




Epiphany 7
ALA Sunday
Notes and News
February 23, 2025

Welcome!

We are honored that you are with us today. May the Word of God that you hear strengthen your faith and increase your desire to serve the Lord! If you are a guest today, we are thankful you have joined us. We hope that you will join us again soon.

For your convenience

For your convenience, please take note of the following:

- **Restrooms** are to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Nursery.** There is a room where children may be quieted to the left down the hall across from the bathrooms as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Children's bulletins and worship notes** are available. Ask an usher.
- **Hearing assistance.** A hearing loop is available in the worship area for hearing aids equipped with a T-coil. 

If there is any other way in which we can assist you, let us know.

The service is streamed live online at elctempe.org/worship.

For the latest information about services schedules, please visit elctempe.org.



Connection card

*During the offering
we ask that you
complete an online
connection card.*

Epiphany 7 — February 23, 2025

ALA Sunday

Today we welcome Arizona Lutheran Academy (ALA) and its A Cappella choir under the direction of Mr. Josh Severeid. An "ALA Sunday" is our regular worship service with the choir leading our singing. During our Christian Education Hour today, Ben Priebe, Director of Mission Advancement for ALA, will be presenting in the Ministry and Education Center between the church services. Adult Bible study and Table Talk are canceled today.

We thank the ALA A Cappella choir for joining us in praising our amazing God together!

The service is printed in a separate service folder. This booklet contains news and notes.

Serving at Worship

Preaching Minister
Presiding Minister
Organ
Soloists
Choirs

Pastor Gary Pufahl
Pastor Chris Pflughoeft
Kurt Rosenbaum
Eli Gruman, Leia Hahnke
ELS Junior Choir
ELS Chimes
ALA A Cappella
Reed Bode, Chris Wempner
Angie Keezer
George Willis (8:00 a.m.), Joshia Rajan (10:30 a.m.)
ALA
Logan Wenzel (10:30 a.m.)

Video streamer and slides
Video captions
Sound
Hymn selections
Acolyte

In our prayers

- The family of Curt Matthew, son-in-law of Norm and Barb Andrews, who mourns in the midst of Curt's death.
- Lorenzo Ortega – Recovering at home.

Ushers

8:00 a.m. Sean Lieske, Dave Schultz, Rob Wenzel, Justus Wenzel
10:30 a.m. Roger Odle, Mike Richey, Tristan Richey

Communion

Thank you to Natalie Priebe and Natasha Schultz for helping set up Communion for the weekend.

This week at Emmanuel

Sunday

Online live-streamed service	8:00 a.m.
In-person services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
In-person Bible study	No class this week
ALA presentation in the MEC	9:15 a.m.
Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
Public school catechism	12:00 p.m.
Annual ALA Federation delegate assembly	3:00 p.m.

Monday

ASU Campus Ministry	5:00 p.m.
Monday night worship service	6:30 p.m.
Monday night Bible study in the MEC	7:40 p.m.

Where's God?

Led by Pastor Chris Pflughoeft



*Emmanuel usher
sign-up.*

Tuesday

Worship Committee 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Wednesday Bible study in the MEC 8:30 a.m.

Digging deeper into doctrine

Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl

Adult choir in the MEC 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Thursday Bible study at Denny's 6:00 a.m.

Attitude Adjustment (Book of Philippians)

Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at

Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)

ELS Kindergarten and Preschool Open House 3:30-6:00p.m.

God's Ways Bible study in the MEC 6:00 p.m.

Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl

Bible Basics in the MEC 6:30 p.m.

Led by Pastor Jon Buchholz

Friday

ELS chapel 8:30 a.m.

Early release 1:50 p.m.

Saturday

Evangelism Workshop 9:00 a.m.

Pioneers meeting (Pine Car Derby) 1:00 p.m.

Next Sunday, March 2

Worship services 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study 9:15 a.m.

Public school catechism 12:00 p.m.

Looking ahead

March 3 ASU campus ministry 5:00 p.m.

Monday night worship service 6:30 p.m.

Monday night Bible study in the MEC 7:40 p.m.

Where's God?

Led by Pastor Chris Pflughoeft

March 4 Special voters' meeting 6:30 p.m.

Stewardship meeting 8:00 p.m.

March 5 Wednesday Bible study in the MEC 8:30 a.m.

