



Dear Victory family,

Have you ever stood outside just before a summer storm? You can feel the atmosphere change—the temperature drops, the trees start to sway, and then that first gust rushes past your face. Pentecost is God's holy gust. It's the moment the risen Jesus kept His promise: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you..." (Acts 1:8). The disciples didn't just receive marching orders; they received the strength, courage, and creativity to carry them out.

That same Spirit breathes through Victory Lutheran Church today. Our vision ends with five transformative words—"empowered by the Holy Spirit." Those words aren't window dressing; they are the engine room. Everything we long to see—a joyful and loving community, transformed lives, disciples who multiply—happens only because the Spirit sparks it, fuels it, and sustains it.

What does that look like on a Tuesday?

- A nurse prays with a frightened patient—and peace settles over the room.
- A retiree senses a nudge to befriend a neighbor—and a new relationship becomes the conduit toward faith in Jesus.
- A father reads Scripture with his kids at bedtime—or a grandmother with "the Grands"—and tiny hearts begin to trust Jesus.

None of these moments make headlines, yet they radiate the same power that rattled Jerusalem at Pentecost. The Bible tells us, "The same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you" (Romans 8:11). That isn't hyperbole; it's reality.

So, let's rely on breath—the Holy Spirit's breath. Begin each day with a simple prayer: "Come, Holy Spirit—empower me to witness Jesus right where I am." Then watch for divine appointments at the coffee shop, down the street, or on a Zoom call. I am convinced the East Valley will see Christ when the Spirit-empowered people of Victory live like Pentecost never ended—because it hasn't. Come, Holy Spirit. Fill us again.

With grateful expectancy, Pastor Town Mathison





### **COUNCIL CORNER**

### **Andrew Lund, Church Council President**

Hello Victory Lutheran Church!

What a wonderful Lent and Easter season this year. Please join me in thanking our talented staff for leading us through another great experience and opportunity to connect with Jesus in a personal, intentional, and meaningful way.

I also want to thank you for your tremendous support for Victory Forward. 2025 will be our first full year of being fully staffed since the transitional years. It is an exciting time as we look to expand our opportunities to engage in our mission and vision.

As a reminder, the following are our Mission and Vision statements.

**Mission:** VLC is to serve and glorify God by being and making disciples for Jesus Christ.

**Vision:** VLC is a joyful and loving community that transforms and deploys Christ-centered disciples who lead others into God's mission frontier empowered by the Holy Spirit

When I reflect on Victory Lutheran Church, I believe we truly do embody our vision of being a "joyful and loving community". This is our core identity, embodied in our worship and ministries. And yet, we have room to grow in the second half of our vision statement which reads "transforms and deploys Christ-centered disciples who lead others into God's Mission". This is what Victory Forward is all about. Now is the time to invest in our future!

And yet, we do have some challenges as we start 2025. We are behind in our giving vs last year. Our staff is doing what they can to manage their planned expenses to recover this shortfall, but we should be expanding our ministries, not cutting. We approved this budget as a congregation on November 17, 2024 as an investment into our future vision. So, this presents us with an opportunity to consider our stewardship.

Victory Lutheran Church has a tremendous history of giving to worthy causes, whether it be the organ repair fund, Orchard: Africa, or the *Victory Forward* fund earlier this year. I would also like to encourage you to consider your regular tithes and offerings.

Jesus taught a lot about money, not because He wants or needs our money, but rather because he wants our hearts. And our wallets are often tied closely to our hearts. Jesus said in Matthew 6:19-21,

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not

vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

The way I see this, Jesus is Lord and King. Everything I am, everything I do, I want to honor Him. All of my resources, 100% of my money, belong to Him. My goal is to honor Jesus with the way I use, the way I spend His resources. Jesus has instructed me to give a tithe (10% of my income to the church) and to use the other 90% to care for my family and friends, to plan for future needs, to invest so that I am ready to serve Jesus in the future as well. Denise and I make a budget every year and we set aside the tithe first, indeed as our first fruits. Then we plan the rest with the other 90%. And I confess, there was a time in my life when I did not do this, and it seemed out of reach. But after prayerful consideration, we had decided to increase our giving, year by year until we stepped up into tithing. And it has been a blessing to us. Joyfully giving to the general fund and trusting our leaders to invest these funds into God's Kingdom is indeed a joy.

