



Love of Christ Lutheran Church

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Welcome to LOC's Weekly E-News

ENews for the 3rd Sunday of Pentecost, June 14th, 2026



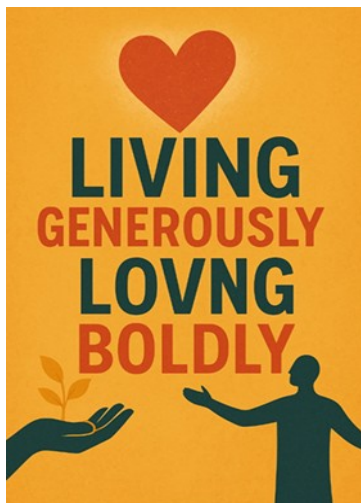
What is needed?

Wow, in our reading today Jesus spells out what it means to be a disciple, a follower of him. Through this missionary discourse we see that it concerns the work that the Twelve and what they are to do as missionaries to Israel.

The speech describes the work of God conducted through Jesus' followers as closely paralleling the work of God accomplished through Jesus himself.

We see early on in our reading that in doing the work of Jesus requires a compassionate heart and the need for more workers to take up the work of Christ. As we look at our world today, it is as true as it was in Jesus' day: **the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.**

40th Anniversary Gift Challenge Update



The Board of Directors chose to honor the 40th anniversary of the ministry of Christ through Love of Christ by challenging our congregation to raise \$40,000 by the end of 2026 to share to support new and emerging missions in our synod.

Two were selected. First Evangelical Lutheran Church in downtown Mesa, which for two decades has been seeking to do ministry with its majority Hispanic neighborhood through hosting an LSS-SW Food Pantry, a public charter school, and offering community education offerings. They also continue to provide weekly worship led by Pastor Luis Ochoa.

The other mission partner is Crossroads Lutheran Church in San Tan, which runs a coffee shop in downtown Florence, while worshipping in an industrial space shared with a Cross-Fit tenant. San Tan has been one of the fastest growing areas of the metro Phoenix area. Many large retirement communities have been planted in the Florence/San Tan area. Pastor Ryan Marsh has just begun a three-year commitment to develop this ministry to become self-sustaining.

40th Anniversary \$40,000 Challenge Gift Update as of 6/1/26-\$29,350



We have spaces available still for kids and volunteers with a need for a few crew leaders and support.

VBS is July 6-10 from 8:30 am to 11:00 and there are links on the website if you wouldn't mind including it too!

Thank you so much for all of your help and support; I am so grateful for you!

Laura Ontiveros

laurakuegemann@gmail.com



Mastering Money: Stewardship Webinar on Budgeting, Planning, and Generous Living

How we manage money is deeply connected to how we live out our faith. The Grand Canyon Synod Stewardship Team invites congregational leaders and members alike to a practical and faith-centered webinar, “Mastering Money: Budgeting, Planning, and Living Generously,” on **Wednesday, July 15, 2026, from 6:30–8:00 PM** (Arizona and Nevada time). Register for the Webinar.

This online conversation will feature Duane Gilson, a retired electrical engineer, athlete, member and leader at Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church in Mesa, Arizona, and a member of the Grand Canyon Synod Stewardship Team. Duane brings both practical experience and a faith perspective to the often-challenging topic of money management.

The webinar will explore ways to approach budgeting and financial planning with intention while considering how generosity fits into a faithful life. Whether you are navigating personal finances, looking for practical tools, or reflecting on stewardship as part of discipleship, this session offers an opportunity to grow in confidence and purpose.

As Lutherans, we understand stewardship as more than finances alone—it is about responding to God’s abundance with gratitude, wisdom, and generosity. Thoughtful planning can help free us to live more intentionally and support the ministries and communities we care about.

Registration is free, but advance registration is requested. Register for the Webinar.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/LbtvPEsDTZK66H2Zojec6w#/registration>

Music Notes....



Please contact Jung Lee at jungmusic@loclc.org for how you can be involved with the music program.

