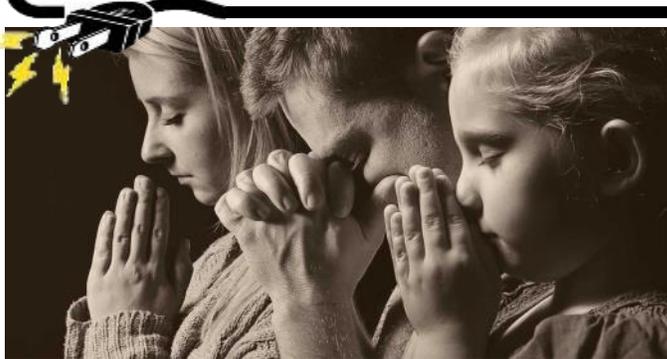


# The Live Wire



Plug into the  
**HIGHEST  
POWER**



## WANTED: WILLING HEAD, HEART AND HANDS



Your church needs you to help in two vital positions. We need one individual to help with our Financial Review Committee. This committee will begin work in a month or so and complete an internal review of our financial position. The position is relatively short-term (until the review is completed). Accounting and/or CPA experience would be a plus but is not mandatory.

The second position we need to fill is on our Human Resources Committee. This committee handles the important tasks of annually updating our salary ranges for all employees and recommending cost of living increases. The committee also deals with job descriptions and modifications of same as is required from time to time. The committee also has a role in recommending initial salaries and benefits for incoming employees. Members of this committee typically serve for a minimum of two years, although some agree to stay on for longer. Experience in the field of Human Resources is not necessary but could be helpful.

Generally speaking, terms of service can be adjusted to suit the interests of the individual. We are most interested in having folks whose gifts for service enable them to both serve and enjoy the position filled. God grants gifts of service to us all and it is our hope that EVERY MEMBER of our congregation finds an active role at American Lutheran Church. The need is real. It's not just about filling spaces; it's about the joy of service. Are you in? Contact the Kate Howell in the church office (445-4348) or Tray Schreiber at 445-5167 or trayschreiber@yahoo.com.

**HAVE YOU RESERVED YOUR SPOT FOR THE UPCOMING PRAYER AND HEALING SUMMIT?** Sponsored by ALC's Prayer Ministry, the Summit will be held Saturday, June 23 from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall and is open to the community. Special guest is Pastor Miriam Perry of Prayer Watch International. Light lunch will be provided for \$5/person, or you may bring your own. Childcare will be made available with advance request. Register through the church office: 445-4348.

*Morning session:* Worship, Biblical Foundations for Healing Prayer, and Ministry from the Compassion and Love of Jesus.

*Afternoon session:* Worship, Healing Basics, and Healing Ministry Time for the church and community (personal prayer time begins at 2:00 PM).

*And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him. (1 John 5:15)*

### ALC STAFF

- Rev. Jack Shannon..... Senior Pastor
- Rev. Erich Sokoloski.....Associate Pastor
- Rev. Don McMillan.....Pastor of Caring Ministries
- Kate Howell.....Director of Administration
- David Sherman.....Minister of Music
- Kenny James.....Director of Contemporary Music
- Tricia Sokoloski.....Dir. of Children's and Family Ministry
- Kathy Lilley.....Ass't. Director of Children's and Family Ministry
- Lori Barbe.....Director of American Lutheran School
- Larry Lee.....A/V Technician
- Donna Jackson.....Administrative Assistant I
- Rachel Williams.....Administrative Assistant II
- Rita Brammer.....Receptionist
- Jaime Ortiz.....Food Services Coordinator
- Denny Larson.....Custodian
- Ed Carr.....Custodian
- Margie Grimm.....Interim Organist



### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
- 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:30 AM Kid Connect
- 3:30 PM Community Meal

### NOAH'S NURSERY

- 7:45–10:15 AM (Birth–5 yrs.)
- 10:15–11:45 AM (Birth–3 yrs.)

**PRAYER VIGIL** will be held Tuesday, June 12 from 2:30 - 5:30 PM in the Prayer Room. All are welcome: bring a prayer need, a scripture, etc. Prayers will be lifted up for the team leading the Prayer and Healing Summit on June 23, and for many to attend from ALC as well as from the community. Come for half an hour or more — you will be blessed.

