RISEN SAVIOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2026



Rev. Ron Burcham
Senior Pastor
ron.burcham@risensavioraz.org

Susan Mello
Director of Operations
susan.mello@risensavioraz.org

Rev. Dr. Kevin Austin
Pastor of Discipleship
kevin.austin@risensavioraz.org

Sam Barnett
Director of Contemporary Worship
sam.barnett@risensavioraz.org

Rev. Ken Hennings
Assistant Pastor of Congregational Care
ken.hennings@risensavioraz.org

Jill Lopez
Director of NextGen & Family Ministry
jill.lopez@risensavioraz.org

23914 S. Alma School Rd (SB) ~ 23620 S. Alma School Rd. (NB), Chandler, AZ 85248
Church Administration Office 480.895.6782 ~ Early Childhood Center Office 480.802.1505
RisenSaviorAZ.org

WORSHIP







Join us for a warm, uplifting service of prayer, music, and hope as we honor and cherish the memories of those we hold dear. If you are missing a loved one, we invite you to come as you are and find comfort, community, and peace in remembering them together.

To have your loved one's name read aloud during the service, please call the Church Office 480.895.6782. A candle will be lit in loving memory of each person named.

Admin Building Office Hours
Office Closed 11/26-27
Tu-Th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Fri. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm



Additional Parking Available

Just a reminder that there is additional parking available at the Administration Building and we have permission to use the Safeway parking lot (North of NB) for our Sunday service overflow. Also, if you are able to walk a little further, it would be kind of you to leave the front handicapped spots open to those who have limited mobility.

Save the Date

ADVENT SERVICES WILL BE ON
DECEMBER 2, 9, 16
AT 12:30/6:30 PM

Name Tags and Photo Directories

If you requested a new name tag or a copy of the 2026 Photo Directory (prior to heading up North) please stop by the Church Office to pick those up during normal office hours.



Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading the holidays, knowing that everything has changed? Our Surviving the Holidays meeting is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's passing. We hope you join us if you need extra support this holiday season. Contact Linda with any questions at lrauch007@icloud.com, there is no cost to attend.



Women's Evening Book Study

November 3 & 17 at 6:30 pm in the NB Discipleship Rm.

"Prayer is the way we relate to God, but sometimes it's a struggle. Throughout God's Word, we encounter many voices who teach us how to pray."

This book study with six beloved Bible teachers who will help you study prayers in the Bible. You'll learn that God welcomes your praise and lament, your thanksgiving and intercession. You'll see examples of how to pray when you're alone and when you're gathered with others. Above all, you'll notice there's no one right way to pray. As you draw near to God through prayer, you'll find your faith strengthened and your heart united to Christ. This group meets every other Tuesday evening. Contact Susan at starleal@rocketfam.com with any questions.



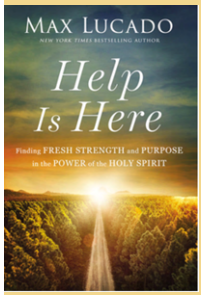
Every One Brings One to experience the love of Jesus and the gift of belonging at Risen Savior. Many of us first found our way to Risen Savior because someone cared enough to invite us, and now we have the opportunity to do the same!

Being intentional about inviting family, friends, and neighbors doesn't have to be complicated. It can happen in everyday moments—meeting a new neighbor, or enjoying coffee with a friend. There are so many people we love and care about who are missing out on learning about and having a relationship with Jesus.

We encourage you to prayerfully invite someone to join you for a Sunday service, Bible study, or church event. Feeling nervous about how to do this? That's okay! A great place to start is to invite someone to one of our upcoming connect events—low pressure, welcoming, and full of opportunities for fun and connection. There are many options throughout this newsletter or check out our calendar on the website RisenSaviorAZ.org. We encourage you to pray and listen for who God may be placing on your heart to invite. Trust that He is already at work!

Women's Morning Ministry Book Study

November 5 at 9:00 am in the NB Multi-Use Room.
No Meetings Nov. 19 & 26



Are you searching for connection and a deeper faith? Join our new book study as we dive into Max Lucado's *Help is Here*, a study exploring the power, presence, and purpose of the Holy Spirit. We will gather together for coffee, fellowship, and engaging video lessons, followed by uplifting group discussions. RSVP to Annie.wolf@risensavioraz.org.

