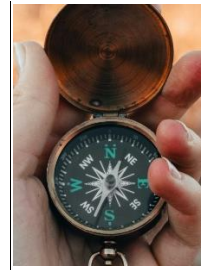


October  
through  
December  
2024

# DHLC Compass

Next Steps in Your Faith Journey



## DHLClasses

### Stepping up your mental game

Learning new things is a wonderful way to keep your mind alert and active. DHLC has many opportunities for you to discover new things in the coming months.

**Civil Dialogue:** Dr. Clark Olson, an instructor at Arizona State University's Hugh Downs School of Human Communication, will present Civil Dialogue, a tool for productive citizen communication when discussing controversial topics, on Sunday, October 6, from 2-4 pm.

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer:** Watch the movie *Bonhoeffer: Agent of Grace* on October 23, in the Fellowship Hall at 1 pm. Then, join Pastor Mike Sager as he leads a five-session study using Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book *Life Together*, which describes the Christian life. This study is scheduled on Fridays from November 1 through December 6, meeting from 1:30-3 pm.

**Gnome Paint Party:** Nancy Paepke will lead a gnome picture painting party on Sunday, November 17, from 1-4 pm.

**Fused Glass Crosses & Ornaments:** Glenn Erdmann will return to DHLC on Friday, December 13, from 2-4 pm to make fused glass crosses and ornaments with members and guests.



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German Lutheran pastor, theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident



Meals together are just one way to connect with others and ease loneliness.

## Tips for Easing Loneliness

Ideas for stepping into the flow of life at Desert Hills Lutheran

**We can feel lonely at times**, especially if we live alone. And some time alone is all right, too. It's when we want to connect with others and maybe feel we don't know where or how that it gets hard. Here's a look at different ways to step into the flow of life and connect with others at DHLC.

**Social events:** Saturday supper at 4 pm, the monthly women's luncheon or the men's breakfast, an evening of trivia...an outing with the food, fun, and fellowship team. And the Saturday supper doesn't require advance planning. Just show up! There's also coffee and cookies in the Fellowship Hall before and after weekend services. Again, just show up and reconnect with an old friend or make a new one.

**Education events:** Wednesday Bible study is offered during the mornings and evenings. There are also ones for men and women. Then, there are the short classes on a special

topic. There are several planned for this fall. See the article to the left of this one for more information.

**Health & Wellness offerings:** Bring your interest in staying active to any number of offerings at DHLC and connect with others seeking to stay active. There are gentle exercise groups on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, as well as other forms on Mondays and Fridays.

**Pastoral care:** Sometimes you need to talk to someone who can help you cope with what life has dealt you. The pastors and Chaplain Mark are here to listen and help. There are also Stephen Ministers, and those making Friendly Visits. How to get started? Call the church office at 520-648-1633 and we'll connect you with the right resource and person.

**Check out the church website** [www.dhlc.org](http://www.dhlc.org) for a full schedule of events happening at church.

## Food Drive

### Crossroads Nogales Mission

Social Concerns is sponsoring a food drive for Crossroads Nogales Mission. Rice, beans, and canned goods will be collected to supplement their daily meals. Bring your donation to worship the weekends of October 12-13 and 19-20.

## Holiday Boutique

### Sewing Bee

Sewing Bee's annual Fall Boutique featuring handmade jewelry, home décor, purses, kitchen items, and, of course, quilts will be Saturday, November 9. You will not want to miss this chance to purchase unique gifts for those on your Christmas list. All proceeds support benevolent giving to area charities. The librarians will hold a book sale to support the church library.

## ELCA Good Gifts

### Global Mission

The annual offering of ELCA Good Gifts will be on the weekends of December 7-8 and 14-15. This year's theme is *Good Gifts Make a Difference*. You make a difference when you select a good gift or two that helps people in need around the world. Not sure what to give that hard-to-buy-for person on your list? How about a drinking water filter in their honor for \$30?

# Celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas

There are different ways to step into the holiday season at DHLC.

What a special time of year at home and church! With a little planning, you can look forward to many enjoyable moments.

**Thanksgiving Service** will be on the evening of Wednesday, November 27. Don't want to cook a big dinner? Reserve your place at the **Thanksgiving Dinner** that Chef Bernie and crew will prepare and serve at 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall on Thanksgiving Day.

**The Advent Season** leading up to Christmas offers more once-a-year favorites. The Global Mission's Good Gifts will be the first two weekends of December.

**The Christmas Concert** will be on Thursday, December 12, at 4 pm in the sanctuary. Enjoy all the choirs of Desert Hills and join in singing some Christmas carols. Make this a new tradition, if it isn't one already!

**Surviving the Holidays** when you are grieving will be offered on Sunday, December 8, from 2-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**A Blue Christmas Service** will be held Wednesday, December 18, at 5 pm in the sanctuary, followed by some fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.

**Christmas Eve Services:**

- 1 pm Country Christmas Eve Service
- 3 pm Country Christmas Eve Service
- 5 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
- 7 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

**Christmas Day Service:**

- 10 am Christmas Day Service

**Christmas Eve Dinner** will be served at 2 pm in the Fellowship Hall. What a wonderful way to both worship and enjoy a meal with fellowship. No need to dirty your kitchen.



Enjoy the DHLC ensembles as they raise their voices and rejoice at the birth of Christ.



Sahuarita Food Bank and Community Resource Center's Project AZUL Mobile Unit brings help to the community.

## Project AZUL Mobile Unit

Stepping into the community

Project AZUL features portable programs that assist rural residents in acquiring basic skills and knowledge to expand their employment opportunities, and it's reaching out now across Southern Arizona.

With transportation a challenge for many people, Project AZUL serves as a resource hub in the community, with a classroom of eight student desks, capacity for food distribution, an office, and a bathroom, especially helpful for those long day trips. Through partner support, including Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

residents in Summit, Arivaca, and other locations are receiving essential services toward better health, better employment, and a better life for themselves and their families.

This year, DHLC donated \$20,000 to help purchase a Project AZUL mobile unit. It will be available to tour in the church parking lot in late October or early November. Stop by and learn more about the wonderful things happening at the Sahuarita Food Bank and Community Resource Center and how Project AZUL is helping our community.

## New Members' Classes

Stepping into membership

"I saw other neighbors when I got to DHLC and sat by them. Immediately, I felt the loving welcome from the members and their acceptance. I also discovered wonderful music, great preaching, and good food with fellowship," Bruce shared. Bruce attended the new members' class in March 2023. He has become active and enjoys many of DHLC's activities.

Do you feel like you found your church family and wish to become an official Desert Hills Lutheran Church member? New members' classes will be held on Thursdays from October 24 through November 14, from 9:30-10:30 am in Fellowship Hall.

During class, you will explore the mission and core values of Desert Hills Lutheran Church and what it means to be a Lutheran. A new member breakfast will be served during the last class, and a new member weekend recognition will be held on November 23-24.

To sign up or to learn more, contact the church office.



Bruce became a member of DHLC in March 2023.