### The Messenger

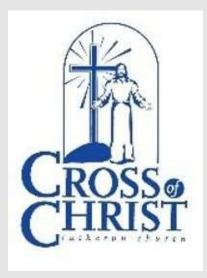
Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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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**

1st, 3rd, and 5th 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

### ~~ NOVEMBER 2020 ~~

# Message from the Pastor ICE CREAM THEOLOGY

What's your favorite flavor of ice cream? There are very few I don't like. (Can I get an 'Amen'?) A childhood fantasy was to go to Baskin Robbins where I would get a supersized, extra-large cup with one scoop of all 31 flavors they had. When and if I got to a flavor I didn't like, I would just knock it on the floor. I would eat till I reached the floor or my stomach could take no more—whichever came first. Who's with me? (I asked my parents if that could be my birthday present. You can guess their response.)

Some people look at the Bible's teachings the same way. There are many flavors (teachings). Some they like; some they don't. It is just a matter of taste as to which one you prefer. So, if you get to one you don't like, just discard it like an old newspaper. It's just old news and time to find something you like better. The idea is just as tempting as my chest-high ice cream cup—and just as misguided.

If that were done, then God would have to come out with new regulations every so often to please human palates. He would be nothing more than a desperate manufacturer constantly reformulating his recipe to satisfy a fickle fan such an environment, each of God's commandments, for example, would be just another flavor to be treasured or trashed. Are God's commands just brand in the freezer for today's religious another connoisseurs to sample? Should personal tastes be given authority over Divine directives? You'd get the same answer my parents gave me.

The true God does not change His truth to appeal to popular taste. He is the God who uses His unchanging truth to change hearts. That's why God doesn't need to serve up His truth in 31 flavors. Even kids can know that. "From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."

Our new Bible Basics Class (Wednesdays at 1:30; and possibly 7:00) is designed to explain and share the major teachings of the Bible. The purpose is to get you into a

closer relationship with our loving God. Give it a try; you'll like it better than a Dilly Bar. The Bible says in Ps. 119:103: "How sweet are your Words to my taste; sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

Maybe we should be like the patrons of another ice cream shop. At Coldstone Creamery, when customers choose their size, they get to choose between 'like it', 'love it', and 'Gotta have it'. Kinda describes how people feel about God. Some like him, but aren't too serious. Others seem to love him but when things go wrong, a distant relationship develops. My goal? To help you feel about Jesus, the latter: gotta have Jesus.



UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES					
SUNDAY/THURSDAY	TUESDAY				
-Romans Ch. 1-8	-The Freedom of a Christian				
-Because of Bethlehem	-The Life of Moses				
-Anger	-Love				
-Burden Bearing	-Bible Studies for Maturing Christians				

Something to Think About ...... Bones

Leo Aikman, in the Atlanta Constitution, says, "They say the body of every organization is structured from four kinds of bones. There are the wishbones, who spend all their time wishing someone else would do the work. Then there are the jawbones, who do all the talking but little else. The knucklebones knock everything anybody else tries to do. Fortunately, in every organization there are the backbones, who get under the load and do most of the work." What kind of 'bone' are you?

### More Something to Think About

Dr. Roy Angell tells about an old-time country preacher who went to preach his first sermon at a new church. While he was preaching, some mischievous boys took the wheels off his buggy and swapped them around – putting the smaller front wheels on the rear and the larger rear wheels on the front. It was quite dark when he came out after the service. The preacher rode over to the home of a deacon who lived nearby. The next morning at breakfast he looked out the windows and asked where the hill was that he rode up the night before.

"There's no hill nearby." was the reply.

The preacher protested: "I know there was a hill. I could feel my horse straining and the buggy tilted." Later the two men shared a good laugh when they discovered the source of the mysterious 'hill'.

Some of us have turned life into an uphill struggle. We have our rear wheels on the front and our front wheels on the back. Because we have our priorities out of order, life becomes more complex, more difficult. It becomes uphill all the way.



### FAVORITE HYMN FESTIVAL RESULTS

- 1. Amazing Grace
- 3. On Eagle's Wings
- 5. A Mighty Fortress
- 7. In Christ Alone
- 2. How Great Thou Art
- 4. What a Friend we have in Jesus
- 6. Rock of Ages
- 8. Hallelujah

### THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Pastor Merle Wagenknecht will lead our

7:00 Wednesday Eve Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> service.

