ALC
americanlutheran.net
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THE LIVE WIRE

PLUG INTO THE HIGHEST POWER

Nov 6, 2026



THE GILDED PIANO - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 AT 3 PM

Step back into the elegance and romance of a bygone era with **The Gilded Piano**, a special concert celebrating the 130th anniversary of ALC's beloved 1896 Steinway grand piano. Presented by ALC's Director of Traditional Music, **this memorable afternoon will feature music by composers and popular songs from the Gilded Age,** bringing to life the melodies and musical traditions of late 19th-century America. Enjoy the keyboard artistry of Jeremy Neufeld – with special guests Dr. Jeffrey Neufeld on organ and soprano Nicole Neufeld – in a celebration of timeless music and ALC's rich musical heritage. **General admission, free entry.**



PRAYER FOCUS: THANKS TO GOD FOR HIS CREATION

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." Psalm 19:1

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, let us take time to recognize the beauty and wonder of God's creation. From the vastness of the heavens to the smallest details of nature, everything around us reflects His glory, creativity, and love. This month, we invite you to pause, look around, and thank God not only for the beauty He has created but also for the incredible gift of being part of His creation.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving for God's Creation:

Lord of heaven and earth, You are the Master Artist who has created all the beauty that surrounds us. You paint the sky each new day with beautiful colors at the sun's rising and setting. You place dots of bright light in the night sky, carefully arranging them in eye-pleasing patterns like sparkling dance steps on the water.

In the spring, you cover the hills and valleys with soft textures in subtle greens and then splash the canvas with richly colored wildflowers. Even the rocks display beauty through color values that are unequaled. In the winter, you layer white-on-white snow that glistens in the moonlight.

You, Creator of the Universe, make us laugh with pure joy at the sight of the wildly imaginative creatures that traverse the land or swim under the seas. You are so meticulous with every detail, down to the perfect pattern and color on the wing of a small bird. Then you create beauty in movement, and it comes to life.

We stand in awe and adoration at the feet of the Master Craftsman. We see and hear in our spirit that all creation bows down and praises you at the wonders of what your hand has made.

You did all of this, and yet you were not finished. You looked at your masterpiece and thought of sharing it with us. You knit us together with the greatest of care in our mother's womb. Then you breathed life into us and placed us upon your landscape.

Thank you for giving us all these years to sing and dance upon your canvas with joyful abandon. **Amen.**



No plans for Thanksgiving? You're invited! Pastor Mark and Paula Johnson are hosting a special **Thanksgiving Day Lunch on Thursday, November 26 from 11:30 AM-2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall** – for our church family members who have no other engagements, or who would simply enjoy celebrating the holiday together. Lunch will be served at Noon. **RSVP by Tuesday, November 24.**

Turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, and beverages will be provided. **If you'd like to contribute, we invite you to bring a side dish or dessert to share; options are available at time of sign-up.** Takeout container donations are also requested for those who would like to take leftovers home.

If you cannot attend but would like to help by donating a turkey or ham or by making a financial contribution, please contact either Pastor Mark at pastormark221517@gmail.com OR Paula Johnson at pjtjohnson9412@gmail.com.

ANGEL TREE 2026 COMING SOON!

