



Pentecost 12
Sunday, August 15, 2021



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

623-224-8839

www.crossofglory.org

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor

Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor

Blessed to be a member of



Jomax Campus
10111 W Jomax Road,
Peoria, AZ 85383

Sat. 6pm and Sun. 9am Worship

Vistancia Meeting in New River
Kiwanis Clubhouse
48606 N.17th Ave.
New River, AZ 85087
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 worshipping 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 worshipping with us for each service. Please let us know you are worshipping 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!



The clouds of doubt can gather in our lives at anytime. Faith can rise and fall like the waves of the sea. Doubt can pull our eyes of faith away from Jesus. In the sermon text today, Jesus calms the disciples who saw him walking towards their boat, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.". With Jesus there is never any need to doubt or be afraid. How sad that we so often do! Rather, let us focus on the Savior and watch our faith swell as the disciples' did when their doubts vanished, and they gave the greatest evidence of faith: they worshipped that man from Nazareth for what he truly was, the Son of God.

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.

 **OPENING HYMN**

When Trials Come | 5 V.s.

When trials come no longer fear For in the pain our God draws near
To fire a faith worth more than gold And there His faithfulness is told
And there His faithfulness is told.

Within the night I know Your peace The breath of God brings strength to me
And new each morning mercies flow As treasures of the darkness grow
As treasures of the darkness grow.

I turn to Wisdom not my own For every battle You have known
My confidence will rest in You Your love endures Your ways are good
Your love endures Your ways are good.

When I am weary with the cost I see the triumph of the cross
So in its shadow I shall run Till you complete the work begun
Till you complete the work begun.

One day all things will be made new I'll see the hope You called me to
And in your kingdom paved with gold I'll praise your faithfulness of old
I'll praise your faithfulness of old.

GREETING

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

(Spoken Responsively)

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(Spoken/Sung Responsively)

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord:

C: Lord have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord:

C: Lord have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

C: Amen.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

C: *(Congregation Sings)*

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love.

You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit;

you make us pure and holy in your sight.

You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.

O Lord our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, you came to live with us,

you made your Father known; you washed us from our sins in your own blood.

You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Prayed by Minister)

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

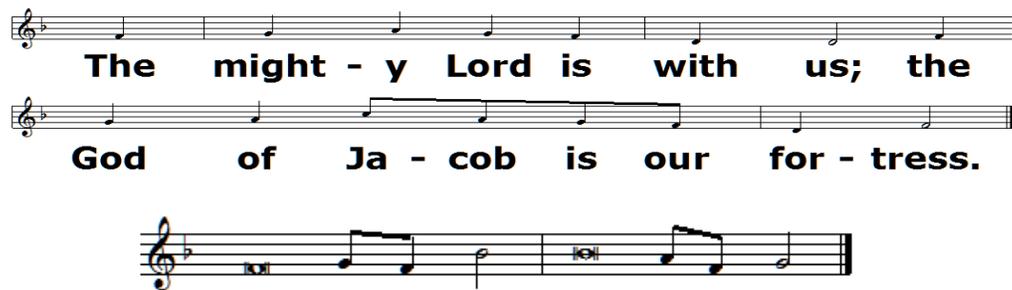
2 Kings 6:8-17

Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel. After conferring with his officers, he said, "I will set

up my camp in such and such a place.” ⁹The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: “Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there.” ¹⁰So the king of Israel checked on the place indicated by the man of God. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places. ¹¹This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, “Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?” ¹²“None of us, my lord the king,” said one of his officers, “but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom.” ¹³“Go, find out where he is,” the king ordered, “so I can send men and capture him.” The report came back: “He is in Dothan.” ¹⁴Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city. ¹⁵When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked. ¹⁶“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” ¹⁷And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

PSALM 46

(Sung Responsively)



Refrain

M: God is our re-fuge and strength,

C: an ever-present help in trou-ble.

M: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way

C: and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

M: though its waters roar and foam

C: and the mountains quake with their surg-ing.

Refrain

M: There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-y of God,

C: the holy place where the Most High dwells.

M: God is within her, she will not fall;

C: God will help her at break of day.

