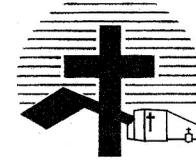


Santa Cruz Lutheran Church  
6809 South Cardinal Avenue  
Tucson, Arizona 85746



*Building enduring relationships  
in Jesus' Name:  
- With God  
- With each other  
- And with our community*

# Santa Cruz News

(520) 883-2937

[www.santacruzlutheran.org](http://www.santacruzlutheran.org)

JUNE 2018



## SUMMER VISITORS!

### "In Living Color"

One of the community's biggest events to raise funds for HIV support services is Treasures for TIHAN, a benefit auction and party, with this year's theme, "In Living Color." It's happening on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00 PM at the Marriott University Park Hotel, with emcee Channel 4's Lupita Murillo, and welcoming remarks from Mayor Jonathan Rothschild.

Businesses and individuals have donated 400 items for bid on a silent auction – trips, jewelry, restaurant gift certificates, event tickets, golf outings, pottery, massages, home furnishings, airline tickets, spa and beauty services, and concert, theatre, museum, sports tickets, too.

Casual attire – nothing formal. Advanced tickets sales are \$65 each; \$75 at the door. For more info, or to purchase tickets, visit [www.tihan.org](http://www.tihan.org), then click on the Treasures for TIHAN logo.



SUMMER MUSIC... Feel free to check with Mark or Pastor Jim if you would like to provide special music – vocal and/or instrumental – during the summer months. We welcome your talents!

Summer visitors? That's right. We will be visited by three groups of them. One for each month during summer this year. And they're all musicians! You'll meet them on the following Sundays:

June 10<sup>th</sup> – The Southern Comfort Band  
will lead the music and singing during our 9:15 worship

July 1 – The Tucson Barbershoppers  
will return to Santa Cruz for a third year in a row!

August ??? – A guest guitarist will perform folk music,  
quite possibly August 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>

(You won't want to miss any of these!)

## Pastor's Page

Dear People of God at Santa Cruz,

You may recall from our Annual Congregational Meeting in early February how I spoke with you all about the stubborn downward trend, decades in the making, that affects more than 90% of mainline congregations all across our country, including Santa Cruz. Congregations that successfully counter this trend learn to courageously ask, wrestle with, and "live into" the answers to these two questions:

*"What do we discern God is doing, or seeking to do... in our congregation, in our neighborhood, and even beyond?"*

*"And what can we do... as individuals, as households, and as a community of faith... to actively participate in the work that God is doing?"*

One proven approach toward the accomplishment of this great task is to intentionally:

1. *Open and discover the Scriptures with one another;*
2. *Spend structured time together in prayer talking to and listening to God;*
3. *Engage one another in dialog about what God is calling our congregation to be;*
4. *Articulate, from the "ground up," what we together sense that call of God for us is;*
5. *And finally... plan, fund, implement, and purposely "live into" this new sense of vision and mission.*

As promised, our Church Council has now put on the calendar a "Vision & Mission Brunch"... one per each month of June, July, and August. Each one will span no more than a couple hours, following our summer 9:15 worship gathering. And each of these pot-luck Brunches will build upon each other in order to assist our journey through the very steps specified above.

***Our first "Vision & Mission Brunch" is set for Sunday, June 24, at 10:30am. Please bring a brunch item to add to the meal we will share.***

Meanwhile, I ask of each of you:

For your continued prayers for our congregation, for the cultivation of a positive and forward-moving spirit among us, for a shared commitment to becoming a more vibrant and outward-looking community of faith, for the renewal of your own sense of being a disciple and follower of Jesus, and... for the real and positive difference we can make for one another and our surrounding community, as we seek to more fully and faithfully engage in the good work which God places in to our hands.

