

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

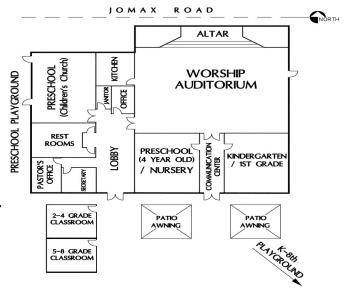


Jomax Campus
10111 W Jomax Road,
Peoria, AZ 85383
Sun. 9am & Mon. 7pm Worship

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!





God became man and lived life in our place. Christ lived the perfect God-lived life. Living as a Christian, a little Christ, we have the privilege of demonstrating what God looks like in how we live our lives, in living lives that show God. This is the second of four special services at Cross of Glory where we celebrate a God-lived life —God's Word will be challenging us and we'll be challenging one another to live a God-lived life.

In today's worship, the particular emphasis of the God-lived life is a life being a disciple, a learner, one who grows in God's Word. May God's Word cause us to crave that pure spiritual milk so that by it we grow up in our salvation.

Service One: A Life Lived for Others

Service Two: A Life of Being a Disciple Service Three: A Life of Hospitality

Service Three: A Life of Hospitality

Service Four: A Life Lived Shrewdly

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord God, in coming to hear your Word this morning, you have planted us like trees beside streams of water. Grant that we may ever delight in your Word and yield abundant fruit in our lives, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen.

Acknowledgments

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A God-Lived Life

Opening Hymn

Every Promise of Your Word | Vs. 1-3

From the breaking of the dawn to the setting of the sun,

I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Words of power, strong to save, that will never pass away,

I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

For Your covenant is sure, And on this I am secure—

I can stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I stumble and I sin, condemnation pressing in,

I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

You are faithful to forgive that in freedom I might live,

So I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Guilt to innocence restored, You remember sins no more—

So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I'm faced with anguished choice, I will listen for Your voice,

And I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Through this dark and troubled land

You will guide me with Your hand

As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

And You've promised to complete Ev'ry work begun in me—

So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

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We Gather in God's Name

(Read Responsively)

M: We gather for worship the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

(Read Responsively)

- M: Heavenly Father, you have blessed us with gifts to serve you and our neighbor. We repent for times we have used those gifts selfishly instead of generously and selflessly. Forgive us and let your peace rule our lives.
- C: May the peace of God my Father Rule my life in everything, That I may be calm to comfort Sick and sorrowing.
- M: Dear Savior Jesus, you have shown us the full extent of your love by giving your life for ours on the cross. Though that love is what ought to motivate our service, too often our service is grudg-

ingly given, motivated by guilt and obligation, instead of generously given, motivated by your love. Forgive us and let your love fill our lives.

- C: May the love of Jesus fill me As the waters fill the sea, Him exalting self abasing – This is victory.
- M: O Holy Spirit, you want all people to be saved by the power of the Gospel. You also tell us that you use our Christian lives and service to lead them to hearing the Gospel. We are sorry when people see sin in our lives and not the good deeds you desire from us. Forgive us and live within us.
- C: May his Spirit live within me As I seek the lost to win, And may they forget the channel, Seeing only him.
- M: As a called servant of the Triune God, I announce to you his grace and forgiveness. On behalf of and by the command of our Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- C: May the mind of Christ my Savior Live in me from day to day, By his love and pow'r inspiring All I do or say.

May the Word of God dwell richly In my heart from hour to hour, So that all may see I triumph Only through his pow'r.

M: We pray:

Almighty and merciful God, you sent your son not to be served but to serve. Grant to us a rich measure of your mercy and strength and work in us a love for others that overflows in acts of service and compassion; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Response

Every Promise of Your Word | Vs. 4

Hope that lifts me from despair, love that casts out ev'ry fear,

As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Not forsaken, not alone, for the Comforter has come,

And I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Grace sufficient, grace for me, Grace for all who will believe—

We will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

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First Reading 1 Peter 1:22—2:3

The truth of God's Word changes us to live God-lived lives, to love one another and to live the life of a disciple of the Word.

²²Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴For,

"All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, ²⁵but the word of the Lord endures forever."

And this is the word that was preached to you.

¹Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ²Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Bible Study

Treasure God's Word 2 Chronicles 34:1-2, 14-21, 29-33

¹Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. ²He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and followed the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left.

¹⁴While they were bringing out the money that had been taken into the temple of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the LORD that had been given through Moses. ¹⁵Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD." He gave it to Shaphan.