With gratitude and excitement,
Jung Lee



Calling All Bakers

Cookie Ministry is looking for people who like to bake. The Cookie Ministry is part of the Faith in Action programs at Love of Christ. This ministry makes cookies for our various events that are held here on our campus and beyond our campus. If you are interested in baking cookies for this ministry, please contact Eunice Ketterling at ketts4az@gmail.com

Community Garden News



Think about trying out a garden in the fall. We are all learning new things and getting to know new people in the fresh air. Contact Nancy. Dntoll74@gmail.com



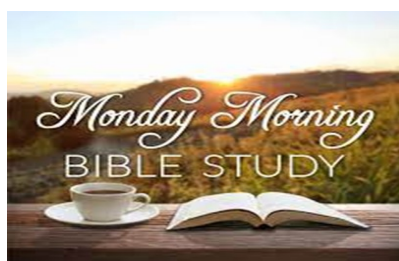
Naomi Circle will meet on July 13th, at 1PM in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome—invite your friends!



Monday Men's Bible Study on 1st Corinthians at 6:30-7:30AM in the Leadership Room. Men of all ages are welcome to participate.



Online Video introductions provided by our pastors of Sunday Lectionary readings are offered each week. They may be found on Facebook, YouTube or loveofchristchurch.net



**Monday Morning Bible Study in the Leadership Room
Coffee Fellowship at 10:30, Bible Study at 11AM**



Prayer Share Care Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to a weekly Bible study group called Prayer Share Care. ***This group meets on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 in the Leadership Room.*** Please contact Ruth Leonard or Margrit Aeschbach at the following emails for more information. (Margrit: mswiss43@gmail.com and Ruth: ruthleonard@icloud.com)



Youth meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in Youth room.
Contact Mason Weatherly for more info at masonw@loclc.org



Confirmation

Confirmation will resume in September. Any questions, please contact Pastor Nanette at nanette@loclc.org

Faith Food and Fun



Grades 4,5, and 6 will meet again on Sunday, July 12th for an Overnight event in the CoC. Please contact Laura Ontiveros or Pastor Nanette for more information.



Sunday School will begin in August! Children age 4 to grade 2 come to church with their parents and are dismissed for Sunday School after the Children's Message. They return to worship during Communion. For grades 3-6, Sunday school begins at 9:50 and they are done at 10:20. Sunday School takes place in the Godly Play room. For any questions, please contact Pastor Nanette at nanette@loclc.org.

Summer Overview for 2026 Save the Dates:

June 12 and 13 Synod Assembly

June 15-19 Music Camp ages 5 and up. Register online

July 6-10 VBS ages 4 -12. Register online

Next Family Promise August 2-9.

Summer Donation Opportunities:

Donations needed for sack lunches to be given to Church of Christ respite center and for our own cooling center. Items needed:

Tuna or Chicken packs, Vienna Sausage small cans with easy open lids, soft chewy granola bars, boxes of a variety of chips or crackers, Capri-Sun. These items for sack lunches will be collected throughout the summer. (June-September)

Vacation Bible School: Back to school supplies including backpacks, notebooks, pencils, markers, erasers, crayons, scissors, and glue sticks.



Water Donation: Last year we donated water to the City of Mesa and to Grace in the City Lutheran Church. The money that is donated will be sent to these two organizations. If you would like to donate water, please place money labeled “Water Donation” in the offering plate, or go online and specify water donation, or bring a gift card.

Summer is coming and how can we help those who are experiencing homelessness?

Cooling Center at Love of Christ

Over the past several months, a sub-team from the Faith in Action Team, along with several interested congregational members, has been prayerfully discerning “**what is needed**” in our community during the intense summer heat. As followers of Christ, we continue to ask how we are called to love our neighbors in practical and compassionate ways, especially those who are most vulnerable.

As part of this discernment, members of the group visited “Friends at First,” a Methodist church in downtown Mesa that offers a Cooling Center ministry. Through this visit, they learned about both the growing needs within our community and the meaningful difference a place of welcome, rest, and safety can provide during the hottest months of the year. Members of the team also attended a City of Mesa Heat Relief workshop to better understand the challenges facing our city and the opportunities for churches to serve.

On Tuesday, May 12, the LOC Board unanimously agreed to the proposal that the Living Water Team presented. This is what they approved:

- The Cooling Center at Love of Christ is only **on a trial basis** for the month of July. **The center will be open for three hours only on Sunday afternoons from 2:00-5:00.**
- The Cooling Center will have resource information for those who come in.
- There will be a paid off-duty Police Officer present when the center is open.
- The volunteers will go through training.
- There will be a camera set up in the Outreach Room, and Valley Metro Bus Passes will be available for anyone who needs one.
- Volunteers must be in place before June 20th or the Center will not open.
- The Cooling Center will provide water and a sack lunch for those who may want it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any LoC Board member. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Charles Martiny (cmartiny@cox.net) or Pastor Nanette (nanette@loclc.org).

