



American Lutheran Church
of Sun City



Wednesday Night Alive!

2025-2026 Season

17200 N. Del Webb Blvd. Sun City, AZ 85373
623-974-2512 — www.alcsuncity.org

Welcome to Wednesday Night Alive!

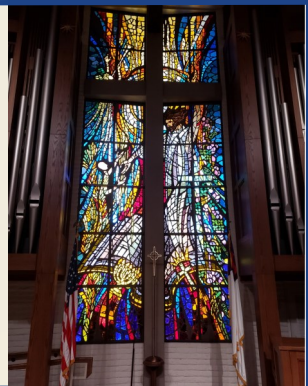
Wednesday Night Alive! has been an integral part of American Lutheran Church of Sun City for 30 years! The goal of WNA is to combine fellowship and outreach in a way that inspires, educates, and entertains that enriches our lives and strengthens our social connections.

The WNA season begins on the first Wednesday in November (November 5, 2025) with a special Gala kickoff program and continues weekly until the week before Holy Week (through March 25, 2026). Each WNA event consists of a program at 4:00 p.m. followed by a dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m., and a program at 6:00 p.m. Most programs are held in the Sanctuary. During Advent and Lent, the 6:00 p.m. program is replaced by a church service. Attendance at the 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. programs is free and open to the public. However, there is a cost for the dinner and advance reservations are needed. See the back page of this brochure for the cost and how to make reservations.

Join us for Worship

Saturdays at 4:00 PM

Sundays at 8:30 & 10:30 AM

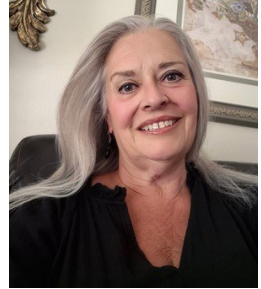


November 5

Wednesday Night Alive! Gala Event

4:00 PM: Shelley Logan and Friends

With a range of amazing warmth and depth, Shelley Logan will enchant the audience with a collection of contemporary pop & jazz cover songs such as those sung by Karen Carpenter, Anne Murray, Peggy Lee, Judy Collins, Carole King and more. A former music educator, choir director, and vocalist, Shelley has enlisted an ensemble of musicians familiar to ALC, including Dan Reed, Bill Chism, Clark Chaffee, Julie Wilson, Garland Kindschy, Bill Wolf, and James Gerber.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Roast Beef with Bearnaise Sauce,
Twice Baked Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Broccoli Salad,
Cheesecake

6:00 PM: The Stomperz

This high-energy band performs uplifting Dixie Land Jazz regularly throughout the Phoenix area. A rousing kick-off to the 2025-2026 Wednesday Night Alive season!



November 12

ALC Veteran's Day Celebration

4:00 PM: Veterans Day Program

Following the presentation of colors by the Luke AFB Honor Guard, Cmdr. Joel Lassman, USN (Ret) will share his life story.

Cmdr. Lassman's parents were Holocaust survivors that emigrated to the United States after WWII. He attended the Naval Academy and served in the US Navy, reaching the rank of Commander. The

program will conclude with an acknowledgement of all Veterans in attendance and then taps. Guests will be seated outside in the ALC Courtyard surrounded by flags.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, All American Beans, Watermelon, Apple Crisp

6:00 PM: Phoenix Pioneer Band

The first Phoenix Pioneer Band was formed in 1880, ten years after Phoenix was settled. They would go on to become a Phoenix institution providing music to community events for almost fifty years.

In 2021, the NEW Phoenix Pioneer Band was formed with a focus on the music played by the original community bands, connecting audiences with the music that helped shape Phoenix.



November 19

4:00 PM: Sun City: The Community that Changed a Nation

Bret McKeand, past president of the Board of Trustees for the Sun Cities Historical Society and former president of Arizona operations for Independent Newsmedia USA, will highlight the ground-breaking role that Sun City played as the country's first retirement community, and the many changes that Sun City has experienced since it opened in 1960.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Festive Peas & Carrots, Savory Stuffing, Cranberry Jello Salad, Pumpkin Pie

6:00 PM: West Valley Youth Symphony

The West Valley Youth Symphony provides the opportunity for young talented musicians to participate with their peers in an orchestral setting. Led by Claire Gordon, the program will open with the Cadet Strings followed by the West Valley Youth Symphony performing a variety of orchestral music from the 18th century to the present. You'll be amazed by how beautifully these talented students play!



November 26

Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 4:00 PM

December 3

4:00 PM: ProMusica Royal Renaissance Singers

The Royal Renaissance Singers have delighted audiences for over 45 years with their unique blend of “a capella” and minstrel merriment. Garbed in the rich velvet and brocade attire of a Royal Court, these accomplished professional singers will perform a yuletide selection of Old English carols that have become our beloved Christmas classics.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Lasagna, Garlic Bread,
California Blend Vegetables, Garden Green Salad,
Pleasing pudding

6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer



December 10

4:00 PM: Christmas Potluck, 50th Anniversary Year Review and Hymn Sing in Fellowship Hall

Arrive by 4:00 pm with your potluck contribution to participate in ALC's annual Christmas Potluck in the Fellowship Hall. Following the potluck, we will remain in the Fellowship Hall for a short program reviewing ALC's 50th Anniversary activities. Then we will begin an old-fashioned singalong of our favorite Christmas carols led by Janet MacDonald and James Gerber. At 5:50 pm we'll conclude and move to the Sanctuary for the Advent Service.



