

---

# Mount Cross Chronicle

---

June 2025

---



601 E. Highway 260  
Payson, AZ 85541  
Phone: 928-474-2552  
[www.mountcross.org](http://www.mountcross.org)

## Sunday Worship/Communion Service

9:30 a.m.

Livestreamed  
Online Worship Service

Mount Cross Facebook Page  
<https://www.facebook.com/MountCrossPayson>

Mount Cross YouTube Link  
[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=payson+mount+cross](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=payson+mount+cross)

---

### Pastor

Rev. Carl Sirotzki  
928-474-2552  
608-370-1284 (emergencies)  
[pastor@mountcross.org](mailto:pastor@mountcross.org)

Music Director  
Daria Mason

[daria1024mason@gmail.com](mailto:daria1024mason@gmail.com)

Accompanist  
Angeline Ng

Office Administrator  
Lenore M. White  
[secretary@mountcross.org](mailto:secretary@mountcross.org)

Custodian  
Keri Morris

## **Pastor's Musings & Ponderings**

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."*

John 14:27 (NRSVUE)

Happy June to one and all! Whatever your plans are for this month I hope and pray that you find time to relax and enjoy the beauty that our loving Creator has blessed us with. I am so thrilled to look around and see how beautiful this part of the country is! I hope we can all find some time to simply take in the majesty that we all have been blessed with. June just might offer you that opportunity!

On Pentecost Sunday, June 8th, we will be welcoming new members to the Mount Cross congregation which is why I chose a verse from that day's gospel to open this month's newsletter. Welcoming new members is a significant occasion in the life of a congregation and we are so blessed to have them join us on our spiritual journey.

Also, on Pentecost, the Paschal Candle will be moved to the baptismal font. It serves as a visual reminder that in our Baptism we are crucified and resurrected with Christ. It will be lit on significant days in the life of the church including baptisms and funerals/memorials.

On June 12th and 13th, I will be attending the Grand Canyon Synod Assembly with Jo and Carrie Backe. This year, the Synod Assembly will be held at Community Lutheran Church in Las Vegas. From July 26-August 2, there will be an ELCA Churchwide Assembly that will take place at the Phoenix Convention Center. There is a need for a number of volunteers, so if you are interested in volunteering, all you need to do is to go to <https://www.gcsynod.org/cwa> and see what positions are needed. This is a unique way to experience and connect with the larger church. There are 800+ Lutherans expected to attend this event! You can also contact Mary Beth Baron at the Grand Canyon Synod; her email is [mbbaron@gcsynod.org](mailto:mbbaron@gcsynod.org). It is my understanding that you do not need to volunteer for the whole week. Check your calendars and see if you are available to help in some way.

Mount Cross has a long history of being involved in the community and within our congregation. You have a tender heart of loving and caring for others. If you have an idea for a ministry that you would like to head up, please let me know and we can talk about it. I know I have mentioned this before, but if you ever get the chance, stop in to the church office and say "hi." Let's meet for coffee sometime. If I am not in the office, send me an email or call me and let's arrange a time for us to get together.

I know we are facing some tough times, but I know the Spirit is alive and well here at Mount Cross and together, we will get through it. As it says in Romans 8:31, *"What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?"*

Peace,

*Pastor Carl*  
Philippians 1:3-4



Our  $\dagger$   
STATEMENT . . . ChristConnectingCommunity

---



Lord,  
As we enter into the summer season, please keep watch over our town and provide rains so that the moisture will keep fires at bay. The forests in Arizona are so dry and are desperately in need of water. The reservoirs and underground water are so very low and in need of replenishment.

## GLOBAL MISSIONS

The featured food item for the month of June is **cans of fruit** (*pop tops are preferable*). Featured items may be placed on the table located in the narthex near the entrance doors going into the sanctuary.

Reminder: the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month is *Food Bank Sunday*. You are encouraged to purchase any non-perishable food items and place them in the grocery cart on that Sunday.

PENTECOST  
SUNDAY



JUNE 8<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 AM

***"Wear Red" Sunday!***



### Easter Legoland Fundraiser

Can you guess how many  
Legos were used to create  
this beautiful diorama?

Have you put in your Lego guess? You have until Pentecost, June 8<sup>th</sup> to submit your guess for the amount of Legos used to create the beautiful Easter diorama. Proceeds will be sent to Veterans Helping Veterans.

