



Monthly Newsletter

August 2026

Community Lutheran Church

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

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



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.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR TIM

How to Forgive

I once heard a youth pastor tell how he was teaching about basic relationship skills. He said that many of the youth in his ministry came from broken homes where basic acts of love, forgiveness, and responsibility just were not taught. And he realized that they probably didn't understand what we are teaching about God's love and forgiveness for us since those basic concepts weren't taught to them in their lives.

This youth pastor's comments started to make me wonder how many adults are in that same boat. So, I want to talk about what Christian forgiveness is all about.

The act of forgiveness was a major ethical issue for Jesus. He talks about the importance of it in several places in the Gospels.

Jesus taught the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 where we pray, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Jesus went on to say in verses 14 & 15, "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." In other words, we live in a community of people that God has given us. When we forgive others, we are helping God build up our community with love. But when we refuse to forgive others, we refuse to be a part of the loving community that God made us to be.

Giving forgiveness and receiving forgiveness is an act of building up our lives in Christ's love. But perhaps the most helpful passage and challenging passage is Matthew 18:15-35. The first part of this passage is Matthew 18:15-20 where Jesus said that if someone offends us, we should first talk to them privately and explain why we are offended. If the person admits they have done wrong, forgive them. But if they don't admit they did anything wrong, take one or two other people with you to talk to them again. If they admit

they were wrong, forgive them. But if they still don't admit they did anything wrong, then make it a more public issue. If they still won't listen to the community, then they shouldn't be part of your community any longer.

Right after this in Matthew 18:21-22, Peter asked Jesus how many times he should forgive someone; up to seven times? Jesus answered, "Not seven, but 'seventy seven' times." (We don't know if Jesus meant seventy-seven times or 70 x 7 times.) This means that we should repeatedly forgive so many times that we lose count. These two passages leave me with this question. When do we confront someone for their sins and when do we just freely forgive them and let things go without making an issue out of it?

My own conclusion is whether the person's offensive actions actually hurt someone or if it is something that hasn't hurt anyone (but possibly could). If the action hasn't actually hurt anyone, but offends you personally on a moral basis, then forgive it by letting it go. People have the right to do things that you don't like as long as they are not hurting themselves or anyone else. But if their actions are physically, sexually, or verbally abusive toward others, then they must be confronted. If you don't confront them, they tend to take other people's silence as permission to continue to do it. And it is best to confront them in the manner that Jesus taught: first, privately; and then, if need be, with witnesses; and then make a more public issue to stop them. In his way, we are making sure if they realize how hurtful their actions are and if they don't care, you know they won't repent and stop hurting in this way.

This is also why Jesus said in Matthew 5:39 that if anyone strikes you on the cheek, turn the other to them as well. Jesus wasn't saying that we should encourage people to be abusive to us, but this action is a way to test them to see if they really meant to hurt you or if they just got carried away in the moment. If they refuse to strike you again, then forgive them and let it go.

It often boggles my mind when people are very quick to forgive someone's abusive actions without ever calling them out on it, but they cannot let go how people are being immoral in some way that isn't hurting anybody.

So, remember, forgiveness is an act of love and an act of building up our loving community. We don't forgive hurtful things in the same way that we forgive things that are immoral but not hurtful. Just as we love people in different ways, we forgive people in different ways. Sometimes we confront and other times we just let go. But always to make sure people know of God's love and grace through Jesus Christ in our own loving actions.

In Christ's loving peace,

Pastor Tim



No council input this month

ADDRESSES

Address for Constanze

Constanze Bender
Babenbergerring #5
96049 Bamberg
Germany



Sally Hiltbold

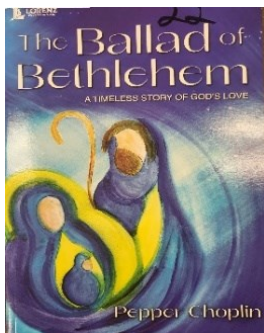
Sally will be moving to Kingman to be near her sons at the **end of August**. Her new address will be:

Avista White Cliff Assisted Living
3600 Peterson Rd
Kingman, AZ 86409



Holy Spirit Bunco

Bunco will not be meeting for the Summer.
They hope to restart in September or October.



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.

Choir Practice will start on September 23rd.

Kitchen Help

Brenda is looking for someone to man the kitchen on the following dates:
October 4. And November 8.
There's a sign-up sheet on the table.



