

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Easter 3
Sunday, April 14, 2024

623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org

1011 W Jomax Road
Peoria, AZ 85383

Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Zachary Pudlo
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

WELCOME to our worship center

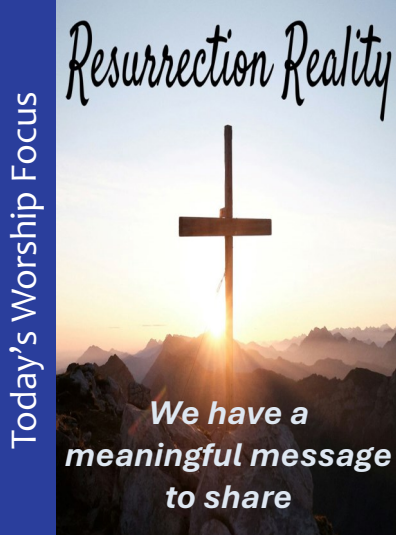


God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

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.



St. Paul writes, “Christ has indeed been raised from the dead” (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus’ resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. **Easter is history.** On time’s infinite line, Jesus’ resurrection is the punctiliar moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus’ resurrection proves that “all will be made alive” (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now. **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

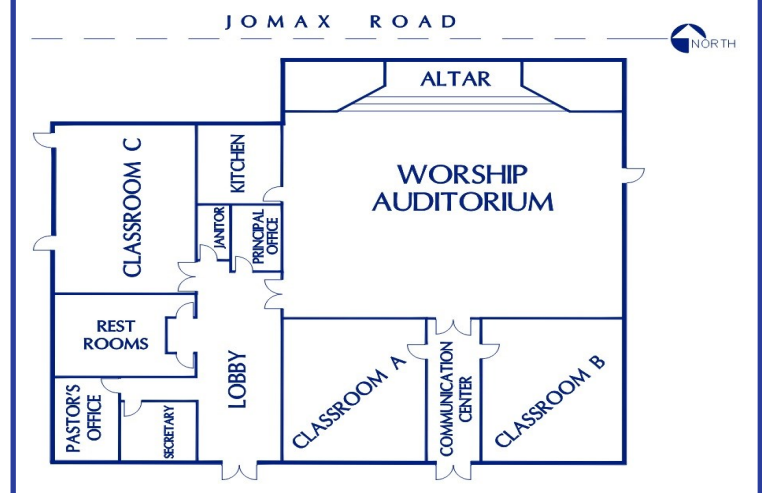
VISITOR INFORMATION

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.

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

CHURCH MAP



FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult in Classroom A.
- 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 Worship and Praise

Opening Hymn: I Run to Christ

CWH 833



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 I run to Christ when chased by fear and find a ref - uge
2 I run to Christ when worn by life and find my soul re -
3 I run to Christ when stalked by sin and find a sure es -



sure. "Be - lieve in me," his voice I hear; his words and
freshed. "Come un - to me," he calls thro' strife; fa - tigue gives
cape. "De - liv - er me," I cry to him; temp - ta - tion



wounds se - cure. I run to Christ when torn by grief and
way to rest. I run to Christ when vexed by hell and
yields to grace. I run to Christ when plagued by shame and



find a - bun - dant peace. "I too had tears," he
find a might - y arm. "The dev - il flees," the
find my one de - fense. "I bore God's wrath," he



gent - ly speaks; thus joy and sor - row meet.
Scrip - tures tell; he roars but can - not harm.
pleads my case— my ad - vo - cate and friend.

Text: Chris Anderson, b. 1971

Tune: Greg Habegger, b. 1973

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We Gather in God's Name

(Read/Sung 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.

M: As believers in Christ we are called to repent of our sins and forgive one another. In the book of James we are told, "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for one another so that you may be healed." As one body in Christ, we unite our hearts in prayer:

C: Lord, I pray to you because I am suffering. I have cut myself off from you and others by the sin in my life. I need your forgiveness so that I may find



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." (1 John 1:9)

healing for my wounded life and for the wounds I have caused others. Today in the name of Jesus I pray, forgive me; and by the power of your Holy Spirit, renew my heart. Amen.



The song of confession is taken from Isaiah which reminds us that "all our righteous acts are like filthy rags", but along with Isaiah we acknowledge that through his Word our God is able to mold us into the humble servants he wants us to be.

Congregation Sings:

Refrain

Change my heart, O God, Make it ev - er true.

Change my heart, O God, May I be like you.

Verse

You are the Pot - ter. I am the clay; Mold me and

make me. This is what I pray. (To Refrain)

M: We take comfort and find confidence in the words of Jesus, "He sent me to announce forgiveness to the prisoners of sin, to restore sight to the blind, to bring mercy to lives shattered by sin, to announce the favor of the Lord." God gave his only Son, Jesus, to die for our sins and rise from death to give us eternal life. We are forgiven. We live in the favor of the Lord. We live in his power, energized to tell of his peace.