Digging deeper into doctrine

Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl

Ash Wednesday worship service 3:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Lenten supper 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Adult choir in the MEC No practice this week

March 6	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m.
	<i>Attitude Adjustment (Book of Philippians)</i>	
	<i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i>	
	<i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>	
	God's Ways Bible study in the MEC	6:00 p.m.
		<i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
	Bible Basics in the MEC	6:30 p.m.
		<i>Led by Pastor Jon Buchholz</i>
March 7	ELS	No school
	John Henderson Memorial basketball tournament	TBA
March 8	John Henderson Memorial basketball tournament	TBA
March 9	In-person services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
	Public school catechism	12:00 p.m.
	Serve at Paz de Cristo	4:00-7:00 p.m.
March 10	ASU campus ministry	5:00 p.m.
	Monday night worship service	6:30 p.m.
	Monday night Bible study in the MEC	7:40 p.m.
		<i>Where's God?</i>
		<i>Led by Pastor Chris Pflughoeft</i>
March 11	Women of the Word social and elections	5:00-8:00 p.m.
March 12	Wednesday Bible study in the MEC	8:30 a.m.
		<i>Digging deeper into doctrine</i>
		<i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
	Midweek Lent worship service	3:30 and 6:30 p.m.
	Lenten supper	4:30-6:00 p.m.
	Adult choir in the MEC	7:30 p.m.
March 13	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m.
	<i>Attitude Adjustment (Book of Philippians)</i>	
	<i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i>	
	<i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>	
	God's Ways Bible study in the MEC	6:00 p.m.
		<i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
	Bible Basics in the MEC	6:30 p.m.
		<i>Led by Pastor Jon Buchholz</i>
March 14	ELS chapel	8:30 a.m.
	Early release	1:50 p.m.
March 15	Joy Fellowship at Barleens Dinner Show	11:15 a.m.
March 16	In-person services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study	9:15 a.m.
	Sunday school, teen study	No classes this week
	Public school catechism	No class this week
March 17-21	ELS Spring Break	No school



Notes and News

Connection card

During the offering we ask that you complete an online connection card.

Connection cards

The connection cards have a valuable purpose in helping us serve you better. We ask all our worshipers to help us serve you by scanning the QR code, by going to elctempe.org/connect, or by filling out one of the cards in the pews. Thank you!

Tuition assistance workshop | February 24

ALA (Arizona Lutheran Academy) is committed to helping families afford a private, Christian education for their children. Be sure to find out about all the options available by attending the upcoming Tuition Assistance Workshop tomorrow, Monday, February 24, at 6:00 p.m. on the ALA campus. Register at ALAcoyotes.org/TAW.

ELS Kindergarten and Preschool Open House | February 27

Emmanuel Lutheran School will be hosting an Open House for new parents looking for Kindergarten and/or Preschool. The date for this event is this Thursday, February 27, from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. Do you have families, friends, or relatives looking for a school for their future kindergartener or preschooler? Open house flyers are available in the church narthex for distribution.

Christian Family Solutions – small group gatherings | Save the dates

We know there are hurting people all around us – in our communities, workplaces, churches and even our own homes. People everywhere are crying out for help with issues such as anxiety, depression, addictions, marital and relationship troubles, trauma, and more.

As Christians, we are called to care.

For over six decades Christian Family Solutions (CFS) has been on the front line answering the call to heal and help others in need, motivated by the power of the Gospel. CFS is a unique ministry that blends evidence-based mental health treatment that is faith-integrated for effective and lasting (eternal!) outcomes.

CFS is hosting two small group gatherings in the Phoenix area and you're personally invited to attend one of these sessions. There will be a light meal, Christian Family Solutions ministry updates and discussion with Pastor Mike Helwig, director of ministry and faith integration.

Please RSVP to Amy Schultz at aschultz@wlcfs.org or (262) 252-9156.

Thursday, February 27
6:00-8:00 pm
Heritage Lutheran Church
421 E Ray Road, Gilbert, AZ

-or-

Friday, February 28
6:00-8:00 pm
Emmaus Lutheran Church
3841 W Sweetwater Ave, Phoenix, AZ

New Meditations available

Meditations is a daily devotional magazine that is released every three months. Each daily devotion has a Scripture reading, a meditation, and a prayer. Your complimentary copy of *Meditations* is available on the back counter at church. Please pick up the current issue that starts with a devotion for March 2.

