



RISEN SAVIOR

LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2026



Rev. Ron Burcham

Senior Pastor

ron.burcham@risensavioraz.org

Susan Mello

Director of Operations

susan.mello@risensavioraz.org

Rev. Dr. Kevin Austin

Pastor of Discipleship

kevin.austin@risensavioraz.org

Sam Barnett

Director of Contemporary Worship

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Rev. Dr. Dave Poedel

Assistant Pastor of Congregational Care

dave.poedel@risensavioraz.org

Jill Lopez

Director of NextGen & Family Ministry

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Rev. Ken Hennings

Assistant Pastor of Congregational Care

ken.hennings@risensavioraz.org

Jill Vermeire

Director of Communications

jill.vermeire@risensavioraz.org

23914 S. Alma School Rd (SB) ~ 23620 S. Alma School Rd. (NB), Chandler, AZ 85248
Church Admin Office 480.895.6782 ~ Early Childhood Center Office 480.802.1505
RisenSaviorAZ.org

WORSHIP



Midweek Lenten Services

Feb. 25 at 12:30 pm/6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

March 4 at 12:30 pm/6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

March 11 at 12:30/6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

March 18 at 12:30 pm/6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

March 25 at 12:30 pm/6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Livestream will be available at 6:30 pm.

Additional Parking Available

Just a reminder that there is additional parking available at the Administration Building and we have permission to use the Safeway parking lot (North of NB) for our Sunday service overflow. Also, if you are able to walk a little further, it would be kind of you to leave the front handicapped spots open to those who have limited mobility.



Sermon Archive

If you are unable to join us in-person or via livestream worship at our available service times, don't worry, the entire sermon will be available the same day after 1:30 pm. Visit risensavioraz.org, select "Sermons" at the top of the page and you can view any of our previous sermons.



Don't Miss a Sermon- Livestream is Available

Join us on our app or website Livestream sermons are available for the 8:00 & 10:30 am services.

CONNECT



Every One Brings One to experience the love of Jesus and the gift of belonging at Risen Savior. Many of us first found our way to Risen Savior because someone cared enough to invite us, and now we have the opportunity to do the same.

Being intentional about inviting family, friends, and neighbors doesn't have to be complicated. It can happen in everyday moments—meeting a new neighbor, enjoying coffee with a friend, or even chatting while getting a haircut. You may find yourself wondering if someone you know has a church home or a place to grow in faith and community. There are so many people we love and care about who are missing out on learning about and having a relationship with God.

Throughout the year, we'll continue to encourage you to pray and listen for who God may be placing on your heart to invite. Trust that He is already at work!

We hope that you were able to grab a "mini" Jesus (like the one below). Use him as your visual reminder to continue praying on who to invite to church this year. "Mini" Jesus' are still available so be sure to grab one at the Welcome Center. Or use him as your way to share your invitation to an event!

Once you have your person to invite in mind, visit the invitation station to grab an invitation to give them or use one of the other options we have noted under the "Every One Brings One" app link on the home page. As you go through this process, we would love to hear from you on who you invited and how the event went.

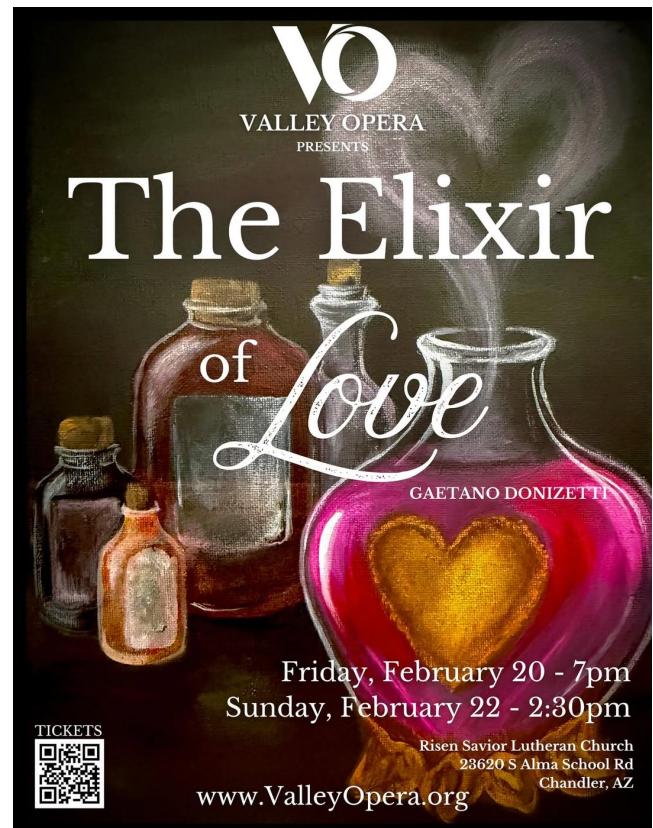
Please share those stories with our Director of Communications, Jill Vermeire
[Jill.vermeire@risensavioraz.org.](mailto:Jill.vermeire@risensavioraz.org)



