DELIGHT UNCOVERED: God delivers more than we ask, not less

Ephesians 3:14-21

Epiphany 2 *Sunday, January 16, 2022*



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

623-224-8839

www.crossofglory.org Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

Blessed to be a member of



Jomax Campus 10111 W Jomax Road, Peoria, AZ 85383 Sun. 9am & Mon. 7pm Worship Vistancia Meeting in Lake Pleasant Elementary School 31501 N. Westland Road Peoria, AZ 85383 Sun. 9:30am Worship **Welcome to our Worship Center!** God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

Families with children:

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult guardian.
- We invite children (ages 3 to 4th grade) to take part in our "Children in Church" program. Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. So, for the beginning and end of the service, we encourage parents to guide their children through the service. At the indicated time, children can come forward to hear a special children's message at the feet of the pastor. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!





We are in the season of the Church called Epiphany, a Greek word that means "to appear." Salvation has appeared in the person of Jesus Christ. In Epiphany, the Church explores everything that Christ makes apparent about God. You see, we need God to appear to us and make himself known to us. For not only is God beyond our understanding, his works and his ways are contrary to our natural assumptions about him.

In other words, the truth about God cannot possibly be discovered by us. Rather, it needs to be **uncovered** for us. That's what the Spirit is doing for us during this season of Epiphany. Week after week, surprising truths about Jesus our King and life in his kingdom will be uncovered.

This week we explore the question, "Is the pursuit of God and the pursuit of pleasure two separate paths?" Many make that assumption—that life with Jesus is a boring, sterile experience. They are dead wrong. Jesus came to undo everything that is wrong with our world as a result of sin's curse. He also came to multiply our joy and deliver delight beyond our wildest dreams. Note that when Jesus begins to reveal his glory, it isn't by going to a hospital to cure every ailment. Instead, he starts at a local wedding, one of the greatest sources of joy in this life. The truth uncovered for us this week is that life with Jesus is not a life with less delight, but infinitely more.

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Service of Word & Sacrament

OPENING HYMN

God loves me dearly, grants me salvation, God loves me dearly, loves even me. *Refrain:*

> Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, loves even me.

He sent forth Jesus, my dear Redeemer, he sent forth Jesus and set me free. *[Refrain]*

Jesus, my Savior, himself did offer; Jesus, my Savior, paid all I owed. *[Refrain]*

Now I will praise you, O Love eternal; now I will praise you all my life long. *[Refrain]*

GREETING

(Spoken Responsively)

(Spoken Responsively)

(Spoken/Sung 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

- 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

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.

God Loves Me Dearly | CWH583 4 Vs.

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 God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:1-5

God wants you to know joy. There are few occasions in life more joyful than a wedding. So the prophet Isaiah pictures the Church's relationship with the Lord as an infinitely happy marriage.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. ²The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. ³You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the LORD will take delight in you, and your land will be married. ⁵ As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.

PSALM 145—I Will Exalt My God and King

(Soloist sings Vs. 1 & 2 and Congregation joins for Vs. 3)

I will exalt my God and King, and I will ever praise your name. I will extol your ev'ry day and evermore your praise proclaim. You, Lord, are greatly to be praised; your greatness is beyond all thought. From age to age your people tell the mighty wonder you have wrought.

The Lord our God is rich in grace, both tender and compassionate. His anger is most slow to rise; his love and kindness are most great. The Lord is good in all his ways, his creatures know his constant care. To all his works his love extends; all creatures in his mercies share.

All you have made will praise you, Lord; your mighty acts your saints will show, till all the peoples on the earth the splendor of your kingdom know. Eternal is your kingdom, Lord, forever strong and ever sure; while generations rise and die, your glorious reign will still endure.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

VERSE OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister; Response sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. He said to me, "You are my servant, in whom I will display my splendor." Alleluia. *(Isaiah 49:3)*

(Sung by Congregation)

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

GOSPEL READING

John 2:1-11

Jesus increases the joy of those attending a wedding and saves the bridgroom from public shame. In this first of his miracles, he also begins to reveal himself as true God.