2025 offering envelopes

Last chance to pick up your 2025 offering envelopes. If you haven't picked up your envelopes yet, you can find them in alphabetical order on the table in the Ministry and Education Center. If you do not see your name and would like to order envelopes, or, if you do not wish to receive offering envelopes but prefer online giving, please contact the church office at (480) 967-3983. All envelopes remaining after Monday, February 24, will be cleared away.

Volunteers and candy needed for Family Easter Festival

Our Family Easter Festival is on Saturday, April 19, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. In order to have a fun and safe event for all, we need volunteers and candy donations. If you are interested in volunteering for this fun family event, use the provided QR code or contact Alysha Bergsma, the church administrative assistant, at (480) 967-3983. We are also collecting non-chocolate candy that will go into the plastic eggs for our egg hunts. A candy collection box is located in the church narthex.



*Family Easter
Festival - Volunteers*

Evangelism Workshop | March 1

Emmanuel will be hosting an Evangelism Workshop this Saturday, March 1, from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. This will be a time to learn and put into practice formal Evangelism. During the workshop, you will gain confidence and learn new ways to have great and meaningful conversations with those around you, be it a neighbor, co-worker or friend. At the workshop we will enjoy coffee and treats.

Lutheran Pioneers | March 1

Pioneers will meet this Saturday, March 1, for their Pine Car Derby race. The race will be located in the MEC (Ministry and Education Center). All participants need to have their pine cars turned in by weigh-in, which begins at 1:00 p.m. The race will begin at 1:30 p.m. Popcorn and water will be served.

Lutheran Pioneers gives your child the opportunity to learn and grow in a caring, Christian environment. From baking and sewing to building and acting, your child can learn skills for a life of service to God. Pioneers is for kindergarten through grade 6. Visit our website (elctempe.org/pioneers) for more information.



*Lutheran Pioneers
- Registration*

Special congregational voters meeting | March 4

The Church Council is calling a special congregational voters' meeting at 6:30 p.m. on March 4, 2025. The School Board has prepared some documents to answer the questions from our previous voters' meeting regarding an intervention specialist teacher. The voters will then decide whether or not to create this added position for our teaching staff at Emmanuel Lutheran School. If the voters decide to add this position, we will then have a call meeting as part of this special voters' meeting.

Serve at Paz de Cristo | Meal service on March 9

Ages 12 and up are invited on Sunday, March 9, 2025, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. to help with meal service (please arrive 15 minutes early for sign-in). This volunteer opportunity will consist of serving dinner to those in need. Kitchen help, serving plates, handing out meals, and kindly greeting people with a smile will be among the duties for the night. Please contact Martha Wenzel at wenzel715email@gmail.com or call or text (602) 697-3200 to reserve your spot. An e-mail link will be sent to you.

WOW social and elections | March 11

Emmanuel's Ladies' Group, *Women of the Word (WOW)*, will meet next on Tuesday, March 11, 5:00-8:00 p.m. in Emmanuel's Ministry and Education Center (MEC) for dinner and elections. Dinner, drinks, and dessert will be provided. All ladies of Emmanuel are encouraged to join! We are looking for officers and committee chairs to begin their terms in June. Please be on the lookout for information regarding this event and more exciting news about WOW. If you have any questions, please contact Alysha Bergsma, the church administrative assistant, at (480) 967-3983.

Holy Week choirs open to all

All are invited to join the adult choir for our Holy Week services. There are three opportunities: all males for Palm Sunday, all females for Holy Thursday, and mixed voices for Easter Sunday. You are invited to join us at 7:30 p.m. on each Wednesday night starting March 12 and leading up to Holy Week. We would enjoy having additional singers for this special week of worship! For more information, contact Kevin Bode, kbode@elstempe.org.

Joy Fellowship | March 15

Please join us for the show *Old Time Rock and Roll* on Saturday, March 15, at Barleens Dinner Show located at 2275 E. Old West Highway, Apache Junction. Doors open at 11:15 a.m. Lunch is served at noon and the show starts at 1:00 p.m. The price is \$49.00 per person. We have 32 seats reserved. A sign-up sheet and more information will be on the table in the MEC. Please pay for your tickets by March 1. Contact Wendy Binger at (480) 452-6169 or jbwendy97@gmail.com with any questions or more information.