6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer



January 7

4:00 PM: Ikebana: The Art of Flower Arranging

The practice of Ikebana began in Japan in the 6th century with the introduction of Buddhism to Japan. Over time, this religious practice became an art form with plant materials being the artist's media. Sue Schmidt, president of the Sun City chapter of Ikebana International and Ikebana "sensei" (teacher) will provide an overview of Ikebana and will demonstrate the creation of some beautiful Ikebana arrangements.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Country green beans, Caesar Salad, Lemon Bars
(Tickets = \$15)

6:00 PM: The West Valley Wind Ensemble: Kicking Off our "America at 250" Year of Celebration

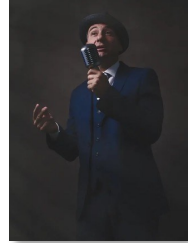
This concert band is composed of volunteers who have had a life-long dedication to playing and teaching music. Under the baton of Clark Chaffee, each concert seeks to find an enjoyable balance between entertaining audiences and challenging the performers musically, while throwing in a Sousa march or two.



January 14

4:00 PM: The G-Man Sings the Golden Oldies

Garrad Perry, the “G-Man” take you back to when jazz vocalists ruled the nightclubs as he sings the songs of those who did it best. Enjoy songs immortalized by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, Bobby Darin, and more!



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Swedish Meat Balls, Buttered Noodles, Carrots, Festive pickled beets, Tapioca pudding with Cherry & Vanilla Wafer

6:00 PM: Desert Winds Steele Orchestra

With a repertoire that includes Latin and pop songs and an array of island tunes, this 15+member ensemble creates an atmosphere of pure joy. Jerry Lopatin leads this acoustic ensemble performing on authentic steel pans. We are excited to have the Desert Winds Steel Orchestra back at ALC – we promise they will have you wanting to get up and dance!



January 21

4:00 PM: Sun City Players Readers Theater Ensemble

Over the past 60 years, the Sun City Players have put on hundreds of community theatre performances, including those by the Players Reader's Ensemble, where actors perform selections by reading them aloud, without memorization or use of sets. An assortment of humorous and dramatic scripts have been chosen that are sure to entertain and captivate the WNA audience.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Chicken Divan with broccoli, Fluffy Rice Pilaf, Spinach Salad, Brownies

6:00 PM: Nicole Pesce and Renee Patrick

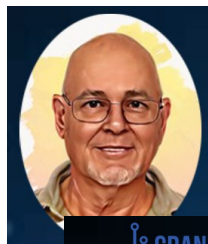
Nicole Pesce always delights us with her energetic and engaging style. With a repertoire of over 12,000 memorized pieces, Nicole has been called “the human iPod”! In this program, Nicole will be joined Renee Patrick, a powerful vocalist and crowd favorite, and daughter of a Motown great. Together they will perform an hour of crowd favorites.



January 28

4:00 PM: Artificial Intelligence: The Basics

What is Artificial Intelligence? How and where is it used? Should I fear it or should I embrace it? How would I use it? Could I already be using it without knowing it? Tom Shepherd of “The Grand” Tech Club will answer all these questions and more in this informative



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Beef Stroganoff, Buttered Noodles,
Broccoli Salad, Corn, Cherry Crisp

6:00 PM: Harp Synergy

Harp Synergy is one of the largest touring harp ensembles in the United States. Its members are all students of Dr. Heidi, or former students and their students! These incredible harpists currently range in age from 7 to 78. Together they will play a wide variety of music including classical, popular, sacred, and movie favorites.



February 4

4:00 PM: **Bobcat: The Music of our Youth!**

Come enjoy the great songs of the 50s, 60s and 70s played on acoustic, electric, and resonator guitar. Bobcat covers favorite tunes from artists ranging from Buck Owens, Bob Dylan, James Taylor, to Tom Petty – and they even do some originals. This fun duo, Bob Patnaude and Dave Lavallee, hails from Sun City Grand.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Pork Loin with Mushrooms, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans with Almonds, Caesar Salad, and Sheet Cake

6:00 PM: **Urban Nocturnes Chamber Ensemble**

Formed in 2013, Urban Nocturnes is a chamber music ensemble of outstanding professional classical musicians based in Phoenix. They present diverse classical music programming and first-rate performances and are currently Artists-in-Residence at Trinity Cathedral in downtown Phoenix.



February 11

4:00 PM: Abe Lincoln Comes to ALC

In honor of Abraham Lincoln's birthday (on the 12th), we will have Abe himself with us, sharing his thoughts on the 15 Presidents that preceded him as well as his connections with them. He will also talk about the highlights of his own Presidency, including the Civil War, emancipation, and Gettysburg Address. Audiences across the country have felt they were in the presence of the real Abe when John Voehl, in full costume, becomes Abe Lincoln. There will be time for questions & answers.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Chicken Alfredo, Garden Salad, Peas and Carrots, Valentine Cupcakes

6:00 PM: Sun City Orchestra "A Music Salute to America"

Under the direction of Clark Chaffee, the Sun City Orchestra returns to perform a wide variety of musical selections - pops, jazz, show tunes, movie themes, and light classical with an emphasis on the music appropriate for Presidents Day. This wonderful orchestra is made up of musicians from the Sun City area.



