

# RISEN SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

23914 S. Alma School Road ■ Chandler, AZ 85248  
Church: 480.895.6782 ■ Early Learning Center: 480.802.1505

February 2017 Newsletter

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# Worshiping

I wonder if Charlie Brown ever received a Valentine? If you are a fan of the comic strip Peanuts you will recall that every Valentine's Day Charlie Brown would make the trek to the mailbox only to find it full of cobwebs, not one Valentine for Charlie. Snoopy, his dog, on the other hand couldn't carry all of his as he danced back to his doghouse obviously feeling the love.

I am not sure what Charles Schultz, the creator of Peanuts, was trying to express through the utter disappointment of Charlie Brown. Was he remembering his own childhood and the pain of not being very well liked? Was he trying to show to the world how a small gesture could make a big difference on another person and the lack of that gesture could be equally damaging? Perhaps he was just developing Charlie Brown as a lonely kid growing up with a dog that was more popular than he was? Lots of questions, but no answers. Just like when I would read the annual Valentine's Day strip from Schultz, even though I knew that Charlie Brown would not receive any Valentines I was always rooting for him in my heart. I would think maybe this year he would receive at least one Valentine...and wouldn't it be great if it were from the little red headed girl! I wanted that for Charlie Brown. I wanted him to know that he was lovable and he was important. Alas, I don't recall him ever receiving a single card.

Funny how a comic strip can stir up such deep emotions, maybe that was what Charles Schultz was going for. Maybe he wanted us to feel the pain of the lonely and hurting people around us. Perhaps he wanted to motivate us to action and reach out to someone we know. Maybe, just maybe that is my point in this article.

Valentine's Day for some is a day to express their love to one or more people. For some it is a painful reminder that they are alone and perhaps they even feel unloved.

The truth is all of us are deeply loved, even if we don't know it. Consider what Jesus' disciple John wrote; "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" (John 3:1) God has a deep love for each of us, a love deep enough to send his Son to us. Now that we have been loved then John says; "For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another." (John 3:11) "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." (John 3:18)

Do you know of a person who could be lonely? Do you know someone who lost his or her spouse this past year? I wonder how they would feel if they opened up their mailbox to find a Valentine from you.

*Pastor Ron*

# Sunday Worship Services

7:30 Traditional

8:50 Contemporary – Praise Team

10:10 Contemporary – Praise Team

11:30 Traditional

Communion at ALL 11:30 services every week.

Communion at ALL services 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays.

Church office hours are **8:00am – 4:00pm, Monday – Friday**

## Ash Wednesday and Lent

The season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**. It is a day to remember that from the dust of the earth we came, and to dust we will return, until we are resurrected on the last day when Christ returns. We will gather at **12:30pm** and **6:30pm** for worship that will feature the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.

## Nursery During Worship

Our Nursery is available at all services for children aged 0-3; turn to your left when coming through the main front doors and follow the signs. For the safety of all our kids, please sign your children in and out. **Adult volunteers** are needed in the nursery during the 10:10am service. If you can help, please contact the church office at 480-895-6782.

## Connections: New Member Orientation

If you're interested in getting connected and finding out more about who we are at Risen Savior and joining our church, please call the church office at **480-895-6782**. The new member classes began on Tuesday evenings from **6:30 – 7:30pm, January 31<sup>st</sup>** for 6 weeks in The Pathway Center. The dates in **February** are the **7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>**. There will not be a class on Valentine's Day, **February 14<sup>th</sup>**.

## Growing

## Risen Savior Sunday School News



**Jesus and me**

aka Sunday School at Risen Savior

## All about JAM!

### Risen Savior's Sunday School Ministry

- Every lesson points to Jesus
- Highly interactive lessons come fully loaded with hands-on activities, video, music and discussion in both small and large groups
- Curriculum covers the entire Bible—Genesis to Revelation—in three years

Come join in the fun on **Sunday mornings at 10:10 am** as we learn about Jesus and grow in love for Him! All children Age 3 - Grade 5 are welcome. Check in near the Sanctuary, meet in second floor classrooms.

Join us on an adventure at the Phoenix Zoo on **Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**. Sign up by **February 5<sup>th</sup>** at <https://bibleclass.eventbrite.com>

Questions? Contact Shelley Nelson, [nelsons@rslcs.org](mailto:nelsons@rslcs.org)

## Ignite Confirmation Ministry

**Movie Night** on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Week of Hope Mission Trip

*Christ-centered service experiences to help youth grow in their relationships with Jesus and each other. 20 youth and six adult leaders from Risen Savior are going on the Week of Hope mission trip to San Diego.*



### Service

Serve at churches, food bank, homeless shelter and more!

### Worship & Spiritual Growth

Begin each day with devotions and end each evening in worship.

### Fellowship

Relationships form in planning, traveling and serving. We will enjoy a day at the beach after a week of hard work.

### 3 Ways You Can Join In

- **Pray** for God to meet people's needs, change our hearts and protect us as we travel.
- **Donate** by taking an envelope from \$1 - \$101 off of the bulletin board and returning it with the amount inside by Feb. 19.  
*When all envelopes are returned, costs for 11 people will be covered.*
- **Celebrate** with us as next summer when we share all that God will have done in and through us!

Questions? Contact Shelley at [nelsons@rslcs.org](mailto:nelsons@rslcs.org) or (480) 855-9264



### **Did You Know?**

Since 2002, ALSO has awarded more than \$2.3 million in scholarships made possible by thousands of Arizona taxpayers who contributed to ALSO.