The Living Water Team: Melissa Riner, Hugh Kirchway, Cindy Wallin, Patti Delaney, and Charles Martiny

KIDS Summer MUSIC CAMP



**JUNE
15-19**



**SPECIAL
OFFER**

\$300
Enroll multiple kids
save \$50!
Sign up Online!

Musical "The Kingdom
Connection",
Art, Dance & Sports

Grades K-8 welcome!



For More information, contact Ms. Jung
junglee@maestromasterclasses.com

Love of Christ Lutheran Church
1525 N. Power Rd. Mesa, 85205

We are excited to share that our **Summer Music Camp** is coming up soon! 🎵 🎶

📅 **June 15–19**
🕒 **8:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

This special week is designed to give children a joyful and meaningful experience through **music, creativity, and fellowship**.

🎵 **Camp Activities Include:**

- **Musical theater** (singing, acting, and performing)
- **Arts & crafts**
- **Sports & games**
- **Dance classes**
- **Soccer (every day!)**
- **Yoga class**
- **Fun team activities & friendship building**

🎭 The week will conclude with a musical performance, “**The Kingdom Connection**,” presented during our **Sunday service on June 21 at 9:00 AM**, followed by **cookies and ice cream** for fellowship! 🍪 🍦

We are looking for **volunteers** to help make this event a success. You do not need to commit to the entire week—we truly appreciate **any amount of time** you can offer.

👥 **Volunteer Opportunities:**

- **Morning:** 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- **Afternoon:** 12:00 – 3:00 PM
- Help with activities, guide children, assist with snacks, or simply **encourage and support the kids**

We would also love to make this camp accessible to all families.

💖 **Scholarship Support Needed:**

- Donations help children attend who may not otherwise be able to
- Support provides **materials, supplies, and quality activities** for all campers

📌 **Additional Ways to Help:**

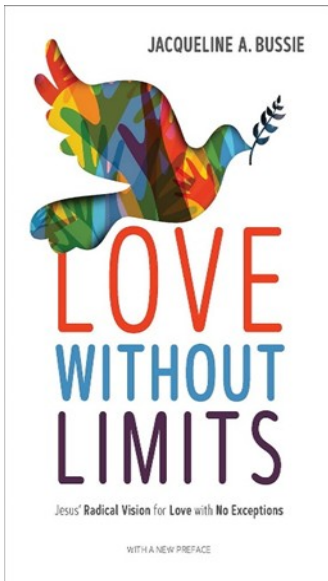
- Donate **snacks or supplies**
- Keep the children and volunteers in your **prayers**
- Help **spread the word** to families who may be interested

This camp is a wonderful opportunity to **impact young lives through music, creativity, and faith**, and we are so grateful for your continued support.

✉️ **If you have any questions, would like to volunteer, or would like to donate, please contact me directly.**

Thank you so much for being such a **supportive and caring church family**. ☐

With gratitude,
Jung Lee



Love Without Limits will meet on Wednesday, July 3rd at 4:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

In her book, Jacqueline Bussie says nothing is more scandalous than a “love without limits.” How does a love without limits mirror Jesus and the God we are called to serve? How does this echo Jesus’ ministry in Luke 15 (the parables of being lost) or Paul’s proclamation in Galatians 3:28 (There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one Christ Jesus)?

This study is open to all women who are interested in learning about our God who loves without limits! They will be discussing Chapters 9 and 10.



Young Adults will meet again in July and do a service project! They will meet on July 12 at 12:00 in the CoC!

