

## **The Messenger**

**Cross of Christ  
Lutheran Church**  
4045 N. Van Nuys Road  
Kingman, AZ 86409

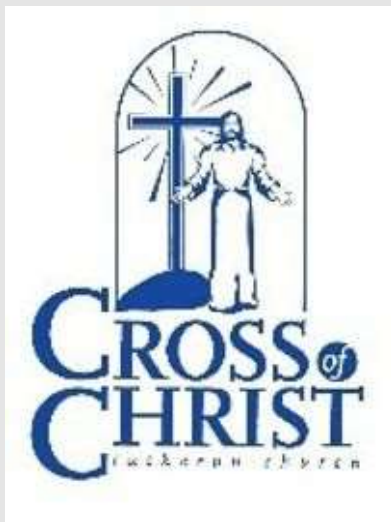
**Phone:** 928-757-3543

**Website:**

**www.crossofchrist-  
kingman.com**

**Email:**  
**crossofchristkingman  
@gmail.com**

**Paul Mueller, Pastor**



### **Worship Services**

*Sunday: 10:00 am*

*Wed. 4:00 pm: at Flowers\**

*Wed. 6:30 pm: at White Cliffs\**

*4<sup>th</sup> Sun. 1:30 pm at White Cliffs\**

### **Communion**

*1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays*

### **Bible Classes**

*Sunday: 9:00 am*

*Tuesday: 11:00 am*

*Wednesday, 4:15 pm, 6:30 pm*

*Thursday: 1:30 pm*

### **Men's Bible Class**

*Second Saturday: 9:30 am*

### **Sunday School**

*Sunday: 9:00 am*

*\*Worship services at White  
Cliffs and Flowers are  
currently suspended due to  
COVID-19*

~~ **SEPTEMBER 2020** ~~

## **Message from the Pastor**

Can you guess who made the following quote?

When asked 'how can you be sure your theory is sure'? This person replied, "If the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts."

The man was none other than Albert Einstein. As smart as he was in science and the like, he was very dumb in others. Another of his quotes shows us how foolish some intelligent people can be. When asked if he believed in God, Einstein said. "I believe in Spinoza's God." Johan Spinoza was a 17th century rabbinical student who denied the nature of God, the Bible's miracles, mankind's soul and the Bible's truth. Yet, he did believe in an unknown non-personal god.

We believe in a different God, don't we? Our God cares about us. He does do miracles. He gave us his Word. He sent his Son to rescue us from sin. That's our God, the one who knows the very number of hairs on our head.

I think this is one of the times when Einstein (and many others) have a 'feeling', a theory about God. If God doesn't fit what you want him to be, to do, or to direct; then you just change the facts to fit your theory (see first quote above). You change God into what you want him to be. That's what Espinoza did—to his own detriment. He died in hopelessness. Despite his fame, Einstein was probably in the same boat.

Can facts—especially those from the Bible—be changed to fit a theory? What foolishness! I can think of myself as a world-class athlete, but 'that's not gonna happen'. I can tell you I'm smarter than Einstein, but in reality, I couldn't carry his slide-ruler. I can't change the facts to fit my theory.

Why would anyone want a god who doesn't care? Why would anyone reject the freedom from sin that Jesus gives us? Why would anyone think they were smarter than God?

Let me pose a 'Mueller quote'. If your theory about God does not fit the facts, change your mind before it explodes.



<b>UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES</b>	
<b>SUNDAY/THURSDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>
<p align="center"> <b>-What would you Do When..</b>  <b>-Romans Ch. 1-8</b>  <b>-Because of Bethlehem</b>  <b>-Anger</b>  <b>-Burden Bearing</b> </p>	<p align="center"> <b>-Church, Mission, Ministry</b>  <b>-What does it Mean to be Lutheran</b>  <b>-The Life of Moses</b>  <b>-Love</b>  <b>-Bible Studies for Maturing Christians</b> </p>

**Something to Think About ..... Lessons from the Lawnmower**

I am one of those guys who takes great pride in keeping his lawn in pristine condition. Although I don't religiously follow the Scott's feeding schedule or compost grass clippings, I want it nice. Any guy worth his weight in phosphorous will tell you that the true measure of a man is the kind of lawn that he keeps.

So, you can imagine my quandary when my oldest son asked if he was old enough to begin mowing. Part of me wanted to hold tight to the reins (or the handlebar, as it were). After all, what would the neighbors think if the lines on my lawn were not parallel? What if he didn't do it the way I've always done it?

