown to more than 30,000 objects. Of these about 23 percent are clothing and textiles, including about 300 quilts.

It is our American history and every quilt has a story. The museum is located in Washington, DC. This will be an interesting program for us to view this historical journey of early American quilts. Anyone interested is welcome.



March 2024 Recap
 Experience Easter Study
 Prayer & Praise Worship Service
 Women's Ministry Spring Luncheon
 St. Paddy's Shindig
 Handel's Messiah Concert



An Educational Series with
Tools & Resources

Next Session
THURSDAY
April 18 @ 1:00pm
Sign up at the Welcome Desk

**DEMENTIA/ALZHEIMER
CARE PARTNER SEMINAR**

**VICTORY
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Dementia/Alzheimer Care Partner Seminar - April 18

If you or a loved one is suffering from Dementia or Alzheimer's, and you have wondered about their behavior or how to care for them then we invite you to attend this powerful seminar. This upcoming session will focus on techniques for success.

Adult day care is available for anyone you bring that will be needing an activity while you attend the seminar. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk or call the church office so that we may plan appropriately for those who will attend.

For more information about this new ministry please contact Pastor Susan by email at swestland@victorylutheran.com or by phone at 480-830-5024 xt. 131.

GRIEF SHARE®

MONDAYS @ 12:30PM
APRIL 29 - JULY 29, 2024

*Get help and encouragement after
the death of a loved one.*

**We will not meet Memorial Day, May 27th*

GriefShare - New 13-week Program begins April 29th

We completed our last session with 16 people growing in God's love while experiencing the grief of losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and desire to help you through the difficult days ahead. We know it hurts and we want to help. While it's ideal for members to attend all 13 sessions, each weekly session is designed to be "open," meaning a person can begin attending at any time.

If you would like more information you can find more info about GriefShare on their website at griefshare.org OR you may contact: Blair Revak: 480-227-5157 | blairmom@cox.net or Suellen Palya: 218-230-9562 | suellenpalya@yahoo.com

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY Tuesday, April 9

Meets 2nd Tuesday of the Month. We are currently studying "Ten Women of the Bible" by Max Lucado

Esperanza Bible Study - 9:30am, FS
Mary Bible Study - 1:30pm, meet in homes

Naomi Bible Study - 2:00pm, FS

Evening Bible Study:

Meets Tuesdays at 6:00pm, LR

QUILTERS GROUP

April 9 & 10 @ 8:30am

Quilters meet once a month, April thru June, in the Fellowship Hall. On Tuesday, we break for a potluck lunch at noon. Help needed with cutting squares, layering and tying knots. Bring your scissors. Come when you can — leave when you must.

FAIR TRADE SALE - April 14 (After 9:30am Service)

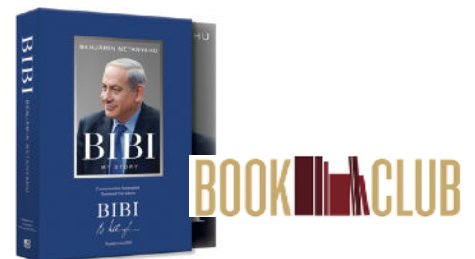
We support Lutheran World Relief by selling Fair Trade hand-made crafts, jewelry and coffee. This is an chance for us to generate opportunity and income for small-scale farmers in third world countries. Purchases in turn support VLC Women's Ministry so we can support our community.

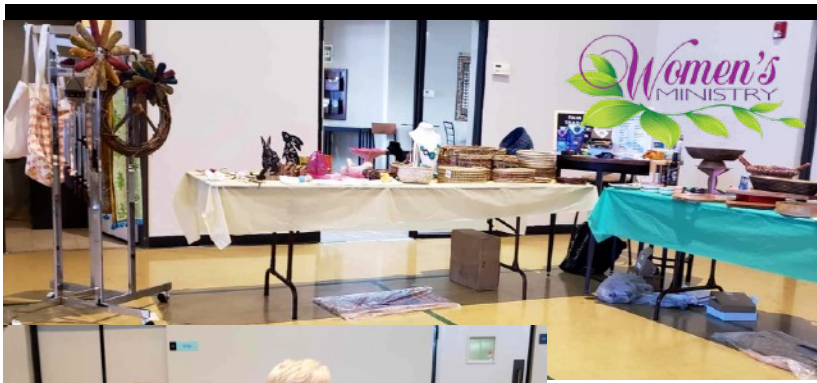
MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, April 23, 1:30-3:00pm

Anyone who loves to read good books and discuss with others is welcome to join. February selection is "Bibi: My Story" by Benjamin Netanyahu. An autobiography of the prime minister of Israel. Please come prepared to discuss.

Note: This will be the last Book Club meeting until we resume in the fall.





Victory Lutheran Church
5946 E. University Drive
Mesa, AZ 85205



CONTEMPORARY
LUTHERAN **WORSHIP**

**JOIN US
SUNDAYS**

Date **07**
APRIL

Time **11AM**

VICTORY
LUTHERAN CHURCH



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SCAN ME

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to connect with us on social media and subscribe!

WORSHIP SERVICES
SATURDAY 4pm Traditional
SUNDAY 8 & 9:30am Traditional
11am Contemporary

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