

# 1010

for

## *Stewardship Emphasis*

Week Three

# OPEN HANDS

## *Sacrificial Giving*

*Sunday, October 25, 2020*



## Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

Church Phone: 623-224-8839 School Phone: 623-224-8841

[www.crossofglory.org](http://www.crossofglory.org)

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor

Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor



**Jomax Campus**  
10111 W Jomax Road,  
Peoria, AZ 85383  
Sat. 6pm and Sun. 9am Worship

**Vistancia Campus**  
Lake Pleasant Elementary School  
31501 N. Westland Road  
Peoria, AZ 85383  
Sun. 9:30am Worship

Welcome to Cross of Glory's online worship! God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament, and we recognize that this can happen via technology as well as in a physical building. Thank the Lord for blessing us with the means to continue worshiping together in this way! As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power fill you.

Please take the time to note some things about how worship will work online:

Attendance – We would still like to gather an accurate account of who is worshiping with us for each service. Please let us know you are worshiping by commenting in the chat box. List your full name (first and last) in your message.

Chatting and discussing – Before and after each service, there is time available to chat with others. We invite you to do so, as this is a way we can preserve the sense of community we have on a normal Sunday morning. We do ask that you keep chatting to a minimum during the service, so that others can focus on what's happening.

Giving – Please continue to give your attention to the gifts God asks you to give to support his work. During the time of the offering, an encouragement will be given to give electronically. You can do so by clicking the menu icon (3 horizontal bars) in the upper left corner, next to where it says Cross of Glory Lutheran Church.

Then click the word "Giving" to go to our Vanco page. You can also give by scanning the QR code in the bulletin with your phone's camera, or by mailing a check to us at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383. Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time!

God bless our time together in worship today!



This weekend is the third of a three-week stewardship emphasis titled *Ten for Ten*. In this worship series, we are looking at the daily struggle we all face when two paths are set before us, one by God and the other by this world. Shall we live for this life or the life that is to come? One very obvious way that struggle manifests itself is when we plan our finances.

Sometimes Christians will object, "The pastor talks too much about money!" Their quarrel isn't really with the pastor, but with their Creator. The Lord speaks to us about worldly wealth and possessions over 2,300 times in his Word. Two weeks ago, we heard that the Lord asks, without apology, to be first in our hearts. The Lord's position in our heart is to be reflected in our *firstfruits* giving. Last week, we considered the matter of *proportional* giving. What percentage of the Lord's blessings do we really need to live on? This week, our series concludes by examining what God has to say about *sacrificial* giving.

Adding these three themes together, we see that people will invariably give *beneath their ability* when they fail to put the Bible's teaching on firstfruits and proportionate giving into practice. Others give *at their ability*. This happens when people, confident in God's blessing, prayerfully and thoughtfully practice firstfruits and proportional giving. Finally, one can even give *beyond their ability*. That's the case when God's people step out in faith and give in a way that, humanly speaking, doesn't add up. Scripture tells us of people who, even in their poverty, opened up their hands and gave *beyond their ability*. They gave sacrificially, not superficially. How could they do this? They simply trusted in God's unlimited ability to care for them.

These biblical accounts of *sacrificial* giving are another one of God's blessings to us. May we hear them, be inspired by them, and—as God gives us opportunity—make them our own story!

Our worth is taking us on this path:

- Week One: OPEN HEARTS (Firstfruits Giving)
- Week Two: OPEN MINDS (Proportionate Giving)
- Week Three: OPEN HANDS (Sacrificial Giving)

# **ORDER OF SERVICE**

## **OPENING HYMN**

Brothers. Sisters, Let Us Gladly | CW484 2 Vs.

Brothers, sisters, let us gladly Give to God our all, our best --  
Service hearty, thorough, honest, With a living love impressed.  
All our duty, all our striving, All our time to him belong;  
Praise him, then, with true devotion; Come before him with a song.

By his mercy, by his bounty, By the gift of Christ, his Son,  
What great goodness he has shown us, What high marvels he has done!  
Let us to him promptly, freely, Yield our bodies and our souls,  
Thankful that his love protects us, That his wisdom all controls.