**NEW CONTACT INFO** for former ALC member, Mimi Marshall, who relocated to California to be closer to family: Marion (Mimi) Marshall, Cascades of Grass Valley, 415 Sierra College Drive, Room 218, Grass Valley, CA 95945. Direct phone: (530) 615-8133.

American Lutheran Church, 1085 Scott Drive, Prescott, AZ 86301



Phone: (928) 445-4348 Fax: (928) 445-8343

[www.americanlutheran.net](http://www.americanlutheran.net)





# How to Pray Aloud in a Group

By Megan Hill, Guest Contributor to *DesiringGod.org* (published 4/14/16)

In 2012, researchers at the University of Nebraska-Omaha asked 815 college students to identify their three greatest fears. Far more than they feared heights, flying, deep water, and even death, the students feared “speaking before a group.”

If public speaking is the general population’s greatest fear, public praying very well may be its Christian equivalent. And this fear is not restricted to ordinarily timid people. Even leaders sometimes have trouble leading in prayer.

## Stonewall Jackson’s Story

According to S.C. Gwynne’s *Rebel Yell*, Stonewall Jackson’s pastor once urged more congregation members to lead in prayer during the church prayer meeting. Afterward, Jackson went to see him, explaining to the pastor his fear of praying publicly. “But,” Jackson said, “if you think it my duty, then I shall waive my reluctance and make the effort to lead in prayer, however painful it might be.”

At the next meeting, the pastor called on Jackson. His prayer was “faltering, agonizing, [and] cringe-inducing.” For several weeks, the pastor didn’t ask him to pray again, not wanting to subject Jackson to what was obviously an ordeal.

So Jackson went back to see him. “My comfort or discomfort is not the question,” he protested. “If it is my duty to lead in prayer, then I must persevere in it until I learn to do it aright, and I wish you to discard all consideration for my feelings.” From then on, Jackson doggedly continued to lead in prayer, and, though Gwynne reports that he was never eloquent, he managed to become competent.

When it comes to praying out loud in a group, we must begin where Jackson did. In order to gain competence in public prayer, we have to know what we are doing and be convinced that it is an opportunity for our joy and the good of others. Only then will we be constrained to practice until we “learn to do it aright.”

## What We Do

What are we doing when we pray publicly? Whether we are praying at a church prayer meeting, a time of family worship with our children, or a gathering at the bedside of a sick and suffering Christian sister, our task is to express to God the unified desire of everyone in the room. The one who prays out loud is the mouthpiece, speaking on behalf of the group, and he is the leader, bringing everyone’s hearts together to the Throne of Grace.

In a group, the prayer of one person becomes the prayer of every person. When I lead in prayer, it is not my job to impress the other people. I don’t have to wow them with my eloquence or amaze them with my theology. I don’t have to prove my spiritual stamina with long prayers or my spiritual brokenness with short ones. It’s not about me.

Instead, I have the privilege of praying aloud while my brothers and sisters stand with me, praying the same thing in their hearts.

Acts 4:24 tells us that the early church at prayer “raised their voice to God with one accord” (NKJV). From the initial “Heavenly Father” to the concluding “in Jesus’s name, amen” a public prayer is the united supplication of everyone.

## Why We Should

Stonewall Jackson began to pray publicly because he was convinced that it was his duty. This same duty — and

opportunity — belongs to us. If you are a pastor or an elder, you are called to pray aloud with your church (Acts 6:4). If you are a mother or a father, you are called to pray aloud with your children (Deuteronomy 6:6–7). If you are a child, you are called to pray aloud with your friends (Psalm 8:2, Matthew 21:15–16). If you are a member of Christ’s church, there will come a time when — ready or not — you will be called to pray aloud with a suffering brother or sister (James 5:16). If the Lord has opened your lips, you are called to pray out loud with someone.

But beyond simply seeing our audible prayer as a duty, we should also see it as our privilege and a valuable means of serving one another — even as a joy. When we pray together, we encourage one another by our faith, we teach one other by our theology, we love one other by our concern, and we point one another to the God who tenderly receives the feeble cries of his beloved children.

