



## ***A Moving Target***



Greetings in Christ!

First off, I want to get to where we are at in regard to worship and events.

First, as Pat and I will be traveling by plane for our vacation in Ohio, Council has approved my recommendation that we not move inside for two weeks after I return on October 7th, so I can get tested and self-quarantine. We will continue courtyard worship through the end of October, as it is still “safer” than being in an enclosed space. In addition, starting at the top of the month means better advertising and planning. Some of you may feel this is overly cautious. However, after reading an article about 30 cases (some severe) that were traced back to a Minnesota funeral, I hope you forgive our level of caution.

Once we move to the sanctuary, you may find there may be more restrictions on singing and corporate responses. Many of the procedures will remain in place, e.g. individual communion, wearing masks, distancing, reservations, etc. There will be only one greeter/usher and no one manning the sound booth. More information will come out as we put our plan into place.

Second, our visit from Bishop Hutterer, planned for Reformation Sunday (October 25th) has been moved to Pentecost Sunday (May 23, 2021). She and her staff are not doing any in-person visits until January. We had such plans for our Anniversary Celebration Year, but it looks like the kickoff will be closer to Advent and the Celebration on Pentecost Sunday. We are in the process of re-contacting speakers, who may only be able to come via video, and looking for Generosity Themes for each month. See page 5 for our request for an Anniversary/Reformation photo. Red will work for Pentecost, as well. Deadline to submit photos is October 15th.

Third, due to the sun setting earlier and earlier, Saturday Worship will return to the regular 4:30 pm time beginning October 10th, after suspending services for the two weekends I am on vacation.

Classes, bible studies and meetings are happening using Zoom, or small groups in the courtyard or other gatherings. On-Demand online worship will continue in some form whether we are meeting in person in the courtyard or in the sanctuary.

I'm on vacation through October 7th. I look forward to a restful time away that will refresh my spirit for returning to jump into our fall programming with renewed energy. I am grateful for your prayers. Our 7th grandchild/2nd grandson, Jude Foss Brown, arrived September 16th and we will hopefully be caressing him as you read this article. For your faithfulness and encouragement, I thank you, and I thank God for you.

*Pastor Sharon*

Check out our YouTube channel for Worship Services, Morning and Evening Prayers, and Reflections from Pr. Naomi Barcanic.

## October Birthdays

4—Ray Kaminski  
10—Patty Tjelmeland  
16—Sharon Brown  
19—Joe Mathe  
30—Becky Brakebill



## October Anniversaries



6—Prigge, Jim & Sandy  
13—Brown, Sharon & Pat

*If your special day is missing from our list, please call or email the church office and let us know.*

## Deaths

Please pray for the families of the recently departed...

Ruth Hanson—September 1  
Memorial Service—TBD

Memorial Service at SOJ for  
Barbara Lattanzi—November 21, 11 am

# Spirit of Joy LUTHERAN CHURCH

330 Scenic Drive  
Clarkdale, Arizona 86324  
928-634-4102

[www.soj@sojaz.net](http://www.soj@sojaz.net)  
[www.facebook.com/sojaz](http://www.facebook.com/sojaz)

## REWARD PROGRAMS

Spirit of Joy is the recipient of donations from the Amazon Smile Foundation and Fry's Community Rewards programs. You do nothing, other than register, and a percentage of your purchases will be sent to Spirit of Joy to be used by the Altar Guild.

Call the office for more details on enrolling.

  
You shop. Amazon gives.



## Qualified Charitable Distributions

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a wonderful way to support the ministries of Spirit of Joy. A QCD allows taxpayers over age 70-1/2 to donate to charities directly from their IRA and avoid federal income tax on the money. Because these distributions aren't added to your income, you may qualify for lower Medicare premiums and Social Security tax rates. Consult with your tax advisor to learn how this may benefit you.