## **INVOCATION**

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**C: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.**

M: Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**C: Follow God's example as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love.**

M: Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

**C: You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.**

## **CONFSSION OF SINS**

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, we humbly come before you today knowing that we have failed to speak lovingly, think purely, or act rightly. We have sinned against you and against others...

...in wasting the precious time you give us.

**C: ...in our slowness and hesitancy to spread your Gospel.**

M: ...in the faithful care of our relationships.

**C: ...in our restless and relentless preoccupation with worldly wealth.**

M: ...in caring for the bodies and minds you have given us.

**C: ...in our refusal to make you our first priority.**

*Silence for personal reflection*

M: Hear our confession, for we have sinned and are in need of your mercy and forgiveness.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, For sins of habit and sins of choice, For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n and earth  
2 The wealth of earth, of sky, of sea,  
  
With lav - ish wealth be - fore you bow;  
The gold, the sil - ver, spark - ling gem,  
  
Those trea - sures owe to you their birth,  
The wav - ing corn, the bend - ing tree  
  
So rich - ly fur - nished for us now.  
Are yours; you are but lend - ing them.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister)

M: O Lord, giver of life and source of all love, we know that all we have received comes from your gracious hand. You call us to be stewards of your bounty, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us to always use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send your Holy Spirit to work through us, that many more might come to know the saving riches of your Son. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of your Son in our hearts. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

## FIRST LESSON

**2 Corinthians 8:1-9**

*St. Paul tells us of the Macedonians who, moved by the grace of Jesus Christ, gave sacrificially*

<sup>1</sup>And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. <sup>2</sup>In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. <sup>3</sup>For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, <sup>4</sup>they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. <sup>5</sup>And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. <sup>6</sup>So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. <sup>7</sup>But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. <sup>8</sup>I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. <sup>9</sup>For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

## PSALM 73

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: I am always with you, O Lord:

C: You hold me by my right hand.

M: You guide me with your counsel,

C: And afterwards you will take me into glory.

M: Whom have I in heaven but you?

C: And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

M: My flesh and my heart may fail.

C: But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

## THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

### GOSPEL LESSON

**Mark 12:41-44**

*Jesus commends the confident faith of a widow, faith made evident in her sacrificial giving*

<sup>41</sup>Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. <sup>42</sup>But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. <sup>43</sup>Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup>They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

## FIRST ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLE'S CREED

*(Spoken in Unison)*

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind and all my abilities. And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil. All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

 SERMON HYMN

Lord, You Love the Cheerful Giver | CW489 3 Vs.—Melody CW411

Lord, you love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand  
Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land.

Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true  
That our life and all our living We may consecrate to you.

We are yours -- your mercy sought us, Found us in death's dreadful way,  
To the fold in safety brought us, Nevermore from you to stray.

Your own life was freely given As an off'ring on the cross  
For each sinner, now forgiven From eternal shame and loss.

Blessed by you with gifts and graces, May we heed your Spirit's call,  
Gladly in all times and places Give to you who gives us all.

You have bought us; now no longer Can we claim to be our own;  
Ever free and ever stronger We shall serve you, Lord, alone.

SERMON

*Should Jesus Really Be Watching My Wealth?*

*Mark 12:41-44*

(CD recordings of sermons freely supplied for study or sharing. Please request on the Friendship Card)

 SONG OF THE SEASON

Facing a Task Unfinished 4 Vs.