C: Amen.

Congregation Sings:

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your

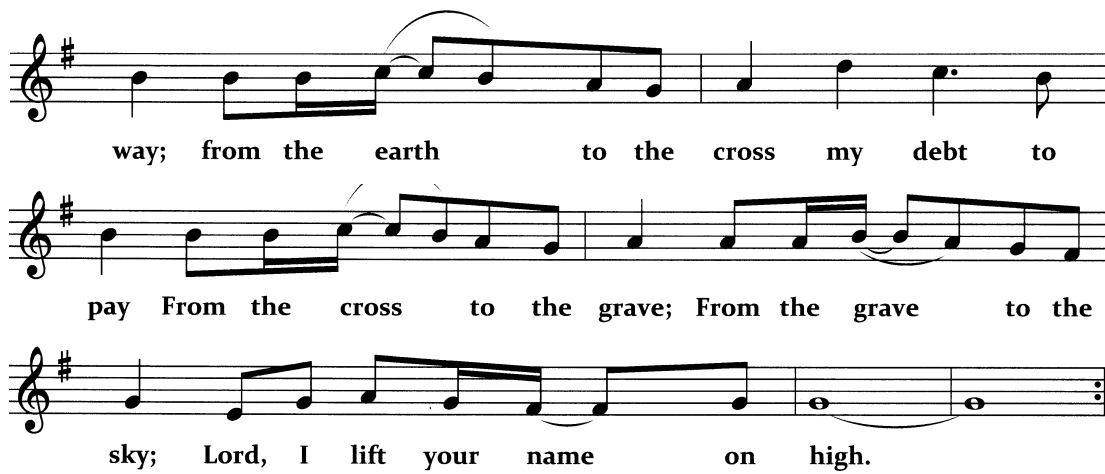
prais - es. I'm so glad you're in my life;

I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from hea - ven to earth to show the



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: The Meaning of Baptism for Our Daily Life

(Spoken Responsively)

M: *Fourth: What does baptizing with water mean?*

C: **Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

M: *Where is this written?*

C: **St. Paul says in Romans, chapter 6, "We were . . . buried with [Christ] through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."**

First Reading

Acts 3:11–20

¹¹While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. ¹²When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

¹⁷"Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be



Peter healed a crippled beggar, drawing a large crowd. Peter used that opportunity to share a meaningful message about the one the people of Jerusalem asked Pilate to crucify.

wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.



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.”

Psalm

Psalm 150A

Choir sings Vs. 1-3; Congregation joins for Vs. 4

*Sing praise to the LORD, you people of grace;
fill heav'n with the songs that sound from this place;
since you are God's servants and meet in his name,
his wonders declare and his glory proclaim. (Refrain)*

Refrain:

*Halle! Hallelujah! Halle! Halle! Hallelujah!
Halle! Hallelujah! Halle! Halle! Hallelujah!*

*His greatness exceeds what words can explain,
and his is the pow'r no force can restrain;
with fanfares of horns and crescendos of strings,
raise anthems to honor the King of all kings. (Refrain)*

*Where music is made, let rhythms abound:
let cymbals and drums add weight to the sound;
with dance that is graceful and words that are clear,
bring joy to the God you adore and revere. (Refrain)*

Congregation sings:

4 Yield all that you are to wor - ship the LORD—
see life as a psalm, each mo - ment a chord;
let har - mon - ies flour - ish and mel - o - dies soar—
let all that has breath praise the LORD ev - er - more.

Refrain

Hal - le! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le! Hal - le!

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le! Hal - le! Hal - le - lu - jah!

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The Children's Sermon

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

Second Reading

1 John 1:5—2:2

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

¹My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ²He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.



St. John summarizes the meaningful message we have heard and been called to declare: God is light.



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

Sermon Hymn: Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

CWH 466



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!
 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave;



Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.
 he has a - ris - en this world to save.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare,
 Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done.



e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 and in its con - quest his might did show.
 on - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."
 E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."

Refrain



Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy;



death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010; Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938 Tune: Tanzanian

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Sermon

Lord, Help Us to Understand

Luke 24:36-49

³⁶While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

⁴⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

The 1st Article of the Apostles' Creed (Creation)

(Spoken Responsively)

M: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

C: I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

M: And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life.

C: God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil. All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

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).



After hearing the Word of God, we respond with our confession of faith.

Today, we confess the first article of The Apostles' Creed, which focuses on the first person of the Trinity, God the Father, the all-powerful creator of all things who is the provider of all we need. The explanation is taken from Luther's Small Catechism.



Song of the Season: Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed

CWH 447

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

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.

