



LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES
OF NEVADA

September E-News from LSSN

RagTag Entertainment Presents Godspell This Sunday!



This Sunday, October 3rd at 3:00 pm, LSSN will be offering a performance of Godspell at New Song Lutheran Church, located at 1291 Cornet Street in Henderson.

Based on the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, Godspell tells the story of many famous parables, presents traditional hymns in a unique way, and relates the days of the Passion of Our Lord. The show is presented by RagTag Entertainment, featuring former Broadway performers and alumni of Mamma Mia. It promises to be a wonderfully entertaining afternoon for the whole family.

General admission tickets are \$10 and are currently available in many local congregations or by contacting Tom Maatta, LSSN Development and Marketing Director, at 702-807-5707 or thomas@lssnv.org. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Funds raised from this concert go to benefit the Lutheran Social Services of Nevada.

Let's thrive:  **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®**

We would like to especially thank the South NV Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for their sponsorship of this event through the Care Abounds in Communities program.

RagTag Entertainment was formed with a single thought in mind: "The performing arts are for everybody, not just those who can afford them." We have gathered performers from the Las Vegas strip and across the country who are passionate about sharing the arts. Our goal is to introduce the performing arts and enrich lives through various modes of performance. RagTag Entertainment is always looking for talented and innovative performers, directors, and creative staff. Please email headshots and resumes to RagTagEnt@yahoo.com or find us on Facebook.

Area Companies Rally to Support LSSN

VONS®

Continuing their long history of generosity, LSSN was blessed to receive a significant contribution from Vons grocery stores of 5,543 pounds of food and sundries that greatly filled the shelves of our pantry. We would like to once again extend to them our heartfelt thanks as they make such a profound difference to those in need in our community.

Bank of America 

LSSN would also like to thank the Bank of America and Merrill Lynch for their participation in our career assistance program. Through their Financial Literacy Program, we have been able to add material on fiscal responsibility, financial awareness, and budgeting skill to our curriculum, helping our clients as they strive to break the cycle of homelessness and work toward a state of independence.



As they serve the community through fighting unemployment, Goodwill of Southern Nevada has also been kind enough to recently donate over 2,100 pounds of food to LSSN, as well as helping us to create jobs in our own organization. We offer them our thanks and best wishes!



In the past several years, Three Square has done a great deal to combat hunger in the area, and has worked with LSSN in a number of different ways. We are proud to report that LSSN has received a grant of \$10,000 from Three Square & The Lincy Foundation to purchase new industrial-sized freezers for our pantry, and would like to thank them for their support!

Las Vegas Lutherans Got Talent...from God!

Looking for some good fellowship and family fun as we prepare for the joys of the Christmas season?
Want to share some of your God-given talent?
Care enough to help the needy during the Season of Giving?

Then join us at Christ Lutheran Church for the first annual Las Vegas Lutherans Got Talent...from God. On Sunday, December 5th at Christ Lutheran Church in Las Vegas, Area Lutherans will pit their best against each other in the best spirit of Christian competition, while our celebrity judges will (metaphorically, of course) separate the sheep from the goats and determine who will be the next Las Vegas Lutheran Sensation!

Think you have what it takes?

No matter your talent, performers of all kinds are needed, and both individuals and groups are encouraged to perform. If you would like to register an act, please contact Brian Comeno, Christ Lutheran's contemporary worship leader and band leader of Grateful, at bcomeno@embarqmail.com. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Maatta at Lutheran Social Services at thomas@lssnv.org.

We'd love to see contestants from EVERY Lutheran congregation in town.

Tickets will be available for pre-purchase at local congregations, as well as at the door. Come early and join us for a community barbeque before the show. Dinner is planned for 5:00, with curtain at 6:30 pm.

Proceeds will benefit the Lutheran Social Services of Nevada.

Keep an eye out in October for more details, and we hope to see you on the stage!

As with Godspell, we would like to especially thank the South NV Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for their sponsorship of this event through the Care Abounds in Communities program.

Peanut Butter Drive: Record-Setting Generosity



LSSN's Tom Maatta presents Rev. Don Lorfin with the coveted 2010 Mr. Crunchy Peanut Butter Head Award while visiting Good Samaritan to congratulate them on their victory.

Final Contest Results:

Good Samaritan Lutheran Church - 3,029 lbs
New Song Lutheran Church - 2,624 lbs
St. Andrews Lutheran Church - 523 lbs
First Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - 367 lbs
The Lakes Lutheran Church - 307 lbs
Grace Lutheran Church - 271 lbs
Christ the Servant Lutheran Church - 269 lbs
First Presbyterian Church - 247 lbs
Green Valley Lutheran Church - 211 lbs
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church - 209 lbs
Living Springs Lutheran Church - 89 lbs
Mountain View Lutheran Church - 63 lbs
Redeemer Lutheran Church - 25 lbs

All of us here at the Lutheran Social Services of Nevada were literally AMAZED at the turnout for the peanut butter drive this year.

Through the generosity of our local congregations, we received a record a record 8,234 pounds - OVER FOUR TONS - of peanut butter to support LSSN's pantry, far surpassing the success of any previous year! LSSN received thousands of pounds in the last two weeks of the drive, and with a last-minute push, Good Samaritan overcame New Song Lutheran Church to prevent the three-peat and rise to the top!

Our most sincere thanks to all that helped make this drive so incredibly successful.

(The real winners, after all, are the people who will have full bellies as a result of your thoughtfulness.)

