



RISEN SAVIOR

LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 2024



Rev. Ron Burcham **Joel Endicott**
Senior Pastor Director of Worship
ron.burcham@rslcs.org Joel.endicott@rslcs.org

Rev. Kevin Austin **Susan Mello**
Pastor of Discipleship Director of Operations
kevin.austin@rslcs.org Susan.mello@rslcs.org

Rev. Mark Hoffmann **Linda Pauley**
Assistant Pastor of Director of Early Childhood
Congregational Care Education
mark.hoffmann@rslcs.org linda.pauley@rslcs.org

Rev. Dave Poedel **Jill Lopez**
Assistant Pastor of Director of NextGen &
Congregational Care Family Ministry
Dave.poedel@rslcs.org Jill.lopez@rslcs.org

23914 S. Alma School Rd (SB) | 23620 S. Alma School Rd. (NB)
Chandler, AZ 85248
Church Office 480.895.6782 | School Office 480.802.1505

WORSHIP

Sunday Service Times

8:00 & 11:30 am - Traditional Worship in the South Building Sanctuary
9:00 & 10:30 am - Contemporary Worship in the North Building Worship Center
Livestream is available at 8:00 & 10:30 via youtube.com "Risen Savior Chandler"
Communion is served at the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month
and at every 11:30 am service.

SUNDAY PARKING

A friendly reminder that there is additional parking available at the Administration Building and we have permission to use the Safeway parking lot for our Sunday service overflow. Also, if you are able to walk a little further, it would be kind of you to leave the front handicapped spots open to those who have limited mobility.

ADMIN OFFICE HOURS

Closed Jan. 1 & 2

M-Th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Fri. 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

SERMON ARCHIVE

If you are unable to join us in-person or via livestream worship at our service times available, don't worry, the entire sermon is uploaded the same day after 1:30 pm. Visit rslcs.org under "Sermon Archive" and you can view any of the previous sermons at your convince.

How to Place a Prayer or Request a Pastor Visit

*Submit a prayer request by emailing prayers@rslcs.org or use the QR code below. Prayers remain on the list unless an update is provided. To have someone pray with you by phone or in-person email prayers@rslcs.org.

*To notify the church of a surgery or hospitalization, please email prayers@rslcs.org. Please include the facility and contact number.

*After hours that need a timely response from a Pastor, please call 480.895.6782 ext. 120 and leave your name and phone number.



CONNECT



Welcome Party!

January 14 at 5:00 pm in the North Building.

If you are new or newer, or just curious about Risen Savior, we invite you to join us for a "Welcome Party" in your honor. The Welcome Party is an informal opportunity for us to get to know you and for you get to know us. During our time together you will have the opportunity to; enjoy appetizers, learn a little about who Risen Savior is and what we are all about, meet the team and others just like you or see how you can get involved and take your next step. We would love to have you join us for this fun night together. RSVP is not required, but any questions can be answered by emailing michelle.burcham@rslcs.org.

Eucharistic Training

January 10 at 9:00 am in the North Building.

We are looking to add to our team of trained volunteers. If you have ever wanted to assist and offer communion to shut-ins you are invited to this training. . Plan to be there for about 45 minutes. Contact mark.hoffmann@rslcs.org with any questions.



**Women's Christ-Centered
Yoga Returns!**

**Returns January 8 at 6:30 pm in
the North Building.**

Nurture your body, mind, heart and spirit. Please bring a mat (if you have one) and wear comfortable clothing. This group meets every Monday. RSVP, as space is limited, to Dawn at dawn@inspiritusyoga.com.

VISITATIONS

If you or someone you know would like a visitation, please notify the church of a surgery or hospitalization or other care emergency by emailing visits@rslcs.org. Be sure to include the facility and contact number.

BAPTISM AT RISEN SAVIOR

If you are someone you know is interested in getting more information on being baptized, contact the Church Office at 480.895.6782.