LANDSCAPE MINISTRY

Thursdays at 6:00 am at the SB Patio.

This ministry meets weekly for fellowship and to care for the church campus grounds and landscaping needs. Contact Chuck for more information on how to be a part of this ministry at cmdeuth1@gmail.com.



Baptism at Risen Savior

If you or someone you know is interested in getting more information on being baptized, contact the Church Office at 480.895.6782 or scan the QR code.

CONNECT



Big shout out to Janis Kabele and her behind the scenes elves that set-up and organized the Christmas Dinner last December! What a beautiful and amazing job they did that allowed so many members to attend, enjoy fellowship and a delicious meal on Christmas Day together!

A Few New Year Reminders from the Finance Department

Here are a few items of importance as the new year begins:

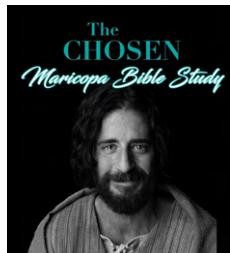
1. If you have a recurring "give" payment set up, please be sure to update it to your new amount if your pledge has changed this year. We do not have access to do this for you for security reasons. Also, please do NOT use two names on the name line – i.e., Ann and Bob Smith. Our system can only use one name in the payment area, but we do assuredly combine any spouses together when your giving statement is prepared.

2. If you are using the numbered (boxed) envelopes, please do not use an envelope from a previous year. Some numbers have changed and we may not be able to identify you via the envelope number if it is an old box. This is especially important if you give CASH. We use the name on your check to

identify all givings, but when it is cash, we must have an identifier on the envelope to apply it correctly. Please dispose all envelopes from previous years.

3. Please remember that our check scanner reads only dark blue or black ink. While turquoise, purple, green and pink ink look pretty, our scanner does not agree!

Thank you so much for making these small changes that keep our Finance Department running smoothly and keeping your giving in order.



MARICOPA BIBLE STUDY: THE CHOSEN

Mondays at 6:30 pm, RSVP for address. This study meets every Monday in Maricopa City. RSVP to Linda 480.452.8980 to get the meeting location or to ask questions.



HopeChest

Look for more information in News & Notes this month about a HopeChest representative coming to campus to give us an update and to let you know how you can be involved!

CONNECT



Women's Morning Ministry Guest Speaker Series Thursdays at 9:00 am in the NB Multi-Use Room.

Join us as we continue our speaker series this month, connect with women and hear powerful messages from our speakers! This month's speaker schedule will be;
February 5: WendySue Fluegge "Clothed by the King"
February 12: Annie Wolf, "Pathways to God's Purposes for Seeking Women" Part 2. There will also be a "Galentine's Day" Potluck Brunch-you won't want to miss it!

February 19: Lynne Hartke, TBA

February 26: Vy Armour, TBA

This is a good season to bring a friend, neighbor or family member (Every One Brings One). Coffee and breakfast treats will be served. RSVP to Annie.wolf@risensavioraz.org.