## How We Can

So how can we waive our reluctance and make the effort to pray aloud? Here are a few simple bullets to get you started:

- *Pray for God’s help.* When you know you will have an opportunity to lead others in prayer, pray ahead of time that God would give you the ability to do it clearly and helpfully.
- *Resolve to pray.* Unless you intend to pray, you likely never will. The silent gaps at prayer meeting will quickly slip away, and your hesitation will pass the privilege to someone else. Instead, determine beforehand that you will pray aloud if given the chance.
- *Consider what you will pray.* Think beforehand about what thanksgiving, what confession, or what request is the concern of the group. Remember, you are expressing what you hope to be the united desire of everyone.
- *Consider how you will pray.* Search God’s word to see what confidence you have in offering that particular prayer. Does God promise to give his Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)? Then ask God to fulfill his promise. Does God show his inclination to heal (James 5:14–15)? Then ask for it on the basis of that declaration. Does God tell us to pray for something (as in Matthew 9:38)? Then pray boldly, bringing his command before his throne.
- *Remember that Jesus is praying too.* In corporate prayer, we have the assurance of Christ’s presence (Matthew 18:20) and the promise of his intercession (Hebrews 7:25). A Christian never — never! — prays alone.
- *Just pray.* John Owen memorably said that “the prayers of the [weakest] saints may be useful to the greatest apostle.” We serve a God who hears the prayers of widows and orphans, who welcomes the hosannas of little children, and who uses them all to accomplish his great purposes.

Brothers and sisters, let us pray.

**AGLOW INTERNATIONAL PRESCOTT LIGHTHOUSE meets on Saturday, June 16 from 10:00 AM–Noon at the Elks Theatre (117 E. Gurley St., Prescott). Additional parking is available one block south of Gurley Street on Union Street and in the Union Street parking garage. Guest speaker, Michael Titus a missionary in Tanzania, East Africa who grew up in a Muslim family. His testimony is a compelling one about how God called him into the Ministry. He had to leave his family because of much persecution. Come, invite a friend, and hear of Michael’s work in the Mission Field. For more information, contact ALC member, Becky Shields at 445-4262.**



*The Live Wire* is the bi-weekly newsletter of American Lutheran Church in Prescott, AZ, made available to members of the congregation and to others upon request. Subscriptions by mail are \$12 annually. *The Live Wire* is also available for viewing online at [www.americanlutheran.net](http://www.americanlutheran.net). If you have material for the next issue of *The Live Wire*, please contact Kate Howell in the church office at 445-4348 or [kate@americanlutheran.net](mailto:kate@americanlutheran.net). Deadline for the next issue is Wednesday, June 20 at 2:00 PM.

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

**STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT** — ALC's Program Staff is pleased to welcome Tricia Sokoloski as the new Director of Children's and Family Ministry!



After graduating from Western Washington University with a degree in Elementary Education and a minor in Music, Tricia began working as a teacher in public education. Once she and her husband (ALC's Pastor Erich Sokoloski) had children, she homeschooled them for a number of years and taught at a Christian co-op. When Erich became a pastor and received his first call, Tricia led the Sunday school and music program for the children there before their move to Prescott in 2013, when Pastor Erich was called to serve as Associate Pastor at ALC. For the last two years Tricia has worked as the music teacher at Abia Judd Elementary School and the choir director at Granite Mountain Middle School, where she had the honor of being nominated as one of Prescott Unified School District's "Teacher of the Year" candidates. "For several years now, I've felt the Lord nudging me to focus my efforts and energy on children and family ministry. I can't tell you how excited I am to be able to work side by side with and for my most favorite people: our children and families! God has good things ahead for us. I am so honored to work alongside parents and ALC ministry leaders to raise up our children to love Jesus and grow His Kingdom!"

**KID CONNECT** (Sunday School) will be on hiatus Sundays, June 17 - July 29. Child care will be available for all worship services during the summer as follows: Birth through age 2 in Noah's Nursery; age 3 through grade 3 in the downstairs Education Wing. The new season of Kid Connect will kick off on August 5.

**MOPS PLAY DATE** for mothers of preschoolers and their kids will be held at Flinn Park (280 Josephine St., Prescott) on Thursday, June 14 from 9:00-11:00 AM. Contact Kathy Lilley

at [kathy@americanlutheran.net](mailto:kathy@americanlutheran.net) or 445-4348 x 318 for details.