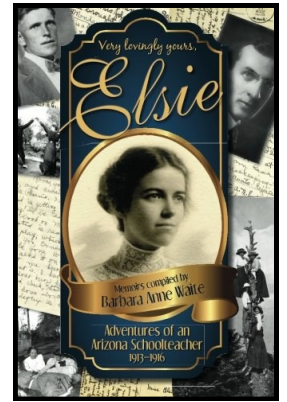
President/Secretary: Micah Swenson  
Vice President: Susan Bro  
Finance Officer: Marcia Shanahan  
Facilities: Dave Tjelmeland  
Christian Education: Susan Bro



In-Reach/Outreach: Marie Parkinson  
Social: Jim Converse  
Stewardship: Micah Swenson  
Worship: Jan Graham  
Youth: Micah Swenson

# DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

Thursday, October 22, 2020, 2:00pm



## ***Elsie - Adventures of an Arizona Schoolteacher 1913-1916***

Barbara Anne Waite

Palomar Mountain BookWorks, 218 pp.

ISBN-13: 978-0983945208

### **Summary**

In 1912, the first year of Arizona's statehood, rural Verde Valley was home to enterprising ranchers and farmers who raised cattle, crops — and children. These children needed a school. So just as they mail-ordered supplies from the Sears catalog, the community mail-ordered a teacher. ELSIE HAYES, a college graduate, came from a world of concerts and literary clubs. The teacher's tiny shack in Cornville was a far cry from her family's lovely home in Long Beach, California. This cultured young woman drank water from an irrigation ditch, bathed in Oak Creek, and taught in a one-room schoolhouse to children first considered "common," but with whom she soon developed a mutual love. Though she had come to Arizona feeling a bit superior to these "backwoods" folks, her emotions transformed into admiration and respect, and the untamed wilderness became "breathtaking and glorious."

Join us for this very local story. Watch the announcements for location of our discussion. Questions, call Judy Haslow, 639-4291.

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## IN-REACH/OUTREACH/SOCIAL MINISTRY

SOJ's In-Reach/Outreach/Social Ministry Committee is continuing to support the Navajo Evangelical Mission. The donations so far have been delivered. We are in contact with the mission to see if their needs have changed as far as non-monetary items. Watch the bulletin for updates if the needs have changed. A tote will continue to be outside the gate at church for the products. Thank you!

### “Living in God’s Kingdom”

## **ADULT FORUM**

As we live in God's Kingdom in this difficult time of separation and social distancing, we look forward to the time when we can resume the Sunday Adult Forum classes. When we are safe to be in the close quarters of Bible Study 1, we will view the TV lecture series entitled "Beginnings of Judaism." If you have suggestions you would like to see addressed in Adult Forum (favorite books of the Bible, the newest ELCA social statements, local speakers on community issues, health issues, faith practices, etc.) and would actively participate by presenting, hosting, contacting speakers, please let me know.

I will be withdrawing from a leadership role due to my health issues but will help with behind-the-scenes work such as typing, etc. Whoever (individual, couple, committee) is willing to take over leadership should contact me or Susan Bro, council member in charge of Christian Education.

Thank you for your continued participation!

Stay well! God bless you!

Rita Dunn



September 3, 2020

SPIRIT OF JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
330 SCENIC DR  
CLARKDALE AZ 86324-3740 U.S.A.

Dear Navajo Lutheran Mission Friends and Supporters:

Thank you for your recent donation of \$550.00 to the Navajo Lutheran Mission.

On behalf of the Navajo Lutheran Mission, Navajo Mission Preparatory School, Hozho Café, our students, and our community of Rock Point, we express our sincere gratitude for your contribution. Your ongoing support is tremendously important to us. These funds will provide much needed support for programs at the Mission. We are truly grateful for your generosity. Blessings to you and your family from everyone at Rock Point, Arizona!

The Mission continues to serve Rock Point and surrounding communities by celebrating and sustaining Indian culture, creating opportunity and renewing hope. With ongoing support, the Mission will be able to continue to enrich the lives of hundreds of Navajo people of all ages.

It is through your prayers, passion for the Mission's work and financial support that the Mission and the School will continue to shine into the lives of the Navajo people.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and community, please accept our heartfelt thank you. We pray for your continued partnership. Together we trust God will guide us to accomplish more than we could ask or imagine.