Women's Ministry Facebook Page

This page is where we encourage one another to connect with God, ourselves and each other. It's for women after God's heart. "Like" our page today. You can find this group under the RSLCS Facebook page "Groups", "Women's Ministry". Contact Annie for more information at Annie.wolf@risensavioraz.org.

PASTA PRAISE & PURPOSE

Support Risen Savior Youth with a night of food and fun!

February 28th from 5 pm - 8 pm
North Building Worship Center
\$25 a person

Tickets go on sale February 1, 2026

What are Stephen Ministers? How Can They Help You?

Are you going through a tough time? Stephen Ministers are a member of the congregation who listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are facing a crisis, or going through tough times. The care you receive is confidential, free and very helpful. Contact the Church Office at info@risensavioraz.org for more information.

A flower chart binder is available in both buildings at the Welcome Centers. Select an open date to remember a loved one or a special occasion. Cost is \$50.00.

CHANDLER Symphony Orchestra

Chandler Chamber Free Concert

February 21 at 3:00 pm
North Building Worship Center
Open to the Public



Hosting the Chandler Symphony Orchestra

Their first Chamber Music Series concert for this season presents CSO woodwind chamber ensembles, performing under the direction of Interim Music Director Chuck Stewart. On the program is music by Jacob, Schubert, Strauss, Gabrieli and Orff. Join us for this varied concert featuring CSO's talented wind players. There is no charge for admission and donations are gratefully accepted. *The 2025-2026 Chamber Music Series has been generously sponsored by Desert View Family Medicine.*

Details on page 12-Everyone is welcome!

ANSWER



Piece Maker Quilter's Ministry Wednesdays at 9:00 am in the SB Fellowship Hall.

We have been so blessed with wonderful, generous donors throughout the years. Recently we received boxes of leftover quilting material in various sizes and have also been gifted finished quilt tops, that with batting and a back are soon finished! This is truly a joint ministry with you all and we thank God for you! What we always seem to need more of are clean queen, king or full flat sheets. Especially those with designs or color. Next time you clean out your linen closet, please think of the Quilting Group! If you have questions? Call Dottie Mitchell 480.759.0977 or Gail Solway 805.404.7604.

REQUEST A PASTOR VISIT/PRAYERS

* To have someone pray with you by phone, in-person or to submit a prayer request email info@risensavioraz.org (add prayers to the subject line). Prayers remain on the list unless an update is provided.

*To notify the church of a surgery or hospitalization, please email info@risensavioraz.org and include the facility and contact number.

*After hours that need a timely response from a Pastor, please call 480.895.6782 ext. 120 and leave your name and phone number.



Braille Ministry Tuesdays at 8:30 am in the SB Fellowship Hall.

Our dedicated group of volunteers meet weekly producing books of the Bible for the seeing impaired. We would be happy to show our production process, answer any questions and invite those interested in joining this rewarding ministry to call Vicki at 480.262.0171



"You, Lord, reign forever; your throne endures from generation to generation" Lamentations 5:19. Established in 2010, RSLCS Foundation, Inc. is a 501c (3) organization that receives gifts and bequests in support of Risen Savior missions and ministries. As steward of your earthly God-given gifts, prayerfully consider an annual gift to RSLCS Foundation, as well as a legacy gift in your Estate Plan. For ways to give, and bless Risen Savior missions and ministries, please visit risensavioraz.org under the "About Us" tab for more information.



Hooks and Needles Ministry

Tuesdays at 10:00 am in the SB Genesis Conference Room.

This group meets weekly, and all are welcome. We knit and crochet blankets that are donated to the homeless and Hospice. If you would prefer to work at home, patterns and instructions are available in a drawer under the bed in the First Aid room in the North Building. If you need yarn, or have any questions, please contact Marion at 602.920.3319.

FINANCIALS

Did You Know?

This is a high level overview of our Year End Financials. More detailed reports can be obtained by contacting our Director of Operations, Susan Mello, at susan.mello@risensavioraz.org.

