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



## Pentecost 14 Sunday, September 11, 2022

623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org 10111 W Jomax Road Peoria, AZ 85383

## Sunday 9am Worship

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

# 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.

Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

## **ABOUT US**

The continuing purpose of this congregation, as a gathering of Christians, is to spread to all people in God's world the glory of the cross of Christ, by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.

# HARD TRUTHS

"He's lost." We use that term not only to refer to someone who is bewildered about where they are but also to refer to someone who is in a helpless, hopeless state. Mankind's natural state is one of complete spiritual helplessness, a profound lostness. It manifests itself in countless ways. The one who simply wants God to leave him alone: lost. The one who feels she can handle life on her own: lost. The one who thinks he has the right to repent of his sins on his own timetable and on his own terms: lost. The one who thinks God owes them in some way: lost. Wandering around physically lost can lead to winding up in bad places. But the hard truth is that wandering around spiritually lost puts you in the worst place of all. Fortunately, Jesus does not leave us alone in our lostness. He relentlessly seeks us. He involves the rest of the Christian community in seeking the lost and rejoicing over the found.

## **VISITOR INFORMATION**

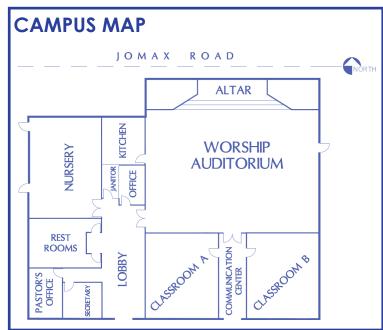
**New to Cross of Glory?** We are so glad you joined us today! We invite you to stay after the service to chat and join us for coffee time followed by Bible study.

Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

- Filling out a Connection Card in the chair pocket in front of you and handing to the usher after the offering.
- Emailing us at church. secretary@crossofglory.org

## FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

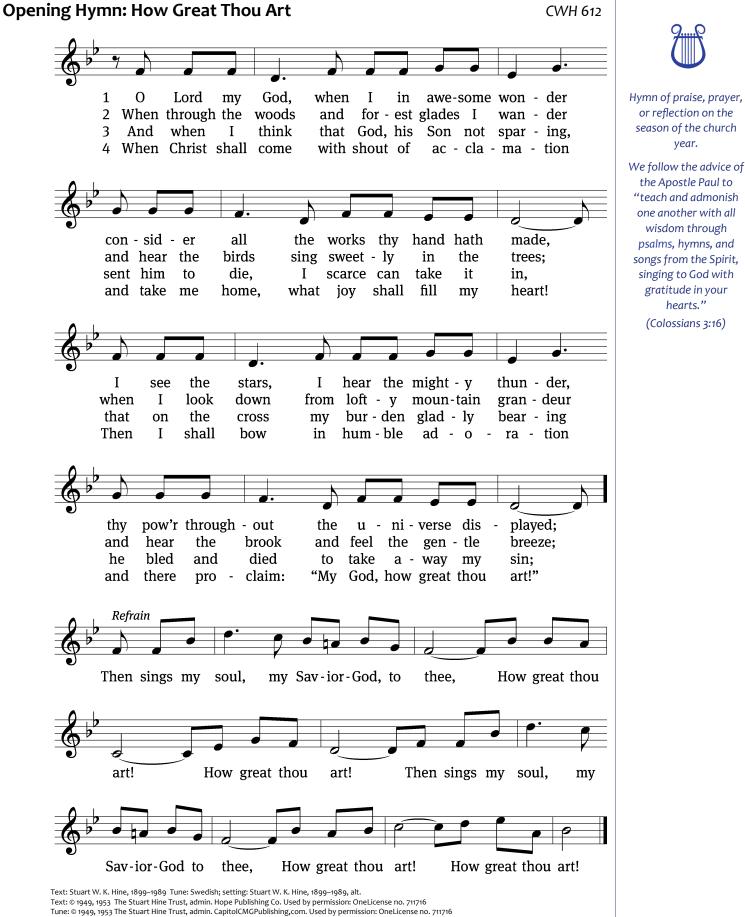
- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult directly across the lobby.
- Children in Church Program: Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. We encourage parents to guide their children through the service. We invite children to come forward for the Children's Message during the service. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!



## **The Service**

year.

hearts."





We call upon God to be present with us. We worship the triune God, remembering our Baptism in His name.



"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. " (I John 1:9)

Christ said to his disciples, "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven". The pastor speaks for God and announces God's forgiveness to those who made confession.



The title of this prayer is "Kyrie" in Greek meaning "O Lord". It is a cry to the Lord for help and strength.

## Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## Confession

(Spoken Responsively)

- M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
- C: Holy God, gracious Father,
  I am sinful by nature
  and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
  I have not loved you with my whole heart;
  I have not loved others as I should.
  I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
  But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
  with his innocent suffering and death.
  Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

## Absolution

- M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

## Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

(Spoken Responsively)

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

## C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

## C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

## C: Lord, have mercy.

- M: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

#### C: Amen.

## Glory to God in the Highest



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because Jesus is our victorious Savior.

The Word

## Prayer of the Day

(Prayed by Minister)

M: Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



The main thoughts of the day are collected or summarized in this short prayer.



The LORD called Hosea to seek his adulterous wife and love her again. This served as an object lesson, showing our God is a God who seeks and redeems those who are lost.

The Book of Psalms was the Old Testament hymnbook, prayer and liturgy book. It was used by worshipers at the temple. Many of the Psalms are the basis for our hymns and part of our liturgy is taken from the Psalms. The word "Psalm" comes from the Greek and means "a song sung to the accompaniment of a stringed instrument."

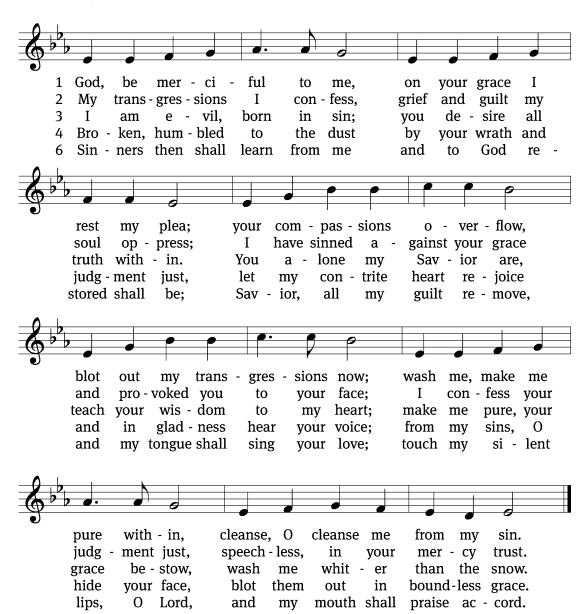
## **First Reading**

'The LORD said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes."

<sup>2</sup>So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. <sup>3</sup>Then I told her, "You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you."

<sup>4</sup>For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. <sup>5</sup>Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

Psalm of the Day



Text: Psalter, 1912, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead Text and tune: Public domain

Psalm 51D

#### The Children's Sermon

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 2:5–11

<sup>5</sup>If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. <sup>6</sup>The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. <sup>7</sup>Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. <sup>8</sup>I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. <sup>9</sup>Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. <sup>10</sup>Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, <sup>11</sup>in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

#### Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Response sung by Congregation)

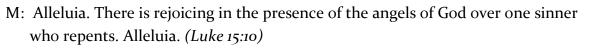


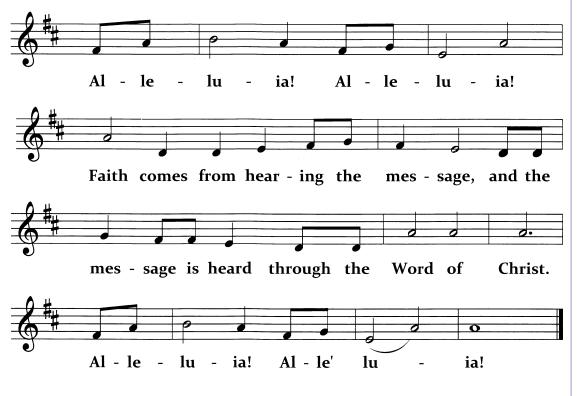
A member of the church at Corinth had been lost in sin, but through loving church discipline, had been moved to repent. Paul encourages the members to lovingly welcome him back.



A verse from the Holy Scriptures is usually spoken to capture the theme of the service.

The sung response is taken from Romans 10:17





#### Hymn of the Day: I Run to Christ



This hymn follows the theme of the readings and sets the stage for the sermon.





In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).

## Sermon

### HARD TRUTHS: The found are left; the lost are found

Luke 15:1-10

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup>But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>Then Jesus told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders <sup>6</sup>and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup>I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

<sup>8</sup>"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' <sup>10</sup>In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

## **Apostles' Creed**

(Spoken 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.

the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Contemporary Band** 

**Offering and Offering Prayer** 

Prayer of the Church

After hearing the word of God, the worshiper responds with this confession of faith.

The Apostles' Creed, developed over hundreds of years in the early Christian church, is a brief and simple statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. Christians used it to tell others what they believed and also to confess their faith with one another as they met for worship.

