

Maricopa Lutheran Church

(A Mission Congregation of the Grand Canyon Synod, ELCA)

16540 North Porter Road, Maricopa, AZ 85138 - Phone: 520-280-6102

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2010

Steering Committee:

Sue Fletcher, Chair
Pastor Cora
Chet Anderson
John Hancock
Nicole Mangum
Jim Rosenow
Maureen Smyth
Vince Vitale

Committees:

Worship:

Sue Rosenow, Chair
Pastor Cora
Sue Fletcher

Evangelism:

Maureen Smyth
Connie Hancock
Diane Hebert

Finance:

John Hancock, Chair
Neil Gillespie

Stewardship:

Jim Rosenow, Chair
Claude Marsh

Property:

Chet Anderson
Elaine Shearer
Roy Shearer

Building:

Vince Vitale, Chair
Fred Fix
Bob Wheaton

Christian Education:

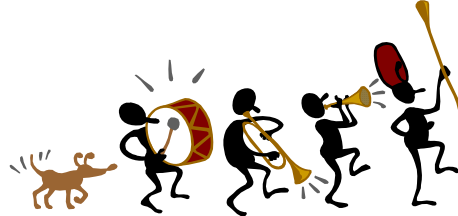
Nicole Mangum, Chair
Linda Walter
Sherri Anderson
Elaine Shearer

If you would like to serve on any of the Committees, please contact Sue Fletcher or one of the committee members.

Worship Schedule:

Saturday – 5pm
Sunday – 10am
Ad Ed/Sun Sch. 9am

A Message From Our Pastor . . .



**“Marching in
the Light of
God”**

One of the favorite Sending Hymns of Praise here in Maricopa Lutheran on a Saturday worship service, a blend of contemporary and traditional service, is **“We are Marching in the Light of God”**. With the piano, guitar, conga drums, tambourine and maracas, we shake “the roof” of the ranch house every time we sing this hymn.

“We are marching in the light of God” – Webster defines march – “walk with regular, steady steps of equal length, usually in a group; to advance or progress steadily”. As children of God, we are called to let the light of Jesus shine through us, in our lives, in our community, in the world. We are called to march in the light, to “walk with regular, steady steps as a group”, as one body and advance this light in this darkened world. Our world seems darker than ever before. Chaos seems to surround us. There is so much darkness. The world needs the light.

As children of God, are we marching in the light of God? Do our actions show that we are in the light of God at home, at work, in school, on the road? As a church, are we “taking a steady step to advance this light?” Are we keeping the light inside Maricopa Lutheran burning bright so that neighbors and passers-by are illuminated as well? Or is it just flickering?

Sisters and brothers in Christ, God cares about us. God does not want us to stay in the dark and so God sent Jesus, the light of the world, to shine in our lives. And God wants us to share that light with others.

As a Church under Development here in the city of Maricopa, may this song by Graham Kendrick be our song: *“Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining; Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me.”*

To God be the Glory,
Pastor Cora



GriefShare Program

Maricopa Lutheran will be sponsoring a **GriefShare** Program, beginning September 8th from 10am to 12 noon and will run until December 1st. This program is for those who have experienced the loss of a parent, child, spouse, other family member or friend and will be open to the entire community.

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences so that you don't have to go through the grieving process alone! **GriefShare** support groups are led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help. **GriefShare** will meet weekly to help you face challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

Ladies Prayer Group Ministry



The ladies prayer group has delivered baked goods to two of the local fire departments thanking them for their service to the community. If you'd like to bake

something for them, let me know (Diane Hebert, 520-208-6778).

The ladies are members of Maricopa Lutheran and Desert Springs, Maricopa (formerly Oasis Life). We asked the firefighters how the church could help them, they suggested collecting clothing for victims of fire. This will be an ongoing need. We are spreading God's love through this ministry.

Church Night Out With The Phoenix SUNS



Stay tuned to hear more about Maricopa Lutheran participating in "Church Night Out" with the Suns. With 55 folks participating we will be part of an Inner Circle group that is allowed court side for warm ups and close encounters with the Suns players. We then get discount tickets to watch the game. The seats will be upper level but mid court and hopefully not too high up. Maricopa Lutheran Church will also be prominently recognized on the big scoreboard as participating. We have not heard back yet from the Phoenix Suns what game it will be but it will probably be in the December/January time frame. You will be advised as soon as we know in the next couple of weeks. Not only is this a great night out to participate with the Suns, watch a good game, and have fellowship together, but also advertise Maricopa Lutheran Church. As the Suns say "**Get Orange**".

Choir

Rehearsals



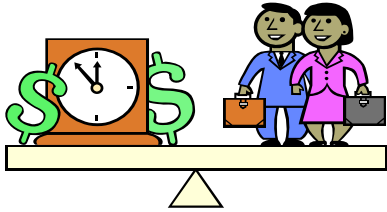
Are held every Thursday at 6:30pm at the church. Please come and sing with us!!

