

The Messenger

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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Kingman, AZ 86409*

Phone: 928-757-3543

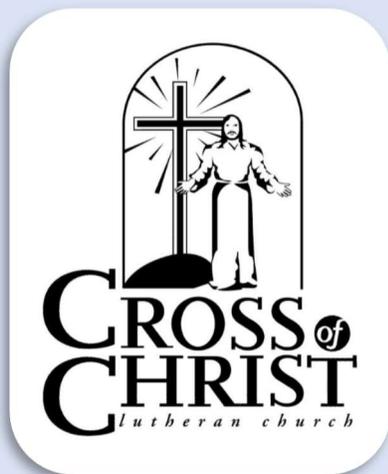
Website:

www.crossofchrist-kingman.com

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Paul Mueller, Pastor



Worship Services

Sunday: 10:00 am

Communion

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays

Bible Classes

Sunday: 9:00 am

Monday: 7:00 pm

Tuesday: 11:00 am & 1:15 pm

Thursday: 1:30 pm

Men's Bible Class

Second Saturday: 9:30 am

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:00 am

FEBRUARY 2023

LOVE FROM THE CEILING

When my friend, Jim Mattek's kids were young (two, five and seven), he wanted to teach them a lesson about God's love. So, he told them the story about God leading and feeding the people of Israel in the desert for 40 years.

In order to make it real, he invited them to go on a wilderness trek—in their home. "Who knows," he said, "manna may fall from the sky again!"

The kids dressed up in sheets and sandals. He played the song 'Walk like an Egyptian' over and over. He told them to 'complain like the Israelites', begging for food.

When they got to the living room, Mattek said, "Look up. Manna's gonna fall again." The two-year old did so, but the older two had their doubts. They asked, "How can manna fall from the ceiling?"

"You sound just like Israel," he said. "How could God feed Israel? We're also like them. We complain too often about our present. Let's look up to God to help us."

As the kids did, manna dropped down from above—well, not manna but a whole bunch of vanilla wafers. The kids squealed with delight. A feeding frenzy of sorts began. After they filled their tummies, the kids asked how manna could come from above.

Mattek explained that he had thoroughly cleaned the ceiling fan, carefully placed the wafers on the top-side of the fan, and then turned it on with the remote he had in his pocket. Manna from Heaven.

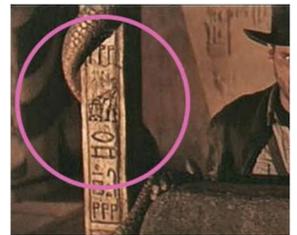
In a similar way, God took care of the Israelites. He knew their itinerary, their needs, their tastes. He tilted his 'fan blades' toward earth and manna (bread) and quail came each day, every day, till they reached the promised land.

Isn't the same true for us? God loves us, he provides for us where ever we might be. God always has some vanilla wafers on tomorrow's ceiling fan. "**Your Heavenly Father knows what you need. But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be given you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow.**" (Matt. 6:32-34)

As we think about Valentine's Day coming up, Jesus' love for us should stand out as the greatest of all loves. He gave himself up in our place that we might live with Him forever. As we walk through our own personal wilderness, we know that God is always with us, that he will give us whatever 'manna' we might need. I don't think God will use a ceiling fan for us, but...

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT..... 'EASTER EGGS' IN FILM

Did you know that R2D2 and C3PO make a brief appearance as hieroglyphs in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*? Or that 'Boo'—the little girl from the Disney Pixar movie *Monsters, Inc.* makes an on-screen cameo in another Disney Pixar movie *Toy Story 4*? Or that Alfred Hitchcock made an uncredited appearance in almost all of his movies? These are all examples of what film devotees call 'Easter Eggs'—little surprises that are carefully hidden by movie creators in their final product and left for big-time fans to unwittingly stumble upon to their amusement.



The idea of things hidden in plain sight is fascinating. The idea that something kind of fun, interesting, or maybe even awesome could be right in front of your eyes, and you'd never even know it. St. Paul talks about something 'awesome, hidden in plain sight' in Colossians 3:3 when he says, "**Your life is now hidden with Christ in God.**"

Can you see the awesomeness? At baptism, the child of God is covered with Christ. His perfection blankets us, burying our disobedience far beneath it—so that only Jesus' perfect obedience is visible to God. That's why Paul can say, "You died." 'You' as a separate entity, isolated and alone before an angry eternal Judge...died. That version of 'you' is no longer a thing. You are hidden with Christ. And that is awesome!