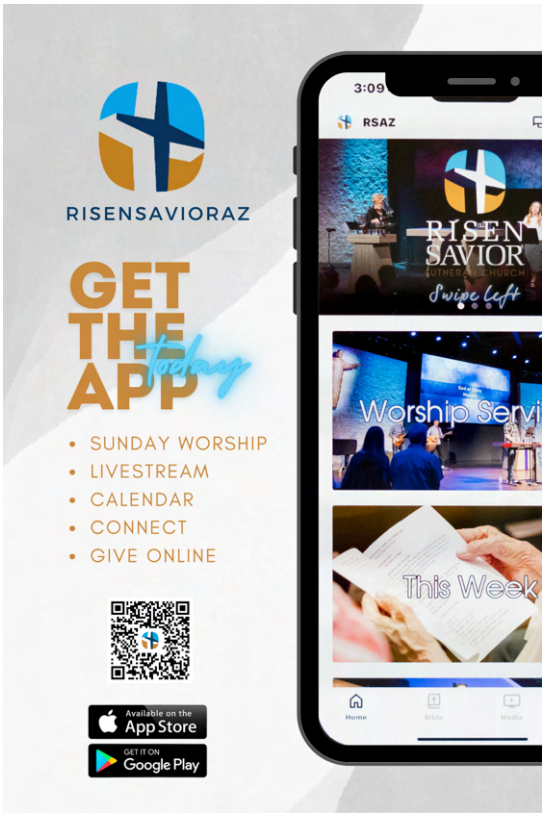
Be sure to Save the Date for our Friendsgiving on November 12!



GriefShare Support Group Meetings

Mondays at 9:30 am or Wed. at 6:00 pm in the South Building Psalms Conf Room.

This GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. During these meetings you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there is not neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability-and gain support each step of the way. Contact Linda at lrauch007@icloud.com with any questions.



Rummage Sale Thank You!

Huge thank you to each of you who volunteered your time and to those who donated items to this year's Rummage Sale. Thanks to you, we made just under $14,000 for our Fellowship Ministry. These funds support a variety of things needed for RS ministries and local organizations.



Children First Leadership Academy in Phoenix says, "Thank You to the Risen Savior Women's Ministry for donating candy and goodies for our Fall Festival." The kids were so excited to see all the wonderful candy donated.



Hooks and Needles Ministry

Tuesdays at 10:00 am in the SB Genesis Conf Rm

Do you love to knit or crochet and would like to put all those stitches to use by helping those less fortunate? At Hooks & Needles we put all those stitches to work creating beautiful strips that we join together to create blankets to then donate to Salvation Army which are distributed to the homeless, and also to Hospice of the Valley. All who are interested are welcome to join us on Tuesday mornings to gather around a table, share coffee and goodies, pull out our hooks and needles, and work together to bring warmth and smiles to those in need. All yarn will be provided, and, of course, we are always more than happy to take donations of worsted weight yarn as well, if that is how you feel led to help. For more information, or if you have any questions, please call Marion at 602.920.3319.



Join us for our 11th Annual Oktoberfest-style celebration. Ticket purchase includes German style meal, soda/water and dessert; live music by a German polka band; door prizes and more! Beer and wine will be available for $3.00 each. Tickets are $10.00 and will only be available in advance *(no tickets will be sold at the event)*. Table reservations are available for $10.00 per table.



GRAB A PIC OF MINI JESUS AROUND TOWN!

Have you been seeing mini Jesus everywhere you go? We have, and it has inspired us to ask you to snag a quick pic of mini Jesus "in the wild" wherever you happen to see him or take him. Here at Risen Savior we have given out over 6,000 Jesus', which is great news and an easy way to share a "little Jesus" or to use as an invitation and your "Bring One".

We want you to share with us where you see him or who you are sharing him with. If that person became your "Bring One", let us know that too! Send your pics to jill.vermeire@risensavioraz.org so we can share them throughout 2026. Below was a submission from last month at a local Arby's, looks like the horseradish was saucing around!









Women's Ministry on Facebook

Like our Facebook page where we encourage one another to connect with God, ourselves, and each other. It's a place for women after God's heart. Use the QR code to get connected. Contact Annie with any questions at annie.wolf@risensavioraz.org.

FINANCIALS

Monthly and Quarter End Financial Overview

Key Financial Indicators – Q3 2026

	July-Sept 2026	Budget	Delta	July-Sept 2025	Delta
Operating Cash	42,251	NA	NA	(63,107)	105,358
Weekly Tracked Giving	34,934	38,430	(3,496)	36,410	(1,476)
Weekly Loose Plate	927	1,200	(273)	1,108	(181)
Net Income	(120,148)	(38,355)	(81,793)	(68,626)	(51,522)