¹⁶Then Shaphan took the book to the king and reported to him: "Your officials are doing everything that has been committed to them. ¹⁷They have paid out the money that was in the temple of the LORD and have entrusted it to the supervisors and workers." ¹⁸Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, "Hilkiah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

¹⁹When the king heard the words of the Law, he tore his robes. ²⁰He gave these orders to Hilkiah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Abdon son of Micah, Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king's attendant: ²¹"Go and inquire of the LORD for me and for the remnant in Israel and Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the LORD's anger that is poured out on us because those who have gone before us have not kept the word of the LORD; they have not acted in accordance with all that is written in this book."

²⁹Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. ³⁰He went up to the temple of the LORD with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the Levites—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the LORD. ³¹The king stood by his pillar and renewed the

covenant in the presence of the LORD—to follow the LORD and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, and to obey the words of the covenant written in this book.

³²Then he had everyone in Jerusalem and Benjamin pledge themselves to it; the people of Jerusalem did this in accordance with the covenant of God, the God of their ancestors.

³³Josiah removed all the detestable idols from all the territory belonging to the Israelites, and he had all who were present in Israel serve the LORD their God. As long as he lived, they did not fail to follow the LORD, the God of their ancestors.

Gospel Reading Luke 18:9-17

Here is an example of someone who appeared to live a God-lived life but was living for himself. The one who trusted in the life God lived for him went home to live a truly God-lived life.

⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

¹³"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

¹⁴"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹⁵People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. ¹⁶But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁷Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Sermon Hymn

Speak O Lord | CWH633 3 Vs.

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your Holy Word; take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility; test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity. Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority. Words of pow'r that can never fail, let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds, help us grasp the heights of your plans for us, truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak O Lord, till your Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory.

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The Word makes you who you are. The Word makes itself important to you.

The 2nd Article of the Apostle's Creed

(Read 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

The People Who Walked in Darkness | CWH 382 5 Vs.

Ensemble sings Vs. 1-2; Congregation joins for Vs. 3-5

1 The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.

The people who dwelt in the land of the shadow rise to a star shining bright.

Refrain:

His name is Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Father forever, Prince of Peace.

Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Father forever, Prince of Peace.

2 For God has enlarged the nation and prospered the fruit of its land.

God's people are blest with the harvest of vict'ry, gift from a bountiful hand. [Refrain]

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The Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)



(To give an offering, please scan QR Code)

The Prayer of the Church

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Almighty God, Creator of this world, all good gifts come from you. We give you thanks for all that you have given to us—the bounties of the earth, fruitful labor, meaningful relationships, enjoyment of your gifts, and contentment. We confess that we have not always acknowledged you as the giver of all that is good. We confess that we have not always seen the good in all that you send into our lives. We confess that we have often complained instead of praised. Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. We give you thanks that you became man to set us free. You lived a perfect life in our place—living to please our Father, running in the path

of his commands, and learning and loving his ways. You died the death we deserved. You rose to ensure our forgiveness and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Holy Spirit, you brought and continue to strengthen faith in our hearts through the gospel in Word and sacrament. You send preachers and teachers who teach us your truth. You enlighten our minds, strengthen our hearts, and loosen our tongues to give you praise. Now give us the fervor of seeking you first and your kingdom, O God. Send us godly and faithful ministers and teachers of your Word. Grant us wisdom to meditate daily on your promises. Strengthen us to follow your will and commands. Grow our desire for your truth and your Word that we may better understand your love, your ways and your peace. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Triune God, bless our *God-Lived Life* stewardship series. Make it an opportunity for each of us to grow in your Word and in our lives of living it. Use us to be a blessing to others. Help us encourage one another in our commitments and grow us in your grace. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: All these things we ask in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

(Sung by Congregation)

Sung by Congregation:

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.

Blessing (Spoken by Minister)

M: 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



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THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

February 14, 6:00 p.m. Growth Group with Tim Grams February 14, 7:00 p.m. Monday Worship Service (Jomax)

February 15, 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

February 16, 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

February 17, 6:30 p.m. New River Growth Group February 18, 10:00 a.m. Growth Group for Moms

February 20, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax) February 20, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)

February 20, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service w/ Communion (Vistancia, Lake Pleasant Elemen-

tary)

February 20, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (New River)

February 20, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)

February 20, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Growth Group with Tim Grams

February 21, 7:00 p.m.

