



January 11, 2019 Issue

Come Experience the Power of Grace

What is Christian discipleship?

By definition, a disciple is a follower, one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another. A Christian disciple is a person who accepts and assists in the spreading of the good news of Jesus Christ. Christian discipleship is the process by which disciples grow in the Lord Jesus Christ and are equipped by the Holy Spirit, who resides in our hearts, to overcome the pressures and trials of this present life and become more and more Christlike. This process requires believers to respond to the Holy Spirit's prompting to examine their thoughts, words and actions and compare them with the Word of God. This requires that we be in the Word daily—studying it, praying over it, and obeying it. In addition, we should always be ready to give testimony of the reason for the hope that is within us (1 Peter 3:15) and to disciple others to walk in His way. According to Scripture, being a Christian disciple involves personal growth characterized by the following:



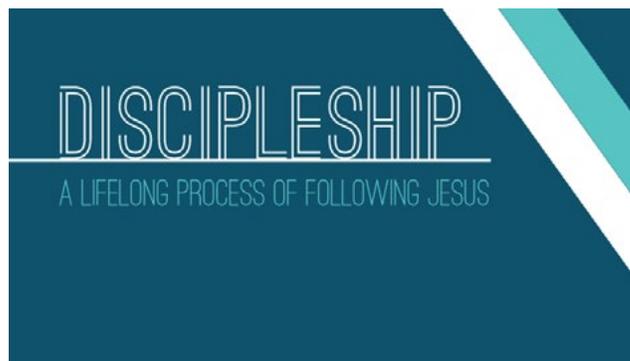
1. Putting Jesus first in all things (Mark 8:34-38). The disciple of Christ needs to be set apart from the world. Our focus should be on our Lord and pleasing Him in every area of our lives. We must put off self-centeredness and put on Christ-centeredness.

2. Following Jesus' teachings (John 8:31-32). We must be obedient children and doers of the Word. Obedience is the supreme test of faith in God (1 Samuel 28:18), and Jesus is the perfect example of obedience as He lived a life on earth of complete obedience to the Father even to the point of death (Philippians 2:6-8).

3. Fruitfulness (John 15:5-8). Our job is not producing fruit. Our job is to abide in Christ, and if we do, the Holy Spirit will produce the fruit, and this fruit is the result of our obedience. As we become more obedient to the Lord and learn to walk in His ways, our lives will change. The biggest change will take place in our hearts, and the overflow of this will be new conduct (thoughts, words and actions) representative of that change. The change we seek is done from the inside out, through the power of the Holy Spirit. It isn't something we can conjure up on our own.

4. Love for other disciples (John 13:34-35). We are told that love of other believers is the evidence of our being a member of God's family (1 John 3:10). Love is defined and elaborated on in 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. These verses show us that love is not an emotion; it is action. We must be doing something and involved in the process. Furthermore, we are told to think more highly of others than of ourselves and to look out for their interests (Philippians 2:3-4). The next verse in Philippians (verse 5) really sums up what we are to do when it comes to everything in life: "our attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus." What a perfect example He is to us for everything we are to do in our Christian walk.

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We Care and Pray for One Another

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Irene Ahl; Sharon Algar; Bill Amspaugh; Richard Ashbaugh; Carroll Boettcher; Maun Boettcher; Joel Bott; Scott Brister; Heidi Buchholz; John & Joan Burns; Ralph Chambers; Linda Cirelli; Moose Creighton; Richard Dahl; Dianne Ewald; Harriet Feree; Walt Goedecke; Richard Greene; Lydia Harloff; Gizelle Hayes; Katie Hayes; Jane Heine; Evelyn Horst; Annette Idso; Christopher Idso; Donna Koelling; Doreen Leikel; Philip Lenharth; Alice Masherella; Donna McCullough; Tom Mortson; Chris Murphy; Rhonda Nash; Tanner Nelson; Ben Petersen; Anne Pingo; Betty Plachy; Virginia Potter; Martin Radloff; Shirley Radloff; Antonia Rafter; Esther Riesen; Austin Soliben; Kristin Thelen; Annie Walsh; Joe Wells; Eleanor Wood; Marie Wood; Pat Zanta

MILITARY:

Isaac Jackson; Tim Mace

CALLED HOME:

We give prayers of sympathy and compassion to the family and friends of John Pingo who was called to his heavenly home on January 7.