Facing a task unfinished That drives us to our knees  
A need that, undiminished Rebukes our slothful ease  
We, who rejoice to know Thee Renew before Thy throne  
The solemn pledge we owe Thee To go and make Thee known  
  
Where other lords beside Thee Hold their unhindered sway  
Where forces that defied Thee Defy Thee still today  
With none to heed their crying For life, and love, and light  
Unnumbered souls are dying And pass into the night

**Refrain:**

We go to all the world With kingdom hope unfurled  
No other name has power to save But Jesus Christ The Lord

We bear the torch that flaming Fell from the hands of those  
Who gave their lives proclaiming That Jesus died and rose  
Ours is the same commission The same glad message ours  
Fired by the same ambition To Thee we yield our powers *[Refrain]*

O Father who sustained them O Spirit who inspired  
Savior, whose love constrained them To toil with zeal untired  
From cowardice defend us From lethargy awake!  
Forth on Thine errands send us To labor for Thy sake *[Refrain X 2]*

**THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: Gracious God, giver of all we have and hold as stewards, grant the people of this church a deep and abiding awareness that all things come from you—our health, our incomes, our jobs, our talents and our generous impulse.

**C: Send your Holy Spirit to empower us as we swim against the rising tides of materialism, envy, individualism and greed in our culture.**

M: When we are tempted to think of money as a private matter, remind us that you have asked for a portion of our income to be returned to you as a symbol of our awareness that all we have has been given by you, and as a sign of our trust that you will continue to provide.

**C: Help us in this grace of giving, for you are the lover of our souls.**

M: Most Holy Spirit, you breathed life into humanity and gave us various gifts and talents that we might use them for your glory and the common good.

**C: Help us to give ourselves to the well-being of others, just as Christ gave himself for our well-being, even unto the cross.**

M: Savior Jesus, you gave your disciples the responsibility of taking your gospel to the ends of the earth. Make our congregation generous in the support of missionaries who preach the good news on our behalf in those places we cannot go.

**C: Guard them and their families with your holy angels, and bless their labors as it pleases you.**

*Special prayers and petitions may be offered here.*

M: Lord Jesus, we pray in your name, and as you taught.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*(Spoken in Unison)*

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as**

we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## BIBLE STUDY: Sacrificial Giving

### I. INTRODUCTION

A quick review of where we have been the last two weeks:

*Firstfruits giving:* Giving is a key \_\_\_\_\_ because I love and trust God.

*Proportional giving:* Stewardship includes prayerfully considering how much of God's money I need to \_\_\_\_\_.

This week we turn our attention to *sacrificial giving*, which is giving in a way that, to human reason, seems to be beyond ones means. It is giving *beyond one's regular firstfruits, proportional giving*. The cynical sinner in us would love to write off the topic of sacrificial giving as an exercise in "getting blood from a turnip." Yet, when we look at Scripture, we see that sacrificial gifts were never made under compulsion, but out of cheer; never out of fear, but out of faith; never out of obligation, but because there was an opportunity provided by God's providence.

Ironically, Americans are accustomed to *living* beyond their means. The average U.S. household is carrying over \$7,000 in credit card debt. Add to that an average household debt of \$28,000 for cars and another \$48,000 for student loans. So, we live beyond our income, assuming we will be able to handle that debt in the future. Yet, God has not promised us the next paycheck. Nowhere in Scripture does God promise the college graduate a high-paying job. There are exactly zero divine promises that would encourage us to be comfortable *living* beyond our means. But what about *giving* in a way that seems beyond our means?

#### Malachi 3:10

*"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."*

? What promise does the LORD give to the children of Israel there?

Let us look at how our generous God empowers his children to imitate his generosity through sacrificial giving.

## II. GOD ENABLES PEOPLE TO DO AMAZING THINGS

### **Matthew 20:21**

*Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and it will be done.*

### **Romans 10:17**

*Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.*

- ? In Matthew 20, Jesus teaches us that if it was God's will that a mountain would throw itself into the sea, we should have faith that mountain will obey our command. Obviously, it is *not* God's will that mountains jump into the sea. It *is* his will that his children give generous offerings. Combine that with God's promise in Romans 10:17. Together, we have heard God's message on these important stewardship topics. Therefore, of what can we be confident?

### **John 15:5**

*Jesus said, “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”*

- ? Notice Jesus doesn't say that if we remain in him we *should* bear much fruit or we *might* bear much fruit. He says we *will*. How can he speak so confidently?