Monday Worship Service (Jomax)

LOOKING AHEAD

February 22, 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study February 23, 9:00 a.m. Mornings with Mommy

February 23, 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

February 24, 6:30 p.m. Vistancia Life Coaching Group

February 25, 10:00 a.m. Growth Group for Moms February 27, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (Jomax)

February 27, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)

February 27, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Vistancia, Lake Pleasant Elementary)

February 27, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (New River)

February 27, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)

February 27, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Growth Group with Tim Grams

February 28, 7:00 p.m.

Monday Worship Service (Jomax)

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

Guest Preacher

On Sunday, February 20th, Pastor James Mattek of Christian Family Solutions will be our guest preacher and Bible study leader at Jomax campus. He will share more about the healing and helping ministries of Christian Family Solutions, which include Christian counseling, in-home care services, and senior living solutions. Pastor Mattek has served this ministry since 2004. Prior to joining this organization, Pastor Mattek was a parish pastor serving congregations in Watertown, WI, and Findlay, OH. As Director of Ministry, Pastor Mattek provides doctrinal leadership and works in mission advancement. To learn more about Christian Family Solutions, please visit www.ChristianFamilySolutions.org.

Pastor Foxen's Call

Dear members of Cross of Glory,

I'm writing to inform you that this past Wednesday, February 2, I received a call to serve God's people by joining the One Africa Team in Lusaka, Zambia.

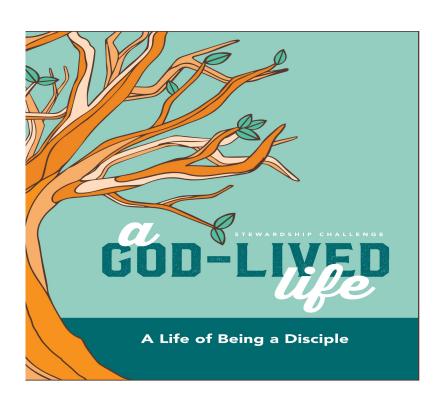
Specifically, I've been asked to serve on their Outreach Committee. The task of this team is three-fold: to cultivate relationships with potential shepherds across the continent of Africa, train these men to gather others around them to shepherd them using God's Word and the Sacraments, and support these men as they establish their own local churches.

Consideration of any call is difficult and time-consuming; this one will likely be more so because it will involve thinking about moving overseas and living in a vastly different culture. Still, I am confident that it will be a blessing to go through this process with you. Please, give me your thoughts and counsel on this. Above all, pray to our gracious Savior on behalf of me and my family and for the ministry here at Cross of Glory and in Africa.

Our God is good and gracious. He is the Lord of the Church and knows how best to care for it. How wonderful that we can be confident of this truth: that whatever decision is made at the end of this process, God will use it for the good of his people.

May God be pleased to bless us!

In Jesus, Pastor Foxen



Prayer Circle

Please send an email to <u>prayercircle@crossofglory.org</u> if 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.

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 cnaber42@gmail.com 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.

Mission Opportunity

Our sister church in the Czech Republic is looking for some volunteers to help out with a couple English-speaking outreach programs this year. One of the programs is scheduled to take place during Holy Week (April 8-18), and the other during the summer (July 7-19). If you would be interested in volunteering for these opportunities, please talk with Pastor Foxen, and he will give you more details.

Mailboxes

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!

Jomax Worship Volunteers	February 13th	February 20th	February 27th
Counters	Moline/	Moline/	Moline/
	Plitzuweit	Brooks	Wempner
Cleaners	Foxens/	Coates/	Kelley/
	Pappenfuss	Simkauskas	Grams
Communion Setup	-	Shannon Gullerud	-
Ushers	John Kull Kim Moline Dean Ellis	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Bill Brooks Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger
Sunday	Rachel Plitzweit	Kathy Collyard	Kathy Collyard
Refreshments	Leslie Contreras	Andrea Semmann	Andrea Semmann
A/V	Titus Patterson	Levi Foxen	Titus Patterson
	Pedro Contreras	Rene Koutia	Chris Patterson

Movie with Mom

You are invited to come to Cross of Glory for our annual Mother/Son Night on February 25 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Bring low-back chairs, blankets, and your favorite candy. Popcorn, drinks, and a nacho bar will be provided. All are welcome.



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, who is now on hospice as his fight with cancer nears its end.

Gerry Ehlers, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and is undergoing treatments.

Pat Powell, as she recovers from back issues.

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 ID 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.

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.





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.