2025 Year End Financial Overview Key Financial Indicators – CY 2025 vs. CY 2024

	2025	Budget	Delta	2024	Delta
Total Tracked Giving	2,060,203	2,010,000	50,203	1,830,302	229,901
Total Loose Plate	103,286	92,000	11,286	96,634	6,652
Other Income	81,809	88,400	(6,591)	94,319	(12,510)
Preschool Income	1,463,622	1,573,075	(109,453)	1,444,524	19,098
Total Expenses	3,729,033	3,971,265	(242,232)	3,703,016	26,017
Net Income	(20,113)	(207,790)	187,677	(237,237)	217,124
Operating Cash	(62,948)	(237,790)	174,842	(284,809)	221,861

Key Observations for 2025 Year End

Church - Giving

- Tracked giving compared to the previous year is 12.6% higher.
- Loose Plate giving is 6.9% higher compared to the previous year.

Preschool Tuition

- Tuition was lower than expected due to lower enrollment.
 - There was some offset in Payroll.
 - Preschool savings were used to bridge the gap.
- Looking forward to 2026, enrollment is on target to the plan.

Expenses

- Overall expenses were under budget by \$242,232. This is primarily due to:
 - Ministry Leads controlling their expenditures.
 - The restructuring of our debt.
 - Savings in Payroll and Benefits.

Operating Cash for CY2023 is (\$62,948) which is \$174,842 **less** what was projected by the CY2025 Budget and \$221,861 **lower** than 2024. The negative Operating Cash will be offset by Ministry Expansion Savings.

DEVELOP



Bible Study: 2 Corinthians

Sundays at 9:05 or 10:15 am in the North Building Discipleship Room.

Sometimes even your best effort doesn't seem to be enough. You've explained things as clearly as you could, given the best advice you know, offered all the help you could give... and then someone else comes along when you've had to step away, confuses everyone, and proceeds to mess things up.

In his Second Letter to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians), Paul found himself in the position of cleaning up and straightening out what has become an angry mess in the church at Corinth. False teachings and false teachers have thoroughly confused the Corinthian congregation, which was already struggling to be faithful in a pagan society that cared nothing for God's ways and plans. 2 Corinthians is an intensely personal letter from the apostle Paul, written to bring the church fully from the bewildering darkness swirling around them, back to the saving light of Christ and the embrace of God's grace.

In this new study, we will listen to the correcting advice Paul gave the Corinthian church in this powerful letter. Each session will cover a section of 2 Corinthians, providing background to more fully understand each problem being highlighted and the insight Paul's letter provides for avoiding that mistake. If you are interested in attending, email Barry at britchie11@juno.com.

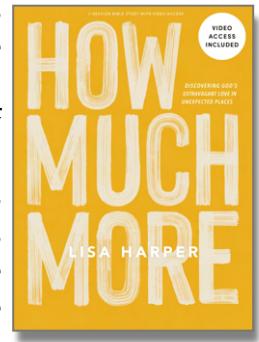
Visitation Ministry

This work is done by lay members who offer care and encouragement through personal visits. These volunteers provide a listening ear, prayer, companionship, and spiritual support to those who may be homebound, hospitalized, grieving, or otherwise in need. Their presence helps extend the love of Christ and the care of the congregation beyond the walls of the church. Some of those who help in this ministry offer communion during their visits. Contact the Church Office if you would like to schedule a visit.

Women's Evening Ministry Book Study

February 3 & 17 at 6:30 pm in the NB Discipleship Room.

"How Much More" by Lisa Harper. In this Bible study, you'll discover divine love in the often overlooked and misunderstood passages. And you'll be delighted to find that Jehovah of the Old Testament is the same redemptive and compassionate God we see through Jesus Christ in the New Testament. He has always been and will always be for us! Books can be purchased on Amazon. RSVP to Liane at lkhenkell@gmail.com.



A Prayer for Peace: "Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord; Peace in our time, O send us! For there is none on earth but You, none other to defend us. You only, Lord, can fight for us. Amen" (LSB 778). In Jesus' holy and precious name, we beg it. (LCMS Office of the President)

DEVELOP



Men's Early Bird Bible Study *February 14 & 28*

This Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month at 7:30 am in the NB Multi-Use Room.