You don't have to have a great voice just a love for music.

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED!

Please sign up on Saturdays or Sundays to read scriptures, usher, Communion assist, or bring refreshments.

Christian Stewardship



Summer is drawing to a close and soon our lives will be back to a more normal routine. Worship on Saturday and Sunday, along with Christian Education will be increasing as our congregation's vacations begin to slow down.

This fall, during the month of November, we will once again consider our commitments of Time, Talent and Treasure for the year 2011 to Maricopa Lutheran Church.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 reminds us to sow generously. *"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."*

Thanks to all those who have kept their commitments through the summer and I wish everyone God's peace as we enter an exciting fall season.

Jim Rosenow, Stewardship Chrm.

Church Bulletin Bloopers.....

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

ATTENTION: ALL MEN

Men's Group Forming!!

First meeting will be held at the Missior House, **Saturday, September 11th at 10am**, hosted by Roy Shearer. Open to all men of Maricopa Lutheran and friends.



Things to discuss:

- Meeting time: Saturdays?
- How can we advertise church location?
- How this men's group can serve men?
- And more!

Please call Roy Shearer at 520-568-4139 if you have any thoughts or questions.

1st Annual Christmas Craft Fair

**Saturday,
November 27th**

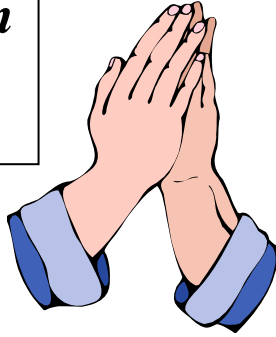


Are you crafty?? Do you know someone that is? We are starting to look for crafters for our first annual Maricopa Lutheran Church Holiday Craft Fair and Bake Sale. This year, the money raised from the Craft Fair will help the youth of our church go to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA. We are going to invite all members and non-members to sell at our craft fair. Only requirement is that the items to be sold are to be hand and home made.

We will be looking for helpers. There will be something for everyone to do.

Thank you for our support. Any questions or if you would like to help call Elaine Shearer at 520-568-4139.

Remember in Prayer



“Today dear Lord work in me. Change the thought life in me when I strip of others their dignity or reduce them - in order to build myself. And give me your voice to speak words of value, admiration, encouragement, compassion, true kindness and speak of your truth. You are truth. You are life. You never forsake me and you keep your promises. Lord you are first in everything I plan or do. What a comfort to know you will always be with me. Thank you Lord Jesus for loving me.”

*Wanda (Nicole Mangum's mother-in-law),
Katie (Neil Gillespie's niece),
Peter (Pastor's brother),
Melody (Pastor's aunt),
Amelia (granddaughter of Maureen),
Dominick (Laura's husband),
Jan,
“J”,
Terry,
Connie Ilagan,
Tommy and Pedro.*

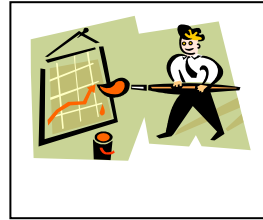
Names will remain on the Prayer List for one month unless requested by family or friend to remain on.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

....will begin on September 8 at 6 p.m. at the mission house, 41123 W.

Novak Lane, Maricopa.

Registration can be done on line through www.mvlutheran.org/forms. Forms will also be available at the church. We ask for a donation of \$35 per child, but if you cannot make this donation, your child is still welcome. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Cora at 520-280-6102.



Treasurer's Report

As provided at the Congregational Meeting on August 8, Maricopa

Lutheran is very solvent thanks to your generous giving. As a Church under Development (CUD), it is critical to maintain increasing attendance and giving. Not only must Pastor Cora, as our Mission Developer, be compensated appropriately under ELCA guidelines, but we must also consistently reach a level of 125 worship participants in order to move to a chartered congregation. God has blessed us so abundantly and your continued support of Maricopa Lutheran is very much appreciated.

Our Zita Pitkin Memorial Building Fund has been established in an ELCA Mission Investment Fund (MIF) account that currently totals \$740. Monies will remain in this account collecting interest until Maricopa Lutheran is ready to obtain a building site. The MIF account also demonstrates to the ELCA that we have a future vision for our own church and property. Please continue with your designated gifts to this important endeavor.

Pianist Needed!!!

We are in need of someone who can accompany the choir when they sing - usually every other Sunday, beginning September 12. This person would also be needed at rehearsals which are held every Thursday (beginning August 26) at 6:30 p.m. If you can play and are interested, please let Sue Fletcher know.

Fathers in 1900 Today

In 1900, fathers could count on children to join the family business.

Today, fathers pray their kids will soon come home from college long enough to teach them how to work the computer and set the VCR.

In 1900, a father gave a pencil box for Christmas, and the kid was all smiles.

Today, a father spends \$800 at Toys 'R' Us, and the kid screams: "I wanted a Game Cube!"