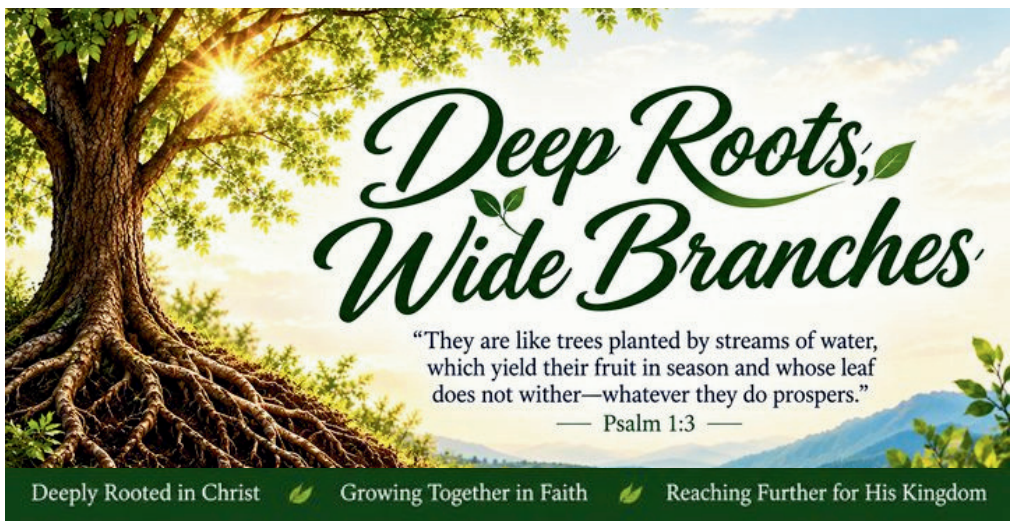
MERRY CHRISTMAS???? IT'S ONLY NOVEMBER, BUT... Christmas is coming! Please plan to bless our Angel Tree recipients this year. Tags will be available by mid-November, and we will be featuring three different groups of Angels:

1) **House of Hope residents**: those who have been blessed to find housing during a crisis period in their lives. Their needs are many, and yet their requests are so humble…their tags are **GREEN** and in the shape of a house.

2) **Children of Taylor Hicks Elementary who participate in the Hungry Kids program** for weekend nutrition. Again, their wish lists, needs, and wants are so very basic. Their tags are in the shape of an angel and are **YELLOW**.

3) The **Angel Tree Prison Fellowship program** brings the joys of Christmas to those children whose parents are incarcerated. The responses of the caregivers are full of gratitude, and they always voice their appreciation that their wards are remembered. Their tags are **PALE BLUE**.

The Angel Tree gives us the privilege to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we prepare to celebrate His birth AND bless others! **More details are forthcoming, but the delivery deadline is Thursday, December 10.** Please direct any questions regarding the Angel Tree to Council Coordinator for Stewardship & Missions, Lindsey Mills through the church office.



2027 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

Sunday, November 22 is Celebration Sunday, where we will celebrate God's goodness for this past year as we make our commitments for the coming year of ministry. Hard copies of commitment cards are available at the main entrances and in the church office, where you can indicate your commitment for this coming year. **Bring your completed card with you to worship on the 22nd, or deliver it to the church office anytime between now and then.** You may also register your 2027 commitment electronically on the website (under "Give") or via the Church Center app.

L — Live Generously

Generosity is a way of life. We are called to share not only our financial resources, but also our time, talents, compassion, and love. When we live generously, we reflect God's own abundant generosity.

E — Engage Faithfully

Our congregation is strengthened when each of us participates faithfully in the life and ministry of our church. Through worship, service, prayer, fellowship, and giving, we become active participants in God's work among us.

A — Act with Purpose

Every gift matters because every gift helps make ministry possible. Our giving allows us to respond to needs, support meaningful ministries, care for one another, and put our faith into action. Together, we can give with intention and purpose.

V — Value Community

Church is more than a building or a weekly gathering. We are a community: a place where people are welcomed, encouraged, challenged, comforted, and loved. Our generosity helps create a community where all can find belonging and experience God's grace.

E — Extend God's Reach

The ministry of our congregation reaches far beyond our walls. Through our outreach, missions, hospitality, service, and witness, we carry God's love into our neighborhood and our wider world. Our gifts help extend that reach to people and places we may never encounter ourselves.

S — Sow for the Future

Like leaves returning their nutrients to the earth, our gifts can nourish what comes next. Stewardship is an investment in the future of our congregation and in the generations who will come after us. We have received much from those who came before us; now we have the opportunity to sow seeds of faith for those who will follow.