Fortunately, my lapse in good judgment was only temporary. Looking at the situation differently, I started to consider some of the potential benefits: kicking back in a hammock, sipping lemonade, watching someone else sweat on a humid summer day. And think of the important lessons that could be passed on from father to son through this simple act of mowing the lawn! I had at my disposal a young mind ready to soak up all that I had in small engine maintenance, mower safety, responsibility, and the nearly-lost art of mowing in diagonal lines.

As any good father would do, I began a comprehensive orientation, complete with demonstrations of proper mowing technique. My new apprentice was less than receptive. "I just want to mow the lawn," he said with a look of impatience. So, remembering the excitement of my own first mowing experience, I watched Ethan push the primer, pull the cord, and make his first pass across the yard. I bit my tongue as

I watched him drift off-line, wrestling with a machine that weighed more than he did. But in the end, the unmistakable look of satisfaction on his face told me that a huge milestone had just been reached, both our lives.

Reflecting back, I can't help but notice that what started as an opportunity for me to teach important life lessons to my son ended with him teaching me some important lessons. Here are a few things I picked up this summer:

1) I've realized how easy it is for us parents to impose our adult standards on our children. Yet, to expect our kids to perform flawlessly or complete a task perfectly is more than we can expect. Not mastering something the first time does not equal failure. We all need to focus less on what's considered outward success and focus more on putting our best effort into every task, all to the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31). With regular encouragement and practice, the "straight lines" take care of themselves.

**RUMMAGE SALE**

*We are accepting donations for our next sale (OCT 2-3). Call the church office at 928.757.3543 for pick-up service.*

2) I was reminded that a sense of humor is essential for anyone raising kids. As Ethan was still getting a feel for the machine, the mower somehow rolled down the hill on the side of our house and into the backyard creek. Lawnmowers don't float.

Lawnmowers are going to roll into creeks. Small trees are going to have their lives cut short. Flowerbeds are going to get scalped. When we look at the bigger picture, it's really not a big deal. In fact, it might even be funny. While Ethan didn't find much humor at the time, the incident has now become another humorous chapter in Jahns family lore.

3) Children have a way of helping us to keep things in perspective. I truly believe God intended it to be that way. I often get preoccupied in trivial things—like meticulous lawn care. Now, my obsession with form has taken a back seat to function. I've come to realize that the most beautiful lawn is one that's getting used, that's worn out by families playing ball together, one that is mud-caked and soaked from the Slip 'N Slide.

Pastor Mueller's sermons are still on our **website** ([crossofchrist-kingman.com](http://crossofchrist-kingman.com)) and on our **YouTube channel** (**CrossofChrist Kingman**). We're glad to hear so many people are benefitting from them.

4) Looking back on the summer now, I can see how Ethan has taken some important steps toward adulthood. It has been a joy to watch his confidence grow. When he puts his mind to it, he really does a great job on the lawn.

I've done some growing too. I've learned to let go of some things that I used to think were important, like the perfect lawn. Ethan told me that his mowing money will be used to buy his first car. I informed him I have some important things to share about large engine maintenance, road safety, responsibility, and the lost art of parallel parking.

Thad Jahns

### ARIZONA LUTHERAN ACADEMY NEWS

Our area Lutheran high school in Laveen began its 43<sup>rd</sup> school year August 17 with 193 students. We will likely be over 200 once Covid issues with student travel are resolved. Most students chose to attend in-person; about 12% chose to attend online. ALA ATHLETICS & FINE ARTS are adapting to the many changes that have taken place. In everything that we do, the recommended precautions are being taken: distancing, mask wearing, extra cleaning, and so forth. Practices for athletic teams are being phased in according to guidelines by the AIA. Our choir and band classes are being held with adaptations. Thank you for your support, encouragement, and prayers.

HE IS  
RISEN

We will celebrate **EASTER on SEPT. 20<sup>TH</sup>** on Hualapai at 11:00 AM. That will be followed by lunch and games (corn hole and disc golf). There will also be an 8:00 AM. 'Easter Sunrise' service in the Ramada. Both outdoor services will feature the favorite Easter hymns we all love. Since they are outdoor, it is unlikely they will be cancelled.