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." ⁴ "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. ⁸ Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, ⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then

he called the bridegroom aside ¹⁰ and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." ¹¹ What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

SERMON HYMN

Joyously I'll Praise My Savior | CWH611 3 Vs.

Joyously I'll praise my Savior; for my God I'll gladly sing,

as I see his loving favor evident in ev'rything.

In his faithful heart is beating love that's pure and wide and long,

love that makes the servants strong,

All I see on earth is fleeting; God's amazing love for me lasts for all eternity.

God, with firm and clear conviction, gave for me his precious Son,

by whose bloody crucifixion I from hell have now been won.

O you spring of love prevailing, depth of which I'll never know, current which will ever flow.

All I see on earth is fleeting; God's amazing love for me lasts for all eternity.

Since your love is never-ending, for beyond what words can say,

up to you my hands extending, Father, as your child, I pray:

Let your grace to me be given that I may with all my might

cling to you both day and night

till I see your face in heaven where my praise will be yours for all eternity.

SERMON

Delight Uncovered:

Ephesians 3:14-21

God delivers more than we ask, not less

For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

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.

Song of the Season

Rise Up and Shine | CWH376 3 Vs.

Rise up and shine! Your light has come; God's glory breaks like dawn. For though the earth be cloaked in night and gloom shrouds ev'ryone, yet over you the Lord will rise, with glory gleaming clear, till nations turn to seek your light and humbled kings draw near.

Fling wide your gates, both day and night; no more keep watch or guard. You will be called God's holy hill, the city of the Lord. No sound of strife will plague your land, nor harm besiege your ways; "Salvation" will you name your walls, and all your portals "Praise."

No more will you implore the sun to shed by day its light, nor will you need the changeful moon to glisten through the night. Your glory then will be your God, whose light will never cease. Rise up and shine! Your light has come to give you joy and peace.

THE OFFERING and OFFERING PRAYER

(Prayed by Minister) (To give an offering, please scan QR Code)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Prayed by Minister)

LORD'S PRAYER

GREETING

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

(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

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)

(Sung by Congregation)

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.

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

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Lord, Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared | CWH667

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

Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared this feast for our salvation; it is your body and your blood, and at your invitation as weary souls, with sin oppressed, we come to you for needed rest, for comfort, and for pardon.

Although you did to heav'n ascend, where angel hosts are dwelling, and in your presence they behold your glory, all excelling, and though your people shall not see your glory and your majesty till dawns the judgment morning.

Yet, Savior, you are not confined to any habitation, but you are present ev'rywhere and with your congregation. Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, unmoved by any daring hand or subtle craft and cunning.

We eat this bread and drink this cup, your precious Word believing that your true body and your blood our lips are here receiving. This Word remains forever true, and there is naught you cannot do, for you, Lord, are almighty.

Though reason cannot understand, yet faith this truth embraces; your body, Lord, is even now at once in many places. I leave to you how this can be; your Word alone suffices me; I trust its truth unfailing.

Lord, I believe what you have said; help me when doubts assail me. Remember that I am but dust, and let my faith not fail me. Your supper in this vale of tears refreshes me and stills my fears and is my priceless treasure. Grant that we worthily receive your supper, Lord, our Savior, and, truly grieving for our sins, may prove by our behavior that we are thankful for your grace and day by day may run our race, in holiness increasing.

For your consoling supper, Lord, be praised throughout all ages! Preserve it, for in ev'ry place the world against it rages. Grant that this sacrament may be a blessed comfort unto me when living and when dying.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

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

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

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

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died heaven's gates to open wide.

He has washed away my sin, let his little child come in. [Refrain]

(Sung by Congregation)

(Spoken by Minister)

Jesus Loves Me | CWH584 2 Vs.

(Spoken by Minister)

Offerings

We have now returned to collecting offerings during the service. Offerings can also be made online by visiting crossofglory.org in your browser, clicking on the menu on the upper right corner (3 horizontal lines) and selecting "**Giving**" from the menu. You can also scan the QR code with your phone's camera. This will take you directly to the offering page. In addition, you may also mail your offerings to Cross of Glory at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383.