You are invited to attend a bring food offerings to be given to Cornerstone homeless shelter.





### ARIZONA LUTHERAN ACADEMY SUNDAY

will be held Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00.

Their choir will be here then too (God-willing).

Let us know if you'll attend so we can better practice social-distancing.

### **BIBLE BASICS CLASS**

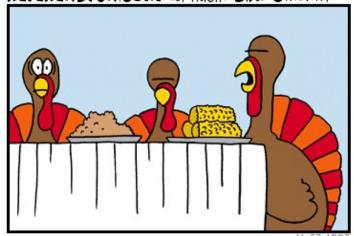
This is the best class for you to take if you have questions about God, church, or religion. You are guaranteed to grow in your faith and enjoy the class. Pray about your being a part of the class. Talk to Pastor or call him at 757-3543. You can join in any time and get caught up later.

### HUMOR

### Lord or No Lord?

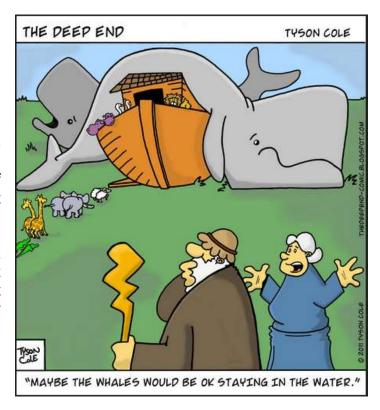
A religious womea upon waking up each morning would open her front door stand on the porch and scream, "Praise the Lord." This infuriated her atheist neighbor who would always make sure to counter back, "there is no Lord." One morning the atheist neighbor overheard his neighbor praying for food, thinking it would be funny, he went and bought her all sorts of groceries and left them on her porch. The next morning the lady screamed, "praise the Lord, who gave me this food." The neighbor laughing so hard he could barely get the words out screamed "it wasn't the Lord, it was me." The lady without missing a beat screamed "praise the Lord for not only giving me food but making the atheist pay for itll"

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WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL THE BOUNTY THAT FARMER BOB HAS BLESSED US ALL WITH THESE PAST FEW MONTHS

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#### Good Church Excuse.

A friend of mine was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the vicar was standing at the door, as always, to shake hands with the worshipers. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside. The vicar said to him, "You need to join the army of the Lord." My friend replied, "I'm already in the army of the Lord, Father."So the vicar inquired, "Then how come I only see you at Christmas and at Easter?" My friend whispered back. "I'm in the secret service."



## THE LADIES CIRCLE

### **NOVEMBER NEWS**

It was so nice to start-up our monthly meetings again!!

Thank you to the ladies who were able to attend the meeting.

October's devotion was "Homemaking", and brought to light many values of the Proverbs 31 Woman, our Devotion Series for 2019-2020, which we will conclude in the November meeting. Homemaking - "She serves the Lord in diligently caring for the well-being of her home, family and beyond."

If you missed the meeting or didn't receive a copy of the devotion in your mailbox, you can pick up a copy at the Ladies Circle table.

#### **CHURCH COOKBOOKS**

With the holidays and cooking right around the corner, we have cookbooks for purchase in the Narthex for \$10. These cookbooks make nice gifts...for Christmas, Birthday or "just because".

#### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Christmas cards are being ordered and will be available for our congregation to purchase at \$5 per box. They will be displayed in the Narthex shortly after they arrive.

#### **NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING**

Saturday, <u>November 14<sup>th</sup></u> at 9:30 am In the Education Building

(Regular monthly meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month)

Call leaders will contact you prior to the meetings.

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

We will continue to practice CDC guidelines with regard to COVID 19...wearing of masks and social distancing.

CONTINUE TO STAY SAFE & GOD BLESS!



### **NOV USHERS**

Michael Coffin Gene Bishop Leo Galvan Mark McCov



9 <sup>th</sup>	Twilla Coleman
15 <sup>th</sup>	Gene Bishop
18 <sup>th</sup>	Richard Grant
25 <sup>th</sup>	Carl Barnes
26 <sup>th</sup>	Dave Brock
29 <sup>th</sup>	Vincent Colton





1 <sup>st</sup>	Dave & Marilyn Jenkins
9 <sup>th</sup>	Carl & Shelley Barnes
26 <sup>th</sup>	Gene & Shari Bishop
26 <sup>th</sup>	Mark & Rhonda Hutchins

# **November 2020**



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