Padre Dave's "Theology Thoughts" Blog

Thinking out loud about God, Christian theology and more specifically the evangelical catholic theology as lived out amongst we Lutherans; and my attempt to get you to relax and let God love you! Pastor Dave Poedle invites you to join him on this adventure through his blog..."Theology Thoughts" are his random reflections on topics that come to his mind on any given day. Visit <http://padredave.substack.com>.



Refreshed for the Journey

Stewardship Capital Campaign

All members can expect to receive a phone call from another member to schedule a visit about the South Building renovation plans. Visits will last approximately 30 minutes. The visit will be extremely informative about the plans for the entire South Building. Be sure to get your visit scheduled and to be able to ask questions you have!

CONNECT



Jingle Jam

Last month we held our 3rd Annual Jingle Jam family event! It was another success with many new families attending and a wonderful time for all involved. Thank you to everyone who was involved with this event!





Volunteers Needed for **ALPHA** Study- Leader Meeting January 4 at 6:00 pm in NB Multi-Use Room.

Join us for the **ALPHA** Study leadership meeting. If you are not familiar with **ALPHA**, the course is geared towards the unchurched or those very new to attending church. If you are interested in volunteering, plan to attend this informational meeting to get all your questions answered. RSVP to kevin.austin@rslcs.org. The Training Meeting will be on January 11 at 6:00 pm in the NB.



His Story, Our Story – Leadership Training

Begins January 10 at 6:00 pm in the
NB Multi-Use Room.

Our desire is for everyone to take their next step in faith through worship, connecting with others, developing their faith and answering God's call upon their lives. This is a five-week training course for leaders who desire to help others with their walk in faith. If this sounds like you, RSVP today. If you have questions, email kevin.austin@rslcs.org.

The On-Ramp

Begins Feb. 1, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Five sessions (six total) of learning with
session six being dinner with the Pastor

Join us and learn more about Risen Savior and
what makes being a Lutheran unique!

RSVP to info@rslcs.org



Blood Pressure Screenings

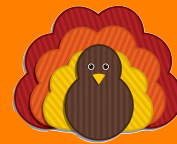
January 14 in the SB Narthex from
8:45 am—9:15 am & in the

NB First Aid Room from 10:15 am—10:45 am.

Screening will be available the second Sunday of each month. If you are interested in serving on the Care Ministries team, contact Nancy at goodingpn@wbhsi.net.

Landscape Ministry

This group meets Thursdays at 6:00 am for fellowship and to care for the church campus grounds. Contact Chuck for more information cmdeath1@gmail.com.



~2023 Turkey Drive Update~

2,837 Pounds of food were collected

92 Turkey's donated

\$3,809.90 in donations for AZCEND

\$870.74 CFLA (Fed 30 families in
group homes and shelters)

Hooks and Needles Ministry

Tuesdays at 10:00 am in SB Rm 110.

This group meets weekly and all are welcome. If you would prefer to work at home, patterns and instructions are available outside the Fellowship Hall, and in a drawer under the bed in the First Aid room in the North Building. If you need yarn or have any questions, please contact Marion at 602.920.3319.



Piece Maker Quilter's Update and Ministry Details

Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm in the SB Fellowship Hall.

Last year, the Piece Makers quilting ministry made over 500 quilts!

Recipients included: My Sisters Place, Salvation Army, Child Crisis Center, FANS, Payson Warming Center, and Parkland Memory Care.

The Annual Quilt & Bake Sale was well attended and many quilts and other handmade items were sold. Thank you all for your fantastic support! There were two quilts in the raffle event. One went to Renee Murphy and the other to Cindy (apologies to Cindy—we did not have your last name :)).

Thank you to the congregation for all of their donations and supplies such as cotton blend fabric, unstained queen or king flat sheets, cotton thread of all colors...these items are always on our "needs" list.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank our dear Sandra Devine who has led our quilting group for many years, giving tireless hours to serving those in need, organizing events, keeping lists of quilts made, and so many more kind acts. She retired at the end of 2023, but promises to join us as often as she is able. God bless and keep you, Sandi! We appreciate all you have done in this ministry!