So, I encourage you to prayerfully consider your giving, not just to special mission projects, but also to the regular tasks of the church.

Please continue to pray for Victory Lutheran Church, pray for our pastors, staff, council, and leadership.

For your information, church financial information is available in the church office.

On behalf of your church council, we thank you for your prayers and support.

With Joy,

Church Council President

Andrew Lund



## ORDINATION SERVICE — RENÉE BENNETT, DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025

Thank you to the congregation and the entire staff for all the work that led up to this day being such a spirit filled and wonderful celebration of Who our God is! Thank you for all you do every day to bring the love of Christ to Victory. I continue to marvel at the talent God has assembled here.























## This month will conclude the series *Eyewitness News* and begin the new series *God's Will, God's Way* on June 14/15.

### May 31 - June 1, 2025 — Blinded To See — Acts 9:1-16

Paul, once breathing threats on the Damascus Road, was struck blind yet saw more clearly than ever when the risen Jesus called his name—making him the last eyewitness and living proof that grace can overturn any story. Later, Paul humbly recounts that moment "as to one untimely born," anchoring us in the same Gospel that replaced his eyesight with insight: we walk by faith, not by sight. So when the path ahead for you feels blurry, take Ananias' lead, rise, and trust the One who met Paul in the dark to light the way for us, too.

### June 7-8, 2025 — Love Poured Out, Power Poured In — Acts 2:1-4

50 days after Jesus' resurrection, the wind of heaven roared through an upper room in Jerusalem, filling frail disciples with flaming confidence—the Holy Spirit taking up residence in human hearts. Jesus assures us that our Father delights to give this very Spirit, better than any earthly dad handing bread to hungry children. With every "Abba" we utter today, we're tasting Pentecost afresh: the Father's love poured out, the Spirit's power poured in, and a family bond no storm can shake.



### New Sermon Series in Book of Exodus: God's Will, My God's Way

Step into the ache of Israel's bondage and see that when we cry, "Where's God?" the answer is, "right here in the thick of it." We'll watch the real Moses—impulsive, insecure, sometimes flat-out afraid—discover that God's plan done in God's way is always best, proving the Lord never waits for polished heroes before He parts seas. As we walk through Exodus 1–4 together, may we hand our own shaky steps to the One who stayed with Moses, convinced He can carry us through whatever Pharaoh-sized challenge stands in our path.

### June 14-15, 2025 — Chains Cannot Cancel Covenant — Exodus 1:1-21

Under a new Pharaoh's iron fist, Israel's peaceful life in Goshen devolved into brick-making slavery, yet God's covenant promise outlived every lash. Two courageous midwives—fearing God more than the throne—quietly sabotaged the king's genocidal decree, proving that obedience to heaven sets limits on earthly power. Even in misery, the hidden hand of the Lord was positioning a deliverer, reminding us that no cruelty can cancel His promises or prevent His provision.

### June 21-22, 2025 — Hidden Arms, Higher Hand — Exodus 1:22, 2:1-10

Beneath the ruthless grip of a Pharaoh bent on genocide, God quietly wove relationships—between a courageous mother, a watchful sister, and even Pharaoh's own daughter—to protect a helpless Hebrew infant and expose the limits of earthly power. Their hidden acts of faith turned the Nile from a river of death into Moses' lifeline, proving that the Almighty rules from a higher throne even when His people appear powerless. In every midnight season, this story invites us to trust that God still works through ordinary, love-saturated relationships to overturn tyranny and advance His redemptive plan.