Thank you for your dedication to creating such lasting, powerful hope for our Navajo relatives.

Please check out **Facebook** for most recent events. (Online donation available on our website [www.nelm.org](http://www.nelm.org) by clicking "Give a gift now" button).

Thank you for sharing our vision.

Sincerely,



Kate Adelman, Executive Director



## WEEKEND BIBLE READINGS

Oct 4: Luke 22:14-20; Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8  
Oct 11: Luke 23:34; Exodus 32:1-14  
Oct 18: Luke 1:46-55; 1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10  
Oct 25: Luke 1:30-33; 2 Samuel 7:1-17



## ANNUAL MEETING—NOVEMBER 8, 2020

### Nominating Committee and November Church Elections

November 8th is our Annual Meeting and in turn, elections for council seats, audit committee. We are looking to fill several councils seats. These new council members will start their term of service in January. We are in need of one audit committee member. If you are interested in any of these positions or have questions about it, please contact our nominating committee (Marie Parkinson and Micah Swenson) or Pastor Sharon Brown.

## WELCA

WELCA held their monthly meeting on September 10th in the courtyard. It was decided at that meeting to not have the annual *Taste of Christmas* fundraiser this year and instead have donations made to the Verde Valley Homeless Coalition.

The next WELCA meeting will take place on Thursday, October 8th at 9:30am. All ladies are invited to attend.

Co-presidents: Lisa Mathe Diane Griffith



## Reformation/Anniversary Member Photo



Grab your camera or your phone and get that selfie stick. We need pictures of you in your favorite **RED** outfit for Reformation Sunday. Since we can't get everyone together for an Anniversary photo, we want you to send us your own photos! If you rather, we can come take your picture at your convenience. Or show up here at the office during office hours. Let's get in the spirit to kick off our 25 plus 1 Anniversary Year!

## ATTENTION COMMITTEE LEADERS!

Committee reports for the 2020 Annual Report are to be emailed to Rosie at: [officesoj@sojaz.net](mailto:officesoj@sojaz.net) no later than Monday, October 5th. Thank you!

# Council Minutes from August 19, 2020



Micah Swenson called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Attendance:** Pastor Sharon Brown, Jim Converse, Jan Graham, Marie Parkinson, Marcia Shanahan, and Micah Swenson

**Absent:** Sue Bro, Dave Tjiemeland, and Donna Woodruff

**Devotions:** Pastor Sharon led devotions using the “Dwelling in the Word” process. The Scripture used for this was Acts 16:6-15. The central message is to go where God is active.

**Correspondence:** We received a thank you from the Navajo Lutheran Mission at Rock Point, thanking us for our donations which to date are at \$1,950.

**Secretaries Report:** The July 15<sup>th</sup> council meeting report was approved as presented.

**Financial Report:** Giving stands at 97% of the 2020 budget. We have started making principal payments again on the mortgage. Our current cash balance is roughly \$26K from the start of the calendar year. At this point, the organ has fully depreciated. The July financial reports were accepted as presented.

\*Marie recommended that the process for IRA contributions be shared with the congregation.

\*Financial Secretary; Donna Woodruff stepped down and has been replaced by Shirley Bradstreet.

**Executive Report:** Saturday afternoon courtyard worship has been moved up to 6pm due to the sun setting earlier in the evenings.

**Pastor’s Report:** A report was made. Hymn selection has been done up to Reformation Sunday. We have seen a membership decline with 6 members not returning. Pastor will be on vacation from September 21<sup>st</sup> through October 5<sup>th</sup>. Gail Kenny will serve as the supply pastor for the weekends of September 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> and October 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>.

**Christian Education:** Psalms class with Rabbi Torrey will begin via Zoom on September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

**In-Reach:** The committee plans to meet in September and look at small groups. Diane Griffith is willing to host a smaller event in her backyard.

