

# The Live Wire

Plug into  
the  
**HIGHEST  
POWER**

Volume 4, Issue 3

## THE NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR IN CONCERT

The National Lutheran Choir, under the direction of Dr. David Cherwien, will perform in the AELC Sanctuary on Friday, February 17 at 7:00 PM as part of their 2012 Arizona concert tour. Their mission is to seek to strengthen, renew and preserve the Lutheran heritage of choral music through the highest standards of performance and literature.

The 67 voice choir performs literature from the entire spectrum of sacred choral music, with and without instrumental accompaniment. Their rich and diverse repertoire ranges from early chant to new compositions and from simple folk anthems to complex orchestral masterworks.



Members of the National Lutheran Choir are drawn from the Minneapolis/St. Paul area and beyond for weekly rehearsals and local and national performances. The ensemble presents a wide range of choral works in concert and worship settings, leads workshops in choral techniques, hymnody and liturgy, commissions and publishes new compositions, and broadcasts and records extensively. The choir was founded in 1986 by Dr. Larry Fleming. More information is available on their website: [www.nlca.com](http://www.nlca.com), or find them on Facebook.

The National Lutheran Choir was the recent recipient of the 2007 Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence from Chorus America and the 2007 Wittenberg Award from the Luther Institute.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and free for full-time students. Tickets can be purchased from the church office or at the door if still available. For more information, contact Jim Klein, Minister of Music.

### AELC STAFF

Dr. Dan Storvick.....Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Adam Marquardt.....Associate Pastor  
 Rev. Jack Shannon.....Associate Pastor  
 Rev. Wally Cole.....Visitation Pastor  
 Kate Howell.....Director of Administration  
 James Klein.....Minister of Music  
 Jake Madlock..... Dir. of Contemporary Music  
 Debbie Smith..... Director of Children's Ministry  
 Adam Bretz.....Director of Student Ministry  
 Lori Barbe.....Dir. of American Lutheran School  
 (928) 778-7049  
 Amy Buettner.....Ass't. Dir. of Children's Ministry  
 Donna Hamrick.....Office Manager  
 Eileen Klein.....Organist  
 Larry Lee.....AV Technician  
 Geri Onnen.....Administrative Assistant  
 Jeff McReynolds.....Food Services Coordinator  
 Phillip Bucklein.....Custodian  
 Tom Leick.....Custodian

**SAVE THE DATE!** "Sky! Everything is Possible with God" Vacation Bible School will be June 4 - 8, 2012 from 9:00 AM - Noon for ages three years through 5th grade. Those entering 6th grade and older can volunteer at the best VBS in Arizona! Watch for registration and volunteer sign-ups beginning in April.



**AMERICAN LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL PRESENTS  
 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!  
 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 AT 5:30 PM**



American Lutheran School invites the congregation to bring the whole family to a movie and pizza night in the Fellowship Hall. Free admission! Movie: *Curious George* (rated G; 86 minutes). Pizza \$2.00 per slice; popcorn and movie snacks \$1.00 each.

# IN GRATITUDE

Dear Friends at AELC—We at Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity are recently in receipt of the last payment of our 2011 Thrivent Builds grant, which officially closes out the program. It also signals the end of our 5-year relationship with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. We have been repeatedly blessed by the many ways you have supported our mission, and we are particularly thankful for your prayer support. Henri Nouwen, in his book *With Open Hands*, writes, "Above all...prayer is a way of life which allows you to find a stillness in the midst of the world where you open your hands to God's promises, and find hope for yourself, your fellow man, and the whole community in which you live." Through prayer, thank you for the life-giving hope that is changing the lives of the 5 families who now live in houses you helped construct. We invite you to continue to hold us in prayer, as we will you. Yours in Faith, **Christine Mack, PAHH Project Coordinator & Faith Relations Liaison**

To Our Entire Wonderful American Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregation—Taylor Hicks (Elementary School) continues to be blessed with your overwhelming generosity for our students. SO many of our families were again in need this holiday season, and you came through with bags and bags of items the families requested. It was amazing to help unload the trucks and vans that were carrying the items. There were so many wonderful volunteers that helped unload the vehicles: Men, women, and even four-year-old Eli Buetner! What a wonderful sight that was! As the families came to pick up their bags, we had everything from "Thank you" and "Oh my gosh, this is wonderful" to full tears...and of course lots and lots of hugs. They were just so overwhelmed by your generosity, as we all were. Thank you again, to all of you. May God bless you for your love and generosity that you so willingly give. **Your Taylor Hicks Family**

To the Charity Knitting Group and those who gave to the Taylor Hicks Angel Tree at Christmas: "Dear Angels, Thank you for the great scarves, mittens and hats. They make me feel so warm. All of the stitches are full of love, I can tell. Thank you!" "You are so nice to help us out with our hats and winter clothes. We love them! Thanks!" "Dear Kind Person, thank you for the mittens, hats, and gloves?"

