

The Messenger – February 20, 2024

Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church



SELC LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Wednesday's - February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20
at 10:00 am and 6:30 pm

Join us each week as we ponder several aspects of this Lenten season's theme,
"How To Become Church In The Secular Age."

Wk 1: The Church in the Secular Age: Declining or Becoming?

Wk 2: The Secular Age - How did we get here?

Wk 3: The Trinity as Ministry: God does who God is

Wk 4: Secularism and the Evangelical Response

Wk 5: Becoming Church: Ministry in the Secular Age

PLAN TO ATTEND LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS!

Our simple suppers for Lent will be held each Wednesday

February 21 and continue through March 20 at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Various committees are volunteering to bring soups and bread but if you would like to help and are not on a committee, please contact any member of the fellowship team or the church office and volunteer! Those of you who will be bringing soup, please remember to include the recipe for your soup so those with dietary concerns can be safe. In the interest of better stewardship, please bring your own table service; however, if you happen to forget this, there will be dinnerware available so please **join us** anyway to share fellowship, to give thanks for all the blessings we have, and to remember what we can give up in grateful response to Christ's giving His life for us. Thank you for your help in making this annual event a special time of observance. In support of our drive to raise \$2500 to provide a well with ELCA Good Gifts, a basket for donations will be available. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, please call Sandy Hall at 520-895-8376.

CURLY WILLOW BRANCHES

During Lent, the bare curly willow branches are placed in the sanctuary as a symbol of spring, of renewal, of Christ's death and Resurrection. What appear to be dead sticks on Ash Wednesday take root in water as Lent progresses. By Easter Sunday, the branches have leafed out so that we are reminded of the Resurrection.

GENERATIONS IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)

THIS SUNDAY..SUNDAY...SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 25! @ 10:30 a.m.

The RIC Team presents: Pastor Kurt Fangmeier!

Come to the Fellowship Hall for breakfast casseroles and conversation around racism issues and being a Reconciling in Christ Church.

DISCUSSION FORUM OF SELC CONSTITUTION

We will have a meeting on **Sunday, March 17 at 10:30 am** (after church) to discuss the changes made to our constitution that was recently approved by the Synod.

We will have a meeting on **Sunday, April 7 at 10:30 am** (after church) to vote on the new constitution.

To ensure everyone has sufficient planning time, I'll announce it in church March 24 and 31, and we'll send out postcards around Mar 25.

We're simply reviewing the changes at this meeting. The time to debate anything has passed; if you have an issue, please address it with the appropriate committee.

If a change is required, the entire constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions will go back to the Synod for approval. It will most likely be several months before we can vote to approve the next iteration of the constitution.

Thank You,
Deb Koltveit, Council President

2024 SELC CHALLENGE

Safe water access - ELCA Good Gifts \$2,500

In support of ELCA World Hunger's 50th anniversary



Can we as a congregation boldly reach toward raising \$2,500 together?

We have matching funds up to \$2,500 from our Trust Fund for a "Safe Water Access" gift through ELCA Good Gifts, ELCA World Hunger. That means our gift could double to \$5,000. More information in the Monday Messenger and in the narthex. Questions: Please ask Becky Randall or Cindy Wiste.

SYNOD REGION 2

40-40-40 LENTEN CHALLENGE

In honor of ELCA World Hunger's 50th year in mission and ministry, the 5 synods in ELCA Region 2 are challenging one another to raise money for ELCA World Hunger. The challenge: Participate in some spiritual and physical practices during the 40 days of Lent, 2024. The synod with the most participants wins! For details: www.LentenChallenge.org

- Click on "Register" (not on "donate") and fill out the form so our Synod gets credit!
- If you chose "Daily Donation" for ELCA World Hunger for a Lenten practice, please donate to 2024 SELC Challenge so we get matching funds from our Trust Fund. Donations to our challenge counts as a donation to ELCA World Hunger.

MESSENGER & BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT SUBMISSION

With the change of hours for our Administrative Assistant and the church office we are needing to "tighten up" our submission deadlines for announcements and articles.

- The weekly Messenger: submissions need to be into the church office no later than 9:00 am on Monday's.
- Sunday Bulletin: submissions need to be into the church office by Wednesday morning 9:00 am.

Send submissions to admin@selcaz.org or 520-459-0444 (or for more information.) Thank you for your patience and understanding.

2024 KINO CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SPRING GATHERING

March 2, 2024 - from 8:30-3:30 at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Tucson

Please be sure to have your Kino Conference Spring Gathering Registration form to Sherry Bougie no later than February 29th. Her address and contact information are on the registration form.

The topic for this year's gathering is "Hope for Our World: Healing/Family/Community." The guest speaker will be Annie Liss-Tucson to Lebanon and Back. In-kind donations will be collected to support Lutheran Social Services Immigration and Refugee program. They need diapers (sizes 3-5), Fry's gift cards (\$25 increments), and household supplies (such as hygiene and cleaning products). Registration form and agenda can be picked up in the Narthex or church office. Questions: email or call Sherry Bougie at slbougie@hotmail.com or 520-578-3396.

COUNCIL NOTES

In an effort to share as much information as I can with the congregation, I plan to have the minutes of Council meetings posted on the website for all to peruse at their leisure.

I also plan to post a brief synopsis of the council meetings in a Monday Messenger, and when we receive committee reports (prior to the council meetings), I'll do my best to post a synopsis in the Monday Messenger.

My goal is for the congregation to know what the council does, and hopefully by knowing what's going on, we will all become more aware and engaged.

If you have questions or comments, please let me know.

Thank You,

Deb Koltveit, Council President

dkoltveit@aol.com

MESSENGER AND SPECIAL EMAIL MAILING DIFFICULTIES

The office has received several inquiries from those who have not received the weekly messenger or special notice emails. We do apologize for the problem and believe we have found the difficulty. Not all who have COX emails are receiving some/all the SELC email as our address (admin@selcaz.org) is either blocked or going to your junk email. This is an issue with your provider, especially as they have started the changes they are making. So our best suggestion is to closely watch your junk email, mark the SELC email address as a safe sender, and / or call COX. Thank you for your understanding.

SELC OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Friday – Closed

CONTACT US AT.....

Just a refresher for our church contact.

Pastor Kurt Fangmeier: pastorkurt@selcaz.org

Cindy Wiste, Director of Faith Formation: dff@selcaz.org

SELC Office / Cindy Allen, Admin.: admin@selcaz.org

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