### June 28-29 2025 — God's Will, My Way — Exodus 2:10-15

Moses knew in his gut that God had set him apart to rescue Israel, but when he stepped in on his own timetable—killing the Egyptian taskmaster and trying to play secret savior—his zeal stripped the threads of God's plan and sent him running into the wilderness. The Bible reminds us that even this detour was no surprise to the Lord; the same desert that felt like failure became God's workshop for shaping a shepherd-deliverer who would one day confront Pharaoh in God's power, not his own. The lesson is clear: pursuing God's will with our own tools and timing courts disaster, yet even our misfires become grace-filled classrooms where God teaches us to trust His way, His pace, and His strength.



This Father's Day, we give thanks for all the fathers, grandfathers, and spiritual dads who lead with love, faith, and strength. Your example shapes generations. May God bless you richly! "The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children are blessed after him." — Proverbs 20:7

### NOISY OFFERING | JUNE 28 & 29

The weekend of June 28/29 we will have our Noisy Offering for Lutheran Social Services "Emergency Services" division. LSS has shared space with Victory Lutheran Church for many years and we have a long history of support.

Emergency Services traces its roots to the 1960s, when a group of Lutheran congregations in Phoenix gathered together to meet the unmet needs they saw in their community. People in their neighborhoods were hungry. Some were homeless. There was brokenness and they remembered their faith called them to serve "the least of these." So their work began.

Today, LSS-SW Emergency Services, in partnership with faith partners and hardworking volunteers, relieves hunger for neighbors facing extreme poverty through food pantries, rent & utility assistance, and disaster preparedness.

Your Noisy Offering will go to help defray the cost of utilities and rental assistance to our most vulnerable in our community. LSS offers limited financial assistance each month to help individuals and families stay in their homes and maintain essential services. As a special note, Robert Sanders has been the LSS director for 18 years and is retiring on Monday, June 30. A special thank you to him and to all the staff and volunteers at LSS who continue to work tirelessly to provide care for the "least of these".

## SUNDAY MORNING REFRESHMENTS

Connecting with friends after church in the Fellowship Hall is a highlight for many every Sunday after our worship services. Starting June 1st, refreshments on Sunday mornings will switch to 'summer hours'. Coffee and donuts will be served from 8:30-11:00am for the months of June, July, and August. Please stop in to grab a cup of coffee and make some new friends!



### MOTHER'S DAY PHOTO RECAP























Dear Victory Church Family,

Jesus' last marching orders still echo throughout Victory Lutheran Church: "Go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19–20). Before we look east or west for new sites, the Great Commission calls us to strengthen our disciple-making efforts right here in Mesa. That is why Victory Forward begins at home.

The mission Jesus gave us is clear and simple: "to glorify God by being and making disciples." We will know we are on target when people can say straight-up that Victory is "a joyful and loving community that transforms and deploys Christ-centered disciples who lead others into God's mission frontiers, empowered by the Holy Spirit." That vision is larger than any building project or budget line—it's a picture of ordinary believers living Spirit-filled, outward-facing lives.

Acts 1:8 reminds us that the Holy Spirit turns local witnesses into global catalysts: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem... and to the ends of the earth." Our "Jerusalem" is the East Valley. If the gospel is not changing us on University Drive, we have no business extending it to Apache Junction, San Tan or beyond.

So, how do you see yourself? More importantly, are you availing yourself to the Spirit's daily promptings—speaking hope to a coworker, inviting a neighbor to worship, mentoring a teen who's searching for purpose, visiting someone homebound? Paul says, "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us" (2 Corinthians 5:20). Ambassadors don't wait for perfect conditions; they simply represent their King wherever they stand.

Victory Forward is not a campaign—it's us, together, living into the future God already sees. Let's lean in, listen for the Spirit, and watch the East Valley light up with the love of Christ.