*Pastor Jim*

## SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS 9:15 WORSHIP TIME ONLY - JUNE

### ACOLYTES

3	Leo Gracia
10	Che Lopez
17	Yasmine Murrieta
24	Lita Lopez

### LECTORS

3	Valerie Cook
10	Maria Dew
17	Renee Riegert
24	Carlos Gracia

### ASSISTING MINISTERS

3 & 10	Carol Radler
17 & 24	Sandy Skinner

### COFFEE HOSTS

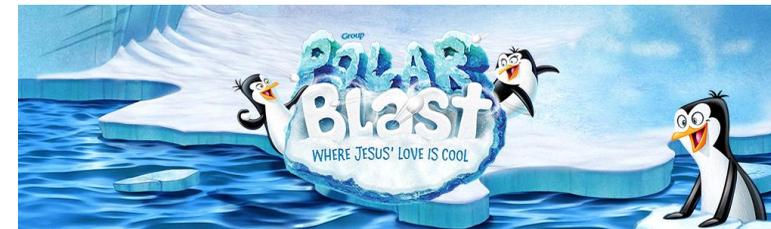
3	Ches Gandy
10	Guillermo Andrade
17	Ruth Senkbeil
24	Marian Tokar

### USHERS

3 & 10	Allan & Brenda Depew, Bob & Vicky Hohmann (Vicky 6/3 only)
17 & 24	Sheila and Dylan Cecena, Dianna Chavez, Cheryl Bahrychuk

### REFRESHMENTS

3	Ches Gandy
17	A mix of donuts, pastries, fruit to celebrate Father's Day!



**MARK YOR CALENDAR!** Vacation Bible Saturday will be offered on Saturday, July 14 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (will include lunch and snacks). This year's theme is "Polar Blast; Where Jesus' Love is Cool!" with Bible stories, crafts, games, food, and music for children 3 years old – adults. Volunteers are needed to lead the Cool Crews, help with crafts and games, or help in the kitchen. The volunteer sign-up sheet is on the Kiosk; please see what you can do for our one-day VBS. Pull tabs for food needed for the lunch and snacks will be appearing shortly. If you cannot help physically, please consider contributing to our nutritional needs.

This year's Mission Project is called "The Shoe That Grows." As in the past, we'll have small containers available on the worship book cabinets for you to place your spare change throughout the summer. This change will help to provide shoes for kids in need around the world. On our Vacation Bible Saturday, participants will decorate shoe bags – with pictures and encouraging words – to hold the shoes that are mailed.

**Volunteers – be sure to pick up your materials and schedules on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM!**

***When we pray for one another it makes a difference. Include in God's care:***

Kay Hayes	Norma Larson	Paula Skinner	Milo Hromidko
Ron Geuder	Gary V.	Paulette Archuleta	Marilyn Fabian
Louise Conrad	Harry Stombaugh	Don Wood	Daniel Soltero
Larry Havenga	Christopher White	Debbie Martinez	Suzu Weidenschilling
Linda Robinson	Mothers and Fathers	Eddie Mendibles	Will McPherson
Fred Nichols	Lynn Alms	Erik Lopez	Royce Tollman
Weston Koch	Avery Johnson	Mark Kern	Donna Drissel
Sandy Read	Tokar Family	Margaret Nichols	Paul Bean
Ray Necochea	Lois Bradshaw	Pat Millyard	Sam & Carolyn
Ruth Senkbeil	Dorothy Kern	Esther Wood	Betty Layton
Jo Conover	Arlie Boatwright	Don Hunt	Holly Peterson
Maxine Schaller			

***We rejoice with...***

Our Confirmand: Ella Daniels  
Emma Hunt, graduating from High School in Golden Valley, AZ  
Jeffrey & Selena Hohmann at the birth of their son, Jeffrey Richard, on April 27<sup>th</sup>

***We grieve with...***

Leslie Bitker and family at the death of his mother, Marian Bitker, on April 20<sup>th</sup>  
Family and friends of Tim Abriola, mourning his tragic death on April 25<sup>th</sup>  
Gay Kline and family as they mourn the passing of her sister, Margaret Yaure, on May 6<sup>th</sup>

† † †

**THANKS...**

...to **Our Music Director, Mark Herr, and Cantors, Alice Davis, Chuck Glen, Gay Kline, Carol Radler, Renee Riegert** for sharing your beautiful musical talents throughout the year, and for those offering special music during our worship times.