*Additional "thank you" notes are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.*

## The Live Wire

*The Live Wire* is the bi-weekly newspaper of American Evangelical Lutheran Church in Prescott, AZ. It is made available to members of the congregation and others upon request. *The Live Wire* is also available online at [www.americanlutheran.net](http://www.americanlutheran.net). Subscriptions by mail are \$12 annually. If you have material for or questions regarding *The Live Wire*, please contact Director of Administration, Kate Howell at 445-4348 or [kate@americanlutheran.net](mailto:kate@americanlutheran.net). The deadline for articles and graphics for the next issue is February 8 at 2:00 PM.

Help is requested for the Barraza family (5 children, parents, and 2 grandparents) that lost their Paulden home to fire on January 23. Contact Kate Howell in the church office for details on items still needed and bank account info for any monetary donations.

# GET INVOLVED

**HAND IN HAND** widow support group will meet Tuesday, February 7 at 11:30 AM at Applebee's, Prescott. RSVP to Bev Houston (776-4593).

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** is starting a new Women's Mixed Issues Step Study beginning Tuesday, February 7 from 7:00—8:15 PM in downstairs Room A7. The step studies help people deal with all kinds of life-related issues, including addiction, loss, co-dependency, abandonment, dysfunctional family setting and plain ordinary struggles with life. It is through working the steps and applying the Biblical principles that we begin to grow spiritually and we become free from our hurts, hang-ups and habits. The step studies are life changing. Contact Celebrate Recovery Coordinator, June Poe (778-3771) with questions or to register for the study.

**A WARM WELCOME** to AELC's new Director of Student Ministry, Adam Bretz, and his wife, Laura. Adam, also known as "AB," was raised in Princeton, KY. He has two brothers and one sister. Adam was not raised in the church; he found Jesus while in middle school and later dedicated his life to doing the work of God. Helping others become overwhelmed by the love of Jesus is his dream job; his second dream would be playing quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys. It was at Western Kentucky University where he met his now wife, Laura. Adam has worked with students for the past 4 years in both Livingston, TX and Nashville, TN. Adam graduated May 2011 with a major in Religious Studies and a minor in Communications.



Laura Beth was raised in Edwardsville, IL. She has one brother and 3 sisters. Laura went to church on occasion as a young girl, and she gave her life to Jesus while in college. Laura received a scholarship to Western Kentucky University to be a member on the WKU Dance team. Laura graduated in May 2011 with a degree in Financial Management. Laura reminds Adam a lot of his best friend, his grandmother, because she continually loves people without partiality. Laura enjoys cheering for St. Louis Cardinals and has even before they won the world series this year.

Adam and Laura were married on December 12, 2011 and have 2 dogs: Rupp and Cali. In their recent vows Laura had to pledge to bleed University of Kentucky blue and Adam professed to finally cheer for the St. Louis Cardinals. It is both of their passions to see people respond to the love of Jesus in their lives, and God's great love for them is the motivation behind their work.

Adam will begin as Director of Student Ministry in early February. Anyone who would like to contribute to the Bretzs' relocation expenses is asked to contact Kate Howell in the church office. Please lift up Adam and Laura in prayer as they begin this exciting new chapter in their lives!



# A SERVANT SAYS

## Dominican Republic/Haiti Short-Term Mission Trips

*Why short-term mission trips?* I do believe as a local church that a primary responsibility is to continuously discover new and exciting ways of impacting our local community for Christ. That is, to reach people with the love of the Gospel at our door step. Secondly, as part of God's Great Commission (Matthew 28) it is also important to intentionally target those around the world most victimized by genocide, war, poverty, and oppression.

There are those that may wonder, *Why short-term mission trips both locally and on a global scale?* Let us first be reminded that God's love and passion for the lost is a world view, and it is God's continued mandate. (John 3:16; Matthew 28) If we are to continue to be a prayer based, sending church—that is, sending people and investing in the lost with the Gospel crossing cultural barriers—then short-term mission trips are one of multiple ways of impacting us and the lives of billions of impoverished people with the transforming power of the Gospel.