Greeter training / Ice cream social | March 25

If you weren't able to join us for the orientation in October or November, we have a new date for you. Future greeters are invited to an important greeter orientation this Tuesday, March 25, at 6:00 p.m. During and after the brief training session we'll enjoy ice cream and toppings. For more information speak with Martha Wenzel, (602) 697-3200. Join us for the fun!

Emmanuel church picnic | March 30

It's that time of year again! Our annual church picnic is scheduled for Sunday, March 30, 12:00-2:00 p.m. Please join us for fellowship, festivities, fun, and food. We will have food, drinks, entertainment, and activities. Hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, bar-b-que beans, drinks, and condiments will be provided.

We are asking for members to contribute cold sides and desserts. More information about this event, volunteer opportunities, and to RSVP can be found at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4FADA82DAA8-55229381-2025>, or the provided QR code. Please RSVP by Monday, March 24.



*Emmanuel picnic
- Sign-up*

LWMS Spring Rally | Save the date - May 3

Emmanuel Lutheran Church is hosting this year's LWMS (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society) Spring Rally on Saturday, May 3. This will be the Grand Canyon West circuit rally. The rally is at 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and registration (check-in) starts at 8:15 a.m. A light breakfast will be served and lunch is included. Rally registration fee is \$20. All Emmanuel ladies are welcome to join!

More information and registration is available at www.gcwlwms.org/ (or the provided QR code) and in the church narthex. Mail in or register online (www.cognitofrms.com/LWMSGrandCanyonWest/LWMSGrandCanyonWestSpringRallyMay32025 or the provided QR code) by April 25.



*LWMS-GCW
website*



*LWMS-GCW
- online registration*

Lenten meals and fellowship

Let's get together! Enjoy a meal and fellowship on Wednesday nights for the six weeks during Lent. Bring your family, friends and themed dish to share!



*Lenten meal, March 5
- Sign-up*

Ash Wednesday, March 5th - Mexican

Set-up and clean-up led by Women of the Word (WOW)

Congregation will bring Mexican dishes and desserts

WOW will provide chips and salsa

Sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4DAAA72CA20-55241063-lenten>



*Lenten meal, March 12
- Sign-up*

March 12th - Chili

Set-up and clean-up led by soup supper group led by Cathy Wightman

Congregation will bring crockpots of chili and desserts

WOW will provide crackers, cheese and onions

Sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4DAAA72CA20-55241649-lenten>

March 19th - Salad

Set-up and clean-up led by Joy Fellowship

Congregation will bring salads and desserts

WOW will provide bread, butter, and crackers

March 26th - Italian

Set-up and clean-up led by school faculty

Congregation will bring Italian dishes, salad, and desserts

WOW will provide garlic bread

April 2nd - Hot Dish/ Casserole

Set-up and clean-up led by Adult Choir

Congregation will bring casserole, hot dishes, and desserts

WOW will provide bread and butter

April 9th - Potluck

Set-up and clean-up led by Church Council

Congregation will bring a potluck dish of their choice

WOW will have a freewill offering to offset the cost of paper products and accompaniment to the meal. Please use the sign-up links or QR codes provided above (for the first two Wednesdays) to reserve your spot and join the fun!

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Henriksen at (602) 301-6243 or tkhenriksen@gmail.com.

Kindergarten & Preschool Open House



*You are cordially invited to meet the teachers,
see the classrooms, learn about the curriculum,
and ask about using an ESA for tuition.*

Emmanuel Lutheran School SONshine Preschool

715 W Southern Ave Tempe AZ 85282
480-967-3991 | www.elstempe.org

Thursday, February 27
3:30 - 6:00 p.m.

CHRIST ~ CONNECTION ~ CARING

Church Picnic

SAVE THE DATE

Join us Sunday, March 30, for our annual church picnic. We will have food, drinks, entertainment, and fun activities. Be on the lookout for more information and sign-ups for volunteers and potluck opportunities.



The Event



Sunday,
March 30



12:00 p.m. -
2:00 p.m.



715 W
Southern Ave
Tempe, AZ
85282

Because Jesus left the glory of heaven for us, chose to live in this sinful world for us, suffered rejection and ridicule for us, took the punishment for us and forgave us, rose from the dead to proclaim victory for us, won an eternity of glory in heaven for us, together as God's people we celebrate *It's Harvest Time!*

Between now and April, we will remind each other of our Savior's love for us – a love that brought him to the cross in our place. It's because he first loved us, that we are now compelled to love him, to serve him, to sacrifice to him, to continue growing closer to him.

