



Love of Christ... Weekly E-News

Welcome to LOC's Weekly E-News

E-News for Sunday, September 19, 2021

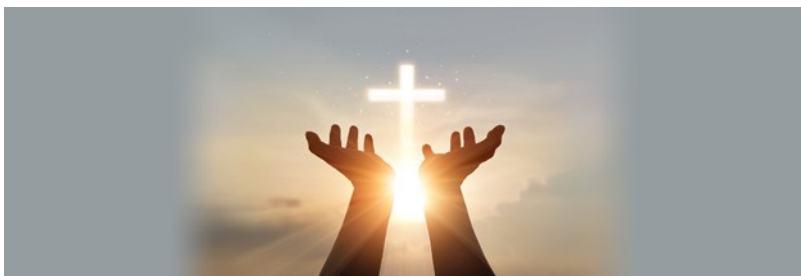


“The Illusion of Power and Popularity”

This week we continue our journey in the Gospel of Mark moving into Chapter 9: 30-37. Following the healing of another child with an unclean spirit, Jesus seeks to take his disciples on a road trip through Galilee, away from the crowds and curiosity-seekers. He wants to teach his disciples a second time how his three-year tour of duty will be ending, with him betrayed, arrested, killed, and then rising three days later from the dead. The disciples chose to not to hear him and remain ignorant and resistant about any talk of suffering or dying. They had more important things to discuss which the second half of our reading shares. They wanted to know who the greatest disciple was among the 12. We listen to Jesus' famous words, **“Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.”** To reinforce, he gathers a little child in his arms and uses the child as a living illustration that real greatness lies in hospitality and welcome to the ones considered least in society.



This Sunday, 9/19, 12:15-2:15PM in the Fellowship Hall-Lunch included.



Who is the focus of our worship?

God is the only audience of our worship, each of us offers our participation as an act of worship of God!

For Lutherans, worship stands at the center of our life of faith. Through God's word, water, bread and prayer, we are nurtured in faith and sent out into the world.

Connected with and central to everything we do, worship unites us in celebration, engages us in thoughtful dialogue and helps us grow in faith. It grounds us in our Christian and Lutheran roots, while demonstrating practical relevance for today's world.

While some of the approaches to worship may differ from one ELCA congregation to another, we hold certain things in common. Central to our worship life is the presence of God through word and sacrament. The **word** proclaimed and the **sacraments** —both Holy Baptism and Holy Communion — are called **the means of grace**. We believe that Jesus Christ is present in these means through the power of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes we describe worship as a "gathering around the means of grace."

There is also a basic pattern for worship among Lutherans. We *gather*. We encounter God's *word*. We share a *meal* at the Lord's table. And we are *sent* into the world. But we do not think about worship so much in terms of what we do. **Worship is fundamentally about what God is doing and our response to God's action.** Worship is an encounter with God, who saves us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. (www.elca.org)



**DAVID JOHNSON'S CELEBRATION OF LIFE WILL BE HELD
SATURDAY, OCT. 2, 10 AM IN OUR SANCTUARY.
PLEASE KEEP KERSTIN, CHARLIE AND THEIR WHOLE FAMILY
IN YOUR PRAYERS.**



Our sympathy and comfort to Karen Wenzel, family & friends upon the death of her dear husband Sieg.

Congressman Andy Biggs is pleased to announce his 2021 Senior Citizens Resource Fair

Please join us at our district-wide event to provide resources and services to senior citizens in need.

Where: Love of Christ Lutheran Church in the Center of Compassion

When: Wednesday, October 6th, 2021

Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



What is happening on our former property on the southside of Hobart?

Many have noticed that the 4 acres we sold in October 2019 has now been scraped of its desert vegetation. Since we sold the property, our buyers sold the property to the owners of what has now become the Power Rd. Food Truck Park at Power and Halifax. A request to rezone our former property is before the City of Mesa Planning and Zoning Commission to allow the current owners to expand the Food Trucks along Power Rd. to Hobart, create additional parking, and on the west end they plan to put in grass while creating a more park-like environment. Keep your eyes open to see what happens next.



