

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Easter 4**  
**Sunday, April 30, 2023**

623-224-8839 [www.crossofglory.org](http://www.crossofglory.org)

1011 W Jomax Road  
Peoria, AZ 85383

***Sunday 9am Worship***

Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

# WELCOME to our worship center

Blessed to be a member of



*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.*

### Today's Worship Focus



**HE LIVES TO BE MY GOOD SHEPHERD** Every culture has the concept of an ideal citizen, someone who typifies its values. For much of the United States' history, the ideal citizen was the American farmer: hardworking, innovative, vital to our collective well-being. Even some of our first presidents were farmers. For the people of Israel, the farmer wasn't their ideal citizen. It was the shepherd. Sheep were an invaluable source of clothing and food. But they were hard to keep in the Judean countryside. Its sparse grasslands are intermixed with desert. For sheep, food is sparse, but predators are plentiful. The survival of sheep was dependent on their shepherd. There he is. Weather-beaten. Sleepless. Armed. In the dusk, he scans the land, counting his sheep, making sure they are all accounted for, every one of them on his heart. You see why Jesus chose the shepherd to illustrate how he cares for us. He feeds us with his Word. He protects us from that roaring lion, Satan. Jesus is leading us into the green pasture of eternal life. For centuries, the Church has observed this Fourth Sunday of Easter to celebrate that he lives to be our Good Shepherd.

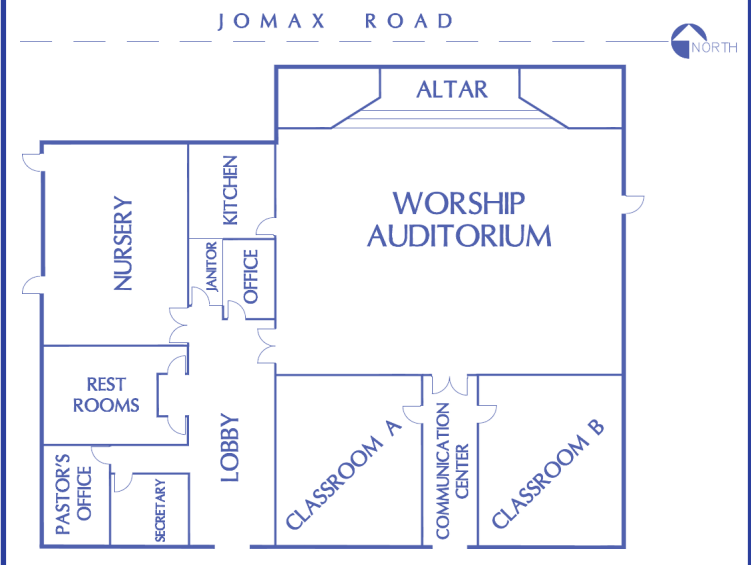
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**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:

- Using the **friendship register** at the end of each row to connect with us today.
- Emailing us at [church.secretary@crossofglory.org](mailto:church.secretary@crossofglory.org)

## CHURCH MAP



## 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!

## Service of Celebration and Reverence

### Opening Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd

CWH 554



Hymn of praise, prayer,  
or reflection on the  
season of the church  
year.

We follow the advice of  
the Apostle Paul to  
“teach and admonish  
one another with all  
wisdom through  
psalms, hymns, and  
songs from the Spirit,  
singing to God with  
gratitude in your  
hearts.”

(Colossians 3:16)

1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; he makes me  
2 He guides my ways in right - eous - ness, and he a -  
3 And though I walk the dark - est path, I will not

lie in pas - tures green. He leads me by the still, still  
noints my head with oil, and my cup, it o - ver -  
fear the e - vil one, for you are with me, and your

wa - ters, his good - ness re - stores my soul.  
flows with joy, I feast on his pure de - lights.  
rod and staff are the com - fort I need to know.

*Refrain*

And I will trust in you a - lone, and I will  
trust in you a - lone, for your end - less mer - cy  
fol - lows me, your good - ness will lead me home.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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### We Approach God

(Spoken/Sung Responsively)

M: O Creator, to you darkness is light, and a thousand years is as a day. Before we speak, you know our thoughts.

C: There is no place we can flee from your sight.

