

That's The Spirit!

New Spirit Lutheran Church

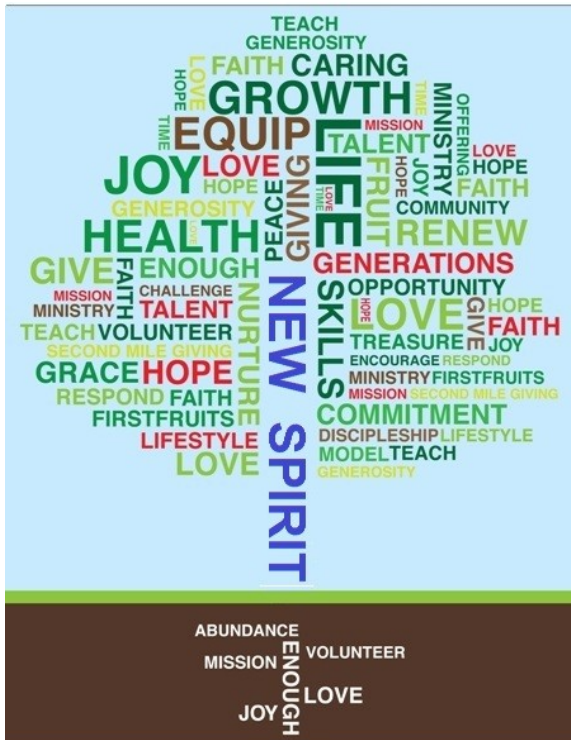
Our faith is in Jesus.

Our hope is in grace.

Our strength is in love.

Rev. Alan Field

October 2011



“More Than Enough”

Our 2012 Stewardship Program, “More Than Enough” will begin on **Sunday, October 2nd**. Shortly thereafter, you will receive a copy of the “2012 Venture Mission Plan” reflecting the requests of the ministries of New Spirit.

Commitment Sunday is October 23rd and on that date members will place their completed Pledge Cards on the Altar as a sign of covenant with God trusting God will provide your household with “More Than Enough” throughout the year 2012. Watch for two mailings, and pray over the needs for ministry we have here at New Spirit and how God can enable you to increase your support for the coming year.

“Stewardship Corner” – The Beauty of Stewardship

Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources — basically our entire lives. It’s a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship:

- God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.
- We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.
- Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an

account of our management of God’s creation and of God’s gifts.

- When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat or smell. Yet we did the work, with God’s help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God’s provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment.

(Continued on page 3)

From Pastor Alan

Dear Partners on the Trail

I recently attended a retreat at the close of a year of renewal, healthy leaders lead healthy churches. Supported by the ELCA Board of Pensions and the Mayo Hospital the participants were given monthly homework exercises to better enable us to do the work of ministry. We practiced a number of spiritual exercises to deepen our daily time with God. We practiced claiming boundaries between personal, family and work time. In our June Newsletter I offered you “just one week” to practice what I have been doing for the past year.

One of the truths that I became reacquainted with was this: despite the press of time, and the dirge of the economy, when you look at what God has provided for us, gratis, it is very truly “more than enough.” In a number of exercises we were encouraged to step outside of the box that we have tied ourselves in and see all that is out there.



When was the last time you spent some time in an art museum or gallery? There are a number of those galleries in Tucson. When was the last time you went to the library to check out a book or DVD on a subject that interests you? When was the last time you called an old friend, just to talk? And how many of those calls were a blessing with reward?

When our souls become malnourished, other parts of our lives become dry and starving, too. If we have grown dry of listening for God’s grace, our grace dries up. We become impatient and curt. We become intolerant and grouching. We become critical and short. But, when we take the moment, and that is all it takes to become rekindled with God’s grace, to recall God’s faithful promise “my spirit will dwell within you and give you life ...” Refreshment.



Now, I know it does not work that easily. I know those difficult places where, far from home and oh so weary, we trudge on longing for refreshment and rest. I know what it is like to have the “insisting voice” driving, driving, driving me to do what must be done. And I know how weariness unto sleep feels. Now here’s the rub: If I turned ever so slightly to one way

or another doing what must be done ... in that simple change of direction produced a sense of a new lease on life. What we learned along this journey is that despite the constant call to obedience, there are brief places where the path levels off — and the view is spectacular if you will simply look up.



I did that a number of times this past year. I looked up when under such pressure to get things done well and saw a glimpse of the glory of God ... more than enough to give meaning to this hard day. Have you ever been there?