The Piece Makers Quilt Ministry's Mission Statement continues to be: While piecing fabric together, the Piece Maker Quilters strive to share the peace, love, and salvation of Jesus Christ with those in need of comfort through a warm quilt or knitted hat.

The fellowship is fantastic (and so are the snacks!) Consider joining us. Questions? Please call Gail 805.404.7604 or Dottie 480.749.0977.

Thank you for your support and dedication providing goods monthly to our children's mission in Phoenix at the Children First Leadership Academy. The Christmas bags of cheer contained stocking hats, gloves, socks, water bottles, chips, treats, bookmarks and more. Thank

you, Renee Lovell for leading the elves by coordinating this season's giving! Your heart and joy in service is a Blessing!



Women's Ministry on Facebook

This page is where we encourage one another to connect with God, ourselves and each other. It's for women after God's heart. "Like" our page today. You can find this group under the RSLCS Facebook page "Groups", "Women's Ministry". Contact Annie for more information at anniewolfchandler@gmail.com.



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

NEW Logo: Lutherans for life is celebrating their 45th Anniversary with the addition of a new logo. At the center stands the cross of Jesus Christ, our Savior. "Every human life has purpose because this God creates, redeems, and calls (Isaiah 43:1-2) each one as His own precious treasure from fertilization to forever."

FINANCIALS

We are changing how we report on financials. On a monthly basis you will see a high level overview of the activities of the month that will include a comparison to the previous year. Then, on a quarterly basis, there will be a more in-depth look at the financials. If you desire more detail on a monthly basis, please contact our Director of Operations, Susan Mello at susan.mello@rslcs.org.

Monthly Financial Overview

Key Financial Indicators

	November 2023	Budget	Difference	November 2022	Difference
Operating Cash	(237,088)	NA	NA	(124,400)	(112,688)
Weekly Tracked Giving	31,082	43,850	(12,768)	37,365	(6,283)
Weekly Loose Plate	1,393	1,885	(492)	1,583	(190)
Net Income	(42,680)	(9,670)	(33,010)	76,813	(119,493)

Key Observations for November 2023:

- Giving for November was an anomaly. It was below budget as well as below 2022. This was primarily due to some large, annual gifts that were not received. We anticipate receipt of these gifts in December.
- While there was a significant increase in negative Operating Cash, it is forecasted that we will end the year favorable to budget.

To give via text messaging, text Risen Savior to the number 77977 and follow the instructions

You can also give via our web site at www.rslcs.org/give

Or mail a check to the church office:
23914 S. Alma School Rd
Chandler, AZ 85248

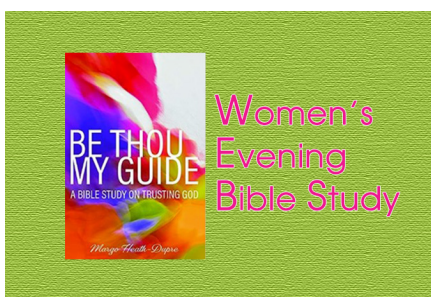
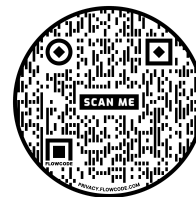
*Thank you for
your generosity!*

DEVELOP

Join a Bible Study

Adult Forum
Women's Thursday Study: Twelve Women of the Bible
Men's Early Bird Study
Women's Evening Study: Be Thou My Guide
Lutheran Womens Missionary League (LWML)
Book of Romans
Maricopa: The Chosen
Galatians

Use the QR code to check
our calendar for a new
Bible Study!



Women's
Evening
Bible Study



Quenched by His Word: Women's Evening Bible Study

Returns January 9 at 6:30 pm
in the SB Library.

Join us for "Be Thou My Guide: A Bible Study on Trusting God" written by Margo Heath Dupre. This group gathers on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month for Bible study and prayer. Contact 480.393.3801 with any questions.

Adult Forum

Sundays at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall.
Join Pastor Dave for "Lectionary Study for the Church Year". All adults are welcome!