M: O most holy Lord, our relationship with you requires a personal integrity we do not have. We are cut to the heart to realize that you judge every thought, word and action.

C: We have been arrogant to challenge your laws. We have been foolish to excuse our lust for more as a basic human need. We have blamed our un-



We are able to ap-  
proach the eternal,  
almighty Triune God  
because he is the God  
of undeserved love—  
the God of Grace.

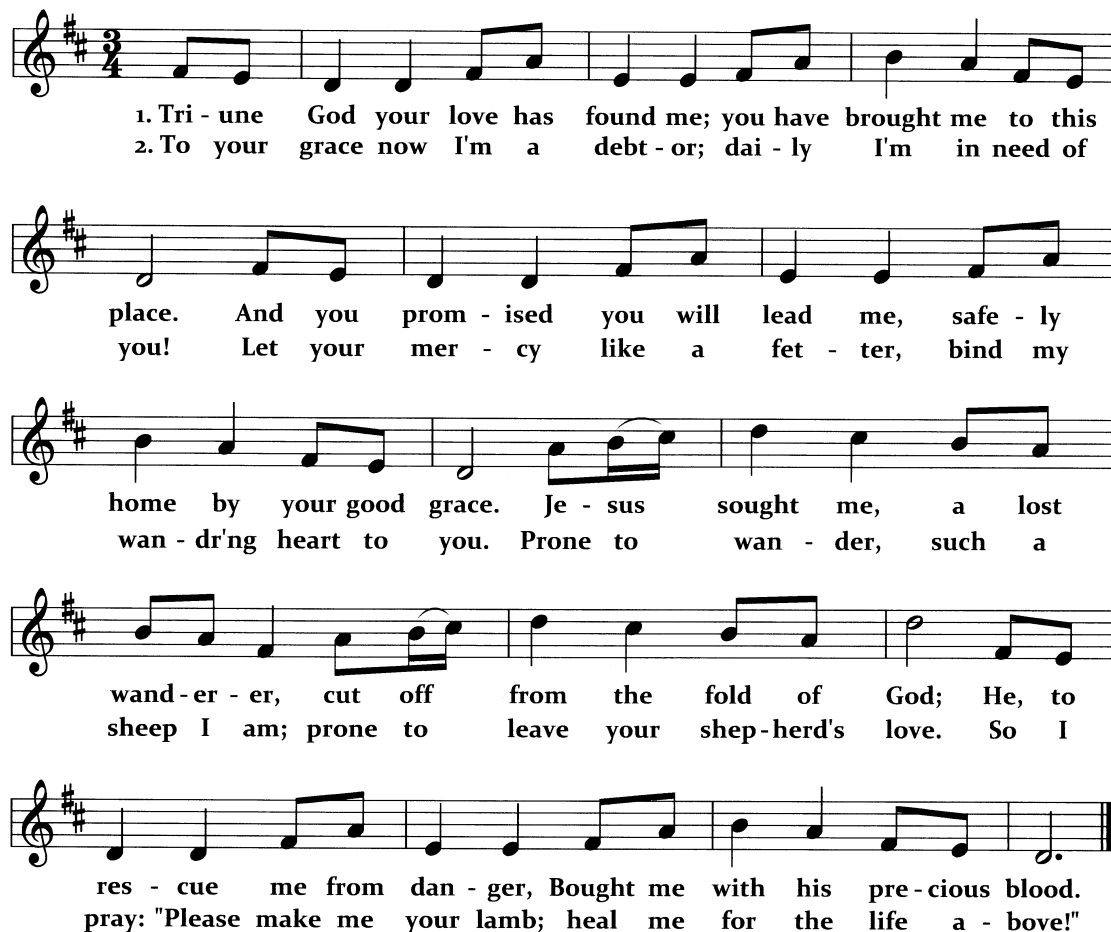
We confess our sins to God confident he will forgive us because he has promised, "If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

**happiness on others. Our self-centeredness is the worst affliction on earth and we no longer deny it.**

**M:** O God of wisdom, we have wandered from your ways. We do not deserve leniency. The only thing we possess is our guilt.