As a result, hundreds of children have been blessed with a Christian education. And these same taxpayers received a direct, dollar-for-dollar credit on their state taxes.

Learn more at [ALSOSTO.org](http://ALSOSTO.org).

## **Small Group Bible Studies**

**Adult Forum** - Led by Pastor Harold Teuscher

During **February**, the Pastor's Forum will continue exploring the meaning of the Sunday morning lessons (Old Testament, Epistle & Gospel) for the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the Epiphany season of the Church Year. Each Sunday we will review the appointed lessons, discover their unifying theme, and apply God's Word to our everyday lives. For example: What's the big attraction about Epiphany? What's the role of the Wise Men in the Christmas story? Why are we *always* in jeopardy . . . but **never** in jeopardy? We will identify ways in which Jesus shines through us to provide light to those living in darkness?

Join us every **Sunday 8:45 – 9:45 am** in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to participate in the discussions, or simply listen & learn from the presentations and the comments of the class participants. Pastor & Julie Teuscher prepare a handout that introduces & summarizes the Biblical material and its meaning for our lives today.

**Sunday morning adult Bible studies** – Led by Barry Ritchie

As one of your New Year's resolutions, why not deepen your understanding of Scripture and join others who are also interested in digging deeper into the Bible? Starting **January 15<sup>th</sup>**, two new adult Bible studies (detailed below) will be meeting each Sunday morning. These classes will help you better apply the teachings of the New Testament to your life, work, and relationships. Using the *Life Application Bible Study Series method*, each of these 13-week classes will lead us through an important part of the New Testament. Copies of the study guide for each class will be available for purchase (\$6). The study guide includes our weekly lessons, the entire text of the Bible book(s) we'll study, as well as that book's *Life Application Bible Commentary* (including illuminating notes, application hints, maps, tables, personal sketches, and more). As previous attendees will attest, you will find these classes fascinating, enjoyable, and enriching. We'll meet **Sunday mornings in the Conference Room**. If you're interested in attending, please let Barry Ritchie know of your interest by sending an email to [britchie11@juno.com](mailto:britchie11@juno.com) or by phoning him at **(480) 839-1382** (leave a message if there's no answer). See you there!

**At 8:50 AM: The Epistles of John.** Written to a group of small house churches by the last living apostle, these letters from John encouraged Christians to live as Jesus had taught. These short letters provide the inspired wisdom needed to live as members of God's family and fellowship, and also contain important warnings about how to avoid failure in our relationships with Jesus and our Christian community. This study will lead us through each of these three letters to know better what God expects of us, to deepen our faith in Christ, and to strengthen our community of faith here at Risen Savior Lutheran Church.

**At 10:10 AM: The Acts of the Apostles.** The Acts of the Apostles ("Acts") provides the only detailed history found in the Bible of the early years of the church. Covering the first three decades after Jesus ascended to heaven, Acts provides an incredible panorama of life in the 1<sup>st</sup> century as Peter, Paul, and the first Christians spread the Good News about Christ throughout the Roman Empire. We will read about the events that sent this message from Jerusalem to "the ends of the earth", compelling the first Christians to sacrifice everything for that faith. This class will lead us through the entire book of Acts to help us better understand our faith and our history, and to inspire us to greater devotion to Jesus and His church.

## Men's Early Bird Saturday Gathering

The Men's Early Bird Saturday Gatherings continue **Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>** in The Pathway Center. Come early for coffee and donuts at **7:15am** with discussion and Bible study **7:30am to 8:30am**. We meet the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays** of the month. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Chuck Death at **480-766-3626**.

## Calling All Solos

Starting last October, SOLOS have been meeting once a month. The activities have included a potluck, game nights, and the luminary walk followed by a chili feed. Numbers attending have been 12 to 20. Those attending find getting together with singles from our faith community to be a special experience.

February's activity will be attending Chandler Center for the Art's *Rhythm of the Dance* show by the National Dance Company of Ireland. The date is **Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**, at **3 p.m.** This promises to be a lively and entertaining two hour event of Celtic music and dance. Anyone interested and not already registered for the concert may contact Edna Joss at **480-510-1980** or [esjoss@msn.com](mailto:esjoss@msn.com) for information.

Looking ahead into March, a game night is scheduled for **March 11<sup>th</sup>**. Watch for further information next month! For questions or further information, contact Marjean Scheele **480-895-0716** or [mjeanschel@aol.com](mailto:mjeanschel@aol.com)