Good Shepherd Bible Camp (GSBC) Contest - EXTENDED

Good Shepherd Bible Camp is hosting a contest, and <u>we have extended our deadline</u>! We want YOU to design our 2022 theme! What's the prize? It's a **FREE** week of camp for up to 3 individuals (two campers and one staff)! To enter, submit your name along with a theme, Bible verse, logo, and your name to <u>gsbcmail@gmail.com</u> by *February 11* for a chance to win! For more information and to see past themes, head over to our Facebook page!

Upcoming Special Presentation

On Sunday, January 23, Dr. Ben Kohls from Bethany Lutheran College and Christian Family Solutions will be visiting with us and will present during our Bible class hour (10:30am) on spiritual and mental wellness, professional counseling, and Bethany's masters program for professional counseling. He will be in AZ to promote the need for Christian counselors. All are invited to attend!

Women's Service Group Outing

The Women's Service Group will be hosting a women's day out on Saturday, January 29. All women are invited to attend. We will be visiting Cerreta's candy company that morning and then having lunch at 12:30 p.m. at the Spicery in downtown Glendale. Please email Karin Hansen (karinwedeking@hotmail.com) if you'd like to attend.

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.

Prayer Circle

Please send an email to <u>prayercircle@crossofglory.org</u> you are interested in being a part of the prayer circle or have a prayer request. Circle emails will be sent out on a weekly basis.

Name Tags

It has been a year or two since we have ordered name tags. If you would like to know what they look like, the magnetic board used to store them between services is located on the wall next to the entry into the sanctuary. You do not need to take them home and forget them there. If you would like one, please let John Wempner know. There is also a sign-up sheet on the back table. They cost \$7.90. Or you can send John an email (jandlwempner@gmail.com) with the correct spelling of your name and he will order them. Please pay John directly.

Refreshment Volunteers and Greeters

We are looking for more volunteers to bring refreshments on Sunday mornings to space out how often they have to serve. Please contact Clara Naber at vcnaber@cox.net to volunteer.

We would also like to improve our welcoming experience for visitors. To that end, we're looking for some people who would be willing to be greeters on Sunday morning. These greeters would welcome everyone, of course, but especially visitors. Do you have an outgoing personality? Do you love meeting and getting to know new people? Then this is a perfect way for your to serve! Pastor Foxen will meet with those interested to discuss plans for the greeting process. You can sign up online or contact Liz at cog.secretary@crossofglory.org.

Offering Envelopes

Our financial secretary, John Kull, has placed offering envelopes in your mailboxes at church. Please pick them up at your earliest convenience so that you have them for the new year. Thank you!

Vistancia News

We give thanks to God that we are able to once again worship at Lake Pleasant Elementary School. We were able to get all the information to the Peoria School District, making it possible for us to use the facility. The address of Lake Pleasant Elementary School is 31501 N Westland Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383.

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

Worship at New River

We are going to continue worship at the Kiwanis Park in New River. We will worship using remote access and/ or prerecorded sermons. We will be asking the mission board to discuss making New River a mission start-up. 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.

New River Growth Group

The Ten Commandments 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Location: New River Kiwanis Park, New River Contact Pastor John Ehlers

Sunday Setup

Vistancia is in need of volunteers to setup Sunday mornings at 7:30. Please contact Liz or Pastor Ehlers if you are able to assist. cog.secretary@crossofglory.org

Vistancia Life Coaching Group

Topic: Cornerstone 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Mountain Vista Club Starting January 27