**GOLD BAR DAY AT THE LAKE** is Friday, June 29, with a family picnic and a day of fun at Gold Bar Ranch in Kirkland, AZ ([www.goldbarranchbb.com](http://www.goldbarranchbb.com)). Cost is \$10 for children 12 and under and \$15 for ages 13 and up. Children must be accompanied by a parent; no supervised chaperoning is offered. All are encouraged to bring a cooler of food and beverages for yourself, sunscreen, life jackets (if needed), floaties, and anything else you'd like to have for a day at the lake! For those who don't want to carpool to the ranch, meet at the church at 9:00 AM to ride in the church vans — please reserve your space in advance to confirm seats are available. The vans will return to the church at 5:00 PM. To RSVP for the vans or for more information on the event: [tricia@americanlutheran.net](mailto:tricia@americanlutheran.net) or 445-4348 x 318.

Families, mark your calendar for the **BACK TO SCHOOL BASH** Family Picnic at Granite Creek Park (554 N. 6th St., Prescott), on Friday, July 27 from 5:00-8:00 PM. BBQ, kickball, games and other fun — all families are welcome to attend. Contact Tricia Sokoloski @ 445-4348 x318 or [tricia@americanlutheran.net](mailto:tricia@americanlutheran.net) for details.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** is a biblical and balanced program that helps participants overcome hurts, hang-ups, and habits. This Christian 12-step program meets in the Fellowship Hall most Thursdays, with Meet, Greet & Eat at 5:30 PM followed by worship and teaching at 6:00 PM. Upcoming schedule:

- June 14 — We will unpack a deeper lesson on Inventory, looking to see what things we might still be sequestering that we need to hand over to God's good, pleasing and perfect will. Are we caring for our minds, our bodies, our families and our church in obedience to God? God wants to restore and comfort us.
- June 21 — Oh NO! A lesson on "confess." But the good news is that when we "fess up", we are forgiven and begin to see a healthy self-worth develop, no longer based on the world's standards but on those of Jesus Christ. "...yet now

God declares us 'not guilty' if we trust in Jesus Christ, who... freely takes away our sins," Romans 3:23-24) Come share in this powerful teaching.

- June 28 — We will listen to the story of one who overcame the past by trusting Jesus for the future. Told candidly and with an open heart, this life story is likely to touch at least one person in the room with a profound message. It could be you... be there!

Be visionary. Be generous. And, if you wish, be anonymous. ALC's **ENDOWMENT FUND** exists not for the

day-to-day but for the long-term life of our church. That's why when you have extra you'd like to

give to support our church in perpetuity, the Endowment Fund allows you to do it the way you want to do it, and privately if you wish. A planned gift is one that sits in a different box from the church giving done throughout the year. People put planned gifts in wills or estate plans as a way to ensure they can support the life of the place they love with gifts that continue to grow long after they're gone. That's the idea of making a planned gift to our Endowment Fund. To learn about the many ways to make a planned gift today, contact the church office (445-4348) and/or an Endowment Board member.

**PREPARE TO CARE: A PLANNING GUIDE FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS** is a free Senior Connection Speakers Bureau presentation which will be offered on Thursday, June 28 from 12:00 — 1:00 PM in the downstairs Activity Center at ALC. The presenter will be from AARP. Learn about five important steps for any caregiver, as you are guided through starting the conversation with your loved one and finding the support that you need. Included will be the scope of caregiving duties, listening for clues for when it's time to start the conversation, forming your team, making your plan, and finding appropriate support. Attendees will receive a copy of AARP's "Prepare to Care" guide. RSVPs are appreciated [Debbie@SeniorConnection.us](mailto:Debbie@SeniorConnection.us) or 778-3747.



# NEW HYMNALS

If you would like to purchase a new ELW hymnal for the church in memory or honor of someone, please return this form to the church office with payment of \$25 per hymnal. Checks may be made payable to ALC, with "Hymnal" in the memo line. ALC will be placing name plates on the inside of the front cover of sponsored hymnals to identify both the giver and the person being honored or remembered. You're invited to visit the ELW display in the Narthex or the church office to peruse a copy of the new "cranberry hymnal." Orders may be placed through Sunday, June 24.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# of hymnals: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Choose from the following (please print):**

Given in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your hymnal sponsorship!**

# BOOK LOOK

**THE AWAKENINGS** — In recognition of the National Day of Prayer on May 3, our church handed out a flyer titled "Unity," asking all to pray for a Great Awakening for our country.