M: “Be still, and know that I am God;

C: I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spir-it,
As it was in the be-gin-ning,
is now and will be forever. A-men.

Refrain

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

(All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)

SECOND LESSON

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. ¹⁶ At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷ But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

VERSE OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister; Response sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Alleluia. *(Hebrews 11:1)*

(Sung by Congregation)

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

 **SERMON HYMN**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past | CW441 4 Vs.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home,
Under the shadow of your throne Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defense is sure.
Before the hills in order stood Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.
O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶ After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. ⁴⁷ Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰ because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” ⁵¹ Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵² for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened. ⁵³ When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. ⁵⁴ As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. ⁵⁵ They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

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

THE NICENE CREED

(Read in Unison)

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

I've found a treasure that can't be taken; Found a well that won't run dry.
O worldly pleasure, be now forsaken; Behold what love, what life is mine.
Could endless striving now make me righteous?
Could all my works now grant me hope?
Oh hallelujah ! The blood of Jesus My only plea my only boast.

Refrain:

Christ is all, Christ is all, And my song will ever be.
Christ is all, All in all; And my song will ever be Christ is all.

And in the trial, when storms are raging;
Though tears may fall, my soul will rise.
For there's a peace that is mine unchanging;
There is a joy that never dies. *[Refrain]*
When life is passing and strength is fading,
I'll see the One that I adore.
Let this world vanish oh give me Jesus;
My great desire my true reward. *[Refrain]*

THE OFFERING *and* OFFERING PRAYER

(TO DONATE ONLINE PLEASE SCAN QR CODE)

(Prayed by Minister)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Prayed by Minister)

LORD'S PRAYER

(Spoken by Congregation)

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

GREETING

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(Sung by Congregation)

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

You are my God, and I will exalt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread: and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

(Sung by Congregation)

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF SACRAMENT

(Please refer to "Worship Welcome" in chair pocket)

*We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together at the Lord's Table. It is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God's Word. Those who have established that connection as members of sister WELS or ELS congregations may register at the podium at the sanctuary entrance.. Thank you for honoring our practice.*

Soul, adorn yourself with gladness; Leave behind all gloom and sadness.
Come into the daylight's splendor; There with joy your praises render
Unto him whose grace unbounded Has this wondrous supper founded.
Though he reigns above most holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

Hasten as a bride to meet him, And with loving rev'rence greet him,
For with words of life immortal He is knocking at your portal.

Open wide the gates before him, Saying, as you there adore him:
Grant, Lord, that I now receive you, That I nevermore will leave you.

He who craves a precious treasure Neither cost nor pain will measure,
But the priceless gifts of heaven God to us has freely given.

Though the wealth of earth were proffered, Naught would buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for you riven, And his blood, for you once given.

Now I kneel before you lowly, Filled with joy most deep and holy,
As with trembling awe and wonder On your mighty work I ponder,
How by mystery surrounded, Depths that no one ever sounded.
None may dare to pierce unbidden Secrets that with you are hidden.

Human reason, though it ponders, Cannot fathom these great wonders,
That Christ's body must be boundless Since the souls it feeds are countless,
And that he his blood is giving With the wine we are receiving.
These great mysteries unsounded Are by God alone expounded.

Lord, by love and mercy driven, You have left your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,
To forgo all joy and gladness And to shed your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.

Jesus, Sun of life, my Splendor, Jesus, Friend of friends most tender,
Jesus, Joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring -
At your feet I cry, my Maker: Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven For our good, your glory, given.

Jesus, Lord of life, I pray you, Let me gladly here obey you.
By your love I am invited; Be your love with love requited.
By this supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace you give me As your guest in heav'n receive me.

Thank the Lord and sing his praise, Tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

CLOSING PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, 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.

CLOSING HYMN

Abide , O Dearest Jesus | CW333 4 Vs.

**Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with your grace
That Satan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.**

**Abide, O dear Redeemer, Among us with your Word
And thus now and hereafter True peace and joy afford.**

**Abide with your protection Among us, Lord, our Strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.**

**Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with your love;
Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.**

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Important Dates

August 29th

Discipleship Sunday

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

August 19, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group
August 22, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
August 22, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Vistancia at New River)
August 22, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)
August 22, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
August 22, 4:00 p.m.	Teen Group
August 23, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)

LOOKING AHEAD

August 25, 3:45 p.m.	Youth Group
August 29, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
August 29, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Vistancia at New River)
August 29, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)
August 29, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
August 30, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)

Jomax Worship Volunteers	August 22nd	August 29th	September 5th
Counters	Wempner/ Cornell	Wempner/ Wempner	Wempner/ Schirripa
Cleaners	Kelley/ Grams	Plizuweit/ Peterson/ Aguilar	Ebel/ Koutia
Communion Setup	-	-	Lynn Wempner/ Nancy Schirripa
Ushers	John Kull Kim Moline	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Bill Brooks Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger
Sunday Refreshments	Rene Koutia	Rachel Plitzuweit Leslie Contreras	Paula Considine

Vistancia News

Our first Month in New River went well. We had visitors that want to continue worship with us. We are going to continue worship at the Kiwanis park for the time being as we won't have a place to worship in Vistancia until September. If you are interested in joining us, the address is 48606 N 17th Ave, New River, Az. When using navigation, Google maps is the best choice, Apple may get you lost. Our service time is 9:30 a.m.

Please let Pastor Ehlers or Liz know when you are able to volunteer in the areas of setting up worship, greeting/ushering, piano playing, Midi/PowerPoint/sound system, and refreshments.

Communion will be at 9:00 a.m. on Communion Sundays in New River.

Growth Group

New River Growth Group

Chosen

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

Location: New River Kiwanis Park, New River

Contact Pastor John Ehlers

Vistancia Worship Volunteers	August 22nd	August 29th	September 5th
Setup/Takedown	Taylor/Freeman	Taylor	Taylor
Usher/ Greeter	-	-	-
Piano Player/Music	-	-	-
Midi/Powerpoint/ Sound System Operator	-	-	-
Refreshments	-	-	-



A GOD-LIVED LIFE: A life lived for others

On Discipleship Sunday, August 29, the first of our four special stewardship services entitled “A God-Lived Life” will focus on a *life lived for others*, a life of generosity. On Discipleship Sunday we will see how God allows us the opportunity to serve and love one another who are part of our family of believers and of our communities.

Each of the four Sundays, spread out over the next 10 weeks, will provide a challenge card that will present options for a plan of action for the following weeks. The action plan for a “*life lived for others*” will focus on being a good neighbor, especially to those who belong to the household of faith. What makes someone a good neighbor to their fellow church members? How can you show God’s love to others by being a good neighbor? How can our church be a good neighbor to our community? How can we be present for others?

May God bless us as we live a God-lived life, serving others!

Golden Agers

You are invited to join the Golden Agers for breakfast at:

Lou's Tivoli Gardens
12555 W Bell Rd
Surprise, AZ 85375

We will meet at 9:30 a.m. on September 14th, the second Tuesday of the month. Please RSVP to Judy Sasse by text or email two days in advance to get a count. Call 602-618-6967 or email sasseja43@aol.com.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again for our monthly fellowship get-together.

Youth, Teen and Young Adult Groups

Pastor Ehlers will be contacting youth, teens and young adults to start fellowship groups. Please check the calendar on the website for youth and teen events already added. Young Adult events are to be announced .

Thank You, Volunteers

The last few weeks have been busy with vacation Bible school, a workday, the ice cream social, and school orientation. Thank you to all who helped with these events. Your talents really made these events amazing.

Construction Zone

The project of installing city water to Cross of Glory is just about complete. The parking lot will be striped this weekend and should be available for use once again early next week.

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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.

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

Eddie Romero, Uncle of Delia Akaa, as he struggles with cancer.

Father of Chris Hanson, was Diagnosed with ALS

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.

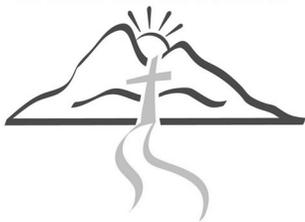
E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.

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.