

The Messenger

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

4045 N. Van Nuys Road
Kingman, AZ 86409

Phone: 928-757-3543

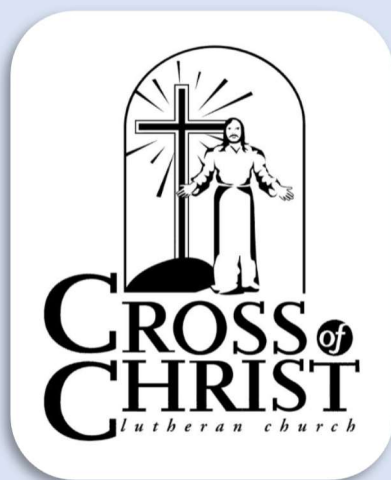
Website:

www.crossofchrist-kingman.com

Email:

crossofchristkingman@gmail.com

Paul Mueller, Pastor



Worship Services

Sunday: 10:00 am

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 & 7:00 pm

Men's Bible Class

Second Saturday: 9:30 am

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:00 am

MARCH 2023

THE MOST AGONIZING DECISION

A pastor invited his mentor to be the guest preacher one Sunday. He told them this man had been his youth pastor and had a lot to share with them.

The veteran pastor began, "A man, his son and his son's best friend went sailing. A freak storm blew up and they could not get back to shore. The waves were so high the soon washed over the boat. Soon, the storm threw the three men into the water.

The life-raft inflated and the father was able to get to it. When he looked out for the other two, he saw them, each about 100 feet away from him, in two different directions. They were being swept away further and further with each moment. Even with life-jackets, no one could survive this storm in the water. The father grabbed the life-line but knew he could only throw it to one of them before the other would be too far away to get it. He had only a few seconds to make the most agonizing decision of his life. His son or his son's friend. Who should he throw it to?

His son was a believer in Jesus and the other young man was not. 'What should I do?!' The father yelled out to his son 'I love you'—and threw the line to the friend. By the time the friend was in the raft, the son was no longer in sight. He was gone, and his body was never recovered."

By now the listeners were on the edge of their seats. The pastor continued, "That father knew his son believed in Jesus as his Savior since he was a boy. He knew that even if he drowned, his boy would be with Jesus forever. He could not bear the thought of the friend spending eternity with Satan, so the father threw the friend the rope. He sacrificed his son to save the friend."

He made the application, "How great is the love the Heavenly Father has for us too. For us, he sacrificed his only Son that we could be saved. John 3:16 says, ***For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*** I urge you to never forget the sacrifice God did for us.

Believe in Jesus and you too will be saved. Don't ever let go of your trust in Jesus. He has saved you and will never desert you." With that, he said 'Amen'.

The people sat there in stunned silence. Then, one of the teens boldly said, 'That's a nice story Pastor, but I don't think it's very realistic. For a father to give up his son's life in the hopes that the other kid would come to faith is pretty far-fetched. What father would do that? I hope my Dad wouldn't.

The Pastor replied, "Well, you've got a good point there. But that story gives me a glimpse of what it must have been like for the Heavenly Father to offer his son in our place. He knew the terrible pain and punishment Jesus would take on for us. Yet, Christ loved us so much that he willingly went to the cross for us. So, it's not all that unrealistic. In fact, the Bible tells us that Jesus' followers ought to be willing to give up everything and anything for him—even our life."

You see, that story I told you is true. I am the father, and your pastor is my son's friend!

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....Love Increases as Faith Increases

If you plant a small apple tree in your backyard it may take several years before it's able to start producing apples. But as that apple tree grows it could one day produce more than 100 apples for you each year. Some mature apple trees in orchards have been known to produce upward of 1,000 apples in a year! With the growth of an apple tree comes an increase in the amount of fruit it produces.

We could view Christian faith as an apple tree. As faith grows in a person's heart, there will naturally be an increase of love flowing out of that heart. In the Bible, acts of love are often referred to as "fruits of faith." As faith grows, love increases.