NEEDS:

We ask our Lord to be with Nathan Thompson and his family as he recovers from brain AVM surgery. We ask the Lord to be with youth who are struggling with loss of purpose and questioning value of life. We pray for a family struggling with a Father's alcoholism and being in the hospital.



2018 Giving Statements are ready!

If your email is in our database, your statement has already been emailed to you. All other statements are available out in the Foyer for pick-up. Please help us save postage by picking up your statement now! Please contact Veronica Wolff (bookkeeper) if any questions: (520) 297-3095 ext 112.



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5. Evangelism - Making disciples of others (Matthew 28:18-20). We are to share our faith and tell nonbelievers about the wonderful changes Jesus Christ has made in our lives. No matter what our maturity level in the Christian life, we have something to offer. Too often, we believe the lie from Satan that we don't really know enough or haven't been a Christian long enough to make a difference. Not true! Some of the most enthusiastic representatives of the Christian life are new believers who have just discovered the awesome love of God. They may not know a lot of Bible verses or the "accepted" way of saying things, but they have experienced the love of the living God, and that is exactly what we are to share.



Walk for Life

A day to celebrate and witness to the Lord's love and sanctity of life. A full morning of activities is planned. Join us for one or all of them!

Saturday, January 19, 2019

- 8am: Gathering at Arizona Lutheran Campus Mission Society | 715 N Park Ave.
- 8:30am: Worship at Campus
- 9:30am: Carpool to St. Augustine Cathedral | 192 S Stone
- 10:30am: Walk for Life to Evergreen Cemetery | 3015 N Oracle Rd.
- 12:30pm: Lutheran Service of Remembrance and Hope | 3015 N Oracle Rd.

(Carpooling from Ascension at 730am. RSVP 742-2882)



Greetings from Indiana,

I hope you all had a merry Christmas and blessed start to the new year. As many of you know, this last year marked 10 years in ministry for me, and I am grateful to all of you who sent well wishes and cards. I miss you and it was good to hear from you. It is hard to believe it has been 6 years since we were in ministry together. I continue to pray for you and your ministry.

This year has been a busy one here at Faith Lutheran in Valparaiso, Indiana. One of the most exciting new opportunities has been partnering with a local infant-prekindergarten daycare and preschool that has now moved into our building. It is great to once again see the faces of children in school throughout the week and interact with them, their parents, and the staff on a regular basis. Please keep this ministry along with all our endeavors, our members, our community, and myself in your prayers as we seek to help children and their families grow closer to God and to connect some of them directly with our church.

Thank you again for all of you who have offered your prayer and support over these last years. May God bless and grow all of us and our ministries in the years ahead, as we continue to seek and serve the lost and one another in Christ.

In Christ,

Pastor Eric Schoech



Baptism Sunday

We have several school children planning to be baptized on Sunday, January 13 during the 10:31 service. If you are feeling God is leading you to be baptized, please reach out to join in this exciting event. There will be a potluck lunch following the service to celebrate the blessing of baptism. Please contact Callie at c.baker@alcs-az.org with any questions or to join in.



LCMS is compiling a list of church musicians in southern Arizona congregations. If you would like to be included or know of some who would, please send info to Jo Riester, tsnazlib@hotmail.com.



Borehole Update

There's **WATER!** The drilling for the borehole at the end of December found water. Now the tower and tank are being installed.

Tim has been spending quite a bit of time at the school while the work is being done (it's more than a 1-hour drive from the Keller home to the site of the school).

What a wonderful way to end the year—finding water—and what blessings this water will bring the school children this year! Praise the Lord!



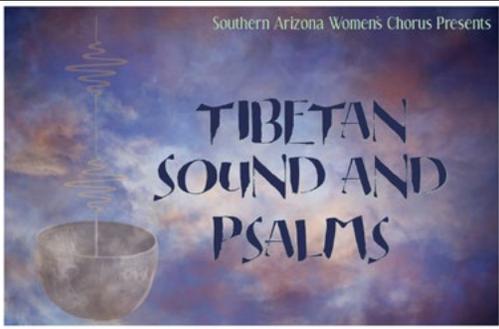
Welcome to the US—I hope you enjoy your shoes step out in faith with the knowledge that you are loved by Jesus.

The Lord thy God is with you. He will quiet you with His love. Enjoy the shoes, they will take you far. They will protect you and take you where you want to go.