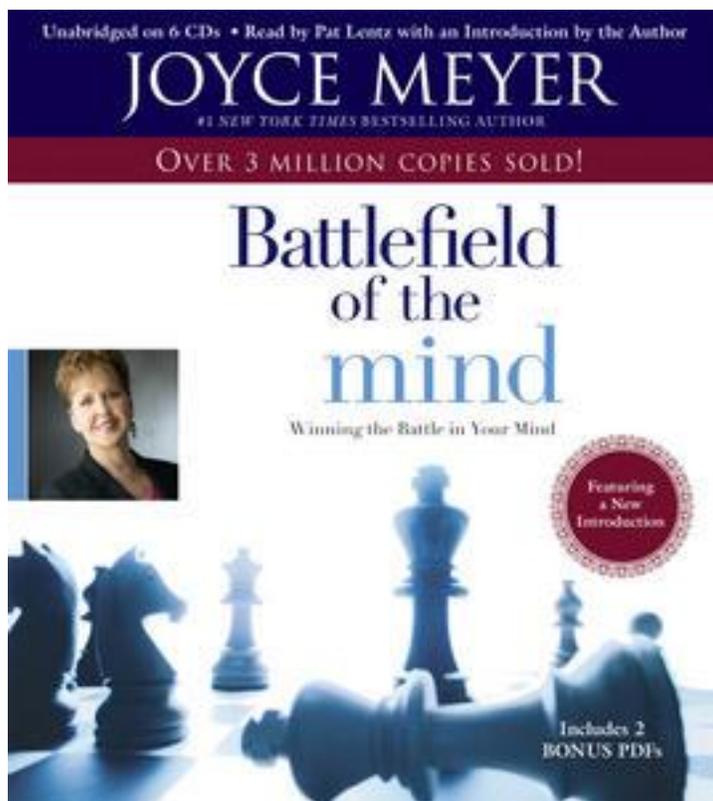


## Women's Ministries

Join us in the New Year as we walk through the bible study of JAMES and the book study "Battlefield of the Mind". We will have weekly assigned reading in James as well as the book. 90% of our time in class will be walking through a study guide of James and 10% will be answering questions from your book reading. Our opening study will include a teaching on

“Discernment”, an overview of James and chapters 1-3 of the book. We continue on **Tuesday evening, February 28<sup>th</sup>** or **Thursday morning, February 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

We love Circle of Healing: Please join us in supplying kids boxes of Valentine cards, (ages K-12) and candy before **February 10<sup>th</sup>**. Donations may be delivered to The Pathway Center or any Grace Girls study.



*Grace Girls 2017 Study*  
*“Battlefield of the Mind”*  
*By: Joyce Meyer*

Tuesday evening opening: January 3, 2017, 6:30-8:45pm, The Pathway Center  
Schedule: January 3, 17, 31, **February 28**, March 14, 28, April 11, 25, May 9, 23

Thursday morning opening: January 12, 2017, 8:45-11:00am,  
The Perfect Place – Childcare provided  
Schedule: January 12, 26, **February 9, 23**, March 9, 23, April 6, 20, May 4, 18

Please RSVP or sign up today: [gracegirls@rslcs.org](mailto:gracegirls@rslcs.org) Annie Wolf at 480-203-1880

<http://www.rslcs.org/ministries/womens-ministry/GRACEGIRLS/Studies>

## Sunday Volunteer Sign-up Process

Our Sunday morning volunteer positions are scheduled through Planning Center. **We are using a tool in Planning Center called Sign-up-Sheets.** Rather than the office scheduling you, **now you will be able to choose which Sundays/service you'd like to serve.**

At the beginning of each month you will receive an email asking you to select which Sundays you would like to serve. These dates will be saved in your Planning Center account and you'll receive reminder emails as the date approaches.

**We know that some of our married couples that use Planning Center share the same email address. If you do, here's what we need ONE of you to do: (One of you may keep your current password, but the other needs to create a new one).** Enter the link to get to the sign-in page of Planning Center at <https://accounts.planningcenteronline.com>. Type in your email address and click the checkmark button. **Remember, if you share an email address with another Planning Center user, you must keep track of which account you're accessing when you are signing up or making changes to your schedule.**

Another hint: any time you're in Planning Center you can identify the account by looking at the top right of your browser window. **Thank you for your patience as we continue to learn this software.** Please call Susan Myres with questions, **480-895-6782.**

## Fellowship

Join us for coffee and donuts in-between services on the patio. It's a great opportunity to meet new people and to sign up and serve.

## Caring Ministries Team

Seniors, if you are looking for information regarding transitioning into Independent or Assisted Living, contact PACE (People, Access, Community, Education) at **480-246-3515**. They will help you make informed decisions and their housing directory will help you narrow your options and make the process easier. You can also find them on the internet at [www.seniorhousing.org](http://www.seniorhousing.org).

### Annual Blood Drive

Risen Savior Lutheran Church and School will hold its annual Blood Drive on **Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am – 12:00pm**. Supplies of blood are very low due to needs that occurred in late December and early January. Please help Risen Savior do its part and donate! You can complete your registration and fast track health history on line and save 20 minutes of your time on the day of the Blood Drive. Go to: [www.UnitedBloodServices.org](http://www.UnitedBloodServices.org), enter the 85248 zip code for Blood Drive Locations, click on Risen Savior and register for the time that is best for you. Please direct questions to JoAnne McCay at **480-802-4374**.

Blood Pressure Screening continues on the 2<sup>nd</sup> **Sunday** of the month in the Church hallway. Our next meeting will be in the Church Conference room in **March**. If you are interested in serving on the Caring Ministries Committee (you do not have to be in the medical profession), please contact: Nancy Gooding at [goodingpn@wbshi.com](mailto:goodingpn@wbshi.com).