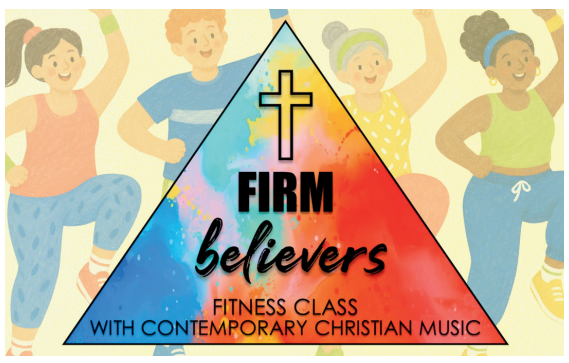
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MARKET & FAMILY BREAKFAST

On **Saturday, December 12 from 9:00 AM to Noon**, join us for a FREE family Christmas event in the Fellowship Hall, filled with holiday fun! Families are invited to enjoy a delicious breakfast together while children experience the joy of giving at our Children's Christmas Market. **RSVPs are requested** for a food headcount, and registration is now open online and in the church office.

Kids can browse a selection of special gifts and choose Christmas presents for their family members – making the season of giving extra meaningful. It's a wonderful opportunity for children to shop, give, and celebrate the true spirit of Christmas. Bring the whole family and start your Christmas season with breakfast, fellowship, and a little Christmas shopping!

VOLUNTEERS are needed for preparation, serving the meal, wrapping presents, and as kids' "shopper assistants." Please indicate your ability to help with the event in your registration, or contact Ana Ruiz through the church office: ana@americanlutheran.net.

GIFT DONATIONS are also needed – toys for little boys, little girls and babies, and small adult gifts. These will be accepted through Thursday, December 10 in the church office. Please consider donating a $5-or-under gift for the kids to "purchase" at the event for a family member.



FIRM BELIEVERS low-impact exercise classes celebrate the many blessings God has given us using the theme "O Give Thanks!" for the month of November. Come move, smile, and give thanks with us! We meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:50 AM in the Narthex, and all are welcome to participate!

There will be no classes Tuesday, November 24 or Thursday, November 26 for Thanksgiving week. Classes will resume on Tuesday, December 1. Contact Lynda Parrish through the church office for additional information.

YouTube ALC SHORTS: FAITH IN A FEW MOMENTS

Looking for a little inspiration throughout your week? Check out ALC Shorts on our YouTube channel! Our Shorts feature brief, meaningful moments from worship and our Pastors' sermons – so whether you have a few minutes during your day or want to share an encouraging message with a friend, these short videos are an easy way to stay connected with ALC and grow in faith.

Take a moment to watch, like, and share. **Visit our YouTube Shorts at www.youtube.com/@americanlutheranchurch4970/shorts** – and subscribe to our channel so you never miss a new video!

STUFFED ANIMAL TOY DRIVE

Yavapai Family Advocacy Center



Yavapai Family Advocacy Center (YFAC) has served child and adult victims of interpersonal crime and their families for over 25 years by providing a safe, supportive environment for those affected by violence in Yavapai County.

When a child experiences or witnesses interpersonal crime, their world is instantly upended by fear and confusion. During these traumatic moments, a simple stuffed animal provides immediate emotional grounding. A new plush friend offers a sense of safety, tangible comfort, and a coping mechanism they can physically hold onto.

At YFAC, every child that comes through our center receives a new blanket and a new stuffed animal. Your donation goes directly to these young victims during their hardest moments, providing a brave companion to help them heal and feel safe.

Donation Guidelines:
- Brand new stuffed animals only (no used or pre-owned plush items, please).
- All sizes welcome, from small handheld plushies to large sizes.
- Drop off at Yavapai Family Advocacy Center (8485 E Yavapai Rd, Prescott Valley) OR call/email for pick up: 928.775.0669 or info@yfac.org.

Contact Yavapai Family Advocacy Center directly with any questions.

BLOOD DRIVE – Because of you, life doesn't stop! Vitalant will hold a community blood drive in our downstairs Activity Center on Monday, November 30 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Every donation can make a lifesaving difference for someone in need. Appointments may be scheduled at vitalant.org (Blood Drive Code: 100565342) or by scanning the QR code at the left.

THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY MEAL NEEDS

ALC COMMUNITY MEAL

Community Meal will be hosting its annual Thanksgiving Meal on Sunday, November 22. ALC ministries or families are asked to assist by providing mashed potatoes, stuffing, or turkey breasts for the meal. If you can help prepare any of the side dishes or provide a turkey breast, please contact Carol Lake through the church office.

Matthew 25:40 – The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of the least of these brothers of mine, even the least of them; you did it unto me.'



CELEBRATING FIRST COMMUNION!

On November 1, we celebrated a very special milestone in the faith journeys of Tucker Martin and Lorelai Meadows as they received their First Communion. May this beautiful day be the beginning of a lifetime of faith, love, and walking with Christ. Congratulations, Tucker and Lorelai! We are so blessed to share in this joyful moment with you and your families.

FIRST FRIDAY FOOD FUN FELLOWSHIP

Next event DECEMBER 4

November's First Friday Potluck Dinner has been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. **Mark your calendar for next month's event, which will be held on December 4!** RSVP to the church office (not essential, but appreciated) and bring a dish to share: appetizer, salad, casserole, crockpot item, veggie, dessert – all are welcome on the buffet table. The gathering is in the lower-level Activity Center at 5:30 PM. Questions about First Friday Potluck Dinners? Contact Renee Grojean through the church office.

EPIC DAD

If you are a dad of children at home, come join us for friendship and encouragement with other dads in God's Word. Led by Pastor Mark Johnson, **EPIC Dad meets on alternating Tuesday evenings for the 2026/2027 season.** The gathering on November 10 will be held at 5:30 PM at Pastor Mark Johnson's home, 7005 Palomino St, Prescott. Contact the church office for more info.



Those joining the ALC congregation on Sunday, November 22 are invited to **dinner on Tuesday, November 17 at 5:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. This event is an opportunity to get to know one another and break bread together. **RSVP by November 12** on the website, on the Church Center app, or by contacting the church office.

BLESSING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS: A SMALL ACT OF KINDNESS



A blessing bag is a small bag filled with food, toiletries, first aid supplies, and other helpful items for someone experiencing homelessness. These simple gifts can offer practical assistance, a little comfort, and a reminder that someone cares.

Consider making a few blessing bags to keep in your car or otherwise with you, and share them as the opportunity arises. When you encounter someone in need at an intersection, near a shopping center, or elsewhere in the community, you can offer a bag with a smile and a kind word. Having a few ready means you can respond with compassion whenever the opportunity presents itself. Please remember to offer them safely, without putting yourself or others at risk.

How to Assemble Your Blessing Bags: Choose one or two items from each category below. Place the items in a 1-gallon resealable plastic bag. Keep toiletries in their own smaller plastic bags to prevent leaks or strong fragrances from affecting any food.

Food & Drink - Bottled water or sports drink, granola bars, individually packaged cheese or peanut butter crackers, ready-to-eat tuna and cracker packs, trail mix, dried fruit, beef jerky, packaged cookies.

Toiletries - Nail clippers, lip balm, travel-size sunscreen and deodorant, portable tissue packs, facial or hand wipes, comb or brush, travel-size toothbrush and toothpaste, dental floss, hair ties, feminine hygiene products.

First Aid Items - Small box of bandages, antibiotic ointment, antiseptic wipes, disposable instant cold or heat packs.

Other Helpful Items - Mints, cough drops, chewing gum, wool socks, winter gloves, beanie, sunglasses, a personal note of encouragement.

Keep a Few on Hand: Once assembled, store your blessing bags in a convenient place in your vehicle, such as the trunk or a storage compartment. Keep them out of direct sunlight and extreme heat, especially here in Arizona, where temperatures inside a parked car can quickly become dangerous for food, toiletries, and other supplies. Check the bags periodically, replacing anything that has expired, melted, or been damaged.

When you see someone who may benefit from a blessing bag, offer it respectfully and allow them to decide whether to accept it. A simple, "I have something that might be helpful. Would you like it?" can make the exchange feel natural and welcoming.

A small bag may not change someone's circumstances, but it can make a difficult day a little easier. Through these simple acts of kindness, we share God's love with our neighbors and remind others that they are seen, valued, and cared for.