## BIBLE BASICS CLASS

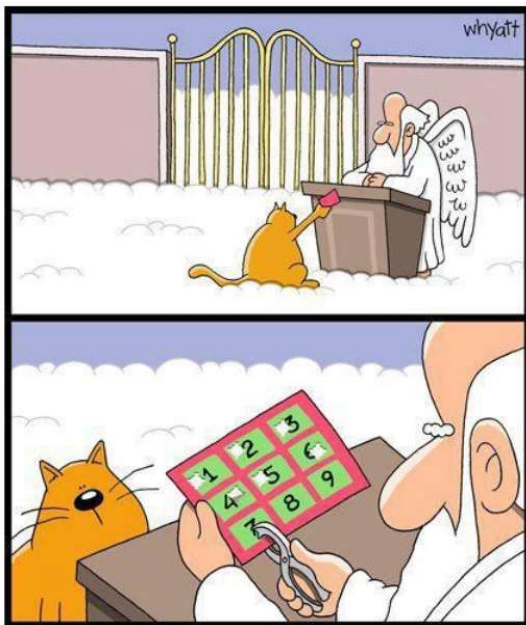
is on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM. This is the most popular class we offer. You will be glad if you attend. If you don't know the difference between salvation and staycation, this class is a must. The purpose of this class is to bring you into a new/closer relationship with Jesus.

Call Pastor at 757-3543.

## HUMOR

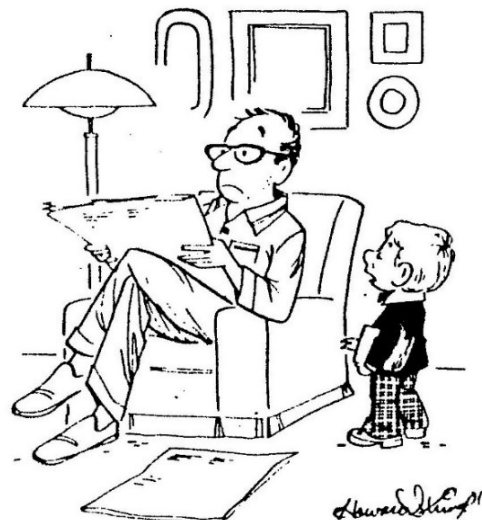
### 10 Reasons Christians Don't Attend Sporting Events (and perhaps, why people don't attend church)

1. The coach never came to visit me.
2. Every time I went, they asked for money.
3. The people sitting in my row didn't seem very friendly.
4. The seats were hard.
5. The referees made a decision I didn't agree with.
6. Some games went into overtime and I was late getting home.
7. The band played some songs I had never heard before.
8. The games are scheduled on my only day to sleep in and run errands.
9. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.
10. Since I read a book on sports, I know more than the coaches, anyway.



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"WANT TO KNOW WHAT I LEARNED AT SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS MORNING. HYPOCRITE?"



# **THE LADIES CIRCLE**

## **SEPTEMBER NEWS**

**We are excited to get back to our regular monthly meetings!!**

**The September Ladies Circle meeting is scheduled for**

**Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>\*  
at 9:30 am**

**In the Education Building**

(\*Regular monthly meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month from September thru May)

**Call leaders will contact you prior to the meetings.**

**In the September meeting, we will wrap up the 2019-2020 year-end business, and talk about future events and fundraisers.**

**Note: In order to vote on any business item(s), we need at least 8 attendees at any monthly meeting.**

**We will be practicing the CDC guidelines with regard to COVID 19; wearing of masks and social distancing.**

*We Look Forward To Meeting Again!!!*

***Continue to stay safe & God Be Us All!***



### **SEPT USHERS**

**Zeke Jarcik  
Dave Brock  
George Henry  
Syd Huxtable  
Leonard Rezac**



### **SEPT BIRTHDAYS**

3<sup>rd</sup> Jane Galvan  
3<sup>rd</sup> Betty Henning  
4<sup>th</sup> Kris Taranec  
8<sup>th</sup> Zeke Jarcik  
9<sup>th</sup> Sharon Hanks  
14<sup>th</sup> Edna Johnson  
14<sup>th</sup> Julie Mueller  
20<sup>th</sup> Jackie Carlson  
22<sup>nd</sup> LaNore Printup  
30<sup>th</sup> Harold Coleman



### **SEPT ANNIVERSARIES**

20<sup>th</sup> Syd & Marie Huxtable  
20<sup>th</sup> Kris & Merissa Wood

# September 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Communion Worship Service	6:00 pm Elders Mtg	8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class	6:30 pm Bible Basics	1:30 pm Bible Class		9:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service		8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class  6:00 pm Council Mtg	6:30 pm Bible Basics	1:30 pm Bible Class		9:30 am Ladies Circle Meeting
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:00 am Easter Sunrise Service 8:00 am Easter Hualapai Celebration 11:30 am Lunch/Games		8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class	6:30 pm Bible Basics	1:30 pm Bible Class		
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service		8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class	6:30 pm Bible Basics	1:30 pm Bible Class		