### **Caring Ministries Emails**

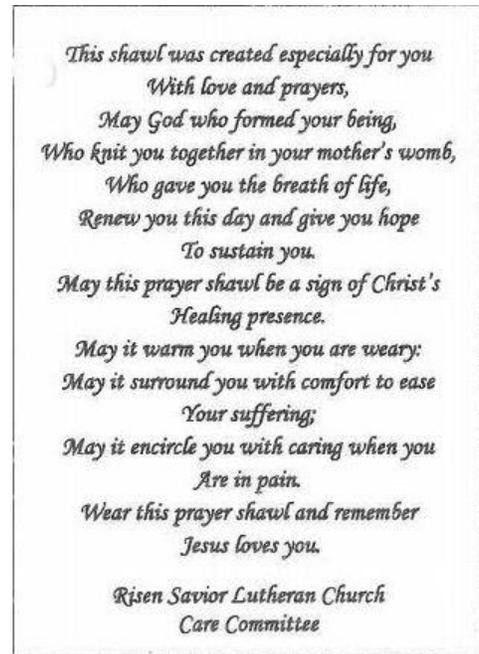
If you or someone you know would like to notify the church of a surgery, hospitalization or other care emergency, please email [visits@rslcs.org](mailto:visits@rslcs.org). Please include the facility and contact number. For prayer submissions to the News & Notes weekly email prayer partners, please email [prayers@rslcs.org](mailto:prayers@rslcs.org).

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

If you knit or crochet and wish to be a part of the team that knits or crochets these shawls, please contact Nancy Gooding at [goodingpn@wbshi.com](mailto:goodingpn@wbshi.com). These shawls are given to shut-ins, someone grieving a loss, hospitalized, etc. If you know of someone, please contact Pastor Mark. Enclosed with each shawl is this lovely prayer.

## **Prayer Warriors**

Prayer Warriors meet weekly at The Pathway Center where they pray for everyone on our prayer list. They would also like to send cards to those in the military and on missions, so if you have an address for them, please include it when completing your prayer request or send it to [prayerwarriors@rslcs.org](mailto:prayerwarriors@rslcs.org).



## **The Perfect Place**

THE PERFECT PLACE is experiencing exciting growth in all areas of ministry. In fall we became part of a new Partnership (SUN LAKES CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT PARTNERS) initiated by Caregiver Wayne Mangold, currently including Neighbors Who Care, Alzheimer's Assn, Sherri Friend (C.A.R.E.S.), Tessa Windt, artist, and THE PERFECT PLACE.

Through the support of grant funding we are bringing to Sun Lakes:

1. A Music Therapy Program developed by ASU Music Therapy Program held at the United Methodist Church on Riggs Road.
2. The C.A.R.E.S. Program, offering support for both Care-giver and Care-receiver is also at the Methodist Church.
3. In conjunction with the Phoenix Art Museum we will be offering an Art Program for our families.
4. THE PERFECT PLACE is scheduling Presentations by professionals here in our Fellowship Hall on a monthly basis for Care-givers, and because of financial constraints experienced by many families, we are offering to scholarship their loved one to attend THE PERFECT PLACE during

the Presentation. Though this creates added financial commitments on our part, the appreciation expressed by the Care-givers far outweighs it!

Join us for the following February Presentations in our Fellowship Hall:

**Friday, February 10th...1:00-4:00**

**Friday, February 17th...1:00-4:00**

Call TPP (**480-895-2892**) for details.

Consequently, marketing our program for financial support has become a priority...and a joy...knowing the positive impact our program has on families in our community. Financial support in any amount allows us to enrich our session programs and Scholarship Fund. For example, we have received donation of a used iPad, allowing us to create individualized activities for our Friends. We are seeking 3 more to complete that project. If you know of anyone upgrading theirs, please let us know. And financial donations in any amount allow us to purchase items from our "wish list" for our Friends.

However, most of all, please continually keep THE PERFECT PLACE in your prayers. You as a congregation have heeded the Lord's prompting to begin this program for His people in need. And I cannot tell you how many families shared with me appreciation for your offering this program to give them much-needed respite. We definitely see GOD IS ON THE MOVE at TPP and consider it a privilege to be a small part of His Program. ALLELUIA!

**[ThePerfectPlace85248@gmail.com](mailto:ThePerfectPlace85248@gmail.com), 480-895-2892**

**9am-noon Mon, Wed, Fri – 1pm-4pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, All Day Option-Mon, Wed, Fri**

## Missions

### Lutheran Braille Workers

Do you know someone who is blind or visually impaired? Lutheran Braille Workers produces a Biblically themed calendar that allows people who are blind or visually impaired to actually feel the illustrations that tell the story of God's love and salvation in the Scriptures. There is no charge for the calendars. If you would like to request either a Braille or large print calendar for friends or family, simply provide the name, address and desired format to Pat Bibler at **480-895-8788** or Kay Wellik at **480-838-4552**.

We meet on **Tuesdays, at 8:30 – 11:30am** in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us! If you have any questions call Kay Wellik at **480-838-4552**.

### Piece Maker Quilters

Our quilting group continues to grow stronger each week. The quilters wish to thank Bill Pauley for setting up our tables each week. He has to move quite a few of the smaller tables and chairs to accommodate the large tables needed by our group. This is not a small task. In the few weeks of January the quilters assembled 27 quilts, and we sent 3 medium flat rate USPS boxes of bandages made by Gwen Pancher and Marie Kiehl from white sheets provided

by Savers of Chandler to Global Health Ministries. Jan Otto answered our call for someone to iron for the team. Thank you, Jan. A thank you also goes out to Irene Mikkelsen for contributing the large bag of yarn and crochet thread!

## Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)

Membership in the Lutheran Women's Missionary League consists of women who are communicant members of the LCMS congregations and who participate by promoting the LWML programs. This is an excellent opportunity to experience Christian fellowship with other women of Risen Savior Lutheran Church.