But that awesomeness is hidden in plain sight. The children of God are not given sashes to proclaim their status. They look the same as their neighbors. They endure job losses and rejection, infertility and tragedy, illnesses of the body and mind. But although hidden in plain sight, the awesomeness remains.

Paul himself says, "**We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed**" (2 Cor. 4:8,9).

The devil can do a lot of damage, but he can't go back and change this fact. Jesus won. Death remains defeated. Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. What a blessing beyond measure to be hidden with him.

LWMS 2023 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The convention will be held at the
La Crosse Center
300 Harborview Plaza
La Crosse, WI.

June 22 – 25, 2023

The theme is "Peace Like a River." Please visit <http://www.lwms.org> for more information. While you are on the site, check out the [Trip Advisor's 15 Best Things to Do in La Crosse](#) and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.



LWMS GRAND CANYON CIRCUIT – WEST: Spring Rally: April 15, 2023

Deer Valley Lutheran Church
220 W Union Hills | Phoenix, AZ 85027
Registration & light continental breakfast at 8:15 am
Rally starts at 9:00 am

The theme will be
"Hearts Ablaze, Sparked by the Spirit"
2 Timothy 1:6 NIV



Mission Mites for
'Vicars in Mission Settings'

MISSION FESTIVAL – Pastor Aaron Bublitz will be here to lead our Mission Festival on February 26. After the service we will have our famous pie auction. All proceeds will go to support the WELS mission in China.



LENT BEGINS – Christian tradition has set aside six midweek evenings to prepare for Easter. Lent is a season of repentance over sin. So, on February 22, Ash Wednesday, ashes symbolizing that repentance, are placed in the shape of a cross on the foreheads of believers. We host a six-Wednesday series of afternoon worship services at 4:00 PM to carry on that idea. Pastor Mueller exchanges pulpits with Pastor Buelow (Lake Havasu) using the theme 'The Lenten Road.' We have a potluck meal together at 5:00 PM for all.



HELPFUL LINKS

Here are some resources that help low-income families and/or seniors. These programs have different requirements and application forms. Most of them are based on the Federal Poverty Level.

Mohave County Assessor's Office – mohavecounty.us – 928-753-0703 Low-income home owners, who have lived in their homes for at least three years, can have their home's taxable property value frozen. Taxes may increase, but they are calculated on the frozen base value.

Health-e-Arizona.com (ebt SNAP) – <https://www.healthearizonaplus.gov> This program, previously called food stamps, not only helps pay for food, but qualifies some to receive discounts.

WACOG (Western Arizona Council of Governments) – <https://www.wacog.com> – 208 N 4th Street, Kingman, AZ – 928-752-6247 Sign up for help paying UniSource (home heating and A/C) and other programs such as a free home weatherization review.

ACP (Affordable Connectivity Program) – <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/> helps low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices like a laptop or tablet. If approved, they pay up to \$30 a month toward your Internet bill.

Arizona Department of Economic Security – <https://des.az.gov/lihwap> helps by paying a portion of your water/sewer bill.

FOUNDATIONS



of FAITH

Do you know the Bible well? Somewhat? Barely? Pastor will be starting a class where you can ask any questions you want about the Bible. He compares different churches so you can figure out which church is right for you. Everyone who's ever taken it has really enjoyed it. No pressure is applied. Try a class. If you don't like it, that's OK.

One class has begun meeting on Tuesdays at 1:15. Let Pastor Mueller know if another time is better for you. He's considering starting another class on Thursday nights. His phone number is 925-337-3635.

HUMOR

Kids Say the Funniest Things

When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven-year-old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"

A Sunday School teacher asked her class, "Does anyone here know what we mean by sins of omission?" A small girl replied: "Aren't those the sins we should have committed, but didn't?"

A mother took her three-year-old daughter to church for the first time. The church lights were lowered, and then the choir came down the aisle, carrying lighted candles. All was quiet until the little one started to sing in a loud voice, "Happy Birthday to you, happy birthday to you...."