**C:** O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we can speak your name only because you are the God of grace. Jesus came to be the sacrificial Lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. Because you have gathered all the lost, we plead: "Be our Shepherd."

**Congregation sings:**



1. Tri - une God your love has found me; you have brought me to this  
2. To your grace now I'm a debt - or; dai - ly I'm in need of

place. And you prom - ised you will lead me, safe - ly  
you! Let your mer - cy like a fet - ter, bind my

home by your good grace. Je - sus sought me, a lost  
wan - dr'ng heart to you. Prone to wan - der, such a

wand - er - er, cut off from the fold of God; He, to  
sheep I am; prone to leave your shep - herd's love. So I

res - cue me from dan - ger, Bought me with his pre - cious blood.  
pray: "Please make me your lamb; heal me for the life a - bove!"

**M:** The Triune God knows our needs. He remembers that we are dust. He gloried in doing for us what we do not deserve. Before we existed, the Father sent his one and only Son to trade places with a world of sinners. In the fullness of time, Jesus packaged his honor in humility and was born into our world. By His flawless life and innocent death, he ransomed the world from sin, Satan and damnation. The Holy Spirit raised him back to life to guarantee that we who trust these truths are God's children and heirs of heaven. Amen.

### Congregation sings:



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because our debt of sin was paid by Jesus, our victorious Savior.

For five centuries, Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* has served as the basic instruction book for the church. It directs us to God's Word and points to the only source for spiritual life, the Means of Grace: the Word and Sacraments. As life-long students of the Catechism, we review these important truths from God's Word as we continue to grow in a deep appreciation for all that Jesus has done as our Savior.

### Catechism Review: First and Second Commandments (Spoken Responsively)

M: You shall have no other gods.

*What does this mean?*

C: We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

M: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

*What does this mean?*

C: We should fear and love God that we do not use his name to curse, swear, lie, or deceive, or use witchcraft, but call upon God's name in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

### Prayer of the Day (Prayed by Minister)

M: O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father 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 early Church was marked by devotion to apostolic teaching and genuine love for one another. And the Good Shepherd's flock grew.



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

Acts 2:42-47

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

## The Children's Sermon

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

## Choir

### Shepherd Me, O God

Congregation joins for final refrain

Text: Marty Haugen; Tune: Marty Haugen

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### Refrain:

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,  
beyond my fears, from death into life.*

*God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace. (Refrain)*

*Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
my spirit shall sing the music of your name. (Refrain)*

*Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,  
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. (Refrain)*

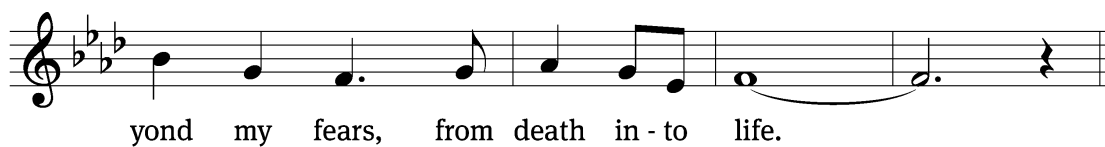
*You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. (Refrain)*

*Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.*

### Congregation joins:

#### Refrain





## Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19–25

<sup>19</sup>For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. <sup>20</sup>But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. <sup>21</sup>To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

<sup>23</sup>When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” <sup>25</sup>For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

## Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia.

**Sung by the Congregation:**



St. Peter calls us to follow our Shepherd and Overseer, even if it means that we suffer for doing good.



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.





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

## Sermon Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

CWH 552

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but  
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with

good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 Sav - ior gent - ly leads me, and where the ver - dant  
 yet in love he sought me and on his shoul - der  
 you, dear Lord, be - side me, your rod and staff my

I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feeds me.  
 gent - ly laid and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 com - fort still, your cross be - fore to guide me.

**You spread a table in my sight, a banquet here bestowing;  
 your oil of welcome, my delight; my cup is overflowing!**

**And so through all the length of days your goodness fails me never;  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise within your house forever!**

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, alt. Tune: Irish, 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain



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

## Get the Picture?

John 10:1–10

<sup>1</sup>“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

<sup>7</sup>Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.



## The 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.**

**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.**

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.