Doors open at 7:00 am for coffee, donuts and fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend or fellow member, all men are welcome. Contact Chuck at 480.766.3626 with any questions.



Lutheran Women in Mission

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

February 12 at 1:00 pm in the SB Genesis Conf. Rm

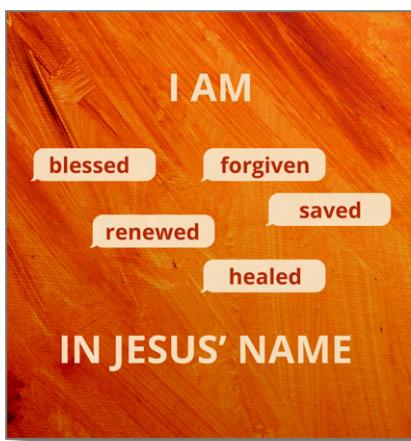
All women are invited to attend! Our study will be from the Summer 2025 Quarterly: "What Are You Putting On?" Scripture provides Bible verses as to what Christians are to "put on". Copies will be available. There will be time for coffee and visiting. Contact Ruth Ann at 602.623.9290 with any questions.

Giving Toward LWML Grants

Please consider supporting our Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Grants by giving one of the following ways.

• www.risensavioraz.org/give OR on the Risen Savior App, select 'Give'

Please select the Fund: "Other Offerings" and Type "LWML Missions" in the text box. We are suggesting a minimum \$5.00 donation to help cover transaction fees.



Prayer Warriors *Prayer Focus*

Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the SB Proverbs Conf. Room.

If you have a passion for speaking to the Lord in prayer or lifting up those in need, join us every Wednesday! Contact Joan at mandjscott@cox.net with any questions. This ministry prepares a Prayer Focus that all the congregation is invited to partake in. It's a weekly prayer for a specific topic, all you do is add this prayer to your regular prayer time! The Prayer Focus for each week for this month is:

February 1 - As this Wednesday is a day devoted to global cancer awareness, let us pray for God's mercy and the healing grace of Jesus for all those who are dealing with cancer. Exodus 15:26, Isaiah 53:5, Jeremiah 17:14, Psalm 103:2-3

February 8 - Let us thank God for His faithfulness, which we have seen in His unconditional love and in His promises. Deuteronomy 7:9, 12, 2 Thessalonians 3:3, Deuteronomy 31:6

February 15 - As we begin the season of Lent this week on Ash Wednesday, let us ask the Holy Spirit to help us pray for repentance and forgiveness of our sins, and remind us to forgive those who have sinned against us. 1 John 1:9, 2 Corinthians 7:10a, Mark 11:25, Matthew 6:14-15

February 22 - Thank God for the faith building ALPHA program and for God's unique blessings on all the participants. Pray that all those attending ALPHA who are hearing the truth will respond to it. James 1:5, Proverbs 3: 5-7, Psalm 111:10, John 8:32, 2 Peter 3:9, Colossians 2:8, Matthew 7:2

DEVELOP



"WE SHARE BECAUSE WE CARE" FOOD DRIVE MARCH 21-22

This year's Food Drive is quickly approaching. You may have extra food that you don't want to leave behind in your homes all summer, so instead, drop it off at the Food Drive! Risen Savior is coordinating a non-perishable Food Drive with AZCEND to help with the needs of many people in the local area. The food pantries find it especially difficult to keep "stocked" during the summer months. We are seeking your involvement in this effort by inviting you to drop off any non-perishable foods to the North Building on **March 21-22**. More details will be available in the March Newsletter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jayne at 602.625.1494 or Kay at 480.385.8549. Thank you in advance for your participation.



ADULT FORUM

Sundays at 9:15 am in the SB Fellowship Hall.

Join us as we continue studying Jesus' ministry in Galilee. How did the people respond to the miracles and teachings of Jesus? Bible stories about Jesus at times seem to be just historical events of life many centuries ago. Come and learn who Jesus is for you today. All adults are welcome!



FEELING COLD DURING SERVICE?

Grab a Shawl!
Available at All Services in
Both Buildings.