Moved by his love and because of God's grace, the Emmanuel Lutheran Church family will...

- **Pray** for the ministry of our church and school.
- **Set aside** time for prayer initiative and home devotionals.
- **Consider** the wealth of blessings God has given.
- **Seek** to share God's grace with others.
- **Rejoice** with our with Arizona Lutheran Academy partnership
- **Respond** to God's grace with a promise to financially support the grace-sharing work of our family with an over-and-above gift, given over three years.

Worship Celebration Presentations

It's Harvest Time!

March 16 and 17	We celebrate with <i>Joy</i>
March 23 and 24	We celebrate with <i>Thanksgiving</i>
March 30 and 31	We celebrate with <i>Generosity</i>
April 13 and 14	Commitment Sunday (Palm Sunday)

It's Harvest Time! Steering Committee

Sean Lieske	General Chair
Keri Lieske	General Chair
Chandler Balgeman	Communications
Brenda Glodowski	Communications
Elizabeth Bird	Communications, Presenter
Tom Bernthal	Spiritual Encouragement
Dave Glodowski	Reservation
Jerry Rusert	Appeal Secretary
Judy Rusert	Appeal Secretary
Pastor Gary Pufahl	Pastoral Guidance
Barry Redman	Stewardship

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

715 Southern Ave.
Tempe, Arizona 85282
480-967-3983
www.elctempe.org



It's Harvest Time!

Christian education hour

Here is a list of our classes, topics, and locations for our Sunday morning education hour.

Please note, there will be no **Adult Bible study** or **Table Talk** classes today (Sunday, 2/23/2025) due to the Arizona Lutheran Academy presentation at 9:15 a.m. We will be meeting in the Ministry and Education Center. Classes will resume next Sunday, March 2, 2025.

The **Teen Bible study Grades 9-12** is meeting in the 7th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "Epiphany Moments: Love Your Enemies: Overcome Evil with Good."

The **Junior High Bible study Grades 7-8** is meeting in the 8th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "Epiphany Moments: Love Your Enemies: Overcome Evil with Good."

The Sunday School for **Grades 4-6** is meeting in the 4th grade classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is "Mary anoints Jesus."

The Sunday School for **Grades 1-3** is meeting in the 3rd grade classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is "Mary anoints Jesus."

The Sunday School for **4K Preschool-Kindergarten** is meeting in the kindergarten classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is "Mary anoints Jesus."

The Sunday School for **two- and three-year-olds** is meeting in the preschool classrooms at the south campus. Parents are encouraged to remain with their children. The study topic today is "Jesus helps a man walk."

The **MUMs Group** is meeting in the nursery. Mothers and their children under 2 years are welcome to join for a devotion and fellowship.

Sunday school note

Parents, please take your children to the south side of campus for check-in. All Sunday School students will meet in the 5th grade classroom for a children's devotion, a song, and a snack before splitting up for their classes.

About Us



Emmanuel Lutheran Church shares the love of Jesus and the truth of his saving Word with the people in our church, our community and the world.

The objectives of our mission are:

- To **preach**, by proclaiming the Word of God, as we worship and praise God in a loving Christian atmosphere;
- To **teach**, by fostering an ongoing increase in knowledge and maturity in God's Word;
- To **reach**, by sharing the Gospel of God's Word with all people, and to do so;
- By **each** member actively participating in our ministry.

Pastor Gary A. Pufahl
gpufahl@elctempe.org
(480) 344-3781

Pastor Jon D. Buchholz
jonbuchholz@msn.com
(602) 377-1915

Pastor Daniel D. Pautz
danpautz7@gmail.com
(480) 766-2994

Pastor Christopher M. Pflughoeft
christopher.pflughoeft@gmail.com
(480) 291-2928

Church Secretary Alysha Bergsma
church@elctempe.org
(480) 967-3983

Principal Craig Kiecker
ckiecker@elstempe.org
(623) 313-5614

Music Director Kevin Bode
kbode@elstempe.org
(480) 694-3532

Financial Operations Mgr. Darcy Meyer
treasurer@elctempe.org
(480) 344-3783

School Secretary Erin Hahnke
school@elstempe.org
(480) 967-3991



Emmanuel Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).

*715 West Southern Avenue
Tempe, Arizona 85282
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church@elctempe.org
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