Key Financial Indicators – January – June 2026 vs 2025

	Jan-Sept 2026	Budget	Delta	Jan-Sept 2025	Delta
Total Tracked Giving	1,608,615	1,570,100	38,515	1,484,253	124,362
Total Loose Plate	67,778	78,300	(10,522)	73,061	(5,283)
Preschool Income	1,057,928	1,128,605	(70,677)	1,097,203	(39,275)
Other Income	57,872	53,420	4,452	61,847	(3,975)
Total Expenses	(2,722,501)	(2,824,500)	101,999	(2,823,043)	100,542
Net Income	69,692	5,925	63,767	(106,679)	176,371

ANSWER

RSLCS FOUNDATION
Gifting that Grows

"You, Lord, reign forever; your throne endures from generation to generation" Lamentations 5:19. Established in 2010, RSLCS Foundation, Inc. is a 501c (3) organization that receives gifts and bequests in support of Risen Savior missions and ministries. As steward of your earthly God-given gifts, prayerfully consider an annual gift to RSLCS Foundation, as well as a legacy gift in your Estate Plan. For ways to give, and bless Risen Savior missions and ministries, please visit risensavioraz.org under the "About Us" tab for more information.

OPERATION Christmas Child
Samaritan's Purse

This year's Operation Christmas Child Campaign is currently underway with the final day for box pick-up being November 15. Boxes can be picked up/dropped off on Sundays at either building or at the Admin Building. All boxes are due back no later than November 20 to the North Building. If you do not have the time or ability to shop for items, you can make a donation of $30.00 and we will submit a packed box with your name. Make donation checks out to "Risen Savior" with "OCC" in the memo. Contact Karen at 562.818.6753 with any questions.



Once again, the Men's Ministry is partnering up to support AZCEND families in need. Hundreds of families have already registered with the food bank to request a Thanksgiving meal. Let's help to meet the need! Our goal is to raise enough turkeys/meals and donations to feed 325 local families for the holiday.
You can help by bringing a small/medium sized FROZEN turkey, meal items or a check (any denomination is welcome, recommended $25 for a turkey or $50 for a meal). All checks should be payable to Risen Savior with a memo "Turkey Drive". Or use the QR code or link on our calendar event on the website.
Meal items can be brought in starting November 8, look for donation boxes in all three buildings. All items brought on November 15 can go directly to the food trucks in the parking lot. **Drop off FROZEN turkeys on November 15 only please** from 7:30 am-12:00 pm (look for the food truck)!

Meal item options:
(Any additional items are welcome to be added to this list)
Canned yams, or sweet potatoes, canned green beans, canned corn, canned cranberry sauce, canned cream of mushroom soup, turkey gravy, chicken broth, cake/cookie/brownie mix, container of frosting, box of stuffing, box of mashed potatoes, French fried onions, cornbread mix, frozen turkey
Feel free to donate any amount of the items above for Thanksgiving meals or add your own family favorites! 100% of all donations will go to AZCEND.

Landscape Ministry

Thursdays at 6:00 am at the South Building Patio.

This ministry meets weekly for fellowship and to care for the church campus grounds and landscaping needs. Contact Chuck for more information on how to be a part of this ministry at cmdeuth1@gmail.com.

CPR Class Registration

November 21 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm in the North Building.

We are offering anyone who is interested to register and take this CPR course on campus this month. The cost is $25.00 per person. Contact Laura to register at LKVADOC@hotmail.com.



Piece Maker Quilter's Ministry

Wednesdays at 9:00 am in the SB Fellowship Hall.

Yes, Christmas is coming! *And so is the Quilt Sale!!*
Mark Your Calendars for December 6 from 7:30 am to 11:30 am in the North Building.

If you have been to a previous quilt sale, you know we have always offered a variety of sizes, from baby to bed quilts along with table runners, pot holders, eyeglass cases, aprons, and other handmade gifts for purchase.

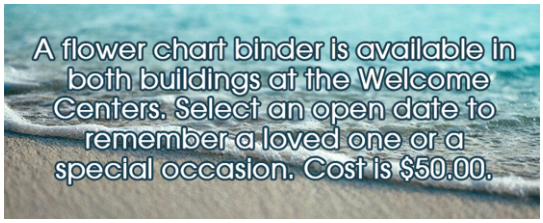
We also know there are some of you out there that REALLY want to join us during the week! We meet every Wednesday. We can't stress this enough: You do NOT need to be a quilter or even sew! Can you tie a knot? Stick a pin in fabric? Iron? You are IN!

The best part: the volunteers and fellowship! We truly have a wonderful time making these quilts, with our mouths and hands going a mile a minute! Treats provided each week on rotation.

If you have questions, call Dottie Mitchell 480.759.0977 or Gail Solway 805.404.7604.

What are Stephen Ministers? How Can They Help You?