Food Pantry

The pantry is running low on water, cereal, chili, Cup of Noodles, Spam, beef stew, canned chicken, peanut butter or cheese crackers, and "Snack on the Run" tuna, chicken noodle soup (please no tomato), Ravioli, individual fruit cups and Vienna Sausages. We also need grocery sacks. Please donate and put in the pantry. Thank you for your generosity!



God's Work, Our Hands

God's work.
Our hands.

September 13th is the day for our annual assembling of hygiene kits.

Below are the items needed:

Light-weight **bath-size towel** (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark colors recommended.

Two or three **bath-size bars of soap** equaling 8-9 ounces, any brand, in original wrapping.

One adult-size **toothbrush** in it's original packaging*

One sturdy **comb**, remove packaging

One metal **nail clippers** (attached file optional), remove packaging.

*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

After assembling the kits, a light luncheon will follow.

I want to thank everybody at Community Lutheran Church for all the cards, calls and prayers for me while I had my robotic knee surgery. I appreciate all of them.

Thank you so much.

Reva Sparks

Reva will also have surgery on August 6th to remove scar tissue. Continue to keep her in your prayers.



Just a Head's Up

On September 23, the choir will begin **rehearsals for the Christmas Cantata**. More info to follow.



IN REMEMBRANCE



Joyce Rye
2/21/1935 - 6/23/2026

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible –Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the verse. Little Bobby was excited about the task, but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Bobby was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my shepherd . . . and that's all I need to know!"



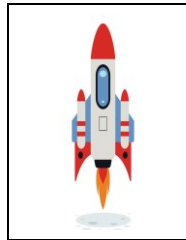
When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven-year-old daughter who would be walking three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning clashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"



A mother took her three-year-old daughter to church for the first time. The church lights were lowered, and then the choir came down the aisle, carrying lighted candles. All was quiet until the little one started to sing in a loud voice, "Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you. . . "



One day a space shuttle crashed to the ground in the yard of a preschool. When he finally struggled out of the wreckage, the astronaut shouted, "I'm free! I'm free!!!" At this point, one of the little children standing there shouted back, "Big deal, I'm four!"



August

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9 am worship svc w/communion	3 Office Closed	4	5	6 9 am Bible Study	7	8
9 9 am worship svc w/communion	10 Office Closed	11 <i>No Women's group</i>	12	13 9 am Bible Study <i>No Council mtg</i>	14	15
16 9 am worship svc w/communion	17 Office Closed	18	19	20 9 am Bible Study	21	22
23 9 am worship svc w/communion <i>Noisy Offering</i>	24 Office Closed	25	26	27 9 am Bible Study	28	29
30 9 am worship svc w/communion	31 Office Closed					

September

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 9:00 Bible Study	4	5
6 9 am Worship svc w/communion	7 Office Closed	8 9:30 Women's Group	9	10 9:00 Bible Study 1 pm Council Mtg Zoom	11 9:30 music committee meeting	12
13 9 am Worship svc w/communion <i>God's Work, Our Hands</i>	14 Office Closed	15	16	17 9:00 Bible Study	18	19
20 9 am Worship svc w/communion	21 Office Closed	22	23 Choir rehearsal for Xmas Cantata	24 9:00 Bible Study	25	26
27 9 am Worship svc w/communion <i>Noisy Offering</i>	28 Office Closed	29	30 Choir rehearsal for Xmas Cantata			

Birthdays & Anniversaries



August Birthdays

2—Charles Sorby
6—Reva Sparks
13—John Casson
14—Lowell Hass
15—Lynda Crawford
16—Debbie Olson
17—Gail Shaver
17—Geline Ostgaard
19—Susan Brusby
19—Janelle Redmann
22—Jeri Brown
26—Tim Eighmy
28—Gayle Moser
28—Dawn Redmann
29—Sharon Fulton
29—Rick Sletten

August Anniversaries

3—Chad & Tori Lelm (13)
4—Doug & Vicky Dyrdaahl (49)
10—Michael & Elaine Gough (24)



Mark your Calendars!

Women's Bible Study and meeting:

No meetings until September 8 at 9:30 am

Pastor Bible Study: 9:00 am on Thursdays

Council Meeting

Next meeting September 10th at 1 pm on Zoom

No scheduled meeting in August

Worship/Music Committee Meeting

9:30 September 11

God's Work, Our Hands

September 13th after service.

Christmas Cantata

Choir practice begins on September 23rd

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!



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Bullhead City, AZ
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