That is my prayer for New Spirit as we step into these desert fall days. I want you to see there is more than enough beauty in this desert where we live. There is more than enough time to take that extra servant job for the church, in it you shall find blessing ... and blessing is life-power. My prayer is that you will find that your home is truly filled with more than enough, and that adding to the cache of “stuff” will most likely not make you happier. That happiness comes from the assurance that at any moment God’s grace and mercy are more than enough.

For the remainder of 2011, I invite you to step into this spiritual truth: In God, who created and blesses life, there is more than enough for all of us. There is more than enough time to love the people you take for granted. There is more than enough money to support the ministry of the church as well as easing the difficulties of hunger in Tucson. There is more than enough energy to be a blessing to someone — unexpected but true. Open your eyes to see how much more than enough God has splurged upon us and give thanks ... because God is so good!

Will you join me in these last three months of 2011 to see the abundance that God has blest us with ... more than enough.

Prayerfully,

Pastor Alan



This Month:

October 2nd — Making Leaders from those too young

October 9th — No Youth meeting

October 15th — **OKTOBER FEST** at New Spirit. Youth will be helping with cooking, serving, and showing folks around the church property. Invite your friends ... good food, games, entertainment, and the grace of God for all!

October 22nd — Youth interested in attending the **Copperstate Fly-In** at Casa Grande with Pastor Alan are invited. The **Copperstate Fly-In** is the largest gathering of homebuilt/experimental airplanes in the southwest. A large variety of planes, and antique aircraft will be on display, and flying during the day. It's a "Pastor Alan Passion".

October 23rd — **SUPER-GROUP** is going to Sierra Vista. Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church (Pastor Mark Perry) will be hosting us as we experience a hands-on service project serving in the S.V. "soup kitchen." This up-close-and-personal opportunity will aid participants in understanding the dangers and difficulties of hunger and poverty. We will meet at



the church at **1:00 p.m.** and should return home around **7:00 p.m.**

(Super-Group is the joint youth group of eight Tucson ELCA congregations which meets quarterly. Host churches provide space for gathering and games, and providing food for everyone present (60-80 youth).

October 30th — No Youth meeting

Coming Soon:

YouthQuake is January 6, 7, 8, 2012 in Carefree.

We will need to decide if we will be attending Youth Quake which will feature a SALCA Camp Reunion! Registration is \$75/youth with the youth budget providing the balance. We will talk about Quake at the Oct. 2nd meeting!

New Orleans 10 months away and counting. We are preparing for the **2012 ELCA Nation Youth Gathering** in New Orleans next July, just ten months away. We will be participating in the preparatory Bible Studies and conversation about what it means to be **"Citizens of the Kingdom of God."**

Beauty of Stewardship ...

(Continued from page 1)

Good financial stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work.

That is the beauty of stewardship.

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First Communion Classes

If your child has expressed a desire to receive Holy Communion, it is time for them to attend First Communion Classes. The course consists of three classes that meet for one hour on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30 – 5:30 and then we join the supper in Fellowship Hall. Class dates are set for October 12, 19 and 26. First Communion will be celebrated on Reformation Sunday, October 31.





Bits & Pieces— Small Articles of Great Importance



Prayer Shawl Meeting

We will have a Prayer Shawl meeting on Saturday, October 15th at 10 am in room 105. We will also discuss making baby caps for Africa, so please ladies, we need you and we'll enjoy visiting and have goodies and coffee. Come and enjoy. Dolores Syverson



Gaslight Theatre Christmas Program

The Twilight Wish Foundation is sponsoring a showing of the Gaslight Theatre's "Christmas in the Big Apple" on Saturday, December 3rd. Doors open at 2:30 and the show will start at 3 pm. Tickets are \$20 per person. Buy a ticket for yourself, or be "Santa" to a low income Senior and give the gift of a laugh filled afternoon.



Petal Pushers



We have a group going to Pasadena to work on Tournament of Roses Parade floats. We are working the evening shifts (3 – 11 p.m.) on Monday, December 26th, and Tuesday, December 27th. On the 28th we'll be dividing up to go to local attractions, then we'll return on December 29th in the early evening. If you'd like to make the trip, sign up by October 9th. Space is limited.

Oktoberfest - October 15th – 4 to 7 pm

This is a community celebration and "open house" for New Spirit ... bratwurst, food, entertainment, and activities for the kids. Bring your friends, meet the neighbors! Come to just have fun!



Bible Quiz

- 1) A New Testament book says God designated Jesus as a 'high priest' and that Jesus was the most perfect mediator between God and humans. Choose the name of the book below:
 - A. Romans
 - B. Hebrews
 - C. Matthew
 - D. Revelation

Hint: Answer is in chapter 5:1-10 and chapter 9:11-15.