February 18

4:00 PM: Glenn Henriksen “Piety, Prayer, & Piano”

Glenn returns to ALC to share his favorite piano tunes, with an emphasis on hymns and sacred music to lead us into the season of Lent this Ash Wednesday. There will be plenty of opportunities to sing along with this wonderfully appealing performer. Always popular here, Glenn’s accessible style and mastery of the keys results in this lowan having a devoted following in the West Valley and especially ALC.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Soup , Crusty Bread, Fruit, Cookies
Soup dinner provided by WNA, RSVP requested.

6:00 PM: Ash Wednesday Worship Service



February 25

4:00 PM: A Tribute to Elvis's Gospel Music

Gospel music was the music closest to Elvis' heart. It was the music he grew up with and played with friends to relax before and after his sellout concerts. In his lifetime, Elvis recorded three Gospel albums and 100 Gospel songs. Bret Kaiser, with a voice and persona that makes it seem as if Elvis is really performing, returns to ALC with a concert of Elvis' beloved gospel hymns.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Penne Pasta, Caesar Salad, California Blend Vegetables, Garlic Bread, Pie

6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer



March 4

4:00 PM: SwingTime presents A Jazzy Broadway Celebration

Clark & Ellie Chaffee, Richard Palalay, & Dan Reed make up the popular quartet Swing Time, and they were so much fun last year we had to have them back! Playing familiar Broadway tunes of the Great American Songbook, they will melt your hearts and enliven your spirit.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Apricot Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Broccoli Salad, Golden Corn, Chocolate Pudding

6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer



March 11

4:00 PM: Desert Brass Band Spring Concert

The Desert Brass Band will be performing an energetic spring concert to the delight of American Lutheran. This “British style” brass band was organized in 1997 and includes cornets, flugelhorn, alto horns, baritones, trombones, euphoniums, tubas as well as percussion. The Band was featured in the 2024 documentary film “Jewel of the Desert” that was submitted for consideration in the 2024 Oscar competition.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Chicken Alfredo, Garden Salad,
Peas and Carrots, Valentine Cupcakes

6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer



March 18

4:00 PM: Women in Song

Experience the enchanting harmonies of Women in Song, a premier 16-voice ensemble celebrated for their lush four-part harmonies and heartfelt performances. They will be performing songs from the Great American Songbook such as Everything's Coming Up Roses, Chattanooga Choo-choo and more, This female ensemble of Pro Musica is directed by Patti Graetz and accompanied by Jeff Yoder.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Shepherd's beef pie,
Country green beans, Saint Patrick's Jello, Bundt Cake

6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer



March 25

4:00 PM: Organ Duet Concert

Our season concludes with a special program performed by two excellent organists: ALC welcomes Dr. Erik Goldstrom, Canon Musician at Trinity Cathedral to join our own Dr. James Gerber to perform organ pieces written as duets, four hands and four feet! This performance will highlight the skills of these two wonderful organists and include rarely heard but beautiful and majestic pieces written as duets, featuring music by Hesse, Wesley, Merkle, Wagner, and Sousa.



Dinner at 5:00 PM: Fried Chicken, Macaroni and Cheese, Spinach Salad, Ice Cream

6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer



Join us for Dinner

Each week between programs at 5:00 p.m., a tasty and nutritious catered dinner is served in our Fellowship Hall. Each dinner includes an entrée and sides such as a salad, vegetable, dinner roll, dessert, and coffee or tea. Tickets for the dinner must be purchased in advance by noon the prior Monday. The cost for the dinner is \$12, with one exception – the Gala dinner (November 5, 2025) costs \$15. On December 11, there is a free Christmas Potluck followed by a Hymn Sing in the Fellowship Hall. On Ash Wednesday there is a free Soup dinner (February 18, 2026), although reservations are still needed.

Tickets for each dinner may be purchased in person at the WNA table before each Church service, or in the church office on Thursdays, Fridays, and Mondays before noon. Cash or checks are the only form of payment accepted when purchasing tickets in person. Tickets may also be purchased online on the alcsuncity.org website with a credit card – the cutoff for web purchases is the previous Sunday night at midnight. Telephone reservations are not accepted and walk-ins for the dinner cannot be accommodated. And if you buy a ticket, and cannot make it, please consider this a gift to WNA! Tickets purchased cannot be used for a subsequent week's meal.

Committee Members

Donna Borden,
Co-Chair

Debra Hjortland,
Co-Chair

Jane Coughlin,
Caterer

Pat Forsythe

Nancy Kurth

Janet MacDonald

Steve Miedzybrocki

James Gerber

Mike Graham

Flash Helm

Haidi & Jon Maisley

Carol Torgerson

Phyllis Wimer