...to **Joanie and Joe Contreras** for preparing and serving a special breakfast for our confirmand, Ella Daniels, and her guests.

...to **Ron & Ginny Buch, Dorothy Frenz, and Ches Gandy** who joyously fold and staple our monthly newsletter for distribution and mailing; and **Don Genung and Gay Kline** who continue to assemble the bulletins for Sunday worship.

...to **Marcello Matus** for cleaning and repainting the stained church walls near the Ramada, and for creating a downspout outside of Pastor Jim's office.

...to **Kenny Morgan** for replacing all of our light bulbs – inside and out – with LED bulbs. These new bulbs will produce 0% heat and will use less than ½ the energy of the old bulbs.

*“This is my last Sunday here as I leave for Idaho on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. I want to thank everyone for all the prayers this winter as I recovered from my difficult knee surgery.” - Glenna Knepper*

*At the risk of embarrassing Kenny Morgan, we'd like to offer our thanks. You may have noticed some beautiful, new evergreens planted around our Ramada. Kenny M. provided and planted each of those bushes AND dedicated one to me and Kenny. How special is that! Thank you so much, Kenny M.!*

*- Diane & Kenny*

**YOUTH NEWS...**

**HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT** for those completing 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Youth will meet up at Streams in the Desert on Friday, June 22, 5:00 PM 'til midnight. Please visit [mysalca.com](http://mysalca.com) for info and registration. Let Carol know if you are planning to register.

**THE ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING** is fast approaching. Our Santa Cruz youth & leaders leave on Wed. June 27, returning Sunday evening, July 1. Due to unforeseen circumstances, now 7 youth and 2 adults will head out on this potentially life changing journey. We thank all of you who have helped us financially, physically, and spiritually through our many fund raisers during the last 3 years. We have fallen short, but I have faith we will find the rest of the money needed. We look forward to sharing our experiences upon our return.

Youth & Parents – gather in the fellowship hall on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 for our final ELCA Gathering Team Meeting.

Members & Friends – Car Wash & “No Dinner” fund raisers are still active. See Carol for tickets or to donate.

**WORSHIP BULLETINS** – For quite awhile now, we have heard about the benefit of having a fully printed bulletin rather than having to flip back and forth in our worship books. Especially helpful for visitors! After much discussion, our Council has decided to give it a try. Beginning with our June 3<sup>rd</sup> bulletin, you will notice a new look! We will continue to use the Worship Books for the hymns, but the entire liturgy will now be printed in the bulletin. One of our members was so excited about this change that he offered to increase his offering to offset the costs.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Back in 1999 Santa Cruz Lutheran Church became the first ELCA congregation in Tucson to become a Reconciling in Christ congregation. What does that mean? That we intentionally welcome everyone, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation. There are currently only two other ELCA churches in Tucson with that recognition. We recently received a letter from Reconciling Works asking that we update our welcoming statement. For more than a month, our Council took a look at our present statement, the suggestions from Council members, and samples from Reconciling Works. Here is our updated welcoming statement:

*Here at Santa Cruz we fully welcome all of God's people... regardless of race, language, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, background, abilities, challenges, or status.*

**A LOOK AHEAD**...on Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> (8 AM – 2:30 PM) volunteers from Santa Cruz Lutheran Church will join two other churches at St. Francis in the Foothills UMC as we again participate in the Poz Café to provide a delicious and nutritious lunch for people in Tucson living with HIV. Care Packages filled with toiletries and other necessities are given to those in need.

There will be more info in the July Newsletter, but please begin collecting individually wrapped paper towels, four-packs of toilet paper, tooth paste, and small containers of bleach to help fill those Care Packages. AND, be sure to let Diane know if you'd like to be one of our volunteers!