Course description: There are an enormous number of challenges that can occur in life from seemingly tiny to soul-crushingly overwhelming. The CORNERSTONE resilience system is designed to provide a specific set of steps to follow to put into perspective those things that seem unmanageable. Through six one-hour sessions, participants will learn and practice skills and benefit from the ideas of others in their quest to be more resilient and "bounce back" in difficulty

| Jomax Worship Volunteers | January 23rd | January 30th | February 6th |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Counters | Moline/ Voigt | Moline/ Cornell | Moline/ Schirripa |
| Cleaners | Plitzuweit/Peterson/ Aguilar | Ebel/ Koutia | Patterson |
| Communion Setup | - | - | Liz Simkauskas |
| Ushers | Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson Joel Ditter | Verl Naber Pedro Contreras Sabrina Ebel Tanner Plizuweit | Cody Hall Levi Foxen |
| Sunday Refreshments | Connie Sauer Clara Naber | Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson | Mary Berggren Shannon Gullerud |
| A/V | Kelly Simpson Gus Koutia | Levi Foxen Rene Koutia | Rachel Plitzuweit Leslie Contreras |

Building Project

The building permit was granted for us to move forward with the rest of the building project. To commemorate this milestone, we had a groundbreaking ceremony December 19. Crews are now on site for the work. As crews work to lay a foundation for the new classroom building, let us remember that our faith is built on the solid foundation of Jesus Christ. Without him, this building is pointless. With him, it is an opportunity to serve him and share him with others, that they too may be built on the solid foundation of his life and death for us!

We previously stated that the solar project had been approved and was ready to move forward. We spoke too soon. We had received approval permits from APS, but we are still waiting for Peoria's approval. Plans are going through a second round of red-line revisions right now. We hope to receive Peoria's approval soon so that the panels can be installed.

Please keep both of these projects in your prayers!

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

| January 18, 9:30 a.m. | Women's Bible Study |
|------------------------|---|
| January 19, 9:00 a.m. | Mornings with Mommy |
| January 19, 7:00 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| January 20, 6:30 a.m. | New River Growth Group |
| January 23, 9:00 a.m. | Worship Service (Jomax) |
| January 23, 9:30 a.m. | Worship Service (Vistancia, Lake Pleasant Elementary) |
| January 23, 9:30 a.m. | Worship Service (New River) |
| January 23, 9:30 a.m. | Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia) |
| January 23, 10:30 a.m. | Sunday Morning Bible Study |
| January 23, 2:00 p.m. | Worship Service (Online) |
| January 24, 6:00 p.m. | Growth Group with Tim Grams |
| January 24, 7:00 p.m. | Worship Service (Jomax) |
| | |

LOOKING AHEAD

| January 25, 9:30 a.m. | Women's Bible Study |
|------------------------|---|
| January 26, 10:00 a.m. | Growth Group for Moms |
| January 26, 7:00 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| January 27, 6:30 p.m. | New River Growth Group |
| January 30, 9:00 a.m. | Worship Service (Jomax)(Christian Education Sunday) |
| January 30, 9:30 a.m. | Worship Service (Vistancia, Lake Pleasant Elementary) |
| January 30, 9:30 a.m. | Worship Service (New River) |
| January 30, 9:30 a.m. | Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia) |
| January 30, 10:30 a.m. | Sunday Morning Bible Study |
| January 30, 2:00 p.m. | Worship Service (Online) |

Men's Conference in Phoenix

You've heard about the Men's Rally being held in Phoenix on January 22, 2022, at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix.

In case you are looking for a gift (for yourself or someone else) . . .

A generous sponsor has agreed to pay \$25 for anyone who wants to attend. This makes the final ticket cost \$50. Follow the link below to claim this special offer:

www.eventbrite.com/e/172407644907/?discount=2022

- • Registration fees help pay for the cost of the event, as well as expenses for our speakers.
- • Two meals (breakfast and lunch) are included with your registration.
- • Pastor Joel Heckendorf will guide us through the keynote on "More than Conquerors."
- • District President Jon Buchholz and Pastor Dan Solofra will lead our devotions.

The Cross of Glory Jammers will lead us in song, including this theme song.

Plus, you can pick from <u>8 different breakout sessions</u> to attend (you can attend up to 3).

Thank you, and God's blessings in the new year! Tom Bernthal, Communications Director Men of His Word, AZ/CA

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.

Jerry Stern, the Brother of Grant Stern, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and undergoing treatment

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

Pat Powell, as she recovers from back issues.

Juanita Word, as she battles cancer

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.