2017 marks the **75<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the founding of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The Lord has blessed the work of the League through the giving of MITES (offerings) which are used throughout the world as Mission Grants. \$100,000 was given from 2015-2016 for a LCMS Global Seminary Initiative. This grant enables international students to study at one of the LCMS seminaries in order for them to return to be leaders in their churches.

Our Bible study, "Steadfast in the Faith", has begun taking a closer look at the First, Second and Third Articles in the Catechism and how it applies to our life today. We re-discovered how much God the Father Almighty loves us and takes care of us.

Please plan to join us at **1:00pm on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>** in The Pathway Center. For the years 2015-2017, the LWML has a goal of \$2 million dollars which will all be channeled to various synodical mission projects. For example, \$72,000 has been sent to Lebanon for outreach in refugee camps. Please pray for these mission efforts.

LWML is sponsoring a GIFTS from the HEART INGATHERING of HYGIENE KITS. These kits will be distributed to Lutheran Border Concerns Ministry, etc. Please consider making a kit or buying the essential toiletries that are needed for the kits. **Please** bring them to church by **February 12<sup>th</sup>**. Items needed are:

- 1 bath towel
- 1 bath size bar of soap
- 1 washcloth
- 1 sturdy comb
- 6 Band-aids 1/2" or 3/4" secured together
- Toothpaste/1 adult size toothbrush
- 1 stick deodorant (optional)

Planning will begin at our next meeting for the Spring Luncheon which will be on **April 1<sup>st</sup>**.

You are invited to a special event with speaker Cynthia Kahn: "Understanding ISLAM and sharing the love of Christ with non-Christians". This will be on **Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30am** at Christ Lutheran Church, 3901 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix. The cost is \$10 which includes lunch. Please rsvp to [amy@totallygill.com](mailto:amy@totallygill.com) by **February 11<sup>th</sup>**.

# LCEF

You and your friends at Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) share a common focus – ministry. Your investment with LCEF not only earns interest, but provides housing and debt consolidation loans for rostered church workers, and loans so that churches, schools, colleges, seminaries and other ministries can build, renovate and maintain facilities. Together we are making “space and place” for ministry. For the latest rates call 1-800-843-5233 or visit [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org).



## Active Duty Military Personnel

We would like to acknowledge and pray for all active duty military personnel associated with RSLCS. Please contact us on the prayer request line [prayers@rslcs.org](mailto:prayers@rslcs.org), on a pew card or by phone with their names. Cards will be sent if you include an address. First names are now posted in the display case outside to the left of the Narthex.

The Service flag is an official banner authorized by the Department of Defense for display by families who have members serving in the Armed Forces during any period of war or hostilities the United States may be engaged in for the duration of such hostilities.

## Chandler Salvation Army Support

The food drop-off for the Chandler Salvation Army is the first **Sunday** of each month. Please bring your non-perishables to the **cabinet** located in the hallway by the Fellowship hall. The donation box for clothing and small household goods for the Salvation Army is located in the northwest corner of the church parking lot.

## Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest



Showing kindness, doing justice and serving those in need, we are located statewide and serve 10 counties across Arizona. Arizona nonprofits do many things well that make this state a better place to live but we do this with the support of many partners. You are the rock stars. Thanks for creating the kind of community God envisions for Arizona.

## Volunteers Needed to Tidy Up Sanctuary

Risen Savior is looking for someone to share volunteer duties to tidy up the Sanctuary on alternate Mondays. Duties would include: retrieving last Sunday's bulletins, News & Notes and readings from the lectern, Pastor's benches, Elder's Closet, prayer sheet on altar, reserve five copies of last Sunday bulletins and News & Notes for lost and found table and set out Portal of Prayers at welcome booth and on cabinets in back of church. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the church office at **480-895-6782**.

## Concert Supporting Shepherd's Canyon Retreat

### Gospel Singers and Plane Crash Survivors to appear together in Concert

Dave and Barb, Roger Walck and Don Wharton will appear in concert at Risen Savior Lutheran Church at **3:00pm** on **Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**. The concert will be their first appearance together for many years.

On August 13<sup>th</sup>, 1993, while returning to Alaska from an evangelistic and humanitarian mission in the Russian Far East, Dave, Barb, Don and four others survived a plane crash in the Bering Sea. They are the only survivors of a plane crash in the Bering Sea or the Arctic Ocean. Their helicopter rescue has been described as the most dramatic air/sea rescue in aviation history. This dramatic story has been heard on *Focus on the Family* and on dozens of appearances on radio and television programs in America and Australia. Dave and Don's books and DVDs about this story will be available at the concert.

In addition to a great deal of music, the concert will feature Dave, Barb and Don sharing highlights from this dramatic story.

The concert at Risen Savior is open to the public. A free-will offering will be received in support of the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat ministry. Refreshments will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

### Standing Stones Retreat Center

The Shepherd's Canyon Retreat ministry is inviting you to attend an OPEN HOUSE **1:00pm - 3:00pm, Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**, at the Standing Stones Retreat Center, 15 miles west of Wickenburg on US Hwy 60 (between mile markers 93-94). The Open House will include the just-completed 3500 sq. ft. Fellowship House, the Duplex, and the Prayer Garden. Refreshments will be served and music will be heard. Call **928-685-5211** for questions or directions.

# Hosting an Exchange Student

Educatus is accepting new families that are interested in hosting an exchange student for FALL 2017-2018 school year. Become a host family for international students attending a high school near you in Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa and Higley.