Maricopa Bible Study: The Chosen 3

January 8 & 22 at 6:30 pm
(RSVP for Address).

This study meets every other Monday and will follow "The Chosen 3" book. Contact Linda for more details and to RSVP 480.452.8980.

Bible Study: Book of Romans Wednesdays at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

This study resumes on January 10.

Join Pastor Mark for the book of Romans, which provides us with concise summary of the Gospel. If you have any questions email, mark.hoffmann@rslcs.org.



Men's Early Bird Bible Study

January 13 at 7:30 am in the
NB Multi-Use Room.

Doors open at 7:00 am for coffee, donuts and fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend or fellow member, all men are welcome. Contact Chuck at 480.766.3626 with any questions.



Christ Brings Freedom: Paul's Letter to the Galatians

New Bible Study Begins January 21 at 9:05 or 10:15 am in the North Building Multi-Use Room.

As a world traveler, Paul had seen many slaves — people whose lives were completely controlled by powerful governments, leaders, and landowners. Yet Paul himself had been a slave... to religious zealotry and to the endless demands of keeping religious laws.

Paul now knew what it meant to be free and to know true liberty in Christ. Having experienced both slavery and freedom, nothing bothered Paul more than seeing people return to bondage. But that's exactly what he had heard about his friends in the church he founded in Galatia. These new Christians, who had found freedom in Christ, were being pressured to return to the slavery of religious rules and regulations. Paul's response was quick and strong—don't desert Christ, don't be foolish, don't be a prisoner or a slave to sin; instead, follow Christ and **BE FREE!**

In *The Letter to the Galatians*, Paul proclaims the reality of liberty in Christ—freedom from the law and the power of sin, and freedom to serve the living Lord. Are you trapped in sin? You can be a child of God through faith in Christ Jesus, an heir to the promise, and truly free indeed. Are you trapped in religious legalism, trying to earn favor with God by doing good and being good? Don't be burdened by such slavery, because you can stand firm and free in Christ.

This new six-week class will dive into *Paul's Letter to the Galatians* to discover how and in what ways Jesus has brought us freedom. Led by Barry Ritchie, this study will discuss the many facets of freedom in Christ that this letter holds for us. The book we'll use is from the Life Application Bible Study series; copies will be available for purchase (\$8.00). Please let Barry know by email at britchie11@juno.com if you would like to purchase a copy of the book.

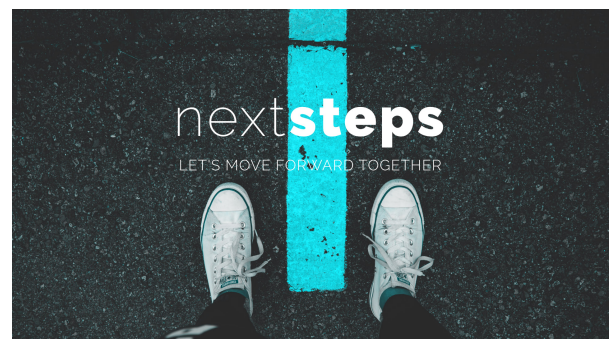
Everyone is welcome. Come prepared to learn, participate... and enjoy!



Grief Share Class Returns in 2024!

Begins January 8 at 10:00 am in SB Room 110.

Grief Share is a grief recovery support group where you can find help/healing for the hurt of losing a loved one or if you or a loved one has a terminal illness. Contact the Church Office with any questions.





Prayer Warriors & Prayer Focus

Wednesdays at 9:30 am RSVP for Location.