**God is neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor a \_\_\_\_\_. If he asks us to do things that are impossible, he then gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ to do that which he has asked.**

### **The Point?**

When Jesus told Peter “Come!” he was asking Peter to do that which is impossible—walking on water. But the word of Christ gave Peter the ability to do the impossible. While Peter's faith fixed itself upon the promise, he was able to do the unthinkable. *“Apart from me you can do nothing.”* It is only when Peter took his eyes off Jesus and looked at his situation that he sank. We are *the family of the Father* who are filled with *faith*. When our God asks us to do something, we can trust he will give us the ability to do what he has asked. That is true when it comes to giving. Some examples...

## **The Widow Who Didn't Have Two Dimes to Rub Together**

### **Mark 12:41-44**

*<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. <sup>42</sup> But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.*

*<sup>43</sup> Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup> They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."*

Amazing things we see:

The widow gave \_\_\_\_\_ % of what she had.

In God's ledger book, a fraction of a \_\_\_\_\_ can be more than thousands of dollars.

Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ what people give.

## **Poor As Dirt, Yet Serving the Saints**

### **2 Corinthians 8:2-4**

*<sup>2</sup> In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. <sup>3</sup> For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, <sup>4</sup> they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.*

- ? Circle the best answer. For the Macedonian churches, giving was:
- like pulling teeth.
  - something that they might find some use for.
  - a privilege they pleaded for.

Circle the best answer. When it came to the amount of their gifts:

- It was just enough to keep Pastor Paul from sending a member of the Stewardship Committee to their homes.
- It was pretty respectable considering they didn't have much.
- It was shocking because God blessed them "to give even beyond their ability."

Giving is not a \_\_\_\_\_ of the rich, but a \_\_\_\_\_ for the poor.

When it comes to giving, the \_\_\_\_\_, not the \_\_\_\_\_, is what counts in God's sight.

## The Point?

### III. PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER

\_\_\_\_\_ giving teaches that giving to God comes first, because we are to *fear, love, and trust in him above all things.*

\_\_\_\_\_ giving teaches that we give to God a pre-determined percentage of our wealth. Tithing, or giving ten percent, has served as a biblical benchmark for proportionate giving.

\_\_\_\_\_ giving teaches that we may, in joy, give over and above our regular, proportional gifts.

#### *Questions to Prayerfully Consider This Week*

As I produce our ten-week giving plan, how will I demonstrate that God comes first?

What is the Spirit empowering me to produce in the way of firstfruits giving?

What is the proportion of my income the Spirit will enable me to return to God over the next ten weeks? How much of God's blessings do I need to keep for myself to live and have a satisfying life? How much does he allow me to give back?

How will Christ's sacrifice and his promises enable me to be sacrificial in my giving?

### IV. NEWS AND NOTES

Next weekend your commitment cards will be gathered during the offering.

One last reminder: Your commitment cards will not be opened. They will be placed near the altar for ten weeks and then returned to you unopened for your prayerful reflection. Please do not place offerings in your *10 for 10* commitment envelopes. The only thing that goes in that envelope is your giving plan.

Additional devotional material has been/will be shared. Read. Ponder. Pray.

Throughout the ten weeks of *10 for 10*, we will receive additional encouragements from God's Word. Why? "*If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit.*"

**BLESSING***(Spoken by Minister)*

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us | CW486 2 Vs.

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,  
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand  
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

**PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR COMMUNION*****Before Communing***

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

***After Communing***

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

**Acknowledgements** Scripture taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Worship and Hymns sourced from Christian Worship (CW) © 1993 and/or Christian Worship Supplement (CWS) © 2008 by Northwestern Publishing House (NPH). All rights reserved. These and all other sources are used by permission under One License.net License # A-711716 and/or CCLI License # 1852086 and # CSPL136078 (*Video*).

## Stewardship Sundays

We are having a 3-Sunday focus on stewardship. You should have already seen some information about this in the monthly news and mailed to your home. The Sunday themes will be the following:

Open Hearts – Firstfruits Giving  
Open Minds – Proportionate Giving  
Open Hands – Sacrificial Giving

Keep an eye on your inbox and mailbox for more information regarding this special worship focus!

