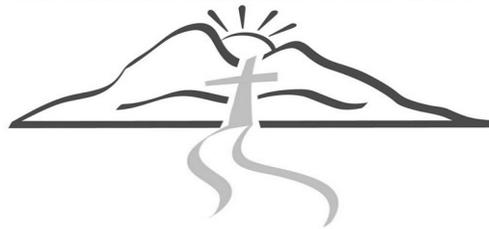




Sunday, January 16, 2022



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

**Vistancia Meeting at
Lake Pleasant Elementary**
31501 N Westland Rd,
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.

Welcome to Cross of Glory! 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.

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 focus

The future will always have uncertainties, but you will be prepared to navigate them when you remember that everything on the road ahead has a purpose. Jesus taught how priorities must shift when he is the purpose of your journey.



Service of Word & Sacrament

OPENING SONG

IF WE'RE HONEST

FRANCESCA BATTISTELLI

1. Truth is harder than a lie The dark seems safer than the light
And everyone has a heart that loves to hide

2. I'm a mess and so are you We've built walls nobody can get through
Yeah, it may be hard, but the best thing we could ever do, ever do is...

Chorus:

Bring your brokenness, and I'll bring mine 'Cause love can heal what hurt divides
And mercy's waiting on the other side If we're honest If we're honest

3. Don't pretend to be something that you're not Living life afraid of getting caught
There is freedom found when we lay our secrets down at the cross, at the cross

Chorus So...

Bridge: It would change our lives It would set us free It's what we need to be

Chorus So... If we're honest

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

(Spoken Responsively)

M: We are in the presence of the true and living God, who is ever willing to forgive. Let us come to him in repentance and faith and be assured that he receives us in mercy and faithful love.

C: Holy God, our Maker and Judge, we confess that we are sinful. Every day we turn away from your will; we do not love you and each other as we should. We have disobeyed you and deserve to be punished. But we are truly sorry for our sins and, trusting in Jesus' suffering and death, we pray: Have mercy on us and forgive us our sins.

M: God our merciful Father, sent his Son, Jesus to die for our sins. Because he rose again on the third day we can know for certain that our sins are forgiven. Now may God strengthen you to love him and to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

THE CHILDREN'S LESSON

Psalm 119:105

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

HYMN

JESUS SINNERS DOES RECEIVE

CW304

1. Jesus sinners does receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve--Jesus sinners does receive.

2. We deserve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here their ills have perfect healing
Who with humble hearts believe--Jesus sinners does receive.

3. I, a sinner, come to you With a penitent confession.
Savior, show me mercy, too; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve-- Jesus sinners does receive.

4. Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave--Jesus sinners does receive.

MESSAGE

DELIBERATE

James 1:22-25

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

 SERMON SONG

WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE

GEOFF MOORE

When the music fades into the past When the days of life are through
What will be remembered of where I've come? When all is said and done?

Will they say I loved my family? That I was a faithful friend?
That I lived to tell of God's own son? When all is said and done?

Oh, how I long to see the hour When I would hear that trumpet sound
So I could rise and see my Savior's face And see him smile And say 'Well done.'

You can forget my name And the songs I've sung Every rhyme and every tune
But remember the truth of Jesus' love When all is said and done

THE APOSTLES CREED

(Read in Unison)

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

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. 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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERING and OFFERING PRAYER

(To give an offering, please scan QR Code)



(Prayed by Minister)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Prayed by Minister)

LORD'S PRAYER

(Spoken by All)

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 HYMN

THIS IS MY WILL

CW 497

**1. This is my will, my one command, That love should dwell among you all.
This is my will that you should love As I have shown that I love you.**

**2. No greater love a man can have Than that he die to save his friends.
You are My friends if you obey What I command that you should do.**

**3. I call you Now no longer slaves; No slave knows all the master does.
I call you friends, for all I hear My Father say, you hear from me.**

**4. You chose not me, but I chose you That you should go and bear much fruit.
I chose you out that you in me Should bear much fruit that will abide.**

**5. All that you ask my Father dear For my name's sake you shall receive.
This is my will, my one command, That love should in each, in all.**

BLESSING

THE BLESSING

KARI JOBE

**The Lord bless you And keep you Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you The Lord turn His Face toward you And give you peace**

Amen, amen, amen Amen, amen, amen

**The Lord bless you And keep you Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you The Lord turn His Face toward you
And give you peace**

Amen, amen, amen Amen, amen, amen

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 we have extended our deadline! 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 gsbcmail@gmail.com 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 prayercircle@crossofglory.org 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 [8 different breakout sessions](#) 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

Message Notes | The Road Ahead

Part 3: Deliberate

James 1:22-25

→ an unlikely road trip

#1 Your _____, not just your _____, determines your destination.

→ give thought to your steps - **Proverbs 14:15**

→ "Oh wow!" - **vs. 22-24**

#2 It's good to _____, but it's not good to only _____.

→ we can't clean up the reflection on our own - **2 Cor 5:17**

→ blessed - **vs. 25**

#3 God wants something better than _____. **He wants you to be _____.**

→ it's not a quick fix

#4 Is the _____ you're on going to take you where _____ wants you to be?

Group Questions | The Road Ahead

Part 3: Deliberate

James 1:22-25

1. Talk about a time when you ended up at a destination in life you were not intending to reach. How did you get there? Were there warning signs along the way?
2. Your direction determines your destination. Do you agree? Is there a reason why we tend to view our decisions as isolated events rather than a road to a predictable destination?
3. **Read Psalm 119:105.** What does this verse add to this topic about direction in life.
4. **Read James 1:22.** How can merely "listening" result in "deceiving" yourself?
5. **Read James 1:23-25.** James uses an illustration about looking into a mirror to emphasize the importance of "doing." What directives from God seem especially hard for you to apply? What have you learned about God through that process? About yourself?
6. When we look in the mirror of God's law, the picture will never be perfect. We need Jesus. How is he our comfort? How is he our motivation?
7. Instead of seeing your current situation as a problem to be fixed, think of it as a direction that needs to be changed. What's one area of your life that you may need to set a new direction?

Is there a way that this group can help?

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.