

# The festival of the Transfiguration of our Lord Sunday, February 14, 2021

# **Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School**

623-224-8839

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!

# Worship fQCUS

The Festival of the Transfiguration of Our Lord is the third and last of the great festivals observed during the Epiphany season. On the mountain Jesus prepared his followers for the long and dreadful journey to the cross. The season of showing his glory to those he has called is coming to a close. We stand at the threshold of the season of his ultimate humiliation. But before we go down to the valley of the shadow of death, he gives us a glimpse of the glory which he hid so carefully even while he was revealing it.

Following the blessing at the end of the service, we will observe the rite for "**Farewell to Allelu**ia". With this rite we symbolically omit the alleluias for the season of Lent as we too prepare for the solemn journey to our Savior's Cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian Church has omitted its most jubilant songs during this season, including the song Alleluia, which means, 'Praise the Lord.' Now for a time we shall say farewell to Alleluia. With this we prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent."

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.met License # A-711716 and/or CCLI License # 1852086 and # CSPL136078 (*Video*).

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Spoken/Sung Responsively - CW224 "God Himself is Present") M: In **the** name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

#### C: Amen.

Sung by Congregation:

God himself is present -- Let us now adore him And with awe appear before him. God is in his temple --All within keep silence, Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence. He alone On his throne Is our God and Savior; Praise his name forever!

- M: As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. (Luke 9:29)
- C: Lord, it is good for us to be here! (Matthew 17:4)
- M: This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him. (Matt.17:5)
- C: We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

Sung by Congregation:

God himself is present -- Hear the harps resounding; See the hosts the throne surrounding. "Holy, holy, holy" --Hear the hymn ascending, Songs of saints and angels blending. Bow your ear To us here: Hear, O Christ, the praises That your Church now raises.

M: And we have the word of the prophets made more certain—like a light shining in a dark place. (*II Peter 1:19*) On this day of celebrating the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus—as a testimony to His divine approval of all He said and did, and as a reminder of the glorious transfiguration of our own bodies on the Last Day when we trust in His redeeming work—we worship in the name of The Father, who spoke His approval and love of His Son on the Mount, The Son, whose radiance showed His heavenly glory, and The Holy Spirit, whose inspiration of Scripture verifies the divine testimony of Jesus.

#### C: Amen.

#### Sung by Congregation:

Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit, Trusting only in your merit. Like the holy angels, Worshiping before you, May I ceaselessly adore you. Let your will Ever still Rule your church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.

#### THE PUBLIC MINISTRY OF THE KEYS

(Spoken Responsively—Words of CWS738)

- C: In hopelessness and near despair, I cry to You, my Savior! My guilt is more than I can bear. I have not earned Your favor. You know me as I really am! – how much is truth, how much is sham. Why should You heed my pleading? I see my heart's condition now—my heart's diverse affections. Why do I love the things You loathe? I'm torn in two directions! Now "prodigal," now "Pharisee." O God be merciful to me; Who else but You can help me?
  I tremble as I feel Your hand, expecting retribution Yet hear no curse or reprimand, but grace and absolution! With You there is forgiveness, Lord! You speak the sweet consoling Word, And I am sure You love me!
- M: Forgiven, free of guilt and shame, Lord, grant us time to render a gift to glorify Your name; love to reflect Your splendor. This world must know what we have learned, that You bestow what none has earned: The joy of full forgiveness. Be of good cheer. Your Deliverer has carried your sin to the cross. In the place of our Savior as a called and ordained servant, I proclaim to you the assurance of the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Live, now, in true repentance and put away that which counters your Deliverer's good and saving ways for you so that you may richly enjoy His blessing.

#### C: Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord our King:

#### HYMN OF PRAISE

How Good, Lord, to be Here | CW95 3 Vs.

How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night; Your face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.

How good, Lord, to be here Your beauty to behold, Where Moses and Elijah stand, Your messengers of old.

How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; But since you bid us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### (Spoken by Minister)

M: Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### FIRST LESSON

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

PSALM 2

#### (Spoken Responsively)

M: Why do the nations conspire?