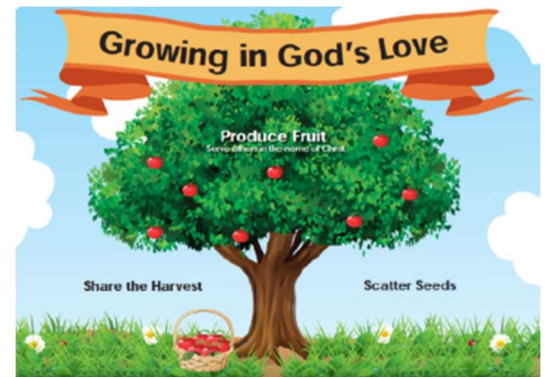
Now the question could be asked, 'how does a person grow in faith?' Growth in faith happens as a Christian comes into contact with Jesus in the Bible. A growing faith is an ever-deepening appreciation of Jesus and what he's done for us.

And what has Jesus done for us? He has loved us immensely and undeservingly! He's taken away our sins and given us new life, even eternal life. A growing faith clings ever tighter in trust to what Christ has done. Ultimately, growing our faith isn't something we do but something God does.

And here's where the increase in love comes in. The more one basks in that love of Jesus, the more one wants to share that love with others. Serving and loving others becomes less of a duty and more of a delight for those who have experienced Christ's love. Christians consider it a privilege to imitate Christ in their service to others.

As an apple tree grows, its apple production increases. It's a natural thing. As faith in Christ grows, the love a person has for others also increases. It's a natural thing for the one rooted in Christ.

We always thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. 2 Thes 1:3



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'



Wednesday *Lenten Services*

LENT BEGINS – Christian tradition has set aside six midweek evenings to prepare for Easter. Lent is a season of repentance over sin. 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 'Jesus Keeps His Promises.' We have a potluck meal together at 5:00 PM for all.



RUMMAGE SALE

Our next rummage sale will be on May 12 – 13.



See Leena Meza if you are interested in helping.



Join us for a family friendly game night on March 24th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

FOUNDATIONS



of FAITH

Do you know the Bible well? Somewhat? Barely? Pastor just started two classes 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.

Classes are on Tuesday afternoons at 1:15 or on Thursday evenings at 7. Let Pastor know if you are interested (925-337-3635).

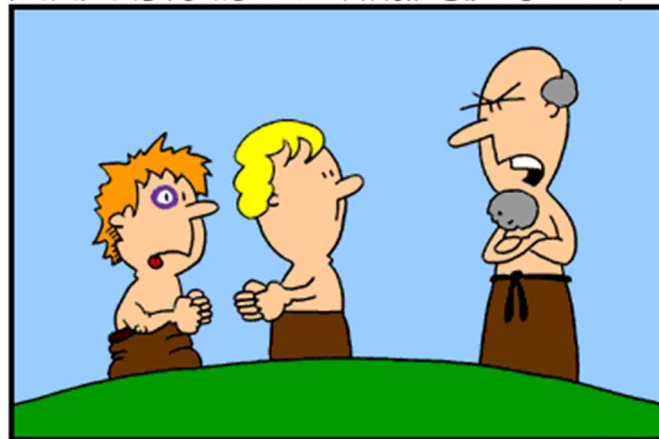
HUMOR

A Bird Named Moses

A burglar breaks into a house. He starts shining his light around looking for valuables. Some nice things catch his eye, and as he reaches for them, he hears, "Jesus is watching you." Startled, the burglar looks for the speaker. Seeing no one, he keeps putting things in his bag, again, he hears, "Jesus is watching you." This time, he sees a parrot. "Who are you?" the burglar asks. "Moses," the bird replied. "Who the heck would name a bird Moses?" the man laughed. "I dunno," Moses answered, "I guess the same kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus."