Forward with Christ Jesus,

Pastor Toon Mathison

### **Learn More:**

https://victorylutheran.com/forward

Or Scan the QR code >



JUNE 2025 VictoryLutheran.com				
SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	
1 COMMUNION WEEKEND 8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC 11am Children's Church, NR	9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm GriefShare, C4	3 6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS	4 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 8pm AA Meeting, FS	
8 PENTECOST WEEKEND Remember to wear red! 8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC 11am Children's Church, NR	9 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm GriefShare, C4		11 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 8pm AA Meeting, FS	
15	10			
15 FATHER'S DAY 8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC 11am Children's Church, NR	16 10am The Chosen, FH 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm GriefShare, C4 6pm The Chosen, FH	-	18 8:30am-11:30pm Quilters, FH 8:45am Organist Convention, WC 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 8pm AA Meeting, FS	
22	23	24	25	
8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC 11am Children's Church, NR	9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm GriefShare, C4	,	9-11:30am Food Pantry 9am S.A.F.E. Singles Event Feed My Starving Children Bus leaves @ 8am 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR 8pm AA Meeting, FS	
29 NOISY OFFERING	30	1 - JULY	2 - JULY	
8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH 8am Worship & Communion, WC 9:30am Worship, WC 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC 11am Children's Church, NR	10am The Chosen, FH 9-11:30am Food Pantry 12:30pm GriefShare, C4	6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS		

VLC Office Hou	LUTHERAN CHURCH		
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	1150011111
5 10am Prayer & Praise Worship Service, CH 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 11:30am Stephen Ministry, C4 4:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event Venezia's Pizzeria (off-site)	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7 PENTECOST WEEKEND Remember to wear red! 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 12pm Memorial Service for Dennis Koedyker, WC 4pm Worship, WC	JULY 6 Patriotic Picnic @ 12pm  JULY 10 Prayer & Praise Worship Service @ 10am  JULY 20
12 10am Prayer Group, B7 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 4:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event Bingo at Sunland Village	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 10am Memorial Service for Shirley Smith, WC 4pm Worship, WC	Discovering Victory 101 @ 12:30pm  WOMEN'S MINISTRY COMBINED BIBLE STUDY JUNE 10 @ 9:30AM
19 10am Prayer Group, B7 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS 11:30am Stephen Ministry, C4 7:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event Scarlet Pimpernel (off-site) Bus leaves @ 6:30pm	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 11am Memorial Service for Delores Strains, WC 4pm Worship, WC	During the summer months (May-September) Women's Ministry meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Victory as a combined group. Pastor or Bible Study leader choses the study.  QUILTERS GROUP
26 10am Prayer Group, B7 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28 NOISY OFFERING 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 4pm Worship, WC	JUNE 17 & 18 @ 8:30AM On Tuesday, we break for a potluck style lunch at noon. Help needed with cutting squares, layering and tying knots. Bring your scissors. Come when you can — leave when you must.
3 - JULY OFFICE CLOSED	4 - JULY  OFFICE CLOSED  TH  OF  UNDEPENDENCE DAY	5 - JULY 8am Men's Bible Study, FS 4pm Worship, WC	CH = Chapel CY = Courtyard FH = Fellowship Hall FS = Fireside Room LB = Lobby LR = Luther Room NR = Nursery PC = Prayer Chapel WD = Welcome Desk WC = Worship Center C4 = Community Room



### **DOING LIFE TOGETHER**

This summer, we will get the chance to imagine what the disciples of Jesus would have experienced during the last week of His life. Known after the crucifixion only as members of the "Way," these people were Jesus' closest friends. They had traveled with Him for weeks, months, even years. And after His ascension, they continued, *doing life together*. The Holy Spirit would carry some of them away to different parts of the world. Regardless, wherever they went, *they went together*. Life was done together. We read about this early church life, captured in Acts. They broke bread together, they worshipped together, they shared their belongings, they studied scripture together, they supported one another – yet everything they did, they were doing it together.