For those watching online it would be helpful to download the bulletin before viewing the Sunday Service, as the in-service Bible class material is printed there.

## Announcements

\*\*\*\*Cross of Glory is going to test and maybe purchase a new hearing assistance system. You will be able to better hear the service through earphones attached to a portable receiver you take to your seat. The receiver will also transmit the sound directly to your hearing aids, if your Telecoil channel has been activated by your audiologist. That means you will not need to remove your hearing aids or wear headphones. The receiver is about the size of a small cellphone. However, you do not need to have hearing aids to try the unit.

\*\*\*\*New to the website is a page of spiritual and educational [resources](#). Included are free Sunday School lessons for children.

\*\*\*\* Please check our web page the most up to date information regarding Cross of Glory and the coronavirus/ COVID-19.

\*\*\*\* We have several options for you to worship during these times. You may go to [crossofglory.online.church](http://crossofglory.online.church) to view our online services or worship in person (Jomax Campus) at the normal 9:00 am service time. You may also watch Saturday service live on Facebook Cross of Glory-Vistancia or in person (Jomax Campus) at 6:00pm. All of our Services can be found for later viewing on our website under the Message tab, either Facebook Site or YouTube.

Jomax Worship Volunteers	October 25th	November 1st	November 8th	November 15th
Counters	Wempner/Freeman	Wempner/Wilson	Wempner/ Brooks	Wempner/Cornell
Cleaners	Piepenbrink/ Pappenfuss	Martins/Ehlers	Kelley/Grams	Plitzuweit/Alcoba/ Peterson
Communion Set-up	Sharon Kull	Lynn Wempner	Susie Cornell	Sharon Kull
Ushers	Gary Jeffers Grant Stern John Wempner Kelly Simpson	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson	Cody Hall Larry Kennedy Tanner Plitzuweit	Steven Julian Al Alcoba Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson

# THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

October 26th 6:30pm	New River Growth Group
October 26th 7:00pm	Kugler Growth Group– Ecclesiastes
October 27th 9:30am	Women's Bible Study
October 27th 6:30pm	Grams Growth Group– The Story of Joseph
October 28th 10:00am	Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
October 30th 5:00pm	Halloween Drive-Thru
October 31st 6:00pm	Worship Service at Jomax w/Communion
October 31st 6:00pm	Worship Service Facebook Live
November 1st 9:00am	Worship Service at Jomax w/Communion
November 1st 9:00am	Worship Service (Online)
November 1st 10:30am	Sunday Morning Bible Study The Book of Romans
November 1st 6:00pm	Devotion Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)

## LOOKING AHEAD

November 2nd 7:00pm	Kugler Growth Group– Ecclesiastes
November 3rd 9:30am	Women's Bible Study
November 3rd 6:00pm	Evangelism Meeting
November 3rd 6:30pm	Grams Growth Group– The Story of Joseph
November 3rd 7:00pm	Elders Meeting
November 4th 10:00am	Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
November 7th 6:00pm	Worship Service at Jomax w/Communion
November 7th 6:00pm	Worship Service Facebook Live
November 8th 9:00am	Worship Service at Jomax w/Communion
November 8th 9:00am	Worship Service (Online)
November 8th 9:30am	Worship Service at Vistancia w/Communion
November 8th 10:30am	Sunday Morning Bible Study The Book of Romans

## Growth Groups

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

Topic: The Book of Romans

Sundays at 10:30am In Person or Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74701697177?pwd=OFp0WHhjMVZBN3pzVEZEQm9zVWZtUT09>

Meeting ID: 747 0169 7177

Passcode: 7t71C8

### Vistancia Weekly Devotion

Sundays at 7:00 pm via ZOOM  
(if interested in joining contact Pastor Ehlers)

### New River Growth Group

Topic: Follow Me-Who Is Calling Us to Follow Him?  
Sept.28th, Oct. 12th & 26th  
6:30-8:00pm

### Mom's Growth Group- Ally Kelley

Wednesdays at 10:00am Via Zoom  
(Please contact Liz if you want to be added to this meeting)

### Ecclesiastes- Kugler Group

Mondays at 7:00pm Via Zoom  
Starts 10/5/2020

### Grams Growth Group-The Story of Joseph

Tuesdays at 6:30pm at Gram's House  
Starting 9/29 for 10 Weeks

### Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 9:30am at Karen Jurado's House

# Meditations

\*\*\*\*New meditations have arrived and are located in the communications center. Please let Liz know if you would like one put in your mailbox.