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Thanks to J.R. Lucas (See Mark 10:25) 02-10-2014

GENTLEMEN, I WILL NOW CUT THE RIBBON AND PROJECT GIGANTIC NEEDLE WILL BE UNDERWAY

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Thanks to SoloTotoCoyote 02-07-2014

MOSES AND NOAH HAVING AN ARGUMENT

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Taxi Driver and the Priest

A priest and a taxi driver both died and went to heaven. St. Peter was at the Pearly gates waiting for them. 'Come with me', said St. Peter to the taxi driver.

The taxi driver followed St. Peter to a mansion. It had anything you could imagine from a bowling alley to an Olympic size pool.

'Wow, thank you', said the taxi driver.

Next, St. Peter led the priest to an old shack with a bunk bed and a little old television set.

'Wait, I think you are a little mixed up', said the priest. 'Shouldn't I be the one who gets the mansion? After all I was a priest, went to church every day, and preached God's word.'

'Yes, that's true. But during your sermons people slept. When the taxi driver drove, everyone prayed.'

THE LADIES CIRCLE

FEBRUARY NEWS

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

When: Saturday, February 11th

Time: 9:30 am

Place: Education Building

Devotion series: God is in the Laundry Room

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month from September thru May. Committee call leaders will contact the ladies of the congregation prior to each monthly meeting.

All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend and join in the fellowship, devotion topics, planning future activities, and the WELS Missions we support as a Ladies Circle group. By getting involved your time, talent and treasures will help continue God's work.

ELS CIRCUIT II 2023 MISSION

RALLY 'NORTHERN LIGHTS'

will take place in Lake Havasu City on Saturday, February 18th, at 9:00 am. Registration(s) are due by February 4th, and the cost is \$10 (includes lunch). If you are interested in attending the rally, please contact Rhonda Hutchins. For more information regarding the mission rally, a flier can be viewed in the Ladies Circle corner in the narthex.

WEIGHT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

If you are interested in being part of a weight loss support group, contact Christine Hanson.

PUBLICIST NEEDED

(VOLUNTEER POSITION)

Contact Trish Olson, President, if you are interested in preparing the Ladies Circle material for the weekly Sunday bulletins and the monthly newsletter.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to provide fresh flowers on the altar for a Sunday service, a sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

KITCHEN

The Sunday meal schedule is available in the Fellowship Hall.

-If you would like to be a Sunday meal host or help out in the kitchen (set-up or clean-up), contact Christine Hanson, Committee Chair or Trish Olson, Ladies, Circle President.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 6th Jett Brotsch
- 16th Gale Parker
- 19th Sue Manzo
- 21st Leonard Rezac
- 22nd Bill Neal
- 26th Jay Schmidt
- 27th Margaret Henry
- 28th Marilyn Jenkins
- 19th Mark Hutchins



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14th Leo & Jane Galvan
- 14th Dave & Leena Meza



FEBRUARY FELLOWSHIP MEALS

DAY	MAIN DISH
5 th	Casseroles
12 th	Sloppy Joes
19 th	Hot Dogs
26 th	Favorite Recipes

FEBRUARY USHERS

Zeke Jarcik
Ron McMillin
Merle Tilton



February 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
				1:30 pm Bible Class		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Communion Worship Service 11:15 am Fellowship Meal	7:00 pm Bible Class	8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class 1:15 pm Bible Class 4:00 pm Choir		1:30 pm Bible Class		9:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast 9:30 am Ladies Circle Meeting 10:30 am Elders Meeting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Fellowship Meal	6:00 pm Council Mtg 7:00 pm Bible Class	8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class 1:15 pm Bible Class 4:00 pm Choir		1:30 pm Bible Class		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Communion Worship Service 11:15 am Fellowship Meal	7:00 pm Bible Class	8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class 1:15 pm Bible Class 4:00 pm Choir	Ash Wednesday 	1:30 pm Bible Class 4:00 pm Worship Svc 5:00 pm Soup Supper		
26	27	28				
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Fellowship Meal 12:00 pm Pie Auction <i>Mission Festival</i> <i>Pie Auction</i> 	7:00 pm Bible Class	8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class 1:15 pm Bible Class 4:00 pm Choir	4:00 pm Worship Svc 5:00 pm Soup Supper	1:30 pm Bible Class		