- 2) The 12 men in Jesus' inner circle of followers had a variety of backgrounds, but most of their occupations are unknown. Which combination of jobs listed below correctly matches two of Jesus' disciples?
 - A. Fisherman and Doctor
 - B. Fisherman and Tax Collector
 - C. Carpenter and Tax Collector
 - D. Fisherman and Farmer

Hint: See Matthew 4:18 and 10:3.

- 3) What did Jesus say his earthly mission was all about? Choose the correct answer from the list below:
 - A. Doing his own will
 - B. Doing God's will
 - C. Doing the will of the people
 - D. All of the above

Hint: (See John 5:30.)

- 5) Which of the following statements impressed Martin Luther, a leader of the Reformation?
 - A. "I am not ashamed of my good works."
 - B. "I am not ashamed of the laws of Moses."
 - C. "I am not ashamed of the gospel."
 - D. "I am not ashamed of my God."

Hint: The correct answer is in Romans 1:16.



Answers (no peeking!):

1) B 2) B 3) B 4) C

Women of the ELCA at New Spirit

Deborah's Gathering:

Welcome women of New Spirit! The group invites you to join us on the second Wednesday of the month to Bible Study in the book of Mark and to participate in our Projects for the season. This month its: Wednesday October 12th, 9:30 am -11:30 am.

Hostess: Carol Brennan, Marilyn Carter

Bible Study Leader: Marilyn Linderkamp

Project Emphasis for month: Ingathering of Diapers for convention

Project: Entertainments Books are available in Fellowship Hall between services

A Big Thank You to the Congregation for the toys and monetary gifts you contributed for "Christmas in September."

Entertainment Books:

The 2012 Entertainment Books are available during Fellowship Hour on Sundays for \$30, cash or check made out to Gloria Burke. Sales of the books are the only direct fund-raiser by the WELCA here at New Spirit and all proceeds are used for outreach projects.

Upcoming Dates:

October:

Project of cards making for those women of New Spirit who are limited in their activities. We'll meet October 27 at 1:00 pm at the home of Sue Gilmore (1815 S Desert Vista Dr). Call her at 296-8650 for more information. Share in this fun project.



November:

WELCA Synod Convention—November 4-5. The Tucson churches are host this year at the Sheraton, Tucson. We have 10 ladies registered from New Spirit. Barbara Rebok is our delegate and Carol Brennan will attend as a Synod delegate.

Thank Offering Sunday at New Spirit will be November 20th at both services. This special offering is one that is part of our commitment to All Women of the Lutheran Church through our Churchwide organization. Have you been to the web site? Do you know about "Café" the on line magazine site that connects us with ideas, inspiration, for all ages?

We appreciate you at New Spirit for your giving to support Christian Women in the Lutheran Church.

December: Heads Up For Big Cookie Project – Start Now To Be Ready!

A project in cooperation with Church Women United in Tucson, Green Valley and surrounding area COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES—The project for cookies (home baked or from the bakery) is for the inmates at the county prison facilities in cooperation with the prison chaplain. Reminder: please label your donation "Prison Cookies" so there are no mix ups and leave in the kitchen by December 11th.



Wednesday Evening Activities

Wednesday Evening dinners are back! Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. We ask that you bring your own table setting if possible to save on disposable items. A donation of \$4 is suggested to defer the cost of preparing the meals. Interested in helping with the COOK TEAM??? Contact Gerri Sjoland ...

Small Group classes will begin at 6:15 each evening (please note the earlier starting time).

October 5th

Menu: Pork Roast and Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad and Apple Crisp

October 12th

Menu: Meatloaf, Baked Potatoes, Corn and Cake

October 19th

Menu: Chicken and Biscuits, Peas, Cranberries, Ice Cream & Cookies

October 26th

Menu: Potluck



What Are You Afraid Of?



Many of us fight demons of FEAR. Afraid of the water, driving in strange cities, flying, volunteering, etc. And yet, “do not be afraid” is one of the most often stated commands in the Bible. Being afraid, in my opinion, is not trusting God. It is more or less saying that we think we don’t matter enough to God that he will let us experience failure after failure.

It is that time of the year again where things are happening here at New Spirit and where many hands are needed to do God’s work. Where do your talents lie? In being with people or behind the scenes? Whatever the case may be, there is a place for you here. As a matter of fact, we need YOU. You can tell us how you see yourself fulfilling your destiny in how God created you and for what purpose. He did not intend for us just to take up space. You do not need to be an expert on anything in order to help. Just trust where God may lead you.