These are just two of the notes accompanying the donations to asylum rescue efforts over the month of December. Many cleaned out sock drawers and gathered gently-used toys, stuffed animals, and small size clothing. Thanks to Thrivent we were able to purchase 35 pairs of new shoes, the Blanket Circle created quilts, and items valued at \$3,855 were delivered to Catholic, Church of Christ, and Methodist churches who are providing shelter.

Please keep these families in your prayers for lives filled with faith, grace, and safety. The need continues so if you have more clothing, call 742-2882 and the deliveries will be arranged.

Southern Arizona Womens Chorus Presents



**TIBETAN
SOUND AND
PSALMS**

JANUARY 13, 2019 | 3PM
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1220 W MAGEE RD

SINGING PSALMS
IN ENGLISH, HEBREW, & LATIN
BATHED IN SOUND
WITH GONG, SINGING BOWLS,
AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS.

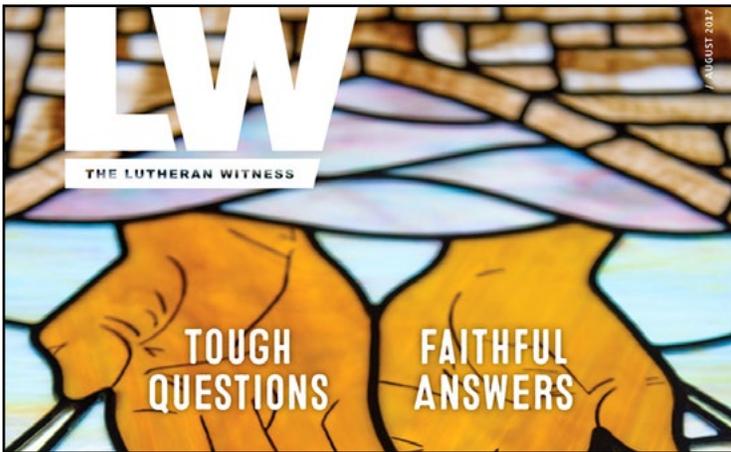
TICKETS \$20 AT THE DOOR AVAILABLE ONLINE SOUTHERNARIZONAWOMENSCHORUS.ORG

FOOD COLLECTION MINISTRY FOR JANUARY 2019

During the month of January Ascension is collecting food for the Women & Children's Center of the Gospel Rescue Mission. While ANY and ALL food donations are appreciated, specific requests include cereal, peanut butter, and single serving sized snacks.

Please put any donations in the large boxes in the hallway or entryway.

Matthew 25:40: *And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."*



LW
THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

TOUGH QUESTIONS FAITHFUL ANSWERS

AUGUST 2017

LUTHERAN WITNESS MAGAZINE

Cost for the 2019-2020 year is \$10.80

Please notify the church office at 520.297.3095 if you want to subscribe or renew...

DEADLINE IS JANUARY 17!



School Fundraiser

Save the Date for our January Community Event. Ascension Lutheran School will be hosting a fundraiser at **Eegee's (Oracle Rd and W Magee Rd) January 17 from (3-8pm).**

ALCS PRESENTS



DADDY
daughter
DANCE

February 8 | 6pm-8pm
in the ROC
Tickets \$5 per person

Purchase tickets in the school office
This is for both school and church families
Make some memories!



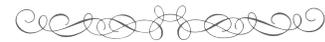
1220 W Magee Rd
Tucson, AZ
520.297.3095

Youth, Children, and Family Dinner

As I evaluate where to go with my new position, I'd love to hear from you on what you would like to see for our youth, children, and families at Ascension and also let you know what I am already working on. Please join me for a fun dinner event.

When: Saturday, January 19 | 6pm | Grace Hall

RSVP to Callie at c.baker@alcs-az.org by January 16.



Focus Lock-In

What: Join with high school youth from around Arizona for a night filled with worship, games, midnight pizza, scavenger hunt, gaga ball, a midnight excursion to bounce, and so much more!

Who: High School Youth

When: February 1-2

Time: We will meet at Ascension at 5:30pm on February 1. We will return to Ascension around 10:30am.

Cost: \$50 includes travel costs, events costs, admission to Bounce (A trampoline facility), a t-shirt, and midnight pizza

Contact Callie at c.baker@alcs-az.org to register by Jan 16.



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www.facebook.com/ALCStucson