



## The Messenger – July 22, 2024 Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church



### MID-WEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY

July Bible Studies will meet Wednesdays at 10:00 am 6:30 pm. Meeting in the Music Room.

---

### FAITH FORMATION

- Pastor's Adult Confirmation will resume for adults and Confirmation aged youth on Sunday, August 18th. We will begin digging into the New Testament.
  - Children's classroom faith formation will resume on August 18th. Teachers are still needed, what can you do to be a blessing to our kids?
- 

### SPECIAL HAPPENING IN AUGUST

#### BACKPACK SUNDAY, AUGUST 4<sup>TH</sup>

Be ready to kick off the school year with our Backpack Sunday.

**9:00 am** - Bring your backpacks to worship that day for a special blessing.

**10:30 am** - Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast provided by the Fellowship Team! We will also write notes to the children we give backpacks to. Many thanks to Thrivent for supporting this event with a Community Impact Card to cover our breakfast expenses!

---

#### G.I.F.T. - AUGUST 11 - GLOBAL REFUGE

##### We have special guests attending!

Ted Nguyen, who came to this country in 1975 as a refugee sponsored by our congregation, will be visiting that day with some members of his family. Rev. James Behnke who was a vicar at our church in 1975, has kept up a relationship with Ted's family and will be joining us that day as well. Also, Eric Shafer from Global Refuge will be speaking to us at GIFT. Of course, we will have breakfast and coffee! Don't miss out!

---

### THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

My family and I want to thank all of you for your kindness and caring after our move to Tucson and while Bob was dealing with so many hospitalizations and challenging medical issues. Your prayers, your cards and God's presence gave Bob and all of us the strength to cope with a difficult journey. The loving sympathy cards and notes continue to be a comfort to us. We cannot begin to express our thanks to everyone for all the time and effort that went into his memorial service and luncheon. What a wonderful family SELC has been to us for over 58 years! We are blessed!  
Jan Reiner and Family



## ULTREYA

August 4<sup>th</sup>, at Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The Ultreya / Potluck starts at 4:00 p.m., ending at 6:00 p.m.

The simplest description of the Ultreya is a meeting of Group Reunions. Here we witness together to the life in grace, and we challenge each other to persevere on our journey to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. While the primary Group Reunion is weekly, the Ultreya is usually monthly. At the Ultreya you will reaffirm friendships you made on your weekend. You will also make many new friends and receive encouragement and support.

The Ultreya fulfills many roles on the road to perseverance. For new participants of the Via de Cristo movement, it is the place to discover what the Group Reunion is like. The Group Reunion is not learned from only one or two attempts. It requires a period of time so that its rhythm becomes a method of life. The Group Reunion is one part of the process of community, the other part is the larger community, the Ultreya. Neither one is complete without the other, and growth is linked to the vitality and depth of both groups.

The purpose of the Via de Cristo movement as a distinct part of it, is to make it possible for us to know Christ, to share Christ, and to bring Christ into our communities, environments, and into all the world we know, linking Christians together in action. What is the role of the Ultreya in this? It provides the linkage, and good food. Bring your favorite dish to share.

**Ultreyas potlucks are open to everyone so bring a dish if you are able, if not, just come and enjoy the fellowship with friends and make some new friends.**

**Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring that Friend to Christ.**

For questions about the Ultreya – Potluck, which is open to everyone, contact Jim Clevon at [eaglelope38@gmail.com](mailto:eaglelope38@gmail.com) or call at (520)678-0414.

RSVP the church office or Jim Clevon by July 28<sup>th</sup> or sooner if you plan on attending the potluck, so we can set a place for you.

---

## GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

On Sunday, Sept. 8, ELCA congregations will join together for our annual day of service, "God's work. Our hands." This day continues to be an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

This year our theme will be "Showers of Grace." There are many in our community who do not have access to running water or basic hygiene supplies.

We can help make a difference for these individuals by supplying needed hygiene items.

Our guest speaker on September 8 will be Dr. Deluca from Good Neighbor Alliance, a homeless shelter, which serves vulnerable children in our community, provide meals for our homeless, and provide shelter for homeless and families in need. Weblink to GNA: <https://svshelter.org/>



Grab-and-go hygiene packs will be donated to both the Cove in Sierra Vista and Good Neighbor Alliance (GNA) that offer free showers to our unsheltered homeless neighbors or those without utilities. Laundry detergent will also be donated to GNA, where those without utilities can do one load of laundry free of charge.

The need for basic hygiene kits (shampoo, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant) and laundry detergent will be met through the generosity of Thrivent and our Endowment Fund. Washcloth and small bath towel donations are needed to complete the grab-and-go hygiene packs. Your constant generosity will provide the washcloths and towels. We ask that they be new and if possible, freshly laundered. We will have a tote in the narthex for your donations during the month of August through September 8.

If you would like to give a monetary gift to purchase washcloths, towels or hygiene items, checks should be made payable to "SELC" with "Showers of Grace" in the memo line. You may also make a secure online donation at our website, [selcaz.org](http://selcaz.org) by choosing "Showers of Grace." There is also a jar marked "God's work. Our hands." in the narthex for donations.

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Hunger Ministry members: Margaret Howard, Anna Bratlien, Pastor Kurt, Barb Williams, Carl McCourt, Erin Stephenson, Carrisa Bratlien, Cindy Wiste, James Brunk, Sandy Hall, Becky Randall.

**DO YOU NEED A GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS T-SHIRT?**

We are looking to put in an order for these great T-shirts. Didn't get on last time or want another, don't wait too long. Deadline for ordering is August 11th. Contact Cindy Wiste / the church office to order or for more information.



The \$17 was an estimate price.  
 \$12.95 per shirt without custom  
 \$30 for order, \$3/per shirt, if 10 shirts ordered. The minimum order is 10 shirts.  
 Plus, shipping depends on the order size. \$10 to \$30 per website

**July 21-28, 2024**

TUE 7/23	6:00 PM	Fellowship Hall Reserved
WED 7/24	10:00 AM	Bible Study – Music Room
	6:30 PM	Bible Study – Music Room
THR 7/25	9:00 AM	Stitch In Time Quilters – Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Special Choir Practice
	6:30 PM	Plus Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall
FRI 7/26		Church Office Closed Fridays
	6:30 PM	Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall
SAT 7/27		
SUN 7/28	9:00 AM	Worship Service
		No Faith Formation in July