Debt Reduction leads to Mission Expansion

Our Debt 12/31/17 was \$1,887,187.84

Our Debt 9/19/21 is \$642,313.00!

Thank you to all who give regularly and faithfully to support our mission and ministry through financial gifts. We have now paid off our second note with Thrivent Financial and have only one of the original three left to payoff. An additional \$5,000 is being put on Principal Debt Reduction each month. 80% of all Vision 2020 Capital Campaign gifts are directed to debt reduction. All of this frees up funds for mission and ministry that previously went to pay debt. We still have a way to go but see how far we have come in less than four years and going through a pandemic! Praise be to God!



The Love of Christ Lutheran Church Board of Directors meeting ENews update has been sent to all member households for whom we have household email addresses.



Holy Communion is offered at the close of all Sunday Services.

All who are baptized are welcome to share in the Lord's Supper at Love of Christ.

If any household requests communion at home, one of the pastors will be happy to bring communion to them.



Please invite your friends to like us on



Or Subscribe to LoveofChristLC on

Livestream our 9:00AM and 11:00AM services on Facebook and YouTube

If you experience any audio or visual issues with the livestream or later download, please let our AV Tech Rob Mills (robmills@locic.org) know.



Contact Dianne Oien (dianneoien@loccl.org) if you are interested in helping with any of our three worship services alongside our A/V staff who will provide training.

Since March 2020 we have added livestreaming of two of our three worship services without expanding our paid staff, to limit expenses. We are currently seeking interested individuals who are willing to be trained on our soundboard at our Sunday 7:50AM service in the Sanctuary, and we are seeking individuals who are willing to be trained on our CoC video camera and computer system for our Sunday 9:00 and 11:00AM services. If you have questions, you can visit with our lead A/V staff member Rob Mills or let Dianne Oien, our Volunteer Coordinator know of your interest. It is hoped we can build a team of volunteers, so no one needs to commit to every Sunday to help. Thank you



Volunteers for Set-Up and Take-Down needed!

Contact Dianne Oien (dianneoien@loccl.org) if you are able to offer some time.

When we shutdown in March 2020, we did not replace our two part-time facilities set-up staff to control overhead expenses. Any event hosted or ministry group using our facilities are now dependent on the participants doing most of their own set-up and take-down, or existing ministry paid staff has been picking up the slack. As we continue to increase the programs and activities on campus, we could benefit having a pool of willing volunteers who might be available with our special set-ups and take-downs. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Dianne Oien (dianneoien@loccl.org) with your interest or questions about what is needed. As often has been said, **“Many hands make a load light.”** Thanks.



Fund for Leaders Golf Classic
Monday, November 15
8:00AM Shotgun start with lunch program following
Arrowhead Golf Course
19888 N. 73rd Ave
Glendale, AZ
\$150 per golfer (\$75 tax-deductible contribution)

The ELCA Fund for Leaders has supported over 1,000 qualified candidates with more than \$25 million in scholarship support. In prior generations, attending seminary cost very little, if anything, because of support from congregations and synods. That has changed. Today, the average debt for a seminary graduate is \$54,000. In addition, many graduates receive their “first call” to congregations that are struggling financially. In short, new pastors are usually in debt and underpaid. The ELCA Fund for Leaders helps reduce the debt load of our future Pastors and Deacons.

If you are interested in participating in this golf fundraiser or just want to make a donation to the Fund, contact Pastor Steve Talmage (stevetalmage@locic.org).

Greetings from the Grand Canyon Women of the ELCA Nominating Board ~

I am looking for ladies that would like to take on leadership roles with the Grand Canyon Women of the ELCA. Would you or does someone you know at Love of Christ have an interest in serving? There are many positions opened on the board, such as, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board Member. I am also looking for a lady that would like to be a voting member (delegate) for the September, 2023 Triennial Convention to be held in Phoenix. The only requirement is a desire to step up into a leadership role within the Grand Canyon Synod.