How can it be, the One who died has borne our sin through sacrifice, to conquer ev'ry sting of death? Sing, sing "Hallelujah!" (v. 2)

For joy awakes as dawning light when Christ's disciples lift their eyes. Alive he stands, their friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is risen! (Refrain)

Refrain:

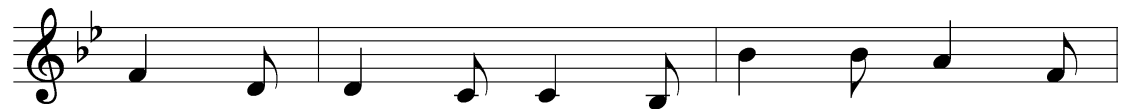
Christ is risen, he is risen indeed! Oh, sing "Hallelujah!"

Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed: "Christ is risen, he is risen indeed."

Congregation Sings:



3 Where doubt and dark - ness once had been, they saw him
4 Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, they preached the
5 The pow'r that raised him from the grave now works in



and their hearts be - lieved. But blest are those who
truth and pow'r of grace and pour - ing out their
us to pow'r - f'ly save. He frees our hearts to



have not seen, yet sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 4
lives they gained life, life ev - er - last - ing.
live his grace; go, tell of his good - ness.



Refrain
Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed! Oh, sing "Hal - le -



lu - jah!" Join the cho - rus, sing with the re - deemed:



"Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed." v. 3/v. 5

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Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

If you brought a monetary gift today for the work of the church, please place your offering in the receptacle at one of the two entrances to the sanctuary either before or after the service.



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

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

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)

The Lord's Prayer

(Sung by Congregation)

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your
name, your king - dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our
dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins, as
we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Lead us
not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from
e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are
yours now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Today we sing the prayer Jesus taught us. (Matthew 6)



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.

Closing Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story

CWH 746

Congregation sings Vs. 1 & 3 and Refrains; Ensemble sings Vs. 2



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.



I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know it's true;



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Ensemble sings:

*O wonderful redemption! The price for sin is paid,
salvation is accomplished, my heart is unafraid,
for God has raised Christ Jesus to show the work was done;
his glorious resurrection declared the vict'ry won!*

Congregation sings:



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

And when in scenes of glo - ry I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain
I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text (st. 3): Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911, verses, abr., alt.; (Ref): William G. Fischer, 1835–1912, refrain
Tune: William G. Fischer, 1835–1912 Text and tune: Public domain

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Weekly Newsletter

Please scan the QR Code to view our weekly newsletter.



Ways to Serve

Worship Volunteers	April 14th	April 21st	April 28th
Counters	Nancy Murphy Harry Novak	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa
Communion		Andrea	
Cleaners	Koutia/Piepenbrink	Gullerud/Kugler	Plitzuweit/ Peterson/Sterns
Greeters	Jennifer Paul William Paul	Bill Brooks Shannon Brooks	Nancy Murphy Sharon Wilson
Ushers	Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Kade Ehinger Bill Brooks	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer Michael Ryan Gary Jeffers
Sunday Refreshments	Jennifer Paul Rachel Plitzuweit	Nicole Brown Leslie Contreras Tracy Ditter	Linda Stern Clara Naber
A/V	Stacy Cornell Pedro Contreras	Rene Koutia Gus Koutia	Shannon Gullerud Aaron Gullerud

VBS Information

Cross of Glory's annual vacation Bible school is quickly approaching. During the week of June 3-7, we will welcome 200 students from all over Peoria to our campus for Bible lessons, crafts, STEM, singing, and games. All information you need is found using the provided QR code. We look forward to another fun summer week of learning and growing in God's Word.



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!

Give Them a Hand! Bible Study

Did you realize that:

- 1 in 7 of our WELS schools are without a permanent principal?
- Between 160 - 190 teachers retire or resign each year?
- At present there are over 300 teacher vacancies?

WELS School enrollment has increased since 2014

- Early Childhood Ministries 11.3%
- Lutheran Elementary Schools 14.8%
- Area Lutheran High Schools 33.1%

Gary Jeffers, Development Director of Grace in Action (GIA), a WELS Ministry Partner, will be starting a Bible Study on April 21st regarding the story of Aaron and Hur, holding up the hands of Moses while the Israelites were at war with the Amalekites, and how GIA is collaborating with the WELS Commission on Lutheran Schools to help stem the tide of teacher attrition.

Prayer Highlights for members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers...

***Diane Lawrence**, who is learning to walk again.*

***Velta Larson**, as she recovers from eye surgery and is now recovering from a broken pelvis.*

***Angela Hall**, who has started physical therapy for her ankle replacement.*

***Judy Sasse**, who is recovering from surgery and will be undergoing radiation treatments for cancer that was discovered.*

***Phil Fidel**, as he mourns the death of his wife Fran*

***The family of Norm Voigt**, during this time of loss.*

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. **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.