Strengths & Opportunities a New Pastor will Find at Desert Hope Lutheran Church

Desert Hope Lutheran is a small, vibrant, welcoming Church that has been generously gifted by our Heavenly Father to discern His will, grow spiritually and serve others. Strong lay leadership is a foundational asset throughout Congregational ministries. These strengths are part of what makes Desert Hope a vibrant and welcoming congregation and provide a strong foundation for a new pastor to join us in discerning God's will and building upon the ministry He has entrusted to us.

Church Dynamics

1. Desert Hope has a prevailing and unique sense of harmony within the congregation and an absence of conflict among members and across ministries.
2. Positive cross-generational relationships.
3. Support of individual initiatives for new ministries.
4. Warm and friendly support of congregational members and potential members.

Bible Study Focus

1. Men's and women's groups led by congregational members (8-10).
2. Congregational daily devotional program.

Lay Coordination of Spiritual Renewal Activities

1. John 17 weekend retreats. https://www.j17ministries.org/john17weekends
2. Alpha Ministry. https://alphausa.org/
3. Lent Services soup suppers.
4. Jesus Shaped Way small groups. https://www.bobrognlien.com/

Outstanding Music Ministry led by Dr. Greg Silverman

https://gregsilverman.com/about/artist/

1. Traditional, contemporary, and original hymns with the blending of spiritual music from multicultural traditions.
2. Diverse instrumental presentations (piano, harp, violin, drums/guitar, flute and bluegrass band).
3. Choral groups: Voices of Hope choir, members participate in city-wide City Psalms choir.

Highly Skilled, Experienced Technology Team within the Congregation

1. Coordination of Sunday service videos and live streaming.
2. Support of congregational administrative functions.
    a. Budgeting and financial reports and presentations.
    b. Website development.
    c. Development of Congregation reports and publications.

Youth and Family Ministries

1. Sunday Bible School.
2. Confirmation classes.
3. Vacation Bible School (in conjunction with other congregations).
4. Summer Youth Camp.
5. Integration of youth across congregational ministries (music program, technology, ushers, collections).

Outreach Ministries

1. “Adopt a School” Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter food basket drives, school supply drive for Gridley Middle School.
2. Agua Prieta Shelters: Build homes in Mexico for families in need.
3. Annual Halloween “Trunk-R-Treat" for congregation and community on October 31st.
4. Congregational members provide transportation to Sunday services for individuals with limited mobility.

Pastoral Support

1. Romans 12 support group for Pastor and spouse. https://romans12ministries.org/
2. J17 Ministries Tucson. https://www.j17ministries.org/
3. Annual pastor's prayer summit weekend (Mount Lemmon) https://www.j17ministries.org/prayersummits