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

(Spoken by Minister)

(Spoken by Minister)

The gifts of God's people are a response to God's blessings.

The apostle Paul encouraged young Pastor Timothy: " I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people ". (I Timothy 2:1)

## **Contemporary Band**

The **Aaronic Blessing** is the blessing that Aaron and his sons were to speak over the people of Israel, recorded in Numbers 6:23–27. The pastor offers the same blessing to the congregation as they are about to conclude their worship.

## Blessing

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.

**Contemporary Band** 

Love Moved First

#### Acknowledgments

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# 1852086 and # CSPL136078 (Video).

## **Call News**

Pastor Ehlers has received a divine call to Trinity Lutheran Church in Saline, Michigan. Please keep him in your prayers.



The Trunk or Treat planning meeting is September 14 at 4:00 p.m. This event takes many people to make it a success. Please plan to attend if you are interested in helping with Trunk or Treat.

## **Campus Ministry**

Hello,

This is Pastor Pflughoeft. I am one of the pastors that is part of the Light in the Valley Campus Ministry leadership team.

Last week, we kicked off the year with a welcome-back party at Social Hall.

This week, we begin our weekly Bible study. The Bible studies will be held at Chick-fil-A at University and Mill. Here is the address: 25 W University Dr, Tempe, AZ 85281. The Bible studies will be every Thursday, usually at 6:30 p.m.

Attached to this is a catalog of the Bible studies that will be offered this academic year.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

In Christ, Pastor Chris Pflughoeft 480-291-2928

Please contact Pastor Ehlers if interested in coordinating a carpool (602-904-3501).

## WELS Youth Night

Hello All,

Have you heard about WELS Youth Night? WELS Youth Night is a new synodical initiative to connect WELS teens at city events. The goal is to offer teens an opportunity to meet and connect with like-minded Christian teens living near them. Not all congregations have enough teens to offer a teen group, so this is an opportunity to connect those teens with those who may attend another WELS church in their area. The plan is to host three of these events per year.

WELS Youth Night Phoenix will be on Saturday, November 12, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Mesa.

In Christ, Pastor Chris Pflughoeft Youth and Family Pastor Emmanuel Lutheran Church Tempe, AZ 480-291-2928

Please contact Pastor Ehlers if you are interested in carpooling to these events (602-904-3501).

## LWMS GRAND CANYON CIRCUITS WEEKEND RETREAT Camp Shadow Pines, Heber, Arizona

## October 7-9, 2022

#### SPREAD THE WORD

"Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world" (Psalm 19:4).Guest Speakers: Ms. Emily Kom, LWMS past president, will address the topics of "Revitalizing Reporters" and "Missionary Journeys."

Ms. Kay Retberg, a mssionary wife, will share her experiences about returning home from a world mission field.

Saturday Evening:

Mr. Steven Bautista, a Christian entertainer and musician

Sunday Morning:

Worship service with Communion

**The Board recommendation for the Mission Fund** (75%) is #WM-2022-05: New World Mission Fields. Your gifts will allow for thorough follow-up research as well as multiple exploratory trips to each new location (Bangladesh, London, Senegal, Latin America and Thailand).

**The Board recommendation for the Freewill Offering** is #WM-2022-03: Repatriation Conferences. This will help to support our missionaries and their families as they transition back to life in the USA.

**NOTE:** There is road construction on Hwy 260. The camp is at mile marker 300. For camp information, Google the following: Camp Shadow Pines, Heber, Arizona.

Please register with the mail-in form or online by September 17. www.gcwlwms.org

## THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

September 12, 6:30 p.m. September 12, 6:30 p.m. September 14, 6:00 p.m. September 15, 6:30 p.m. September 15, 7:00 p.m. September 18, 9:00 a.m. September 18, 9:00 a.m. September 18, 9:30 a.m. Vistancia Life Coaching Group BIC Class Growth Group w/ Tim Grams New River Growth Group Bibles and Brews for Women Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax) Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax) Worship Service (New River) Sunday Morning Bible Study x2

## LOOKING AHEAD

September 19, 6:30 p.m. September 20, 4:30 p.m. September 21, 6:00 p.m. September 25, 9:00 a.m. September 25, 9:00 a.m. September 25, 9:30 a.m. September 25, 10:30 a.m. Vistancia Life Coaching Bibles and Brews for Men Growth Group w/ Tim Grams Worship Service (Jomax) Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax) Worship Service (New River) Sunday Morning Bible Study x2