## Song of the Season: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

CWH 454

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

*Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! (Refrain)*

*Refrain:*

*Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!*

*Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes;  
breaking our bread, giving us glory:*

*Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. (Refrain)*



This is a hymn selected for the current church season that is generally new to our congregation, usually introduced first by a soloist, and repeated for several weeks to assist the congregation in learning the hymn.

### Congregation sings:



3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es; life in the  
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent: death put a -  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, gold - en Je -

Spir - it the fruit of the tree; heav - en to earth, Christ to the  
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be  
ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, riv - er of life, saints and arch -

peo - ple, gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
an - gels, sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:

Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009 Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716  
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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".  
(1 Timothy 2:1)

We speak to God as our Father as Jesus taught us. (Matthew 6)

## The Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

## Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

## The Lord's Prayer

(Spoken in Unison)

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 Prayer

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, 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.



*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.*

## Ensemble

### Come, People of the Risen King

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## Ways to Serve

<b>Worship Volunteers</b>	<b>April 30th</b>	<b>May 7th</b>	<b>May 14th</b>
<b>Counters</b>	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Norm Voigt	Bill Brooks Harry Novak
<b>Cleaners</b>	Plitzuweit Peterson Aguilar	Kelley Grams	Ehlers Martins
<b>Communion</b>		Shannon	
<b>Ushers</b>	Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Kade Ehinger Bill Brooks	Aaron Gullerud Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer Michael Ryan	Cody Hall Joel Ditter
<b>Sunday Refreshments</b>	Paula Considine	Rene Koutia	Karen Goelzer Angela Hall
<b>A/V</b>	Stacy Cornell Aaron Gullerud	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras	Shannon Gullerud Rene Koutia

## Monthly QR Code

Please check your email or use this QR Code for weekly announcements



## April Quarterly Voters Meeting

The April quarterly voters' meeting is today. Following our contemporary service, there will be a potluck meal at about 11:45. After the meal, around 12:15, we will begin the meeting. We have a lot of important business on the agenda, including the new fiscal-year budget and a motion to spend a large sum of money on campus improvements. Please plan to attend these events!

COVID-19 changed how we did things at our voters' meetings. Voting members watching the meeting online were permitted to vote. We are returning to the traditional way of doing our voters' meetings that is according to our constitution: "Only voting members present at the meeting shall have the right to vote." We will have the voters' meeting available to watch online, via our YouTube channel but people at home will not be able to participate in the meeting, nor will they be able to vote.

## VBS is Full but Volunteers Are Still Needed

It takes a lot of great volunteers (like you) to make this a success. Please contact the school/church office if you are able to help. Volunteers are needed to serve as group leaders, craft and snack helpers, drama team participants, etc. This ministry is an exciting opportunity to reach out to our community. It seems to grow every year...so sign up to join the fun!

## Fiesta Night

Come & join us for Fiesta Night on May 5th at 6:00pm! We are having a salsa contest, games, pinatas, kids crafts, live music (provided by COG Jammers) dancing & great food! Water, lemonade, taco meat, rice, and beans will be provided. Please use this QR code to sign up for other needed food items and RSVP for the event itself.



**Te veo el viernes!** (See you on Friday)

## This Week at Church

April 30th

9:00 am

Jomax Worship w/ Communion (Live Streamed)

9:30 am

New River Worship Service

10:45 am

Sunday Morning Bible Study

10:45 am

Contemporary Service

10:45 am

Kids Klub

11:45 am

Voters Meeting Potluck

12:15 pm

Quarterly Voters Meeting

April 24th

6:30 pm

Bible Information Class

May 2nd 9:30 am

Women's Bible Study

May 3rd

9:00am

Mommy & Me

4:00pm

Grams Growth Group

7:00 pm

Choir Practice

May 4th 7:00 pm

New River Growth Group

May 5th 6:00 pm

Fiesta Night



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# PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

*For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage to them and their families.*

**Velta Larson**, as she regains her strength

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

**Pat Powell**, as she recovers from back issues.

**Anita Weyer**, as she recovers from surgery after a serious hit-and-run accident.

**Family of Darlene Novak**, sister of Harry Novak, as she passed away this last week.

## 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, at El Paso, TX



**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.

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.