The writer of Hebrews speaks to the importance of continually meeting together in Hebrews 10:25 – "not neglecting to meet

together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." For Christians in the life of the early church, there was no more meaningful way of life than to meet with one another in a small group setting, to listen to one another, and encourage one another in the faith. The other day, I was sitting with some people who are forming a new small group, listening to their faith stories. All these various life backgrounds, and yet one thing brought them together: faith in Jesus Christ. A shared hope in the life they had been called to, yet they understand that this walk of faith is best lived out with others. It is encouraging to get together in an environment where stories can be shared along with struggles and questions. I left there feeling reinvigorated, not that a new group was forming (although that is awesome, and evidence of God at work!), but because I was with others who share the same faith and are traveling in the same

direction that I am on this journey. Won't you consider joining, rejoining, or even starting a group to continue your journey with?

In Christ's Service

Rev. Denton L. Bennet, Jr.



Visit our website to learn more OR scan the QR code.

### victorylutheran.com/smallgroups

- Small Group Study Resources
- Small Group Q&A
- What do I need to be a Small Group Host?

## **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MONDAYS, 12:30-2:30PM**

### Register online at:

https://www.griefshare.org/groups/263100

A program for help in your journey through grief after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. GriefShare is a special 13-week seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after 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. 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:

Suellen Palya 480-325-3410 | suellenpalya@yahoo.com





## THE CHOSEN: SEASON 5

June 16-August 4, 2025 Mondays @ 10am & 6pm

## Free movie and popcorn!

Group discussion to follow.

The table is set.

The people of Israel welcome Jesus as king while His disciples anticipate His crowning. But—instead of confronting Rome—He turns the tables on the Jewish religious festival. Their power threatened, the country's religious and political leaders will go to any length to ensure this Passover meal is Jesus' last.

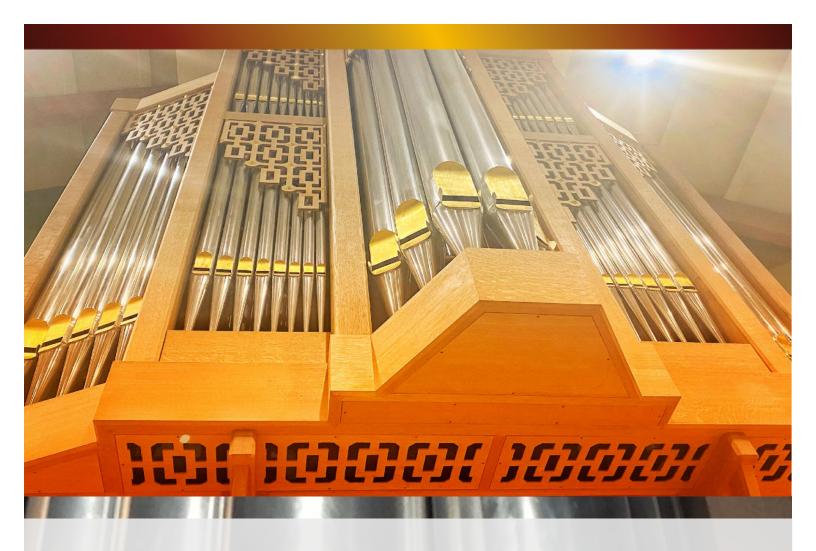
Join us as we watch The Chosen: Last Supper, June 16th-August 4th at 10am or 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Each Monday during the summer, we will experience the wonderful cinematic retelling of the most pivotal week in human history. We will watch one episode together each week, and then one of our pastors will spend time with us in a group discussion about what God reveals to us through this incredible and heart-wrenching true story.

Movie-type snacks and a study guide will be provided.

Be sure to invite someone to join you!





### FREE ORGAN CONCERT

Victory is proud to be partnering with the Central Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists to host internationally acclaimed organist Bálint Karosi, winner of the International Bach Competition in Leipzig in 2008. Known for his expressive style, virtuosity, and innovative interpretations, Karosi brings to life a rich repertoire that spans from Baroque masterpieces to contemporary compositions. This concert is part of the southwest region convention, and we are honored to showcase our Bigelow Pipe Organ, Opus 17. Please come out of the heat and enjoy some beautiful music! More information about the convention can be found here:

https://phxago2025.org/

### 2025 | JUNE 18 8:45AM

CENTRAL ARIZONA CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



Victory Lutheran Church | Mesa, AZ

# PATRIOTIC PICNIC



## SUN, JULY 6, 12:00PM POTLUCK STYLE

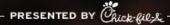
We are celebrating American Independence with an indoor picnic & potluck. **Bring a favorite dish to share** such as: hamburgers, hot dogs, grilled chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, and watermelon will undoubtedly be crowd-pleasers. Don't forget vegetarian and gluten-free dishes. Bring a dessert, if that's your thing!