We are expecting 20+ exchange students that will attend Hamilton HS this Fall. Plus, Williams Field and Higley HS will now accept exchange students this Fall 2017. Our Gilbert schools are Mesquite and Gilbert HS. We also have students that attend Mesa Schools at Sequoia, Westwood, Mountain View and Mesa HS.

Host families will receive a monthly stipend for hosting a student through our organization. OR, receive a \$100 bonus with any family you refer that hosts an exchange student.

For more information contact Jody Vasquez, International Coordinator at **480-262-9393** or [jodyvasquez.educatius@gmail.com](mailto:jodyvasquez.educatius@gmail.com)

*Be the*  
**PEACE**  
*that's missing*

**BECOME A HOST FAMILY**  
*Make a positive difference through promoting peace, understanding, and education of our international youth.*

- Fulfill the dream of an international student
- Learn about another culture
- Introduce American culture to a student
- Expand your family and create fantastic memories
- Receive a monthly stipend to help with associated costs

  
**educatius**  
INTERNATIONAL

Bring the world to you,  
and be the world to them

Jody Vasquez  
International Coordinator  
[jodyvasquez.educatius@gmail.com](mailto:jodyvasquez.educatius@gmail.com)  
(480) 262-9393

EDUCATIUS.ORG | PHONE: 800.301.6034

## **Lutheran Hour Ministries**

Come celebrate 100 years of the Lutheran Hour Ministries with the Grand Canyon District LHM on **Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am – 3:00pm**, at Mountain View Lutheran Church in Apache Junction. Rsvp by **February 2<sup>nd</sup>** to Denise Seaman at [DJSeaman7@gmail.com](mailto:DJSeaman7@gmail.com) or call **480-883-8024** or **480-479-3496**.

## **Reformation 500**

Workshops and Hymn Festival, **February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>**, at St. Luke Lutheran, 807 N. Stapley Dr., Mesa, AZ 85203, **480-969-4414**.

**Saturday, 9:00am – noon, Discipleship Workshop** titled “Adult Faith Formation” – Forming New Christians, presented by Rev. Paul Hoffman.

**Saturday, 9:00 – 11:30am, Choral Workshop**, directed by Robert Hobby

**Sunday, 3:00pm – Reformation 500 Hymn Festival**

## **Annual Church Picnic**

Join us at Tumbleweed Park on **Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00am – 1:00pm**. There will be hot dogs, hamburgers and fun for all ages. Activities include a Corn Hole tournament, bounce house, face painting, balloon creations and games!

## **Lost and Found**

Our lost and found is located in the hallway outside the Conference Room in the church. Please check it out - we have many lost treasures, one of them may be yours!

## **Monthly Newsletter Articles**

Please have your newsletter articles into the church office by the **10<sup>th</sup> of each month**. Send your articles to: [news@rslcs.org](mailto:news@rslcs.org). The newsletter will go out by the first of the month.

## **Update Contact Information**

For those who have a change of contact information, please remember to advise the church office of your updated contact information so you can receive the news at Risen Savior. Call **480-895-6782** or email [news@rslcs.org](mailto:news@rslcs.org).

## **2017 Contribution Envelopes**

Offering envelopes are still available. Please ask an Elder if you haven't picked up your envelopes and he will assist you.

## **Risen Savior Foundation**

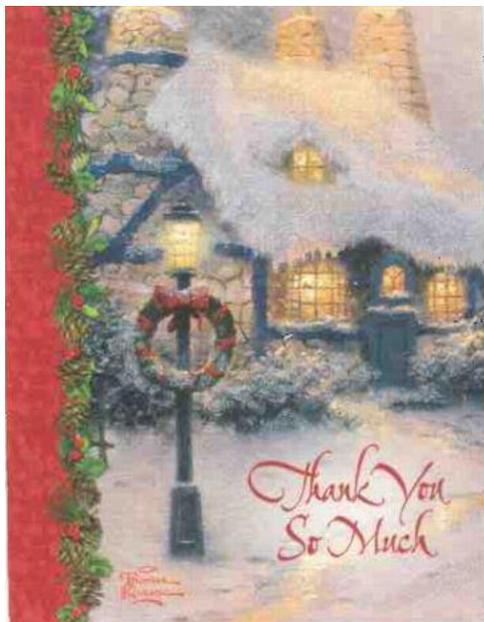
Does your will reflect your current intentions? Consider RSLCS Foundation, Inc., for a portion of your estate. A bequest in your will does not involve an immediate donation and it can be changed at any time. All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

# Risen Savior's Nativity Touches Community

Thank You Jack Freund for your creativity and great work on constructing the Nativity Scene. Also, Thank You to Ron Jaso for engineering and building the lighted trees that were such a great addition.



As our volunteer crew was taking down the Nativity scene on our north property they found a box and a card amongst the scenery. Someone had left a thank you card and a beautiful scrapbook as appreciation for the Nativity. The staff was moved to tears as the card was read aloud, and we were all reminded of the impact that ministry can have on people. God be praised!



Praise God for you  
& your Nativity Scene!  
We enjoyed it so much  
& appreciated seeing  
it both day & night.  
A light and message  
in this dark world.  
Thank the builder as  
well. Merry Christmas  
to you & yours and a safe  
healthy "close to God"  
New Year!

## Pathway – Mortgage is Paid Off!



### Save the date for “Burn the Mortgage” Celebration

Join us as we celebrate the burning of the mortgage for The Pathway Center on **Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00pm** in the lot north of The Pathway Center. Check News & Notes for upcoming details.