If you are interested, please let me know and I can forward the description for each position and the nominating form. You may also go to our website: [loveofchristchurch.net](http://www.loveofchristchurch.net), click on “Ministries”, “Adult Ministry and Small Groups”, scroll down and click on heading “Women’s Triennial 2023” and you will be at the article which contains the forms or click the link: <http://www.loveofchristchurch.net/ministries/adult-ministry-and-small-groups/#TRIENNIAL>

. The board meets about 4 times a year with other ladies from all over Arizona and Nevada.

Pat Shaw

Faith in Action

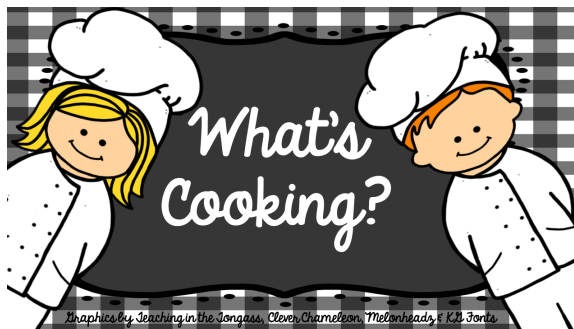


From victims of earthquakes, wildfires, hurricanes and evacuation efforts in Afghanistan, our church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through partner relationships works to deliver 100% of donations we offer to help those directly on the ground. For more information go to <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>



The official kickoff and wall signing ceremony is scheduled for October 16th for our 18th house with Lutherans Building for Christ Coalition. The location is MUCH closer to our campus this year - **697 W. 19th Street in Tempe**. More info is at our Habitat kiosks in outside the Sanctuary and in the back of the CoC.

Please contact our LoC Habitat Leaders, Jack and JoAnn Grant, for additional information at jjjgrant@verizon.net.



We will be needing help in the kitchen on Wednesday evenings. If you are interested, please contact Kevin Anderson or Pastor Nanette Christofferson. (kevinanderson@locic.org or nanette@locic.org)

Faith in Action

Family Promise: Company is coming and we are almost ready!

Thank you Thank you to all of the volunteers who have signed up to help bring meals, spend the night, help set up and a big thank you to those who are willing to spend the night! All of our dinner slots are full! So here is what we need:

- We need some volunteers to be a hostess for the evening (5:00-7:30 pm). A hostess welcomes the families and helps serve the meals. They also spend time talking with the different families. Family Promise will be coming to spend a week at Love of Christ!

Please mark your calendar and if you would like to help, please contact Denise Haala by email or by phone. denisehaala@gmail.com or (224)805-7885. Or you can contact Pastor Nanette at nanette@locic.org

Feed My Starving Children packing event will be in November 4, 5, and 6.

Mark your calendars now!



The packing days and times are as follows: Thursday, November 4th at 6:00 pm. Friday, November 5th at 6:00 pm, and Saturday, November 6th at 9:00, noon, and 3:00 pm. There are a couple of different ways to register: Sign up sheets are available at special tables at all 3 services with someone to assist in the signing up. Or you can call the church office with your name, email, phone, and which shift you would like to pack at. Here is a link to the Feed My Starving Children website to see the impact these meals have. <https://www.fmssc.org/impact-of-our-work/success-stories>



Support our Food Banks at Victory Lutheran, 5946 E. University Dr, Mesa, AZ or First Evangelical/ La Primera, 142 N. Date St, Mesa, AZ



Sunday School and Confirmation have begun from 10:00 am-10:30 am.

- Pre-K-4th grade Godly Play Room Leaders Erik and Abby Wahlberg
- 5th and 6th Grade in room 14,15 Leader Angie Obert
- Confirmation 7th and 8th Grade rooms 48,49,50 Leader Bev Gjersvig
- Confirmation 9th Grade Fellowship Hall Leader Pastor Steve and Pastor Nanette



Word on Wednesdays began September 15th!

Something for just about Everyone! 5:30-7:00 pm.

- Dinner beginning at 5:30-6:00 pm.
- Kids (K-8th grade) come and join our Musical called "Back to the Beginning"! (6:00-7:00 pm)
- Grades 7-12 meet in the Youth Room
- **Adult Bible Study: The Greatest Story: Genesis to Revelation:** Whether we are children or adults, we love to hear good stories. They are part of our earliest memories. We are captivated by family stories that tell of our family roots. We are fascinated when our grandparents tell how they met and fell in love. Stories shape us and connect us. This study on "The Greatest Story: Genesis to Revelation" will explore the mystery of who God is and how God acts in the world. It is an opportunity to discover God's overarching plan through the Bible. Sign up on sign up Genius on our website or by using the link below and let us know if you will be attending in person or on ZOOM. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044AACA62EA3FA7-wednesday17>.



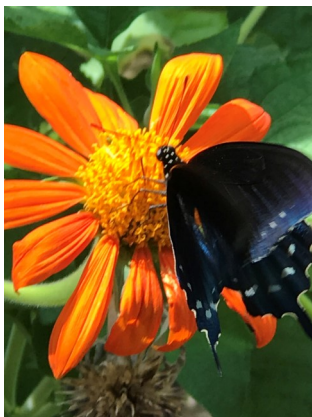
Musical at WOW ***BACK TO THE BEGINNING!!***

► You heard it right! Do you want your kids to learn to sing, dance, and act? Have them join us! Please sign up online at loveofchristchurch.net

► Wednesdays from 6:00pm~7:00pm in the Greenroom (**K~6th grade**). All of the children have to wear a mask when they come to the church.

► Performance: Sunday, November 21

► Any questions contact Jung : jungmusic@loclc.org



Love of Christ community garden has a place for you to learn and grow a garden. If you have been thinking about getting outside and meeting some new people and learning about gardening in the desert, it's almost time to plant. Email Nancy at tollef@cox.net to get started

For Additional information about upcoming events or Faith Formation offerings, please go to www.loveofchristchurch.net or contact the Church Office 480.981.6199

*Thank
you*



Thank you for joining us in worship this Sunday. If you need pastoral care, please contact the Church Office or one of the pastors for assistance.

Thank you to all who continue to support the ministry of Love of Christ with your financial gifts.

Multiple ways in which you can offer your financial support:

- Online/EFT-contact Dick Beckman, dickbeckman@loclc.org or 480.981.3550.
- Mail/Drop-Off at the Church Office.
- Text 844.975.1973-You will be prompted on how to register and give.
- Use the Donate Button on the Love of Christ Lutheran Church Facebook page.

LOVE OF CHRIST PRESCHOOL NOW ENROLLING



- Nurturing Christian environment
- Phonics based readiness program
- Low student to teacher ratio
- Flexible scheduling
- Affordable rates
- Art, crafts, stories, music, chapel and exciting special events
- Named a “Top Preschool in Mesa”

Available positions for the **2021-2022** school year are filling. Call (480)681-0937 today for registration information.

Scripture Lesson

A Brief Look at Jeremiah 11:18-20

with Pastor Steve Talmage

(14min)

A Brief Look at Jeremiah 11: 18-20

Sunday, September 19, 2021



YouTube: https://youtu.be/_HcuqVrRgc4

Facebook: <https://business.facebook.com/LOCLC/videos/300218871868002/>

Website: <http://www.loveofchristchurch.net/whats-going-on/sermons/category/lessons/>

Gospel Scripture Lesson

A Brief Look at Mark 9:30-37

with Pastor Steve Talmage

(11min)



YouTube: <https://youtu.be/gstdUL7CIKM>

Facebook: <https://business.facebook.com/LOCLC/videos/416133390123496/>

Website: <http://www.loveofchristchurch.net/whats-going-on/sermons/category/lessons/>

Online Introductions to Lectionary Lessons **are available by Wednesday of each week!**

On Facebook, YouTube, and www.loveofchristchurch.net.



Pastor Steve's Sermon Title is "The Illusion of Power and Popularity"

Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸ It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹ But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
'Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!'

²⁰ But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵ Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶ For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

⁴ Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ² You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Mark 9:30-37

³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' ³² But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³ Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' ³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' ³⁶ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'