**Social Ministry:** The SOJ Joypack program is occurring in a modified form with students not yet returned to on campus learning.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**COVID Update/Reopening of SOJ:** The county and local COVID numbers continue to look very favorable and moving in a direction that supports the transition into the next phase of worship. We are tentatively targeting the weekend of October 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> for indoor worship. Saturday afternoon worship will return to its former 4:30pm start time with Sunday morning worship at 8:30am.

**Stewardship Programs & Ideas:** The \$150 registration fee has been sent in for the *Beginning a Culture of Generosity* stewardship training. It is a 5-session class via Zoom.

(Council Minutes continued)

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Openers & Closers Revisited:** This has been scheduled for outdoor worship with coverage through the weekend of October 4<sup>th</sup>. We will revisit openers and closers later to determine the remainder of the 2020 calendar year.

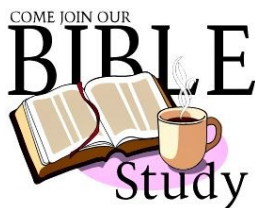
**Nominating Committee:** Marie Parkinson and Micah Swenson will make up this committee. We are looking for at least 4 candidates for council, 1 for Audit Committee, and 2 Synod Representations for the convention in Las Vegas on June 10-11, 2021.

**Banner:** Naomi Barcanic has a BLM banner that incorporates biblical messages and asked if we could hang it at church. Council decided if the focus of the message could appear less political and more biblically focused, we would hang it and asked for a revised version of the banner.

**Next Regular Council Meeting:** September 16, 2020 @ 4:30pm

**Devotions for next meeting:** Marie Parkinson will lead devotions.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.



## WELCA Bible Study...

...will meet on Thursday, October 15th at 2pm via Zoom.  
We will be using the September study guide from our Gather magazine.  
All are welcome to join us!

Email: [pastor@sojaz.net](mailto:pastor@sojaz.net) to be sent a Zoom invite.

### MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATUS—August 2020

<u>Financial Status</u>	<u>Month of August</u>		<u>Year-To-Date 2020</u>
Income (Total Offering) *	\$ 16,109		\$ 167,699
Needed Income (Budgeted)	\$ 22,226		\$ 177,804
Over/Under Budgeted Income	\$ (6,116)		\$ (10,105)
Net Ordinary Income after Expenses	\$ 1,098		\$ 48,244
Change in Bank Balances	\$ (3,956)		\$ 22,583

Remaining Mortgage Balance	\$ 275,216
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Thank you for your faithful stewardship which allows us to continue to serve our congregation and our community in God's name. With your generosity we continue to send support to the Navajo Lutheran Mission and provide worship both in the courtyard and online. During the month of August the attendance at the weekend courtyard worship services has averaged 30 members. At the same time, we had an average of 52 views of the online worship services each week. We as a community are worshiping and supporting each other in new and different ways but the mission of the church remains the same. God Bless each of you!



# **SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FOOD BANK DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES!**

## **MANZANITA OUTREACH**

Saturdays, 8:30-11:30am  
406 S 6th St.  
Cottonwood, AZ  
928-649-5772



## **OLD TOWN MISSION**

FREE Lunch every Tues, Wed, Fri and Sat  
Lunch served from 11:30am to 12:30pm while supplies last.  
116 E Pinal St,  
Cottonwood, AZ  
928-634-7869

## **PROJECT RISING HOPE**

Tuesdays, Noon-6pm  
740 E Mingus Ave.  
Cottonwood, AZ  
928-634-5214

## **VERDE VALLEY SENIOR CENTER**

“Take Away Meals” & Meals on Wheels  
Mon—Fri, 8am—4pm  
500 E Cherry Street  
Cottonwood, AZ  
928-634-5450  
928-634-5214



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928-634-5450  
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Cottonwood, AZ



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## **Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church**

330 Scenic Drive, Clarkdale, AZ 86324  
928-634-4102 -- <http://sojaz.net>

Rev. Sharon Brown, Pastor  
Mobil/Confidential 928-421-2475  
Office Hours: M-W-T: 11 am—3 pm