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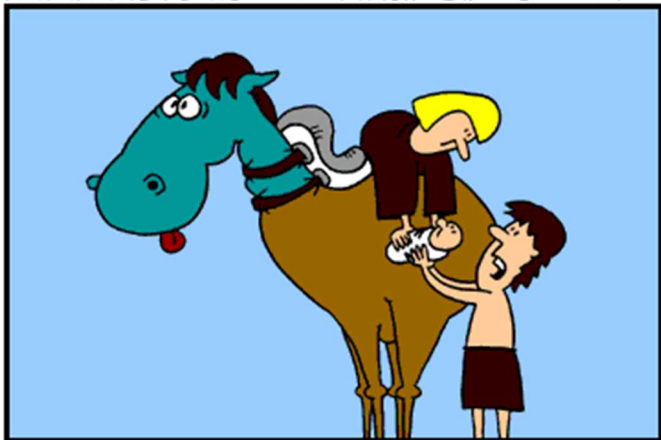
I HOPE YOU DON'T PLAN ON TRYING TO
TELL ME THAT YOU WERE FIGHTING THE
GOOD FIGHT AGAIN

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A Tibetan Phone Call

So I called up the spiritual leader of Tibet, and he sent me a large goat with a long neck. Turns out I phoned dial-a-llama.

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02-18-1998

HEY, I THINK THAT YOU MAY HAVE PUT
THE CHILD SAFETY SEAT ON A LITTLE TOO
TIGHT

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The One About the Fisherman and the Angel

Three guys are fishing when an angel appears. The first guy says, "I've suffered from back pain for years. Can you help me?" The angel touches the man's back, and he feels instant relief. The second guy points to his thick glasses and begs for a cure for his poor eyesight. When the angel tosses the lenses into the lake, the man gains 20/20 vision. As the angel turns to the third fellow, he instantly recoils and screams, "Don't touch me! I'm on disability!"

Water to Wine

A trooper pulls over a priest and immediately smells alcohol on his breath. The next thing he notices is an empty wine bottle lying on the passenger seat. "Have you been drinking?" the officer asks. "Just water," says the priest. "Then why do I smell wine?" The priest looks at the bottle and shouts, "Good Lord! He's done it again!"

THE LADIES CIRCLE

MARCH NEWS

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING

When: Saturday, March 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.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Two years have gone by very fast for the current offices of the Ladies Circle group: Trish Olson, President; Julie Mueller, Treasurer; and Sasha Mangelsdorf, Secretary. Nomination ballots and a ballot collection box are located in the Narthex for all three positions. Talk to the person you would like to nominate to make sure they are interested in the position being nominated for. Ballots will be collected prior to our April meeting (the final date for nomination ballots will be announced at a future date in the weekly Sunday's bulletin).

WEEKLY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Starting on Wednesday, March 1st, at 1:00 pm, all ladies of the congregation are invited to the weekly women's fellowship group. We will meet for one hour, and will talk about our interests and plan weekly activities to do as a group.

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.

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.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Judy David
- 2nd Pastor Mueller
- 5th Stephanie Coffin
- 9th Hazel Wanderi
- 11th Marie Huxtable
- 16th Shelley Barnes
- 21st Benjamin Kyzer
- 23rd Arlene Hetrick
- 26th Ryne Melstrom
- 29th Johannah Brotsch
- 29th Gale Dome
- 30th Merle Titlton
- 31st BJ Tacoronte



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 6th Don & Wilma Nomann
- 15th Dave & Nilda Cox
- 18th Bill & Jeanne Neal
- 30th David & Stephanie Coffin
- 31st Tim & Gel Brotsch



MARCH FELLOWSHIP MEALS

DAY	MAIN DISH
5 th	Italian
12 th	International
19 th	Crock Pot Meals
26 th	Meat Loaf

MARCH USHERS

Tim Mangelsdorf
Duley Nelson
Jesse Mangelsdorf
Don Nomann



March 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			4:00 pm Worship Svc 5:00 pm Soup Supper	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	4:00 pm Worship Svc 5:00 pm Soup Supper	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	4:00 pm Worship Svc 5:00 pm Soup Supper	1:30 pm Bible Class		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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26	27	28	29	30	31	
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