

THE MESSENGER
March 10, 2025
Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church



MID-WEEK ADULT STUDY

Wednesday Morning, March 12 - 10:00 am in the Music Room

Thursday Night, March 13 - 6:30 pm in the Meeting Room

Come join us as we start a video series, "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible." This is a 6-week series with each week a stand-alone lesson: 1. The Word of God; 2. What Lutherans Say About the Bible; 3. Where the Bible Comes From; 4. Interpreting the Bible in Context; 5. Determining Right from Wrong; 6. The Many Meanings of the Bible.



LENT AND HOLY WEEK AT SELC

Join us as we explore our Lenten theme "The Fruit of the Spirit."

Lenten Dinner Church

5:15 pm every Wednesday, March 12 – April 9

Our series continues each Wednesday. Dinner and worship are integrated and will include communion and small group discussions. These are excellent opportunities to invite friends, neighbors, and unchurched folk. If able please bring your own bowl and spoon. There will be some available for those who forget/can't.

Palm Sunday, Sunday, April 13

We celebrate this special day with our palm processional and Choir Cantata!

Our series concludes with

Maundy Thursday Service - Thursday, April 17

and Good Friday Service - Friday, April 18



VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PREPARATION (VITA) 2024

Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona is sponsoring free income tax preparation at no cost for taxpayers whose gross income was less than \$79,000.00 in calendar year 2024. All returns will be electronically filed for both the Federal and State return.

Location: Cochise College Downtown Center at 2600 E. Wilcox Drive in Sierra Vista.

Time: Tuesday and Thursday Evenings from 5:15pm to 8:00pm

Saturday Morning from 10:00am to 2:00pm

Dates: February 1, 2025 to April 15, 2025

In-person & Walk-ins welcome, but appointments are preferred. To make an appointment please call (520)235-2729. If you have any questions, please call Lynette Nowlan at (480)560-0857.








2025 Lenten Challenge: A Watered Garden Isaiah 58:11 grounds this year’s Lenten journey, in which the five Region 2 synods are challenging one another to explore the intersection of hunger and water while learning about one of our Region 2 Indigenous Ministries, the 70-year-old Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission (NELM) in Rock Point, AZ.

The challenge is to participate in some personal and community spiritual practices during Lent while learning about Lutheran Disaster Response’s projects, the ELCA’s work in the Truth and Healing Movement, and the work and ministry of NELM. The “winning synod” will be the one with the most individual participants.

Why Lent? Lent is 40 days to reflect, remember our dependence on God and one another, and look forward to the ways God calls us to be. Adding one or more of these practices to your observation of Lent might help you feel more connected. A light-hearted challenge like this could help our synods be the Church together, and to see God’s vision and invitation for us to be a church for the world and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

To participate you’ll commit to 3 of the 4 (or all 4) practices during the 40 days of Lent, 2025.

-  Daily Devotion. Subscribe to receive daily email devotions by Pastor Bill Dohle for Lent. These short reflections will be delivered to your inbox every morning during Lent.
-  Daily Diligence. Drink water; play in water; give up single-use water bottles; learn about water resources in your community and historical ELCA water projects; find ways each day to save water.
-  Daily Dedication. Engage with your community in this exploration. Participate in worship or
-  Bible study; learn together, join a reading circle; encourage children’s activities around conservation; celebrate World Water Day; organize a water walk; advocate for or clean up your local watershed.
-  Daily Donation. Pledge to give \$1 a day (or more) to Lutheran Disaster Response during Lent, designated for water distribution projects at NELM.

Ways you can make a donation to support

Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission through Lutheran Disaster Response

- Give directly through the LentenChallenge.org website
- Through the church by making a check payable to “SELCA” with “R2LENT” in the memo line
- Online donation at selca.org by choosing “40-40-40 Region 2 Lenten Challenge” under “Giving” - “Give Online”

Do you wish to donate without participating in the Lenten Challenge? Fine! Your donation is invited, and you are credited as usual, and your congregation and your synod are credited. Any donation received through May 31, 2025 counts toward the total.



CHALLENGE DETAILS
www.LentenChallenge.org
Learn more & sign-up
More about NELM: www.NELM.org

SELC FAMILY PORTRAITS

Many have expressed a desire to get to know people better. In hopes to start connections, conversations and relationships with each other, we will feature SELC family with a brief bio each week in the Messenger.



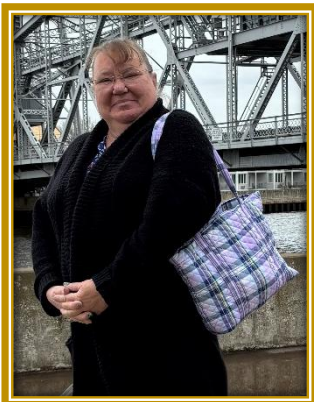
Patricia Shaner

1. *Where were you born or raised?*
Hokkaido, Japan, Raised in Japan, New Jersey, Alabama, and Arizona
 2. *Where did you go to school?*
University of Phoenix BA and MA in Organizational Development
 3. *What was your job or career?*
Over 30 years working in Human Resources within different industries
 5. *What activities have you been involved with here?*
Altar Guild, Shepards Fold Advisory Committee
 6. *What are your hobbies or interests?*
Reading, traveling
 7. *What is something you'd like to see the church do?*
Have a better process for welcoming guests and getting to know each other better
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Ian Burford

1. *Where were you born or raised?*
Born in AZ, raised in Sierra Vista
 2. *Where did you go to school? / 3. What was your job or career?*
Buena High School graduate, soon to be Cochise College student
 4. *When did you arrive at SELC, and what brought you here?*
I've been here since I was born.
 5. *What activities have you been involved with here?*
Involved in Youth programs
 6. *What are your hobbies or interests?*
Hobby is art.
 7. *What is something you'd like to see the church do?*
Would like to see more Youth activities
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Lynn Light

1. *Where were you born or raised?*
Born in Minnesota, raised in Colorado
3. *What was your job or career?*
Work at Cochise Eye and Laser for 13+ years
4. *When did you arrive at SELC, and what brought you here?*
Came in 2004; spent time with the youth as my kids grew up.
5. *What activities have you been involved with here?*
"just worshipping" didn't work for me, so involved with Altar Guild and Council
6. *What are your hobbies or interests?*
Hobbies are reading, crochet, crafts
7. *What is something you'd like to see the church do?*
Would like to see Grace groups, or something similar, return.

MARCH 11-16, 2025

TUE 3/11	9:00 AM	Shepherd's Fold Chapel - Sanctuary
	9:45 AM	Sierra Ringers Rehearsal – Music Room
	6:00 PM	Fellowship Hall Reserved
WED 3/12	10:00 AM	Bible Study – Music Room
	5:15 PM	Lenten Dinner Church – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
THURS 3/13	9:00 AM	Stitch-In-Time Quilters – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Bible Study – Meeting Room
	6:30 PM	Plus Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall
FRI 3/14		Church office closed on Friday's
	6:30 PM	Plus Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall
SAT 3/15		
SUN 3/16	9:00 AM	Worship Service
	10:30 AM	Faith Formation – Fellowship Hall
	11:15 AM	Good News Singers Practice – Music Room