



Monthly Newsletter

July 2026

Community Lutheran Church

*Jesus said, "Whoever believes in me, streams of living water will flow from within them."
John 7:38*



2275 Ricca Rd, Bullhead City, AZ 86442; 928-763-2422
communitylutheranchurch@gmail.com clcbhc.com



Pastor Tim Eighmy



OFFICE HOURS:
Tues.– Fri., 9 am to 1 pm;
SUNDAY WORSHIP:
Sunday, 9 AM
Until November 1st



Mission Statement of Community Lutheran Church:
Living Christ's love in all we do.

Christian Faith and Patriotism

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country and the signing of the Declaration of Independence, there is a lot of mixed messages about our American heritage and its connection to the Christian faith. It is true that there has been Christians in America ever since the founding of the colonies. But the thirteen British colonies quickly became a religiously pluralistic society, and the founding fathers were very concerned about keeping the government separate from religion.

I personally found a church history class in seminary helpful in helping us discern the different philosophies about the relationship between the American experience and the Christian faith. My professor said that in the early 1800's (beginning in the 1820's) there were three movements that began to form in the United States. The first movement has often been referred to as the American Protestantism. Beginning in the early 1820's, Christian evangelists spread the message of how in the United States our churches are free from the European "trappings" of religion like doctrines, sacraments, and bishops. They insisted that here in America all you have to do is believe in God, read the Bible, and people can form their own churches and democratically decide what theology will be taught in their churches. They often elected to have the teachings of the Baptist tradition in their non-denominational churches because it complemented the American virtue of self-determinism.

A second movement that was formed was called "civil religion". Civil religion is when you use the rituals that bring people together in religious worship services as a way to bring people together in civil ceremonies and meetings. An invocation with a prayer begins the ceremony. Just as a confession of faith or a testimonial is given in religious ceremonies, the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag is said before the ceremony. Patriotic songs are often sung with the same type of reverence as religious hymns. But these practices are not done to encourage any religious faith, but simply to create a sense of community in our patriotic events.

A third movement that was formed was originally simply referred to as "Americanism". Today this movement is characterized by the Christian Nationalism movement. In this movement Christianity is not seen as simply a faithful relationship with God in Christ Jesus, but it is a culture that is established in the name of Christ. In the early 1800's, the concept of Manifest Destiny described America as being the new Israel. And just as the Israelites were led by God to conquer and subdue the Canaanite so they could live in

the Promised Land, so Americans had the right to conquer and subdue the indigenous nations so we may occupy this land from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast.

In the 1980's and 1990's, there was a Christian Nationalist organization called the Christian Patriots (a.k.a., the Freeman) who insisted that the most sacred writings for Christians are the Bible, the Declaration of Independence, the original text of the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. They condemned the subsequent amendments added to the Constitution as undermining what was divinely inspired by God so we may be truly God's nation. And so, as you can see, this Americanism movement blurs the line between and often equates Israel, Jerusalem, the church, and the salvation of Christ with the identity of the United States of America.

The apostle Paul reminded us in 1 Corinthians 12:3; "Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord!' except by the Holy Spirit." And as 2 Peter 2:1 warns us, "But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive opinions." And James 1:22 reminds us, "But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves."

So I say, let us not strive to make America more Christian, but let us strive make America more aligned with the values of Christ: "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you will do it to me." (Matthew 25:39)

In Christ's loving peace,

Pastor Tim Eighmy



We have been in Minnesota for 6 weeks now boy has time flown by. We have been very busy this summer, not having much time for ourselves. Do you sometimes feel overwhelmed? I sure do at times. It is not a pleasant feeling to be in that position; I pray I can make it through everything with Gods help. We have come to realize that we cannot get everything done or we cannot be at two places at once even though we try.

When we get ourselves into these situations, we must be able to make a choice and do what we need to do whether to attend a game for the grandson or granddaughter or go to the other function we have planned at the same time. We must make decisions in our everyday lives that are not always the most favorable to the situation. We must look at the picture as a whole and see what would be best. Or more importantly we must turn our faith to the Lord where He can help us make those difficult decisions. To be honest with you I know I should give it to God but being a human being we think we always have the best answers to things. Guess what, we do not. We need to turn our difficult decisions to the Lord and not be afraid to ask Him, it helps us to make the decisions.

When times get a little upsetting and there is not a clear answer to the problem we really need to give it to the Lord, He will give us the answers we are looking for. Sometimes they may not be so forth coming because God works on His schedule not ours. First, we need to give it to Him so He can provide us with the direction we need to go. So, remember to pray for guidance. The answer will come from the Lord to where you need to go with the problem.