Try not to have NO be your first reaction when asked to help. Remember, God put that person in front of you when he/she asks if you want to be on the vision team or be a greeter or whatever. Nothing happens by accident. We are in a busy season of the calendar; much is happening and more could be

happening if more people said YES.

Do not be afraid to try something new. You’re not ever alone. God is there all along cheering you on and grateful that you saw the need. He will bless you!

I’ll look forward to working with you!

Brigitte Stuetze



Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

October 1st – Bill & Betty Cooley

October 2nd – Jakob Rettig

October 2nd – Jean Rhoades

October 3rd – Rosalie Campbell

October 3rd – Chip Green

October 4th – Bob & Nancy Daliege

October 4th – Mary Lou Rex

October 5th – Guimei Jorgensen

October 7th – Kim Schuh

October 7th – Tom & Donna Bartels

October 12th – Gabriella Bonura

October 13th – Kevin Cooper

October 13th – Reese Drath

October 13th – Sally Thorndike

October 14th – Sue Gilmore

October 14th – Teresa Roddy

October 15th – Mary Henkel

October 15th – Carl & Mary Lou Rex

October 18th – Marlene Hansen

October 19th – Sharon Dobbs

October 20th – Mark & Jamie Buglewicz

October 20th – Valerie Friend

October 20th – Carl Rex

October 24th – Tom Billeter

October 24th – Judy McFarland

October 27th – Carol Hughes

October 29th – Paul & JoAnn Blomquist

October 30th – Jeanne Goodwin





To The Congregation—

Thanks for all the donations for the military packages. Our men and women in the service really look forward to them!

Ellie Thompson, Tom & Kathy Vaclavek

Thanks To All of You—

As I become more dependent on care from others for my well-being, I realize my appreciation for the loving care of the community of believers here at New Spirit. I give you my love and daily offer thanks and prayers for you in Jesus' name.

Ellen Canterbury

To all the Members of New Spirit—

I have to thank all of you for the great support you have shown me and my family in the loss of Julie. I give thanks to all that were involved in putting the memorial service together. So many were involved that I hesitate to name names for fear of forgetting someone. It was a wonderful memorial service.

After 42 years of a wonderful marriage it is very hard to deal with the drastic change. It is amazing the number of people I have encountered that have been thru the same thing and have survived. There will always be that major void there and I am too new at it yet to think it will ever be better but people tell me it will heal. I would like to share with you my thoughts which awoke me one night at 3 am.

The love of my life has gone.

My very being is in question.

I am lost on the ocean with no port in sight.

The wind has been taken out of my sails.

My faith wavers. What am I to do ?

What am I to do ?

Thanks again to each and every one of you—

Don Austin

Strategic Planning Update

On August 18th we had a site visit from Dan Cook, the founder of Building God's Way, an agency that helps churches with their planning and building concerns. We invited Dan because of the K-Hall redevelopment that is a part of the Strategic Planning process. We gave Dan "the tour" from the Sanctuary, to the offices, to K-Hall and the community garden. He gave us several good ideas about what could be done with K-Hall, and we will be talking about those in the days ahead.

His response to his visit was received September 14th:

"It's hard to explain how much I enjoyed our visit while I was in Tucson. I have told your story of the medical loan chest many times since I was there. I would really recommend that you write us a short blog or story

about how that came about, and the impact that you are seeing. I believe that is one of the incredible ministry opportunities throughout the United States. You could impact so many people with the heart that you have for this particular concept. The variety of your ministries that are used for helping others says so much about the kind of church that you are. We stand ready to come alongside you in master planning the balance of your site as well as re-purposing your building."

Your brother in the Lord,

Daniel W. Cook, founder, Building God's Way.



K-Hall Happenings

Food Pantry/ Food Bank News

In August 200 Community Food Bank boxes were issued along with 23 New Spirit supplemental bags. We are seeing an increase in enrollment to the Community Food Bank Program and your support is always needed and appreciated.



Thank you, Tony & Judy McFarland, for going to Green Valley and getting a truckload of medical equipment for the loan Chest!

We are looking for 3 or 4 people to train on the computer to work two days a month (Tuesday or Thursdays 1-4 or Saturdays 10-1). Also needed are truck drivers (with the truck) to pick up pallets of food boxes at the main food bank.
Carol Lukecart

Loan Chest Needs

The loan chest is very low on shower benches, tub transfer benches and bedside commodes! If you have or know someone who has one of these items that is not being used, we have the clients for it!!