Short-term mission trips are one of the greatest discipleship venues, as well as God's great strategies, to bring His global perspective to the local church. Based on the tremendous acceleration of people going out on short-term trips, and the way the kingdom results in "they field," more and more Christians are committing to this type of outreach. Short-term teams are personally greatly impacted as they experience the power of loving others—through acts of investment of their personal time and resources, and by serving with their hands and hearts those much less fortunate. Some of the benefits for us as a church family are that these mission trip experiences:

- Develop globally minded, world-Christians in the local context;
- Reinforce that Jesus used serving opportunities as part of His discipleship training;
- Develop mission awareness in the church family;
- Provide pathways for those God is calling to full-time missions service;
- Develop opportunities to partner and pool our resources with other like-minded agencies, businesses, para-church ministries, and local leaders already serving;
- Sharing the Gospel in cross-cultural settings and bridging long-term relationships;
- Develop a Christ-centered passion to live a life of service and mission within our own local communities;
- Force us out of our comfort zones and allow the process of our hearts to develop an "others focused" mindset instead of focusing on just ourselves.

If you have never taken a short-term missions trip, then I

want to encourage you to take this wonderful, life transforming step....and join this adventure of a lifetime!

There are few opportunities that will change your life, impassion you, and transform others with the love of Christ. Putting our faith in action and investing our resources to serve and impact different cultures is living the life of mission that God has called us to. As a parent, allowing my kids to serve others in a different culture has impacted their lives by giving them a heart for Christ and a passion for others that I could only have dreamed about. Come be a part of this amazing experience!

### Operation Serve: Turning Compassion into Action!

*"...whatever you did for one of the least of these...you did for me." Matthew 25:40*

As many of you know, Operation Serve is just one of many outreach "tools" we wish to develop within our local communities. Our various ministries have many wonderful outreach projects, and we want to continue to encourage all church members to be proactive in impacting the love of Christ through acts of service throughout our local communities. Serving others is one of several ingredients in the discipleship growth process. As God continues to call us to exercise our faith in Christ through acts of service, we are in the process of expanding those strategies. I will be forming a volunteer Community Impact Team whose focus will be to continuously develop simple strategies for expanding the multiple ways we impact our community—Operation Serve being one of those tools. I will also be meeting with ministry leaders for their input on how best to implement Operation Serve in their areas of ministry. Many of these ministries continue to have great service projects in our communities; this will allow for multiple times when Operation Service projects will be implemented throughout the coming months. We also plan on working in partnership with other agencies, schools, ministries and churches in service to others. Our goal is to bring holistic transformation and hope to individuals, families and communities in which we live and serve. This is achieved by responding to the identified physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the community through partnerships with local churches, civic organizations, para-churches, and business leaders.

Finally, instead of gathering the church family for a service project every two weeks on Wednesday morning for two hours of team service, **we will have monthly service days slated for the last Thursday of each month, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.** *If you haven't joined the team, we welcome you!* What are the requirements? No skills required, just a desire to use your hands and feet to serve others, that they, too, may experience the love of Christ in their lives. Any age or gender is welcome. We plan to offer a host of service projects for all with a heart to serve.

For continued updates on the next service projects, please pick up a flyer, church bulletin, or check our soon-to-be website listed as Local Community Impact Ministries. The first service project will be February 23—details on the way!

Blessings,

**Pastor Adam Marquardt**



**LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS** will be held Wednesdays, February 29 through March 28 from 5:30—6:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship before attending the 7:00 PM Lenten worship service in the Sanctuary. Each week a freewill offering will be received, with the proceeds going to the designee of the AELC group or ministry cooking and serving that particular week. One week is still available to host; group leaders are asked to contact the church office for details.

**SCOUT SUNDAY IS COMING!** On February 12 the Scout troops chartered by AELC will be collecting non-perishable food items for the local food banks. Plan to see all the Cub, Girl, and Boy Scouts helping out in the Sunday morning worship services; they will be greeting, ushering, serving refreshments, and presenting the flag ceremony as a thank you to the congregation for all its support. Please remember your canned donations to help the Scouts in stocking our community cupboards!