We will provide a selection of chilled beverages and live entertainment; you all bring the food. Let's all celebrate the gift of freedom God has granted us in the U-S-of-A.





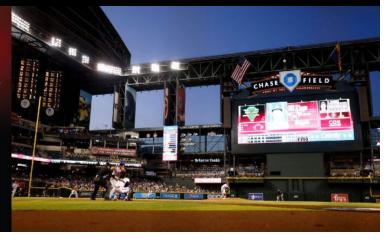
## TAUREN WELLS FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT



D-BACKS VS. ROCKIES GAME TICKET
PLAYER TESTIMONIALS
POSTGAME CONCERT BY TAUREN WELLS



AUGUST 8
DBACKS.COM/FAITH



## Faith & Family Night | Diamondbacks vs. Colorado Rockies

Friday, August 8, 6:40pm

Join the D-backs and hundreds of churches across Arizona at Chase Field for Faith & Family Night! Special music performance by Christian pop artist, Tauren Wells, following the game. **All-You-Can-Eat-Seats** (Sections 221-223) includes unlimited hot dogs, popcorn, peanuts, chips and Pepsi products through 7th inning. **Tickets \$60**. Come out and support your D-backs as we take on the Rockies!

We have reserved a total of 50 tickets. Limited seating on bus (28 seats). Bus leaves Victory at 5:15pm or you may want to drive yourself or Park and Ride from the Valley Metro LightRail Station.

<u>Please note</u>: The Diamondbacks have a clear bag policy no larger than 12" x 6". Additionally, fans may also carry a small clutch purse no larger than 4.5" x 6.5". Guests carrying unapproved bags will be asked to return them to their vehicle. One-piece foam seat cushions no larger than 18" are permitted.

Deadline to purchase tickets: July 13, 2025. Check or exact cash only.

Pay at time of sign-up at the Welcome Desk.

JUNE 2025

### S.A.F.E. Singles Activity Fellowship Events

### HERE ARE THE EVENTS YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR THIS MONTH

THE SIGN-UP TABLE HAS EVENT FLYERS WITH DETAILS

Venezia's Pizzeria (Off Site – No Bus)

Thursday, June 5, 4:30 pm,

5057 E McKellips Rd (SW corner McKellips & Higley)

Enjoy an early dinner at a local, casual, 4 Star, Italian Pizzeria and Restaurant with a large menu of pizzas, starters, hot or cold heroes, pastas, calzones, salads, desserts, wine and beer. Sign up by Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.



### Bingo Night (Off Site - No Bus)

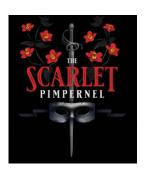
Thursday June 12, and Thursday July 10, Sunland Village, 4601 E Dolphin St, Mesa Join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month. Doors open at 4:30 pm for you to get a light meal, pick your lucky seat and purchase Bingo cards. Games start at 6:30 pm sharp! No admission after 6:30pm. Pick up the Bingo flyer for driving directions and map.



### **Scarlet Pimpernel (Off Site)**

Thursday, June 19, 7:30 pm (Bus leaves at 6:30 pm), Hale Theater, 50 W Page Ave, Gilbert

Enter the world of swashbuckling adventure and romance in this captivating musical comedy set during the French Revolution. Follow the daring exploits of Sir Percy as he disguises himself to rescue French aristocrats from the guillotine. Filled with stirring melodies, thrilling action, and a tale of love and loyalty, this timeless production promises an unforgettable journey into the heart of heroism and sacrifice. Tickets \$42 + \$5 if you opt to ride the Bus. Sign up and pay by Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.