# Risen Savior Monthly Financial Review

## Risen Savior Monthly Financial Review

The following is a summary of financial activity for Risen Savior Lutheran Church. If you would like more detailed reports, please contact our Business Manager, Susan Mello at mellos@rslcs.org.

### Financial Summary for December 2016 and FYTD17:

- Risen Savior continues to be blessed by the generosity of its congregants. After the Pathway mortgage was paid off, donations continued. A payment of \$37,000 was made on the primary mortgage in January.
- Giving Results
  - Giving continues to be strong.
  - Giving was over budget in December by \$14,221 and FYTD by \$46,831.
- Spending
  - Spending was *under* budget in December by \$20,325.
    - FYTD17, expenses are *under* budget by \$71,210.
    - We are currently expecting to be at or slightly under budget on expenses by FYE17.
- Early Learning Center (ELC)
  - The ELC Income was over budget by \$9,173.
- Net Operating Cash is (130) which is a planned amount based on budget. Operating Cash increased in December by \$50,081.

High Level Statement of Financial Income and Expense						
	Dec-16	Dec-16	\$ Over	FYTD17	FYTD17	\$ Over
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
Giving	144,136	129,915	14,221	600,121	553,290	46,831
All other income	784	3,680	(2,896)	25,410	22,280	3,130
<b>Total Church Income</b>	<b>144,920</b>	<b>133,595</b>	<b>11,325</b>	<b>625,531</b>	<b>575,570</b>	<b>49,961</b>
<b>Early Learning Center</b>	<b>95,072</b>	<b>96,040</b>	<b>(968)</b>	<b>573,601</b>	<b>573,235</b>	<b>366</b>
<b>Total Operational Income</b>	<b>239,992</b>	<b>229,635</b>	<b>10,357</b>	<b>1,199,132</b>	<b>1,148,805</b>	<b>50,327</b>
<b>Operational Expenses</b>	<b>184,395</b>	<b>204,720</b>	<b>(20,325)</b>	<b>1,159,776</b>	<b>1,220,015</b>	<b>(60,239)</b>
<b>Net Income/(Loss)</b>	<b>55,597</b>	<b>24,915</b>	<b>30,682</b>	<b>39,356</b>	<b>(71,210)</b>	<b>110,566</b>
<b>High Level Statement of Operational Cash</b>						
<b>December 2016</b>						
Cash/Current Assets 12/31/16		455,808				
Donor Restricted Funds		218,992				
Board Designated Funds		236,946				
Net Operational Cash 12/31/16		(130)				
Cash/Current Assets 11/30/16		426,453				
Donor Restricted Funds		229,569				

# Happy Birthday

Michael Everson	02/01	Kathy Long	02/08
Gertrude Harmening	02/01	Alyson Olson	02/08
Stephen Jacusis	02/01	Sara Bennerotte	02/09
Verla Matuschka	02/01	Jackson Dow	02/09
Marcy Pietrek	02/01	Harry Folkvord	02/09
Sherry Simonek	02/01	John Lasiter	02/09
John Neff	02/02	Mason Hickel	02/10
Kodyn Wolf	02/02	Heather Kniep	02/10
Natalie Musa	02/03	Patsy Magnuson	02/10
Tate Snodgrass	02/03	Ted Tollefsen	02/10
Caleb Evans	02/04	Robert Connors II	02/11
Karen Kanda	02/04	Gordon Hagg	02/11
Emma Loop	02/04	Mckenna Loop	02/11
Jan Pfahl	02/04	John Maschoff	02/11
Walter Potthoff	02/04	Grace Stark	02/11
Sharon Becker	02/05	Andrew Fauth	02/12
Brian Reed	02/05	Bernita Grgich	02/12
Kylie Correll	02/06	Donald Nelson	02/13
Connor Correll	02/06	Kenneth Poulsen	02/13
Richard Ellefson	02/06	Kenneth Reidenbach	02/13
Deb Ellis	02/06	BJ Schuller	02/13
Victor Jimenez	02/06	Wade Wampler	02/13
Jessyca Peterson	02/06	Willard Pedersen	02/14
Sandra Devine	02/07	Margaret Bergendahl	02/15
Ashley Jacusis	02/07	Linda Peiffer	02/15
Thomas Korpalski	02/07	Peyton Stark	02/15
Susan Mello	02/07	Brian Tormey	02/15
Kaileigh Roberts	02/07	Hailey Arbuthnott	02/16
Savannah Steiner	02/07	Rosemary Langley	02/16
Sue Strauch	02/07	Ellen Voelker	02/16

Linda Buns	02/17	Heather Chase	02/24
Travis Schultz	02/17	Hans Clef	02/24
Isaac Stark	02/17	Myrtle Kiehl	02/24
Kelly Hahn	02/19	Richard Kuhlman	02/24
Bernadine Herbeck	02/19	Tonee Lopez	02/24
Kathryn Lantz	02/19	Keith Snodgrass	02/24
Lisa Spivey	02/19	Ross Grainger	02/25
Brandon Stevens	02/19	Mark Hoffmann	02/25
Jason Buchanan	02/20	Shirley Donatt	02/26
Ryan Long	02/20	Gary DuBois	02/26
Nancy Bryant	02/21	Donald Kovac	02/26
Mila Frank	02/21	Cristy Wellik	02/26
Clayton Hefty	02/21	Jacob Adamovic	02/28
Judy Hayes	02/23	Barbara Bade	02/28
Dick Meyer	02/23	Ken Krupp	02/28
Kevin Milne	02/23	Christian Wellik	02/28
Kristin Zeller	02/23		