If you have a passion for talking to the Lord in prayer or lifting up those in need, join us every Wednesday! Contact Joan at mandjscott@cox.net with any questions. This ministry prepares a Prayer Focus that all the congregation is invited to partake in. It's a weekly prayer for a specific topic, all you do is add this prayer to your prayer time! **The Prayer Focus for each week this month is:**

January 7 Pray that in this new year our nation will return to the faith, morals and values upon which our nation was founded. (Exodus 34:11, II Chronicles 7:14, Deuteronomy 30:1)

January 14 Thank God for giving each of us life! With the help of the Holy Spirit, pray for protection of the March for Life, and that their message, "With Every Woman, for Every Child," will soften the hearts of all people who hear it. (Micah 6:8, John 10:10b, Proverbs 29:2a)

January 21 Pray that the Holy Spirit can change the hearts of those who are against the Pro-Life message, and bring about a return to the morals we clearly need. (II John 1:4,6, Micah 6:8)

January 28 As the Holy Spirit leads you, pray for organizations that are working to protect all citizens from unconstitutional/ungodly government policies. (Psalm 33:12-18, Proverbs 3:5-8).



LWML Mites Collection

January 7 in Both Buildings.

Mites are to be given above and beyond the general support of the congregation. Keep your box visible and with your mites it becomes a blessing box.

LWML Monthly Meeting

January 11 at 1:00 pm in the SB Room 110.

Join us for our monthly general meeting and fellowship. All women are welcome.

LWML Mission Grant Update

\$100,000 grant— For 60 years *Journey's Lutheran School*, located in the Milwaukee area, has been preparing special needs students to become successful Christian members of society. This grant will help purchase two vans to transport the high school students to the School-to-Work internship program.



Lutherans for LIFE: "When God tells us He knew us before we're born in our mother's womb, we can hardly say life doesn't begin at fertilization. When God tells us our days are numbered and He will decide when our life is over, we can hardly ask for life to be taken prematurely rather than dying a natural death. lutheransforlife.org

YOUTH AND TEEN INFORMATION

NURSERY

(Age 3 and under)

Available on Sundays
during the 9 & 10:30 am
services in the North
Building

*Have questions regarding any of our youth groups? Contact
our Director of NextGen & Family Ministry, Jill Lopez at*

Jill.lopez@rslcs.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL (AGE 3-GRADE 6)

Unboxed

With the holiday season behind us, most kids still have the concept of giving and receiving gifts fresh on their minds. While many, if not all, of the gifts that were unboxed at Christmas will eventually fall into disrepair, but gifts given by God will never fade! Through this “Unboxed” series, kids will discover the gifts God gave them, and how to use those gifts to help others.



BENEATH THE SURFACE

IGNITE PRE-CONFIRMATION (grades
6-8) Meets Sundays at 6:00 pm in the NB.

IMPACT (Grades 9-12) MEETS SUNDAYS AT 7:00 PM IN THE NB.

Beneath the Surface

Who do you think you are? You might define your identity by the things people see on the surface — like your style, your abilities, or your reputation. Those things might have something to do with who you are, but they don't quite capture the whole picture, do they? For each of us, there is always so much more to who we are beneath the surface. But who are we, really? How can we discover who God made us to be? And how can following Jesus shape who we're becoming? In this series, we'll look at four moments from the early years of Jesus' life. As we do, we'll see how God helps us discover who we're becoming and how God's words help us discover who we are.



Do you have BIG questions?

Is this study for you?



ALPHA Study - Do You Know Someone Who Has Questions?

Begins January 18 at 5:45 pm in the NB.

Do you know someone who has “Big” questions about church and God? *Who is Jesus? Why and how do I pray?* This course is geared towards the unchurched or VERY new to attending church. Be sure to invite that ONE person we all know who asks these types of questions by sharing the QR code or use this page as an invitation or for more information (more invitations can be found in the Lobby/Narthex area). Dinner is included with an RSVP. Email kevin.austin@rslcs.org with any questions.



How do I read the Bible?



Join a conversation ...

Explore faith together.

Alpha is a series of group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly environment.

YOU'RE INVITED

Study begins Jan. 18 at 5:45 pm.
Use the QR code above for more information or to complete the Google sign-up form.

- Connect with new people
- Watch an episode on a question of faith
- Share your thoughts & hear from others



How do I pray?



Is there more to life?

Here is your *personal* invitation to join this study at
Risen Savior Lutheran Church
23620 S. Alma School Rd, Chandler, AZ