Are you going through a tough time? Stephen Ministers are members of the congregation who listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are facing a crisis, or going through tough times. The care you receive is confidential, free and very helpful. Contact the Church Office at info@risensavioraz.org for more information.



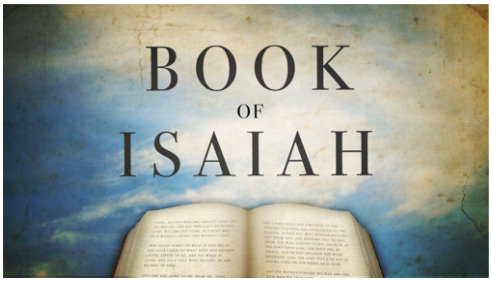
Visitation Ministry

This work is done by lay members who offer care and encouragement through personal visits. These volunteers provide a listening ear, prayer, companionship, and spiritual support to those who may be homebound, hospitalized, grieving, or otherwise in need. Their presence helps extend the love of Christ and the care of the congregation beyond the walls of the church. Some of those who help in this ministry offer communion during their visits. Contact the Church Office if you would like to schedule a visit.

Braille Ministry

Tuesdays at 8:30 am in the SB Fellowship Hall.
NO Mtg November 24

Our dedicated group of volunteers meet weekly to produce books of the Bible for the seeing impaired. We would be happy to show our production process, answer any questions and invite those interested in joining this rewarding ministry, contact Vicki at 480.262.0171 with any questions.



Bible Study: The Book of Isaiah

Wednesdays at 5:00 pm in the South Building Fellowship Hall.

Join us Wednesdays as we read and discuss Scripture for an hour. We just began reading through the book of Isaiah, a book so broad in its scope - from creation to new creation - that some have called it a "miniature Bible"! Outside the Psalms, no other Old Testament book is cited more than Isaiah, so you may be surprised at what we find. Bring your Bible and read along with us as we begin our adventure. Contact Barry britchie11@juno.com if you plan to attend.

HANDBELL REHEARSALS

THURSDAYS FROM 5:30 PM–6:45 PM IN THE SOUTH BUILDING SANCTUARY.

If you enjoy playing handbell music in a worship setting, and would like more information about joining our group, please contact organist@risensavioraz.org.

Did You Know We Have a Memorial Garden?

Our Memorial Garden is located behind the South Building (look for outdoor signs). It's a beautiful, quiet and calming space to visit loved ones there and is always open. If you are interested in more information about how to reserve a personal niche space for you or a loved one, please contact the Church Office at info@risensavioraz.org.





Sundays at 9:10 am & 10:15 am in the North Building Discipleship Room.

Where is Jesus in the Old Testament? Join us for an exciting 13-week Bible exploration of how the Hebrew Scriptures point us to Christ. We will begin at the Creation, travel to Eden, walk through God's promises to Abraham and David, listen to the prophets, and see how sacrifices, psalms, wisdom, and Old Testament events prepare us for Jesus. This class is designed for everyday Bible readers—no special background needed. Together we will read Scripture, ask good questions, and discover how the whole Bible tells one story: God's promise to restore fallen humanity through His Son. So that enough materials can be prepared, please let Barry know if you'll be attending by emailing britchie11@juno.com. See you there!

ACSTO
Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization

ACSTO exists to give all kids the opportunity to attend a private Christian School. We have the privilege of being able to do this by transforming tax credit donations into valuable tuition scholarships—helping families afford a private Christian Education. Contact the Early Childhood Center for more information 480.802.1505 or visit ACSTO.org for more details.

Baptism at Risen Savior

If you or someone you know is interested in getting more information on being baptized, contact the Church Office at 480.895.6782 or scan the QR code to complete a short form.

LWML
Lutheran Women in Mission

LWML Monthly Meeting

November 12 at 1:00 pm in the South Building Genesis Conf. Room.

The Bible study is from the Summer 2026 Quarterly, page 18 How Long Lord? (copies will be available). It is a great time of fellowship in God's Word. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Giving Toward LWML Grants

Please consider supporting our Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Grants by giving one of the following ways.

· www.risensavioraz.org/give OR on the Risen Savior App, select 'Give'

Please select the Fund: "Other Offerings" and Type "LWML Missions" in the text box. We are suggesting a minimum $5.00 donation to help cover transaction fees.



Men's Early Bird Bible Study Meetings on November 14 & 28

This Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month at 7:30 am in the NB Multi-Use Room.

Doors open at 7:00 am for coffee, donuts and fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend or fellow member, all men are welcome. Contact Chuck at 480.766.3626 with any questions.

Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 9:15 am in the SB Fellowship Hall.