#### C: And the peoples plot in vain?

M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD

#### C: And against his Anointed One.

M: The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

- C: The Lord scoffs at them.
- M: Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

#### C: "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

#### C: He said to me, "You are my Son: today I have become your Father."

#### THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### **GOSPEL LESSON**

# After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup>His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

6

#### 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

#### Mark 9:2-9

You're the Word of God the Father From before the world began. Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet Has been fashioned by Your hand. All creation holds together By the power of Your voice. Let the skies declare Your glory; Let the land and seas rejoice! You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man; And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels, Came to seek and save the lost, And exchanged the joy of heaven For the anguish of a cross. With a prayer You fed the hungry; With a word You calmed the sea; Yet how silently You suffered That the guilty may go free! You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man; And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

With a shout You rose victorious, Wresting vict'ry from the grave, And ascended into heaven, Leading captives in Your way. Now You stand before the Father, Interceding for Your own; From each tribe and tongue and nation, You are leading sinners home! You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man; And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

#### SERMON

#### Glory of a Godly Life

#### 2 Kings 2:1-12a

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup> Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup>The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "so be quiet." <sup>4</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho. <sup>5</sup>The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," he replied, "so be quiet." <sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So thet wo of them walked on. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. <sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I

do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied. <sup>10</sup> "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not." <sup>11</sup> As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. <sup>12</sup> Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more.

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

#### THE 2nd Article OF THE APOSTLE'S CREED

#### (Spoken Responsively)

- M: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.
- C: The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
- M: What does this mean?
- C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.
- M: He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.
- C: All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

#### SONG OF THE SEASON

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel | 3 Vs. Ensemble sings Vs. 1 & 2; Congregation joins for Vs. 3

Sing we the song of Emmanuel; This the Christ who was long foretold. Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem, Promise of dawn now our eyes behold. God Most High in a manger laid; Lift your voices and now proclaim: Great and glorious, Love has come to us; Join now with the hosts of heaven.

Come we to welcome; Emmanuel King who came with no crown or throne. Helpless He lay, the Invincible, Maker of Mary, now Mary's son. O what wisdom to save us all, Shepherds, sages, before Him fall. Grace and majesty, what humility; Come on bended knee, adore Him.

Go spread the news of Emmanuel; Joy and peace for the weary heart. Lift up your heads, for your King has come; Sing for the Light overwhelms the dark. Glory shining for all to see, Hope alive, let the gospel ring. God has made a way, He will have the praise; Tell the world His name is Jesus.

#### THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

#### PRAYER OF CHURCH

(Spoken Responsively)

- M: Glorious Father, on the Mount of Transfiguration you spoke from the cloud, calling us to listen to your Son. Open our ears to hear his Word and give us faith to believe it. Preserve us in your Church, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets.
- C: We have the word of the prophets made more certain and do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place.
- M: Morning Star, you rise in our hearts through Word and sacrament. Keep your Church constant in the means of grace and faithful in its confession, so that we never forsake you. Empower our ministers of the Word and through their teaching supply what is lacking in our faith.
- C: For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.
- M: Radiance of God's Glory, you made Peter, James, and John eyewitnesses of your majesty. Equip us to boldly proclaim your salvation to those in darkness. Use our schools to nurture children into a great cloud of witnesses who cannot help but speak about what they have seen and heard.
- C: We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- M: Lamb of God, it is good for us to be here before your altar. You once revealed your glory through shining face and bright clothing; reveal it now in bread and wine. Give us repentant and believing hearts to taste and see that you are good.
- C: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!
- M: Author of Life, the appearance of Moses and Elijah reminds us that you are not the God of the dead but of the living. Comfort those who grieve for loved ones who have fallen asleep in Christ. Reassure them with the fact that you died to swallow up death and rose to give us eternal life.
- C: Let us know the power of your resurrection, confident that you will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like your glorious body.
- M: Suffering Savior, even at your transfiguration you focused on your departure at Jerusalem. As we prepare to watch you carry your cross, strengthen us to carry our crosses. When we suffer, help us focus on you alone so that the devil may not have a foothold, and we may not despair.

- C: For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.
- M: God of all grace, you have called us to your eternal glory in Christ. Make us strong, firm, and steadfast.
- C: To you be the power forever and ever! Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

- M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen

#### **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.

#### **FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA**

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation (CW29))

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word alleluia, which means, "praise the Lord." Now for a time we say farewell to alleluia. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The alleluias will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, song of triumph, sound of joy that cannot die; Alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;

# (Spoken in Unison)

(Prayed by Minister)

Saints adorned in robes of glory join the great angelic cry.

Alleluia we are singing, voicing hymns in pure accord, With Christ's holy Church united, justified, redeemed, restored, And with all his faithful people raise our songs to praise the Lord.

Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below; Alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego. For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.

May our hymns be filled with longing—hear us, Holy Trinity— As we look to your blest Easter, here, and then eternally, When we shall once more be singing alleluia joyfully!

#### Growth Groups

#### Pastor Foxen's Growth Group

The Chosen Series Mondays at 6:30 p.m. (Starting 2/1) Location: At church and via Zoom Contact Pastor Foxen

Join Zoom Meeting https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75400877790? pwd=TUlsOGpWMnU1VU9iYUpZU3B0WVpwQT 09

Meeting ID: 754 0087 7790 Passcode: k5k7Z1

#### New River Growth Group

The Gospel of Matthew 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Location: New River Kiwanis Park, New River Contact Pastor John Ehlers

#### Grams Group (in person)

Discovering the Ancient Faith: OT Survey course (starts January 25 for 12 weeks) Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Location: Sun City West Contact Tim and Brenda Grams

#### Women's Bible Study

"Full Accessories of God: The Spirit's Makeover for Women" Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. Location: West Olive Avenue, Peoria Contact Karen Jurado

#### <u>Vistancia Weekly Devotion</u> (Zoom only) Sundays at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Pastor John Ehlers

#### Mom's Group (Zoom only)

Romans Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Contact Ally Kelley

#### BIC Class- Pastor Foxen

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. (10 weeks) Contact Pastor Foxen

# Church Cleaners

Cross of glory is in need of a few more church cleaners for the rotation. If you are able to help please contact Liz to add you to the rotation. If we have enough people the rotation is once every two months.

Jomax Worship Volunteers	February 21st	February 28th	March 7th
Counters	Wempner/ Cornell	Wempner/ Freeman	Wempner/ Sasse
Cleaners	Ebel/ Koutia	Patterson/Pappenfuss	Martins/ Ehlers
Communion Setup	Sharon Kull	-	Lynn Wempner/ Shannon Gullerud
Ushers	John Kull Bill Grams Paul Pappenfuss	Verl Naber Al Alcoba Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Bill Brooks Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger

## THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

February 15th 3:45 p.m. February 15th 6:30 p.m. February 15th 6:30 p.m. February 16th 9:30 a.m. February 17th 7:00 p.m. February 17th 7:00 p.m. February 18th 10:00 a.m. February 18th 4:00 p.m. February 18th 5:00 p.m. February 18th 6:30 p.m. February 20th 6:00 p.m. February 20th 6:00 p.m. February 21th 9:00 a.m. February 21th 9:00 a.m. February 21st 9:30 a.m. February 21th 10:30 a.m. **Basketball Practice 3-4** Grams Growth Group Pastor Foxen Growth Group Women's Bible Study Ash Wednesday w/Communion Ash Wednesday Facebook Live Mom's Growth Group Catechism Study Hall Catechism BIC Class - Pastor Foxen Worship Service (Jomax) Worship Service Facebook Live Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax) Worship Service Online Worship Service (Vistancia) Sunday Bible Study

#### LOOKING AHEAD

February 22nd 6:30 p.m. February 22nd 6:30 p.m. February 22nd 6:30 p.m. February 23rd 9:30 a.m. February 24th 7:00 p.m. February 24th 7:00 p.m. February 25th 10:00 a.m. February 25th 4:00 p.m. February 25th 5:00 p.m. February 25th 6:30 p.m. February 25th 7:00 p.m. February 26th 6:00 p.m. February 27th 9:00 a.m. February 27th 6:00 p.m. February 27th 6:00 p.m. February 28th 9:00 a.m. February 28th 9:00 a.m. February 28th 9:30 a.m. February 28th 10:30 a.m.

New River Growth Group Grams Growth Group Pastor Foxen Growth Group Women's Bible Study Lenten Service Lenten Service Facebook Live Mom's Growth Group Catechism Study Hall Catechism BIC Class - Pastor Foxen Board of Ed Mother-Son Event Cornerstone Event Worship Service (Jomax) Worship Service Facebook Live Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax) Worship Service Online Worship Service (Vistancia) Sunday Bible Study

# Voters Meeting Reports

On Sunday, January 31, our congregation held its annual meeting. In the Weekly News you can find links to the agenda, minutes of previous meetings, and reports that were shared.