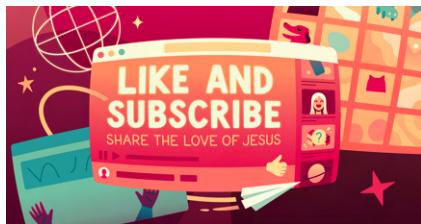
Shawls are available to borrow service if you get cold. See a Service Team Leader to borrow one. Please return the shawl after the service.

Youth & Teen Information

Contact Jill with any questions regarding our youth groups at Jill.lopez@risensavioraz.org.



**Inspire Kids Club
(Ages 3 yrs-Grade 6)**
Sundays at 10:30 am in the
NB Youth Rooms.
Look for the Sign-in table.



Pasta, Praise & Purpose
Tickets are on Sale
Details on pg 12



February EVENTS

February 1
Ignite 6-7:30 pm
Impact 7-8:30 pm

February 8
No Ignite or Impact
(Super Bowl)

February 15
Ignite 6-7:30 pm
Impact 7-8:30 pm

February 21
Seder Meal 6-8th grade
5-8 pm

February 22
Ignite 6-7:30 pm
Impact 7-8:30 pm

February 28
Pasta Praise and Purpose Youth Fundraiser

Middle schoolers chase love, approval, and belonging in a hundred places. North Star starts by fixing them on what's already true: In Jesus, God loved us first. From that love, we learn to guard the heart, to spot and take God's way out when temptation shows up, and to grow wise together. Our prayer is that students learn to orient their lives around truth from God's Word and live it out in ways that aren't feelings-led choices, but faith-formed choices. This series gives students simple, shared habits that move them from reacting to what they feel to responding in faith—so His love actually becomes the light they walk by.

NURSERY

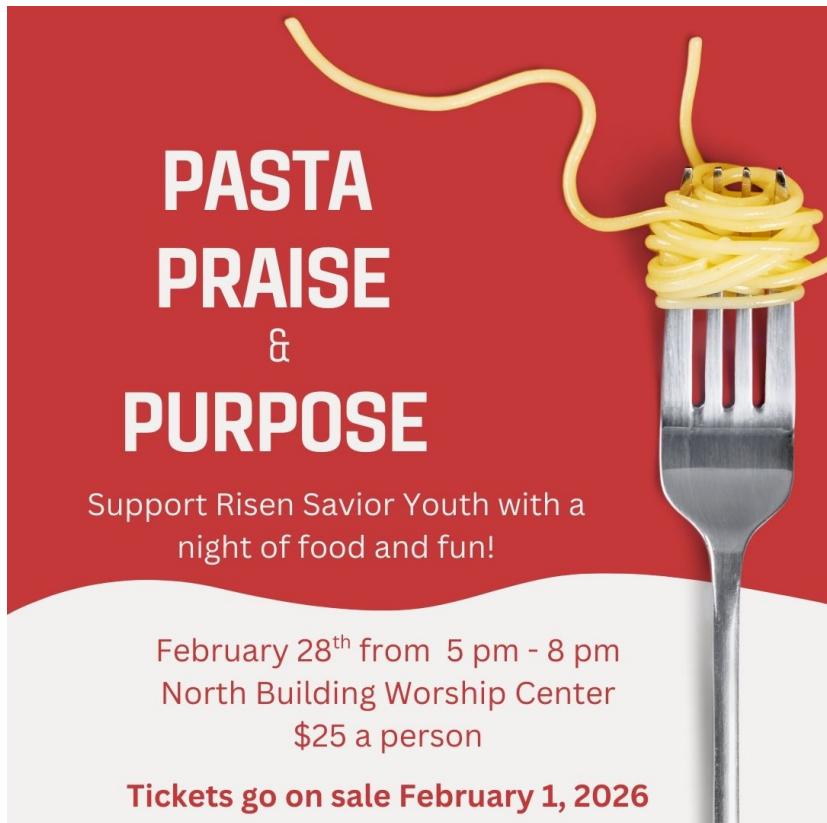
(Age 3 and under)

Available on Sundays during the 9:00 & 10:30 am service in the North Building Youth Rooms.