## Voters Meeting

\*\*\*\*Our quarterly voters meeting will be today at 10:30am after church. As in the past, we will set this up for attendance both in person and via zoom.

## ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

### JOMAX CAMPUS - NEWS

#### Women's Bible Study

Topic Starting October 13th: 'In God's Orchard' Cultivating the Fruit of a Spirit-Filled Life

All are Welcome!

Tuesdays 9:30am @ Karen Ju-rado's House

#### Trunk or Treat October 24th

#### Voters Meeting October 25th 10:30am

### VISTANCIA CAMPUS - NEWS

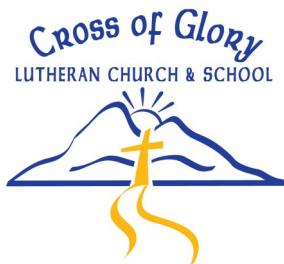
#### Vistancia Zoom Call

Sunday 7:00pm

#### Voters Meeting October 25th 10:30am

#### New River Growth Group October 26th 6:30pm

#### Halloween Drive-Thru October 30 5:00pm



# PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

*For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage to them and their families.*

**Marilyn Bagwell**, sister of Sharon Kull, was recently diagnosed with cancer. May the Holy Spirit continue working in her heart and protect and care for her and perhaps cure her if that is his will.

**Juanita Word**, who is recovering at home after a broken leg.

**Gerry Ehlers**, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and undergoes treatments.

## MILITARY

**E4 Specialist Alice Henderson**, granddaughter of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at San Antonio, TX Ft. Sam Houston Army base in Medical Institute of Surgery Research: Burn Unit.

**E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious**, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.

**Major JD Larson**, son of John & Chi Larson, based at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico.

**Sara (Dan) McArdle**, daughter of Martha (Scott) Wofford, Air Force Pilot, based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

**Sgt. Blake Andrew Nelsen**, son of Rick & Karyn Nelsen and brother of Seri & Lilli, USMC.

**Ben Weyer**, serving in the military, Currently deployed to the Persian Gulf. Please pray that our Heavenly Father keeps him safe in his journey.



**Cross of Glory** was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March 1998 so that with the Gospel of Jesus she can strengthen the faith of her members and reach out into the community with the free gift of salvation. First worship services began at Easter 1999; the dedication of our Ministry Center at Easter, 2005. On Easter of 2017, we began services at our second site in the Vistancia community. Our synod's name reflects that her founders began in the state of Wisconsin. As a WELS church we still hold to the teachings of the Bible restored in the Reformation era. We are...

- a Christ-preaching church. We preach that Jesus is true God, the Son of God who became man, so that through his perfect life and innocent death, He is the prophesied "Lamb of God" who has taken away the sin of the world.
- a Bible-believing church. We teach that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only authority for Christian faith and life. We aim to teach God's Word in all its truth and simplicity.
- an evangelical church. We trust the Bible's claim that God saves people through the power of the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments. The Gospel is the Good News (the Evangel) about Jesus' saving work. The WELS has congregations throughout the USA and around the world to share the Evangel, the Bible's primary message, with all people.
- a people-caring church. That we're all sinners equally saved by Jesus' substitutionary work strips away human judgments and egos. This truth also empowers us to live Jesus' love for all people by offering friendship, support, and Biblical counseling. Our church family cares about other people-- including you.

Our Preschool & Elementary School exists to help parents in their God-given duty of teaching the Faith to their children: an important aspect of our Church's plan to grow a comprehensive womb-to-tomb ministry that serves souls for eternity.