God certainly blessed us in each area of ministry! Both campuses saw membership gains, the school's enrollment is way above what it was last year, and general fund offerings increased by more than \$40,000! In addition, we're looking forward to welcoming a new principal and teacher (Drew Aguilar and his wife, Stacey) this summer, which will fill the holes in our called staff. Join me in praising God for these wonderful blessings! May he continue to bless us in this new year as we carry his Word to those he brings into our contact!

# Midweek Lent Worship

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17. The theme for this year is *The Hands of the Passion*. When we consider Jesus and the people around him in his Passion, we can't help but think of their hands--the hands that beat their breast, accepted money for betrayal, petulantly swung swords, pointed in accusation, beat and disavowed, praised, washed, were pierced, and offered eternal life. In short, we can't help but think about how we sinners have had the same sinful hands of those who surrounded Jesus in his Passion, and how Jesus our Savior has touched us with his hands of grace.

During Lent we will have services each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. As we've done in the past, the pastors in our circuit will be rotating among our churches, giving us the opportunity to hear others preach and get to know them a little bit.

We will be offering in-person worship as well as the opportunity to watch online. There are a number of ways to watch online:

- 1. 1 Those who have Facebook will be able to watch the services live at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Go to the <u>Cross of Glory Vistancia Facebook page</u>.
- 2. We will also make a recording of the service and put it up on YouTube and the Cross of Glory website. However, that recording won't be available until the Thursday after the actual service, due to time required to upload it. Once it is uploaded, it can be watched at any time on our <u>YouTube channel</u> or <u>website</u>.
- 3. For those who watch on our <u>church online platform</u>, the midweek services will be scheduled to play on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. Watching this way allows you to worship and chat with others at the scheduled time.

Whatever method you choose, please let us know that you're worshiping with us by leaving a comment or sending us an email. This helps us keep track of attendance. Also, please note that there will be no soup suppers this year.

Thank you, and may God bless your Lenten meditations as we focus on the suffering and death of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

# Cross of Glory Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2021 are now available. They may be picked up at the Jomax facility from your mailbox in the hallway entrance to the sanctuary of the church. This year, for those who have been consistently using the online VANCO system for their giving, a box of envelopes has not been issued since it is assumed that you will continue to use the VANCO system. If at any time you would like to go back to the use of envelopes for your offering, please let our Financial Secretary know (john.kull@cox.net or 858-395-5666), and a box of envelopes will be placed in your mailbox. Thank you for your continued support of our mission at Cross of Glory!

# Vistancia News

Great news to share! Early December we applied for some grant money to help families in need in our mission field. Our request was granted, and our new approach to meeting and helping people will be kicked off February 27. We are partnering with Christian Family Solutions, a WELS counseling service, to educate and assist members of our community that are strugging with the stresses associated with our new state of living right now. We will kick off the work with a seminar on resiliency as it relates to the stresses we are facing. This program is called Cornerstone and assists congregations to reach out and help those in need. It will be held at Jomax Campus from 9:00 to 3:00. Lunch from The Diner food truck will be provided. Learn More in the Weekly News and go on our website to register.

We will be starting worship February 14 at 9:30 a.m. at my home in Vistancia in person and Zoom. The address is: 12786 W Burnside Trl, Peoria, AZ 85383.

To God be praise and glory! Pastor John Ehlers

## New Women's Bible Study

The women's bible study will be starting a new book on February 23rd titled "One Race & One Blood." Interesting to think we are all decedents of Noah. If you are interested please let us know so we can order the books. Books are \$9.00 and please pay Clara Naber.

## Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study group completed the study of "In God's Orchard: Cultivating the Fruit of a Spirit-Filled Life." If you are interested in doing the study on your own or would like to give the book as a gift, you may contact Liz in the church office to purchase one for \$12.

#### New Meditations

The new mediations have arrived and are located in the main entry on the shelves near the restrooms. When you pick up your next quarterly Meditations, drop off your used copy from the last quarter. There is a box next to the new Meditations. The WELS Prison Ministry appreciates this donation and distributes Meditations to prisoners who are always anxious to receive them. Thank you.



# MOTHER SON NIGHT PARTY LIKE A PIONEER

Friday, February 26 - 6-8pm

# 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.

*Michelle Zane,* as she undergoes knee replacement revision on February 23rd.

Judy Sasse, as she recovers from a broken wrist and stitches on her face from a fall.

**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 fall.

*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-tobe 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.

Saturday Worship at 6pm (Jomax) Sunday Worship at 9am (Jomax) 930am (Vistancia) Bible Study Session 10:30am (Jomax)