# Happy Anniversary

Lowell & Lue Fisher	02/01	Robert & Beverly Jur	02/14
Richard & Judith Mente	02/01	Edwin & Janice Schoening	02/14
Keith & Glee Thomas	02/01	Wayne & Heather Chase	02/16
Shannon & Jennifer Miller	02/02	Harry & Helen Folkvord	02/16
Lee & Diane Bergelin	02/04	Ricci & Teresa Herb	02/17
Anthony & Barbara Fox	02/04	Hans & Billie Clef	02/20
Austin & Elaine Culp	02/05	Charles & Judith Bell	02/27
Ken & Ann Krupp	02/06	Richard & Katharine Rasmussen	02/27
Bron & Michelle Steinmetz III	02/07	Marv & Kay Wellik	02/27
Herman & Nancy Swanson	02/08	Robert & Shirley Moyer	02/28
Brian & Jessica Irick	02/10	Matthew & Rebecca Derr	02/29
Bob & Marge Brower	02/14		

# Advertising Information



Valley of the Sun Cemetery & Mortuary  
10940 E Chandler Heights Rd.  
Chandler, AZ 85248

As a RSLCS Church Member, I am committed to helping fellow parishioners make difficult decisions concerning their final arrangements. I specialize in National Transferable pre-arranged cremations, funerals, burials and other unique requests such as Travel & Relocation Plans. Bring this ad to Holly for a *FREE* personal planning guide. Pre-planning discounts and payment plan options are available.



Cell 480/415-3925  
holly.hiner@Dignitymemorial.com

**Holly Hiner**  
Family Service Counselor

## Advertising Rates and Requirements

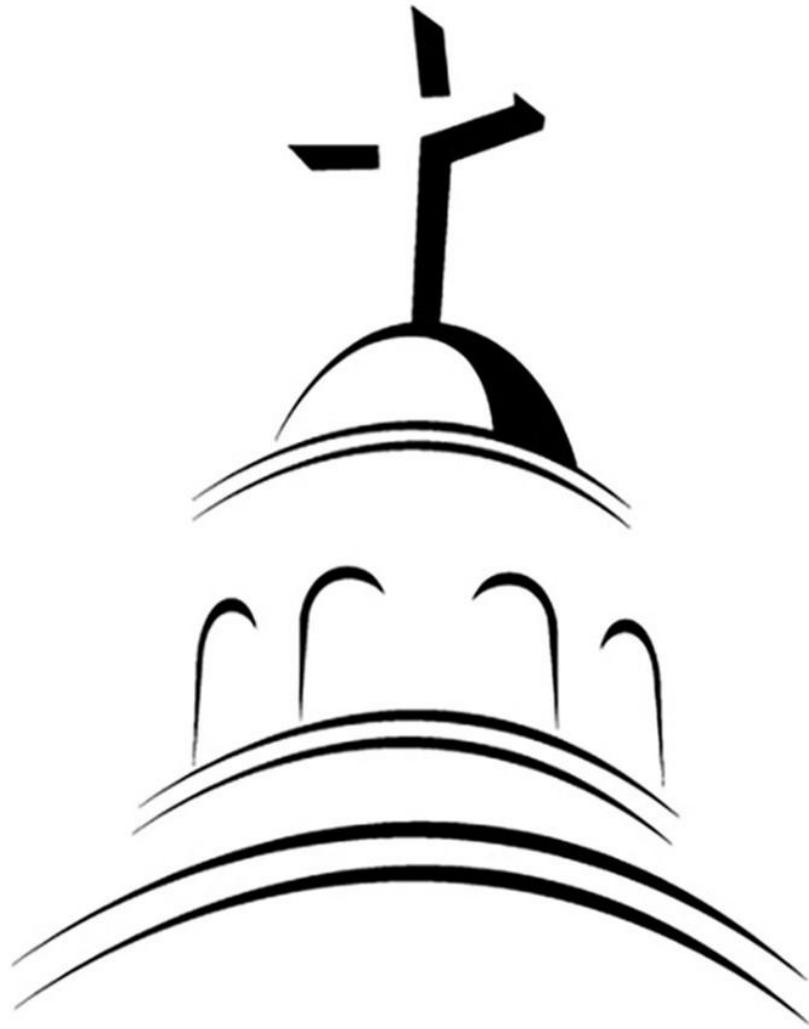
Space permitting, each advertiser will be allowed one ad per month.

1. Each ad 2" x 3.5" in size (business card size) will cost \$20 per issue, or \$200 yearly. Non-member prices are \$25 per issue or \$250 yearly.
2. One-third page ad will cost \$30 per issue, or \$350 yearly. Non-member prices are \$35 per issue or \$400 yearly.
3. Two-thirds page ad will cost \$40 per issue, or \$400 yearly. Non-member prices are \$50 per issue or \$450 yearly.
4. Please provide one business card for ad copy to RSLCS office along with payment.
5. Please make checks payable to Risen Savior, attention RSLCS Newsletter.

## Terms & Conditions:

All rates are subject to change without notice. In the event of a rate change, all advertisers with standing orders will be given 30-days notice of the new rates.

All advertising is subject to acceptance by Risen Savior. Questionable, confusing, misleading, controversial, or fraudulent statements will be declined. RSLCS reserves the right to reject any and all advertising, which they feel is not in keeping with the publications' standards and principles.



**RISEN SAVIOR**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH**