

BACK TO JERUSALEM

Three Chinese House Church Leaders
Share Their Vision to Complete
the Great Commission



MISSIONS PRESENTATION
Sun, Sept 20 @ 3pm
Fellowship Hall

On Sunday, September 20 at 3 PM, three missionaries – Pastor Peter Xu, his sister Deborah, and translator Esther, from the persecuted church in China – will be presenting their testimonies and God-given vision for the future of China, surrounding nations, and Israel in a movement called “Back to Jerusalem.” All three of them have been imprisoned for their faith. Feel free to invite your friends and be encouraged to hear how God is using China to fulfill the Great Commission.



AMERICAN LUTHERAN SCHOOL'S FLOWERING BULB FUNDRAISER IS SEPT 14-29

Brighten your garden next spring while supporting our littlest learners! The preschool is hosting its annual bulb fundraiser to purchase new classroom furniture.

For your convenience, **stop by the ALS table to order your bulbs for fall planting on Sundays, September 20 & 27 during Hospitality Hour.** You may also order online: visit www.dutchmillbulbs.com, go to the “Shop to Support a Group” page from the top menu, then choose American Lutheran School in the dropdown menu on the right.

Packages of 6–24 bulbs are \$15 each; there are great choices for flower beds and potted plants, plus deer- and rabbit-resistant varieties.

Thank you for your continued support of our preschoolers!



We need YOU to become a Sunday Servant! Have you ever wondered how you can get more connected at ALC? Serving on Sunday is a great place to start! We're looking for volunteers to help with a variety of Sunday morning roles, including: **Greeters & Ushers, Chancel Choir & Handbell Choir, Lay Assisting Ministers (LAMs), Bus Drivers, Altar Guild, Sound Techs, Slide Operators & Video Switchers and more!**

Stop by the Narthex between services on Sunday, September 13 to learn more and sign up. Contact Ministry Coordinator, Deb Kumpf in the church office for more information: deb@americanlutheran.net.



The highly anticipated **FALL FEST** is coming to ALC on Saturday, September 26, and we need your help to make it a success! This free community event is open to all ages from 2-6 PM and will feature food, treats, crafts, games, live music, hay rides, and more.

To help pull it all together, **we're collecting**

donations of cookies, individual packs of a variety of chips, corn bread mix, and pumpkins of any size, now through Wednesday, September 23. Bring your donations to the church office, or deliver directly to the downstairs Children's & Family Ministries office. Thank you in advance for helping make Fall Fest a fun and welcoming event for our whole community!

PARABLES CLASS BEGINS SEPT 13 AT 9:15 AM

Connections Adult Education Hour meets Sundays from 9:15-10:15 AM in the downstairs Activity Center. The next session begins September 13, with a study on **John MacArthur's Parables**. The mysteries of God's kingdom are revealed through the stories Jesus told. This is an 11-week class with a book and workbook, led by Altha Cline. Cost for the class is \$10; scholarships are available. Discover how Jesus' parables can help you better understand God's Word and how to live today.



A NEW FACE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE: MEET SHARON

Sharon Zuberbier is delighted to join the American Lutheran Church staff as Administrative Assistant. After working in sales for many years, Sharon felt it was time for a change – a change that would allow her to put her faith first, be surrounded by fellow Christians, and support the ministry of her church.

Sharon was born in Anchorage, AK and moved to Wichita, KS when she was two years old. In 1976, her family of six relocated to San Jose, CA. When her parents later moved to the Chicago area, Sharon remained in San Jose, where she married and raised her family.

Sharon is the proud mother of three children: son Brian, 42, and daughters Amanda, 41, and Brittany, 36. She is also a grandmother to six grandchildren. She especially enjoys spending time with her family who live nearby and visiting friends and family in Nevada, Oregon, and California.

In her free time, Sharon enjoys museums, history, animals, music, and reading. She is grateful for the opportunity to serve at ALC and looks forward to getting to know her church family better. Please stop by and introduce yourself at the front desk if you haven't yet met Sharon!



Our youth are looking forward to a weekend at Six Flags Magic Mountain focused on outreach, friendship, and building relationships with God. Students are encouraged to bring friends who

might not otherwise have an opportunity to connect with our church.

Trip cost is \$250 per student, and registration is now open. Details and registration can be found by scanning the QR code at the right, on the church website under Events, or in the Church Center app under Event Registrations.



“We're grateful for the many ways our congregation comes alongside our students and helps make opportunities like this possible. Please be praying for our students, their friends, and the conversations that will come from this trip.” – *Director of Youth Ministry, Erica Sturgeon*

Wednesday Night Youth Group – Youth Group meets every Wednesday from 6–8 PM at The Rock, ALC's youth ministry facility at 655 Talwatha Drive (across the street from the Prescott High School ball fields). Each evening includes dinner, games, worship, a message, and small groups. **We would love your help providing meals!** You can either sign up to prepare and bring dinner, or sponsor a meal through a donation. Contact the church office to choose your date for a youth group meal. Thank you for supporting our students in this simple but meaningful way!

HeBrews It – Every Tuesday morning from 7–8 AM during the school year, The Rock is open before school for HeBrews It! Prescott High School students – and any student who would like to stop by – can enjoy free coffee, donuts, and snacks while spending time with friends. Encourage your student to join us and bring a friend! Church members can help support this ministry by donating toward the coffee and donut fund: contact Erica at erica@americanlutheran.net for more info.

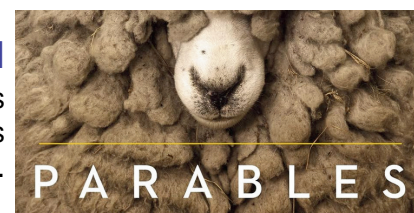


EARLY COMMUNION CLASS

For children in 3rd grade and older, Pastor Mark Johnson is offering a one-hour class to help children understand the meaning and importance of Holy Communion. The goal is for children to receive Communion with a deeper understanding of – and connection to –

what God is doing through this sacrament.

Class will be held **Saturday, October 3 at 10 AM in the downstairs Activity Center.** Pastor Mark asks that at least one parent participate with their child(ren). Please register on the website or in the church office so we know how many children and families to expect. We look forward to sharing this special time of learning together!





HARVESTING NEW MEMBERS

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." Matthew 9:37

Over the past year, God has blessed ALC by bringing new people into our church family. This month, let us give thanks for each of them and pray that they feel welcomed, connected, and truly at home at ALC.

Pray that our new members form meaningful relationships, discover opportunities to serve, and continue to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ.

Let us also pray for those God has yet to bring through our doors. There are people in our community searching for hope, connection, purpose, and a place to belong. Pray that God would lead them to ALC and prepare our hearts to receive them with warmth and love. May we be a church that reaches beyond our walls, shares the love of Jesus, and welcomes all whom God brings into our midst.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank You for every person You have brought into our ALC family. We pray for those who have joined us over the past year, that they would feel welcomed, loved, and truly at home. Help them build meaningful relationships, find ways to use the gifts You have given them, and grow deeper in their faith. Lord, we also pray for those in our community who are searching for a church home. Lead them through our doors and help us be ready to welcome them with open hearts. May ALC be a place where people encounter Your love, grow in Your truth, and become part of a caring church family. Continue to grow Your Church and use each of us to help gather the harvest. In Jesus' name, Amen.



REGISTER BY SEPT 24 FOR MERT TRAINING

CPR/First Aid/MERT Certification Training is **Sunday, September 27 from 1–5 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. No cost for those joining the new Medical Emergency Reponse Team; others may participate at a cost of \$25 (scholarships available). Register by September 24, on the church website under Events, or in the church office.

A reminder that you do not need to be a healthcare professional to serve on MERT. We welcome physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals, but we also need caring members of our congregation who are simply willing to be trained and ready to help. Contact Mary Bennett at lovelymarybennett@gmail.com for details.



It's hard to believe, but cold weather will soon be here. The Prayer Shawl Ministry invites all knitters and crocheters to join in creating items that will offer reassurance of our Lord's caring comfort and warmth for those in need. Help spread God's blessings! **Prayer Shawl Ministry meets twice a month in the Library, on the second and fourth Fridays from 9-11:30 AM.** If you are interested in joining the group or for more info, contact Phyllis Linnebur at alleyoop@sti.net or through the church office.



The 14th annual **HopeFest AZ is Saturday, September 19**. Prescott's beautiful Yavapai County Courthouse Plaza will once again come alive as thousands enjoy music, guest speakers, a multitude of connections, community services as part of the HOPE

Serves Family Resource Fair, free amusements in the Family Fun Zone, and a bright-n-shiny car and motorcycle show! Stop by the ALC tent, located near the Family Fun Zone, where representatives from our church family will be sharing the love of Christ and information on our ministries and mission. Visit www.hopefestaz.com for details on HopeFest AZ and the complete schedule of events.



GRIEF SHARE FALL SESSION CONTINUES THROUGH DEC 10

Grief can be one of life's most difficult experiences, but you don't have to go through it alone. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who understand what you're going through and will walk alongside you as you navigate the grieving process.

Our Fall 2026 GriefShare seminar is meeting Thursdays through December 10 from 1–3 PM in the Parlor. This group provides encouragement, support, and practical help as you work through grief and begin to find hope and healing. To register, contact GriefShare Coordinator, Julie Backous through the church office, or visit www.griefshare.org under Find a Group. Walk-in registrations are welcome anytime.

If you're grieving the loss of someone you love, we invite you to join us for this season of support, understanding, and hope.

SAVE THE DATE

REFORMATION SUNDAY – OCTOBER 25

One combined worship service with the whole church family, at 10 AM in the Sanctuary. Plan to wear **RED!**



10 Phases of a Trial: Coffman breaks down Noah's journey into ten distinct phases, each with its own temptation and goal. This framework is designed to help readers recognize and navigate their own struggles.

Beyond the Flood Story: While many know the Sunday school version of Noah's story, Coffman highlights the often overlooked details – such as the over-year duration of the flood and the more than 300 days after it began – showing how these elements can mirror the depth and uncertainty of real life's trials.

Transformational Lessons: The study aims to transform faith, hope, and life choices by connecting Noah's obedience, faithfulness, and perseverance to personal growth. It's intended for anyone facing intense personal struggles, early warning signs of difficulty, or the aftermath of hardship.

Participants should purchase their own workbook, available on Amazon for approximately \$20. The workbook contains a 164-page study guide with quick guide, timeline, trauma-processing tools, and the N.O.A.H. Study Method.



My family and I deeply appreciate all of the kind words of sympathy and consolation expressed by our church family in the loss of my sister, Dena. – *Kris and Richard Foster*

FIRM BELIEVERS SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

Firm Believers fall session of low impact group fitness classes using contemporary Christian music and follows the theme, "Walking in Step." Sessions are **Tuesdays & Thursdays at 9:50 AM** in the Narthex (no class on September 29). **Everyone is welcome to participate!** Come join us as we walk, move, and grow together in fellowship and faith. Contact Lynda Parrish through the church office for additional information on Firm Believers.



WHAT WE BELIEVE CLASS & DINNER

Thinking about becoming part of our church family – or just curious about what we believe at ALC? Join us on Monday, October 19 from 5:30-7:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. In a relaxed, friendly setting, Pastor Mark Johnson will walk us through the basics of

the Christian faith and what makes us distinctly Lutheran. It's a chance to ask questions, meet new friends, and discover what it means to belong here. Whether you're brand-new to church, exploring faith, or transferring from another congregation, you'll feel right at home.

Dinner will be served, and childcare is available with advance request. RSVP by Thursday, October 15 on the Events page of the church website or Church Center app, or in the church office.

Reception of New Members is offered twice a year, with the next opportunity on Sunday, November 22 during all worship services. Release from another Lutheran congregation is accepted anytime; please contact the church office to process a release for your change of membership or for more information.



Thursday, September 24 from 12-1 PM in the downstairs Activity Center

FAMILY CAREGIVERS: WHEN TO HAVE THE CONVERSATION - Hosted by The Senior Connection and presented by Susan Wielechowski from Circle of Life Center, this free community event is for family caregivers – creating peace of mind and forming a care team, so that the best decisions can be made when the caregiver says "I can do no longer." RSVPs are appreciated to Don Stewart at don@seniorconnection.us.



Johan Glidden Hometown Album Release Solo Concert Friday, October 9 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary General Seating / Pay What You Can

Johan Glidden is a folk-pop Christian singer-songwriter from Prescott and ALC, now based in Nashville, TN. His forthcoming album, *Sweet Little Drop in a Bucket*, is a collection of 11 songs recorded in Nashville, mixed by 3-time-Grammy-winner Sean Moffitt, and featuring studio work from

many virtuosic musicians. The album is an invitation to embrace limitation in a culture of unlimited options, to lean on friends in an era of disconnection, and to trust a loving and powerful God in a world of algorithms. Johan's concerts feature not only great songs, but also intimate hospitality, humor, and time enjoyed together as little children of God. Expect to be drawn in closer by each song — into nostalgia, humility, and hope.