

Is it really November? If anyone would have told us in March that the entire country would still be suffering from COVID in November, would anyone have believed them? I would have been off by about 5 months. I figured by the end of April we would be back to normal.

Here we are 8 months into the 2020 pandemic, and things are starting to look up; our winter visitors are coming back, we had a block party in Leisure World on Saturday that was well attended, we went to our old neighborhood and saw quite a few people walking around for trick or treat. It almost seemed like 'normal' times. Most people have mask on, but at least they are getting out.

With our winter visitors coming back, attendance on Sunday has been going up. We had 52 last Sunday. When we talked about going back to live services, we set 50 attendees as a point where we would consider having 2 services. We have hit that mark, so starting the first Saturday in December (5<sup>th</sup>) we will be bringing back 5 PM service. This is exciting news! It has been 7 months since we last had a Saturday service, and many people have been asking for it.

With the additional service, we will need additional volunteers to help clean and sanitize after the Saturday service. If you could give us 20 minutes of your time after the services, please call the office and let one of our wonderful volunteers know when you can help.

Thanks again for your continued support this year. Your donations of money, time and prayers have got us through this pandemic. As we start to open for more events, we are all looking forward to seeing you all again as you feel comfortable with getting out.

Want to learn more? Visit our website at:

<https://www.spiritofhopelutheran.com/>

Find us on FB at <https://www.facebook.com/Spirit-of-Hope-Lutheran-Church-115925125094614>

You can visit us at 2605 S Signal Butte Rd, Mesa AZ. The office is staffed from 9AM to 1PM most days. Call 480.396.8300 for office hours.

You can join us on Sunday morning for service at 9:30 AM. All are welcome! Of course, when you find a gem, you want everyone to see it!

Thanks for reading

Duane Gilson