This Impact Bible study creates a space where high school students can explore the big questions they are already asking about Christianity, faith, and life. *Using 10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) About Christianity* by Rebecca McLaughlin as a guide, students are invited into real conversations, shared reflection, and meaningful engagement with Scripture alongside trusted leaders and peers. Whether students are confident in their faith, unsure what they believe, or just beginning to ask questions, Impact is a place where they are known, valued, and where they belong. Our goal is not to rush students to answers, but to walk with them as they think deeply, grow in trust, and discover how following Jesus connects to real life, real relationships, and real hope.

Youth & Teen Information Cont.



**PASTA
PRAISE
&
PURPOSE**

Support Risen Savior Youth with a night of food and fun!

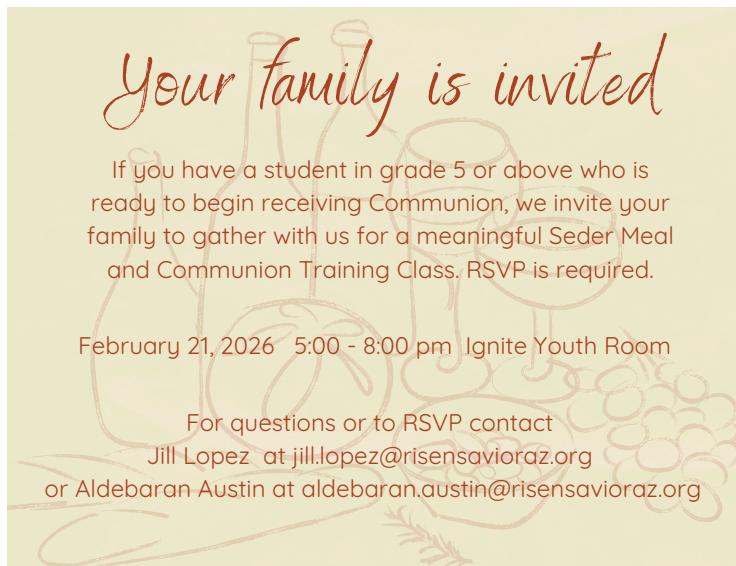
February 28th from 5 pm - 8 pm
North Building Worship Center
\$25 a person

Tickets go on sale February 1, 2026

A graphic of a fork holding a swirl of spaghetti is positioned on the right side of the poster.



Join us for a night out with Italian food, entertainment, auction items and more! Ticket proceeds support our youth ministries and camps. Tickets will be available starting February 1 for \$25 per person. Ticket price includes entertainment, appetizers, dinner, two drinks, and dessert. Look for the ticket selling table on Sunday February 1, 8 & 15 or tickets can be purchased in the Church Office. Contact Jill at jill.lopez@risensavioraz.org with any questions.



Your family is invited

If you have a student in grade 5 or above who is ready to begin receiving Communion, we invite your family to gather with us for a meaningful Seder Meal and Communion Training Class. RSVP is required.

February 21, 2026 5:00 - 8:00 pm Ignite Youth Room

For questions or to RSVP contact Jill Lopez at jill.lopez@risensavioraz.org or Aldebaran Austin at aldebaran.austin@risensavioraz.org

A background illustration of a Passover seder plate with various items on it.

Seder Meal & Communion Training

**February 21 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm
in the North Building Ignite Room.**

Families with students in 5th grade or higher who are ready to begin participating in Holy Communion are invited to attend a special training together. The night will begin with dinner as a family, followed by a guided Seder meal experience with light tastings that helps students understand the connection between the Passover meal and Holy Communion. This opportunity is open to any student who has not yet received Communion. Families must RSVP by February 18. The cost is \$25 per family.



Reading the Bible with Your Kids... It's never too early or too late to implement a regular practice of reading the Word and praying together as a family. Even young children will benefit as you make time to intentionally pass down the faith to the next generation. There are many resources available, ask our Director of NextGen & Family Ministry, Jill Lopez for some ideas if you're unsure where to begin.