### Feed My Starving Children (Off Site)

Wednesday, June 25, Packing Session 9:00-11:00 am (Bus leaves at 8:00 am)

1100 W Grove Parkway, Tempe

We make this mission trip to the Christian based, nonprofit organization on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. You can stand and package the food, or sit and label it. Afterwards, we enjoy fellowship at a fast food restaurant. Sign up and pay \$5 for the bus by Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.



#### Knuckle Sandwiches (Off Site – No Bus)

Thursday, July 17, 11:30 am,

1140 N Higley Rd, #103, Mesa (SW corner Higley and Brown)

Obviously known for its sandwiches, they also offer soups, salads, wraps, paninis, pizza, desserts, and sides (no fries!). Gluten-free and allergy sensitive options (tell them). Order and pay at the counter when you enter. Manager suggests you have a second choice ready. \$4 to \$14. Sign up by Monday, July 14th.



NOTE: All tickets will be handed out on the bus or in the lobby of the event site.

# C) ICMC Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

### **LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION FOR CHRIST**

### Member since 2010

#### Learn more at lcmc.net

### WE'RE FREE IN CHRIST

In Romans 6, Paul explains that those who follow Jesus receive God's grace and are freed from being burdened by their sin. In LCMC, we celebrate this freedom. We also place a great emphasis on understanding what it means to follow Jesus, then doing it.

## WE'RE ROOTED IN THE SCRIPTURES AND THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

We strive to be a light to the world, not a reflection of it. We view God's word as the #1 authority when it comes to our faith and how we practice it. While we understand that science, personal experience, tradition and other factors contribute to the conversations that we have, we do not believe that they have equal influence to what's written in the Scriptures. We believe the Lutheran Confessions to be a faithful witness to the truth of Scripture and that they give us reliable principles by which to guide the continued development of this association.

### LCMC 2024 Photo Contest

LCMC congregations share how they are making a difference in the lives of others.

Did you know Victory was featured as one of the winners in the latest LCMC Newsletter? The 2 photos submitted were from our 2024 Mission Trip to South Africa.

Read more at:

https://lcmc.net/files/newsletters/ 25\_BTW\_spring\_FINALrev03082025.pdf





### WE'RE ACCOUNTABLE TO ONE ANOTHER

In LCMC, "accountability" happens in three distinct ways:

- 1) First of all, when concerns are raised, the Board of Trustees always operates directly with the congregation to discern what has happened and what might be the best course of action. Our association has given the Board of Trustees authority to remove congregations when they are no longer practicing our faith according to the Lutheran Confessions and Scripture.
- 2) Secondly, our Ministry Board has been given the charge to recommend to the Board of Trustees the removal of pastors when necessary. Again, this happens in a direct conversation, by the members of the Ministry Board, and our staff, hoping to restore a pastor while at the same time upholding the integrity of our core values and of our association as a whole.
- 3) Finally, we hope and expect that as pastors and congregations interact, there unfolds a "mutual accountability" that happens on a much more personal level. This is the highest form of accountability—where it is carried

out among those who know, love and respect one another.









May 22, 2025 – Victory had the honor of hosting last month's LCMC Pastors' Luncheon, welcoming pastors from across the valley. These gatherings take place monthly at different churches throughout the area, providing a valuable time for connection, encouragement, and fellowship.







#### **WORSHIP WITH US**

Saturday 4pm Traditional

**Sunday** 8am Traditional w/ communion

9:30am Traditional 11am Contemporary & Children's Church

### WATCH US LIVE @ 9:30am & 11am

If you are unable to watch at that exact time, the service is available to watch on Facebook, YouTube and online at VictoryLutheran.com.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday, 8am-4pm 480-830-5024

Victory Lutheran.com











Be sure to follow, like and subscribe to our channel @VictoryLutheranMesa