Christmas is Right Around the Corner!

The **Mission and Services Team** is doing a Socks & Underwear Christmas Drive for the most needy of our Food Bank Clients – Children aged 2 to 13. Small (gently used or new) stuffed animals are also needed.

So when you are shopping your favorite store – whether it is the Family Dollar, Wal-Mart or some other haunt – please remember the children who rarely get new things. These items will be put in a Christmas stocking along with a children’s Bible book and given out during the Christmas Season. Please leave any donations on the Food Pantry cart from now until December 1st.



Holiday Food Bags

Our annual Thanksgiving/Christmas Holiday Bag Drive will begin on October 1st. Please you can, please pick up 2 bags to fill – one for Thanksgiving and one for Christmas and do all your shopping in one trip. We will begin handling out Thanksgiving bags on November 1st and Christmas bags on December 1st. Thank you so much for your support of this important mission to make the Holidays better for those in need. The Lord has provided us with so much and this is a good time to share our bounty.
~Carol Lukecart



Sunday School Lock-In

We are having a lock in the night of October 21st. Kids can be dropped off at K-Hall any time after 6pm. We will have games, stories, face painting, cotton candy, cookie decorating, manicures, and movies. We will serve hot dogs, chips, veggies and fruit for dinner. Permission slips will be sent out by the Sunday School Department. Parents are invited to a hot breakfast at 9:30 am. Please send a sleeping bag, pillow, PJ’s and any favorite bedtime stuffed toy or blanket. We hope to see everyone there! If you want to help, please contact Shelley or Sandra Colwell.



Meet Your Vision Team—Robyn Huff-Eibl, Secretary

Greetings!

I am blessed to be part of New Spirit Lutheran Church and a member of your Vision Team. I am a transplant from Minot, North Dakota via Bridgeport, Michigan and Roseville, California. I found my way to Tucson in 1989 when I transferred to the University of Arizona to complete my education. I accepted a job in 1991 with the University of Arizona Libraries and, not realizing it was God's plan to have me stay in Tucson, I met my husband Andrew Eibl and Tucson became our home. Andrew and I were married in 1993 by Pastor David Fisher at the former Calvary Lutheran Church. We were blessed with our son Marcus in 1997 and daughter Micaela in 1999. (True blessings – have coffee with me between services and I will share the funny stories of their birth and how we'd like to think we are in "control" of our lives when the reality is that God is in control...a constant reminder for me.)



tin's funeral, but I think it's worth repeating. In December 2007, as our family was struggling through difficult issues, we happen to run into Julie and Don Austin ... out of the blue. For years our paths had not crossed yet it felt like there had been no years between us. Julie invited us to visit New Spirit ... little did she know how much we needed this at that moment in time. We spent Christmas Eve 2007 worshipping at New Spirit and became members in 2008. Julie was doing God's work by reaching out at that instant as she often did! God will lead us if we are open to listen and willing to give up "control".

I am blessed by God's love through each of you and amazed by the possibilities of what's to come. I am your sister in Christ here to do God's work.

Blessings to each of you,
Robyn Huff-Eibl

I have worked at the University of Arizona Libraries for over 20 years in a variety of positions. Currently I am the Department Head for Access & Information Services which supports user services such as reference and research assistance. My education and experience is in communication and business. I am a trained facilitator and have assisted other organizations with strategic planning, team development, project management and process improvement. Unfortunately "Type A workaholic" is in my DNA, and I pray weekly for balance in my life as work is not what brings me joy...just something I happen to be good at. Sharing time with family and friends and learning to do God's work is what brings me joy. (i.e., assisting the youth, playing in the bell choir and participating in the care giving ministry)

Our family left Calvary Lutheran in 1999 thinking that we needed to be members at a church with young children; however, life does not always result in what we think is best as God has his own plans. (Yes... there is a theme here.) I shared this story at Julie Aus-

Shout—Out Corner

Shout-Out to Mark Buglewicz for sharing God's love through the gift of his music.

Shout-Out to The Cook Team for preparing such yummy meals. Blessed are the hands of the preparers,

Shout-Out to Tracy Miller, our Office Manager, for all her hard work.

Shout-Out to Terry Mysak for his persistence in working on our upcoming 2012 budget.

Shout-Out to Ellie Thompson for her faithfulness in driving Esther Whitehead to church.

Shout-Out to Ken Dobbs who is fixing things on the grounds so frequently, we wonder if he lives here!



Shout-Out
of Thanks!