Worship	September	September	September
Volunteers	11th	18th	25th
Counters	Joel Ditter	Nick Nicholai	Judy Sasse
	Nancy Schirripa	Stacey Cornell	Susie Cornell
Cleaners	-	-	-
Communion Setup	-	Shannon Gullerud	-
Ushers	Brian Ehinger	Gary Jeffers	Chris Patterson
	Jake Ehinger	Dave Goelzer	Isaac Patterson
	Trey Ehinger	Karen Goelzer	Titus Patterson
	Kade Ehinger	Aaron Gullerud	Grant Stern
Sunday	Rene Koutia	Mary Berggren	Stacey Aguilar
Refreshments		Shannon Gullerud	Karen Goelzer
A/V	Kelly Simpson/	Stacey Cornell	-
	Gus Koutia	Aaron Gullerud	

## **Meditations**

The newest copy of *Meditations* is available, and we have extras located in the church entry. Also, it is time to renew our *Meditations* subscription. If you are interested in renewing or would like to begin receiving the quarterly, please let Liz know, and give her a check made out to Cross of Glory for \$20.

Please note: You may drop off your used *Meditations* at Cross of Glory. They will be sent to WELS Prison Ministry, which in turn ships them to prisons around the country for inmates to read. A marked box is provided on the counter below the mailboxes in the church entry.

## Worship at New River

We are continuing worship at the Kiwanis Park in New River. We will worship using remote access and/ or prerecorded sermons. **Pastor Freeman will be leading worship every third Sunday and offering Holy Communion at 9:15.** 

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. The service time is 9:30 a.m.

## **Kids Klub**

September 18: The Fall and the Promise (Cassie A.)

September 25: God Calls Abram (Cassie A.)

October 2: God Answers Abraham's Prayer (Angela H. / Family)

October 9: The Test of Abraham's Faith (Elizabeth C.)

October 16: Isaac and Rebekkah (Andrea S.)

Kids Klub is a free Sunday morning club for kids ages 3 to 11 and offers a fun hour of activity. See above for the first six-week schedule. Parents are welcome to stay with their children for the hour or leave and come back at 11:30 to pick up their children. Each Sunday, a new Bible story will be taught and/or incorporated into the day's activity.

10111 W Jomax Road 10:30-11:30 A.M

## **Positions Available**

Church secretary - 10 hours per week Two part-time to Full-time Preschool Aids Please contact Liz at cog.secretary@crossofglory.org for the application

## **Growth Groups**

#### **Sunday Morning Bible Study with Pastor Kugler**

10:30-11:30 a.m. (starting September 11) Topic: Jesus' "I am" Statements and Ten Lies about God

## **Sunday Morning Bible Study with Pastor Ehlers**

10:30-11:30 a.m. (starting September 11) Topic: The Early Church in Galatia

## <u>Kids Klub</u>

Sundays 10:30-11:30 a.m. (starting September 11)

## **Bible Information Class (BIC) with Pastor Eh** <u>lers</u> 2nd & 4th Mondays

6:30 p.m. at church

## <u>Women's Bible Study</u>

Tuesdays 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. (starting October 18) Topic: Book of Isaiah Karen Jurado's House

## Vistancia Life Coaching Group

ıst & 3rd Mondays 6:30- 8:00 p.m. at Mountain Vista Club (Vistancia)

Course description: There are an enormous number of challenges that can occur in life from seemingly tiny to soul-crushingly overwhelming. The COR-NERSTONE 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.

### <u>Growth Group with Tim Grams</u>

Wednesdays (starting September 14) 6:00 p.m. dinner & 6:30 study Topic: Chosen Season 2 Gram's House

#### **Bibles and Brews for Men**

Tuesdays 4:30-6:00 p.m. Topic: Fighting to be Men of God Gavin Jones' House

#### **Bibles and Brews for Women**

Thursday night or Saturday morning (starting September 15) Topic: Enough for Now - Unpacking God's Sufficiency by Sharla Fritz Thursday night - Lake Pleasant Brewery Saturday morning - TBA

## <u>New River Growth Group</u>

ıst & 3rd Thursdays 6:30 p.m. (starting September 1) Topic: New Life in Christ Kiwanis Park 48606 N 17th Ave, New River

## <u>Golden Agers</u>

The group continues to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30. Please email Judy Sasse (sasseja43@aol.com) several days in advance if you plan to attend the next event. Brothers Family Restaurant 8466 W Peoria Ave, Ste 1, Peoria

## 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.

**Velta Larson**, as she regains her strength after recovering from an infection.

**Gerry Ehlers**, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and is undergoing treatments. The cancer is spreading, and he began intense treatments on May 10 for three months.

Pat Powell, as she recovers from back issues.

**For the family of Gus Koutia in Lebanon**, as they face a food shortage due to the interruption of imports from Ukraine.

#### 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. 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.