That flyer brought to mind two books on the first two "Great Awakenings."

The first is entitled *The Light and the Glory* by Peter Marshall and David Manuel. Did God have a plan for America? Did Christopher Columbus feel that God's hand was guiding him to this New World? What of the persecution of Christians in Europe? What motivated them to give up their entire known world and strike out into the unknown? What were the beliefs of the founders of the country? Can God's hand be seen throughout our country's early growth? These questions are answered in a very readable way. History does not have to be boring.

The second book is *From Sea to Shining Sea* by the same authors. How did the Christian Church grow and spread in a land that had more wilderness than anything else? Who were the preachers that attracted hundreds to "camp meetings"? Again and again the story points out how Christianity has been the guide for the early development of this country. It doesn't take much research to discover that we are currently in a "post Christian era." How do we change that? What does the future hold for our kids and grandkids? There are some lessons in these two books that make them worth reading, and one of the most important things we can all do now is pray fervently for our nation and another GREAT AWAKENING.

— Reviewed by Phil Ellsworth

All reviewed books may be found on the Library cart outside the worship areas. Interested in writing a brief review for *The Live Wire* on one of the titles in our Library, to inspire others to pick it up? Contact Vonna Reynolds at 771-9923.

## CALENDAR (subject to change)

**Sunday 6/10**  
 8 & 10:30AM Traditional Worship  
 9 & 10:30AM Contemporary Worship  
 9:15AM Communion Assistant/Usher Training  
 10:30AM Kid Connect  
 10:30AM Chino Valley Worship  
 11:45AM Debbie Smith Retirement Party  
 3:30PM Community Meal

**Monday 6/11**  
 8AM Prayer Group  
 10:30AM Women's Cursillo Group  
 12PM Ignite Discipleship Group  
 4:30PM Friendship Bible Study  
 5PM Men's Cursillo Study  
 5PM Monday Women's Bible Study

**Tuesday 6/12**  
 8:30AM Katharina Von Bora Quilters  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 1:30PM Miracle Prayer Time  
 2:30PM Prayer Vigil  
 5PM Beginning Bells  
 6:30PM Tuesday Night Men's Bible Study  
 6:30PM Celebrate Recovery Men's & Women's Step Studies

**Wednesday 6/13**  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 6PM ALC Youth @ The Rock

**Thursday 6/14**  
 5:45AM Crossfire Men's Ministry  
 8:15AM "Good Book...Good Men" Bible Study  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 2PM Library Volunteers  
 5PM Benevolence Committee Meeting  
 5:30PM Celebrate Recovery  
 7PM Celebrate Recovery Small Groups

**Friday 6/15**  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 9:30AM Safety & Security Team Meeting

**Saturday 6/16**  
**Sunday 6/17**  
 8 & 10:30AM Traditional Worship  
 9 & 10:30AM Contemporary Worship  
 10:30AM Chino Valley Worship  
 3:30PM Community Meal

**Monday 6/18**  
 8AM Prayer Group  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 10:30AM Women's Cursillo Group  
 12PM Ignite Discipleship Group  
 4:30PM Friendship Bible Study  
 5PM Men's Cursillo  
 5PM Monday Women's Bible Study

**Tuesday 6/19**  
 8:30AM Katharina Von Bora Quilters  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 4PM Deborah Circle  
 6:30PM Tuesday Night Men's Bible Study  
 6:30PM Celebrate Recovery Men's & Women's Step Studies  
 1:30PM Miracle Prayer Time  
 5PM Beginning Bells

**Wednesday 6/20**  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 4PM Executive Committee Meeting  
 6PM ALC Youth at The Rock

**Thursday 6/21**  
 5:45AM Crossfire Men's Ministry  
 8:15AM "Good Book...Good Men" Bible Study  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 5:30PM Celebrate Recovery  
 7PM Celebrate Recovery Small Groups

**Friday 6/22**  
 9:30AM Music Start  
 6PM Cursillo Farewell Dinner

**Saturday 6/23**  
 9AM Prayer and Healing Summit