LSSN Informational Video Now Online



[Camcorder](#), by Petr Kratochvil

Due to the thoughtfulness and skill of the video production team at Community Lutheran Church, LSSN now has a video that highlights our ministries in the community and shows our work first-hand!

You can check out the new video on our website, or view it directly through YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laH51uUgQ6E>.

Special thanks to David Sage for his hard work during production, as well as to Mike Watkins, Community's Minister of Praise, for providing the beautiful background music.

Facebook Page is Live – Join LSSN's Friends List



Like to keep up to speed on the latest news? Curious about what's going on above and beyond our monthly e-newsletters? Want to know what's going on at LSSN today?

Then we would like to invite you to join us on Facebook!

We invite you to check out our page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lutheran-Social-Services-of-Nevada/117275164979836>, and hope that you will link us to your own page through the "Like" feature.

Thank you again for your generous support. Only with your help can we continue to express the love of Christ by serving and caring for those in need!

LSSN Teams with LAMN for Hunger 101 Simulation



Hunger 101 is a unique learning experience that provides the opportunity to take on the role of someone in Las Vegas who is at risk of hunger. More specifically, Hunger 101 is an interactive learning experience which challenges participants to come face-to-face with the gritty realities of domestic hunger. It explores the day-to-day complex, intersecting economic and social circumstances that lead to and perpetuate hunger in Southern Nevada. With a limited budget, attendees will attempt to “feed” their family for one day. The simulation attempts to recreate the realities that visiting a grocery store, food pantry, and local food stamp office hold for people at risk of hunger. Moreover, attendees will be able to discuss these issues with other community leaders and discover ways to help.

The Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Nevada (LAMN), along with LSSN and Family Promise, is excited to host Hunger 101 in Southern Nevada. We know that advocating alongside those who are hungry is key to our ministry in this world. The reaction to the Hunger 101 experience is heartfelt and real.

Please join us on October 16 from 9am – 12noon at The Lakes Lutheran Church, located at 8200 W. Sahara. Please register for this event by emailing your name(s), daytime phone number, and congregation or community organization to Program Director Maxine Harju at maxineharju@yahoo.com. We look forward to sharing the Hunger 101 Simulation Event with you.

Thrivent Choice and Simply Giving Programs Now Active



Thrivent Choice is a new program that lets members help choose where Thrivent Financial gives back. To date, LSSN has received \$662.00 in Thrivent Choice Dollars, through your generosity and thoughtfulness.

As always, LSSN is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member who is eligible to direct Choice DollarsSM, we ask you to consider LSSN as you help direct Thrivent Financial's charitable funds. To do so, log in at <https://choice.thrivent.com> and follow the prompts, or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and at the prompt, say "Thrivent Choice". If you'd like to make your contributions even more convenient, you can even choose to automatically send Choice DollarsSM to LSSN every month using this option!

If you have any questions or encounter any issues with your direction, LSSN Development Director Tom Maatta will be happy to help. He can be reached at 702-807-5707 or thomas@lssnv.org.



Looking for more convenience in your donations?

LSSN now offers the capability for donors to set up regular automated deductions from their checking or savings accounts to support our ministries in the community through Thrivent's Simply Giving Program. All that you have to do is fill out a simple form and provide a voided check to LSSN, and we can take care of all the details. This form is available at <http://www.lssnv.org/donate.php>.

If you have any questions or would like to enroll, LSSN Development Director Tom Maatta will be happy to help. He can be reached at 702-807-5707 or thomas@lssnv.org.

Would you like to join us in expressing the love of Christ by serving and caring for those in need?

Food donations are collected at many congregations or may be delivered to LSSN.

Financial contributions may be mailed to LSSN, PO Box 2079, Las Vegas, NV 89125.

Online secure donations can also be made at https://www.lssnv.org/secure_donate.php.

Thank you for your support!

Please note that Derrick Felder, Lead Case Manager, is now the contact for food pick-up scheduling. He can be reached at derrick@lssnv.org or 702-639-1730.

Our theme for October is "Autumn Harvestfest". Suggested items are potatoes (fresh or canned), canned green beans, corn, peas, beets, sauerkraut, egg noodles, gravy (mixes or in a jar), vienna sausage (or other non-perishable sausage), apple juice, applesauce, and gingerbread.

As we remember the needy at the holiday, our theme for November is "Counting our Blessings".

Non-perishable food items appropriate for the feast table are most welcome: canned green beans, corn, yams; gravy, cranberry sauce, instant potatoes, stuffing mix, boxes of jell-o and pudding, coffee, tea, and canned broths (beef, vegetable, chicken).

WE ESPECIALLY NEED TURKEY DONATIONS FOR OUR MAJOR THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION!

As we continue in our holiday celebrations, LSSN's December theme of "Tidings of Comfort and Joy" once again prepares for the coming of Immanuel. Non-perishable food items appropriate for the holiday dinner table are most welcome: canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned broth (beef, vegetable, chicken), instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, rice, beans, coffee, tea, and fruit juice. Food from the Kosher section of the supermarket is also especially appreciated, as we wish our Jewish brothers and sisters a very happy Hanukkah.

Keep an eye out! Thanksgiving drive details and sponsorship forms for the Christmas Adopt-A-Family will be sent separately soon. Contact Derrick at derrick@lssnv.org in the meantime.

"Expressing the love of Christ by serving and caring for people in need."

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