# Congratulations!



**Irene Leverton** has had her name inscribed on the National Aviation and Space Exploration Wall of Honor at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center (companion facility of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum) in Washington, D.C. Irene became a professional pilot in 1948, and her experience includes duster pilot, international ferry pilot (having flown both the Atlantic and Pacific), scheduled Commuter Captain in San Francisco, flying for several major corporations, five years with the U.S. Forest Service, advanced flight training instructor, Civil Air Patrol check pilot, FAA designated pilot examiner, and over 25,000 flight hours. Irene was one of the original women of the 1961 "Mercury 13" space program, undergoing and passing extensive astronaut testing.

**Jacob Schmidt**, a senior at Prescott High School, attained the rank of Eagle Scout in November 2011 and was recognized at the Court of Honor ceremony at First Congregational Church in Prescott (sponsor of Troop 1) on January 21. Jacob's Eagle Scout service project was the design and construction of a playground platform for Discovery Gardens Early Childhood Center. Jacob plans to attend university in the fall, majoring in Theology. Great work, Jacob!

## CALENDAR

### Monday 1/30

8AM Prayer Group  
10:30AM Women's Cursillo Group  
1PM Alleluia Choir  
2PM Cursillo  
6PM Celebrate Recovery Men's Step Study  
6PM End Times Class (filming)

### Tuesday 1/31

8:30AM Katharina von Bora Quilters  
1:30PM Miracle Prayer Time  
3PM Dynamite Kids  
3:45PM Cherub Choir  
5:15PM Columbarium Committee Meeting  
5:30PM Glory Ringers 6PM Women's Bible Study  
7PM Men's Bible Study

### Wednesday 2/1

8:15AM WOW (Women of Wisdom)  
12PM Cursillo Grouping  
12PM YCMA Meeting 2:30PM Dynamite Kids  
3:15PM Seraphim Choir  
4PM Joy Bell Choir  
5PM Celebrate Recover Leaders Meeting  
6:30PM Jubilate Choir  
8PM Peals of Praise

### Thursday 2/2

5:45AM Crossfire Men's Ministry  
9:15AM MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)  
4:30PM Heavenly Chimers  
5:45PM Celebrate Recovery  
6PM Contemporary Worship Rehearsal  
7PM Sanctus Choir



### Friday 2/3

### Saturday 2/4

7:30AM Good Book...Men's Bible Study  
7PM A.A. Group

### Sunday 2/5

8 & 10:30AM Traditional Worship  
9:15AM Connections Education Hour  
9:15AM Kid Connect  
10:30AM Changes Contemporary Worship  
10:30AM Chino Valley Worship  
5PM Come Alive! Contemporary Worship

### Monday 2/6

8AM Prayer Group  
10:30AM Women's Cursillo Group  
1PM Alleluia Choir  
2PM Cursillo  
6PM Celebrate Recovery Men's Step Study  
7PM Celebrate Recovery Women's Step Study

### Tuesday 2/7

8AM Care Corps  
8:30AM Katharina von Bora Quilters  
9AM Book Discussion  
9:30AM Friendship Quilters  
1:30PM Miracle Prayer Time  
3PM Dynamite Kids  
3:45PM Cherub Choir  
5:15PM Columbarium Committee Meeting  
5:30PM Glory Ringers  
6PM Women's Bible Study  
7PM Men's Bible Study  
7PM Celebrate Recovery Women's Step Study

### Wednesday 2/8

8:15AM WOW (Women of Wisdom)  
12PM Cursillo Grouping  
12PM WOW Team Leadership Meeting  
2:30PM Dynamite Kids  
3:15PM Seraphim Choir  
4PM Joy Bell Choir  
6:30PM Jubilate Choir  
8PM Peals of Praise

### Thursday 2/9

5:30AM Crossfire Men's Ministry  
9AM MOPS Leadership Meeting  
1PM Chancel Chimers  
4PM Deacons Board Meeting  
5:45PM Celebrate Recovery  
6PM Contemporary Worship Rehearsal  
7PM Sanctus Choir

### Friday 2/10

9AM Charity Knit/Crochet Group  
5PM Preschool Movie Night

### Saturday 2/11

7:30AM Good Book...Men's Bible Study  
7PM A.A. Group

### Sunday 2/12

8 & 10:30AM Traditional Worship  
9:15AM Connections Education Hour  
9:15AM Kid Connect  
10:30 AM Changes Contemporary Worship  
10:30AM Chino Valley Worship  
5PM Come Alive! Contemporary Worship