Peter Wold

Council President



The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—celebrates the birth of American independence from the British Empire. On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence.

Designated as a federal holiday across the United States in 1938, Independence Day celebrations have existed as far back as the 18th century and even the American Revolution. Festivities range from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

Fourth of July Fireworks

The first fireworks were used as early as 200 BC. The tradition of setting off fireworks on the Fourth of July began in Philadelphia on July 4, 1777, during a spontaneous citywide celebration. A ship's cannon fired a 13-gun salute in honor of the 13 colonies. The *Pennsylvania Evening Post* reported: “at night there was a grand exhibition of fireworks (which began and concluded with thirteen rockets) on the Commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated.” That same night, the Sons of Liberty set off fireworks over Boston Common.

Did you know?

John Adams believed July 2 was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence and reportedly turned down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826—the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.





A friend of Chad & Tori Lelm passed away from complications of heart surgery. His family is having a spaghetti fundraiser to help with expenses. The cost is a donation of \$10. If you would like to just make a donation, Zelle Andrea Davidson at 9516424271

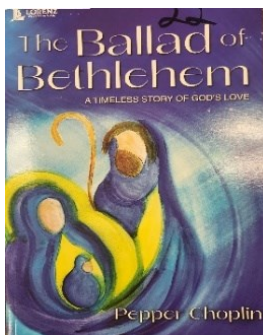
Food Pantry

The pantry is running low on cereal, chili, Spam, beef stew, peanut butter cheese crackers, and tuna “Snack on the Run”. Please donate and put in the pantry. Thank you for your generosity!



Holy Spirit Bunco

Bunco has been canceled until September or October. If interested, there are instructions on how to play on the kiosk.



Christmas Cantata Booklets

The booklets for the Christmas cantata are ready for pick-up in the office. If you are joining the choir, take one and sign out on the sign-out sheet.

The number on the booklet & the sign-out sheet should match.



SAVE THE DATE

**Grand Canyon Synod
Growing in Faith Program presents:**

**Guest Speaker: Shelley Bryan Wee,
Bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod of
the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**A DIFFERENT WAY: JESUS
AND THE CALL BEYOND
NATIONALISM—Hope,
Courage and Community
for such a time as this**



**November 14, 2026
American Lutheran Church
Sun City, Arizona**

*In-person or virtual
with more details coming soon*

FAITH | JUSTICE | LOVE | NEIGHBOR



IN REMEMBRANCE



Dennis Gallagher
1/6/1947 – 5/27/2026

July

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				9 am Bible Study		4 th of July
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9 am Worship service w/ communion	Office closed			9 am Bible Study 1 pm Council mtg Zoom		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9 am Worship service w/ communion	Office closed			9 am Bible Study		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9 am Worship service w/ communion	Office closed	Election site		9 am Bible Study		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9 am Worship service w/ communion Noisy offering	Office closed			9 am Bible Study		

August

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 am Worship service w/communion	Office Closed			9 am Bible Study		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9 am Worship service w/communion	Office Closed	No women's group		9 am Bible Study No council meeting		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9 am Worship service w/communion	Office Closed			9 am Bible Study		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9 am Worship service w/communion Noisy offering	Office Closed			9 am Bible Study		
30	31					
9 am Worship service w/communion	Office Closed					

Birthdays & Anniversaries



July Birthdays

6—Christina Hoffmeyer
18—Bonnie Swandal
20—Richard Grumbine
29—Ken Grondahl



July Anniversaries

6—Davin & Adrienne Cordero (13)
27—Richard & Linda Grumbine (62)

Mark your Calendars!

Women's Bible Study and meeting:

No meetings until September

Pastor Bible Study: 9:00 am on Thursdays

Council Meeting

Next meeting July 9 at 1 pm on Zoom

Worship/Music Committee Meeting

9:30 September 10

Tuesday, July 21st Election Site



Prayer Corner



Let us remember the ones God called home out of our midst, and keep their families and friends in our prayers.



PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



Please continue to pray for all the persons whose names have been offered up by members and friends of the congregation.

We pray for healing, comfort, guidance, strength, recovery, safe travel, and unrevealed needs, as well as for those with thankful hearts and for those who grieve.



If you know someone who would like to be included in the ongoing monthly prayer list, be it for prayer or thanksgiving, please let the office know!



Community Lutheran Church



2275 Ricca Rd
Bullhead City, AZ
86442

UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA



1776 2026
250TH ANNIVERSARY



Community Lutheran Church, Bullhead City, AZ