Refugee Family Co-Sponsorship with Lutheran Social Services:

Our Co-Sponsorship Team has been helping a refugee family from Syria. The help that is needed is working with the adults who are learning English. This team is making wonderful progress and forming some beautiful relationships with the family as well. We have provided back to school clothing and backpacks for each of the four children, along with teaching them English. If you are interested in learning more or think you might like to join this team, please contact Chris Norden at norden6162@gmail.com



The LOC Women's Hiking Group ~ June 13th will be our next hike. You never know how hot June will be, so the plan is to do 2 short hikes close together in Payson. The first one will be ***Ellison Creek Cascades. The hike is 1.5 miles RT.*** There is no shade on the trail. However, the creek and the waterfall at the end of the trail are definitely worth the walk down the Forest Service Road. You could even cool off in the creek! Second hike will be the ***Jimmy Harris Interpretive Trail.*** This ***interpretive 1.4 mile loop*** on the Gila Community College–Payson campus follows a well-worn dirt path around the edge of campus. It's been reported that Elk hang out in this area. **Will meet at 7:00 and should be back by noon. Contact Person ~ Pat Shaw @ 480 334-9123.**

BLANKETS FOR KIDS!!!



Questions? Contact Jan Barnett at: barnett105@gmail.com

- 2 Methods of finishing the edges of the blankets
- Sewing around the edges
- Crocheting around the edges
- Both methods start the same

Lay Fabric on a table, trim off the Salvage edges of the fleece;

- Sewing around the edges

Fold $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch around the edge ;

Pin the folded edges all around the edge;

Choose a decorative stitch on sewing machine and start sewing

If your machine only does Zig Zag, that is great also.

- Optional--Baste $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of fold around the edge of the fleece with a needle and thread (Optional)

OR

- Just fold the fabric over about $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch and cut very small slits in the fold;
- Slits should be no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in length and around $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ inch from the each other
- If you basted around the edges

Remove the basting from the fleece

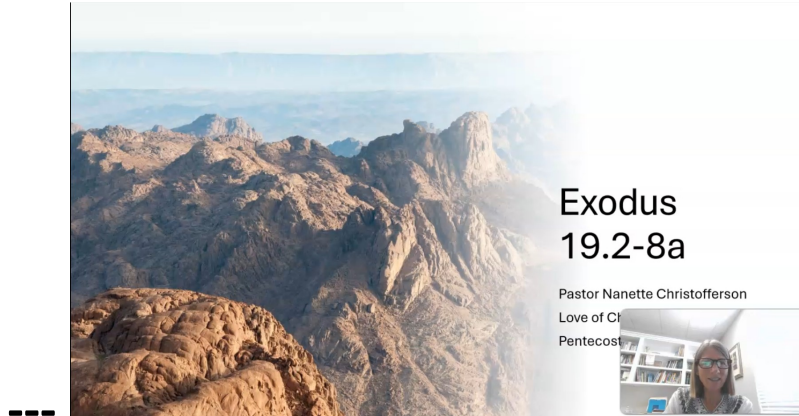
- If you have a rotary cutter, you can purchase wheels that will cut the slits in the fleece material the same distance and the slit created is large enough to slip the crochet hook through. Then follow the remaining directions.
- If you just folded and cut the slits;

Start crocheting around the edge. (I start 6 or 7 inches from the corner of the fleece to make turning the first corner easier.)

1. Start by creating a slipknot.
2. Insert the crochet hook through a slit in the fleece and pull the loop of the slip knot through;
3. Chain 3 times (create a chain by yarning over the hook and pulling it back through the initial loop.); chain only 2 times if you have used the rotary cutter;
4. Push the crochet hook through the slit next to the one just used (back to front) and pull a loop back through the slit. (You will have 2 loops on the crochet hook.)
5. With the 2 loops still on the hook, yarn over the hook and pull through both loops. Now chain 2 more times.
6. Proceed around the fleece using steps 4 and 5.
7. To turn a corner, follow steps 4 and 5, but insert the hook again in the same slit and do 1 chain and then insert the hook again and perform steps 4 and 5, Then you should be on a new side of the blanket and proceed following steps 4 and 5

There is an additional set of slides which have instructions on how to start crocheting. If you do not need those instructions, ignore.

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Exodus 19:2-8a
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(13 min)



YouTube: <https://youtu.be/UkBiNGUUYTQ>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/reel/1019656727187409/>

Website: <https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons>

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Matthew 9:35-10:1-23
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(12 min)



YouTube: <https://youtu.be/5jSVWuU4sFM>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/reel/979451191637544/>

Website: <https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons>

Sunday, June 14, 2026, 7:50 am, 9 and 10:30,

some on  & 

Pastor Nanette Christoferson “What is needed?”

Exodus 19:2-8

They journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. The people all answered as one, “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Matthew 9:35-10:23

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

“I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in this town, flee to the next, for truly I tell you, you will not have finished going through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.