Join us each Sunday as we gather to study the Bible. Each week's study is individual, so join us at any time. All adults are welcome!





Prayer Warriors

Prayer Focus

Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the SB Proverbs Conference Room.

If you have a passion for speaking to the Lord in prayer or lifting up those in need, join us every Wednesday! Contact Joan at mandjscott@cox.net with any questions. This ministry prepares a Prayer Focus that all the congregation is invited to partake in. It's a weekly prayer for a specific topic, all you do is add this prayer to your regular prayer time! The Prayer Focus for each week for this month is:

November 1 - Let us pray fervently and continuously during our Nation's Election Day on November 3. Pray for integrity and peace to remain throughout the day and in the days and weeks to follow. 2 Chronicles 7:14, I Timothy 2:1-2, Psalms 33:12, Romans 12:11-2

November 8 - Thank you to our Almighty God for His love, healing and protection for our military veterans. Ask God to continue to bless them and their families who have sacrificed for our liberties. Psalm 41:1-3, Psalm 42:5, Psalm 43:3-4

November 15 - Pray for those who have been participating in Alpha that the Holy Spirit would plant these lessons deep in their spirits and bring much fruit into their lives. Philippians 1:6, Colossians 3:1-3

November 22 - Thank and praise God as you count His blessings this Thanksgiving Day – try it. Then use them to bless others. I Peter 4:10, Ecclesiastes 3:12-13, Psalm 100:4, Colossians 3:17

November 29 - Pray that in this season of Advent that our hearts are focused on the birth of our Savior, the source of our HOPE. Romans 5:2, 5, Psalm 39:7

NEXTGEN I A Season of Gratitude

As the season turns toward Thanksgiving, our kids and teenagers are learning a powerful truth: **God is good, God is faithful, and we have so much to give.** This month, that truth is being lived out across NextGen.

INSPIRE | Celebrate and Give Thanks

Our preschool and kindergarten friends are joining the Tiny Parade, discovering that no one is more worth celebrating than God. Just like God's people in the Bible sang, danced, and shouted, they are celebrating Him with loud voices and happy hearts. Elementary students are taking on The Great Gratitude Challenge, learning that every good thing comes from God and that gratitude can become a habit, no matter what's going on.

CONFIRMATION | Celebrating Our Confirmands

We celebrate the seven students who were confirmed this year. They finished the race well, and we are proud of the ownership they are taking of their faith. Please congratulate them and keep praying for them as they continue following Jesus.

IGNITE | Breaking News

In a world full of headlines, junior high students are journeying with the prophets Micah, Amos, Zephaniah, Ezekiel, and Isaiah to discover news they can count on. They are learning that when things go wrong, they can choose what's right; when times are tough, they can count on God; and that they can be faithful just like God is faithful.

IMPACT | Over the Top

We may not be giving away new cars, but we all have something to give. High school students are exploring I Thessalonians to discover how to make a big difference by being generous with their time, sharing the good news, caring for each other, and offering encouragement.

And they are putting it into action. Students will serve at **Novemberfest**, gather for a **Lock-In at Gethsemane on November 20**, and celebrate together at **Friendsgiving on November 22**. Save these Dates!

And every generation has a role. Thank a volunteer. Encourage a student. Celebrate a confirmand. Pray for our kids and teenagers.

Celebrate God. Give thanks. Give generously.



Nursery

(Age 3 and under)

Available on Sundays during the 9 & 10:30 am services in the North Building Nursery Room.

Inspire Kids Club (Ages 3 yrs-Grade 6)
Sundays at 10:30 am in the North Building Youth Rooms.



NEXTGEN INFO











Answering God's Call: Families Serving Together

Sometimes answering God's call looks like rolling up our sleeves and sorting medical supplies alongside our kids! On October 3, families from our church served together at Project C.U.R.E. in Phoenix, sorting through two pallets of donated medical supplies. It was a hands-on opportunity to live out "Answering God's Call," and share God's love through service.

Project C.U.R.E. provides donated medical supplies and equipment to hospitals and clinics in communities around the world with limited resources. These include items such as gloves, syringes, gauze, wound dressings, IV supplies, and surgical instruments, along with equipment such as hospital beds, wheelchairs, and patient monitors. These resources will help equip healthcare workers to care for their patients.

Our sorting was one important step in preparing donated supplies for shipment. By helping organize those donations, our families supported the work of getting needed supplies into the hands of medical teams serving people far beyond our own community.

Serving together also gave our children and youth an opportunity to practice their faith alongside adults. Each person had something to contribute, and together we put our time and hands to work for others.

Thank you to every family who participated! May we keep looking for opportunities to answer God's call in our homes, in our community, and wherever His love leads us.