A \$50 gift card will be given to the person who has the closest estimate. Place your approximation on the slip and drop it in the proper container next to the diorama, as well as your \$1 donation for each estimate. Perhaps you'll be the one who receives the prize!

## Mount Cross Financial Report (January – April 2025)



2025 Approved Budget . . . . .	\$335,793.00
Income . . . . .	\$100,766.00 (30.0% of 2025 budget)
Expenditures . . . . .	\$106,633.00 (31.8% of 2025 budget)
Under (Over) . . . . .	(\$5,867.00)
Pledged-to-date / Given . . . . .	\$77,527.00 / \$67,340.00 (86.9%)

### 2025 Mortgage Fund

Total given to the Mortgage Fund during April 2025 . . . . .	\$1,459.32
Total Principal paid out in 2025 for mortgage . . . . .	\$5,920.00
Current Principal balance . . . . .	\$366,095.00
Pledged-to-Date / Given-to-Date . . . . .	\$11,550.00 / \$12,180.00 (105.5%)

*Please note: above amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar.*

Total income received from Thrivent "Choice Dollars" in 2025	
Mount Cross . . . . .	\$1,565.00

Yours in Christ,  
Mike Roberts  
Finance Secretary



Quilters meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the log building. Quilt tops are put together with no sewing involved. If you can tie a knot, they would love to have you join them. It is a great time to fellowship! Completed quilts are taken to the Navajo reservation and provides warmth for them when the weather gets cold.

*Queen-sized flat sheets are needed...any color or pattern, also any materials that you no longer need or want! Please drop these at the office or bring them with you when you join us.*



Mount Cross Bell Choir will be gifting the congregation with a music piece during the prelude on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Praise Choir will also sing an anthem during the service.

Both choirs will take a hiatus during the summer and return on Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>: Praise Choir at 4:15 p.m. for practice and Bells will meet at 5:30 p.m. for a "Polish" polish party. Normal practices resume on Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Summer Choir will commence on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, with practices just prior to the service at 8:45 a.m.



### June Birthdays

5	Lori Andretta
7	Doug Herbster
10	Donna Reifschneider
11	Gail Bensen
	Jim McCall
14	Mary Havenor
15	Tom Backe
	Nancy Peiffer
16	Alice Natale
21	David Bollard
22	Barry DeChaine
26	Marty Ahlman
29	Doug Mann

### June Wedding Anniversaries

1	Gary/Sharon Vaplon
21	Barry/Nancy Peiffer

### June Baptisms

15	Tom Backe
----	-----------



## Spiritual Growth Opportunities

### Worship Services

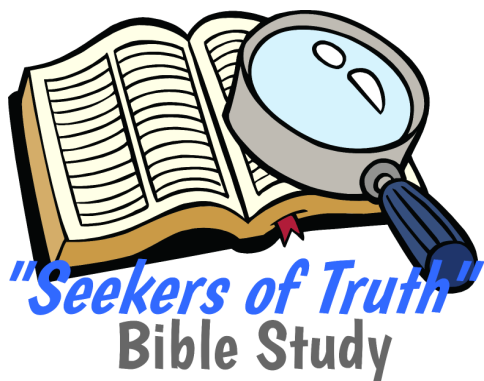
Weekly in-house communion & worship service held in the sanctuary; live stream of the service is available on Facebook.

Sundays, 9:30 AM

### Seekers of Truth Bible study

This is a monthly Bible study which will be viewing episodes of "The Chosen." All are welcome to attend.

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, 10:00 AM in the Ponderosa Room.



Seekers of Truth is a small Bible study and fellowship group for women and men, which is held on the third Thursday of each month in the conference room at 10:00 a.m.

The June meeting is cancelled; we will resume the study in July on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

If you have questions please contact Jan Bartoli, the group facilitator.



Office will be closed on  
Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>  
in observance of  
Juneteenth  
and  
Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>



**You're invited to a  
Life Line Screening event!**

**Mount Cross Lutheran Church**  
601 E State Hwy 260  
Payson, AZ 85541  
Monday June 16, 2025

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings.**

*Trusted by over 10 million customers.*

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

**Who should attend:**  
Anyone over the **age of 40**

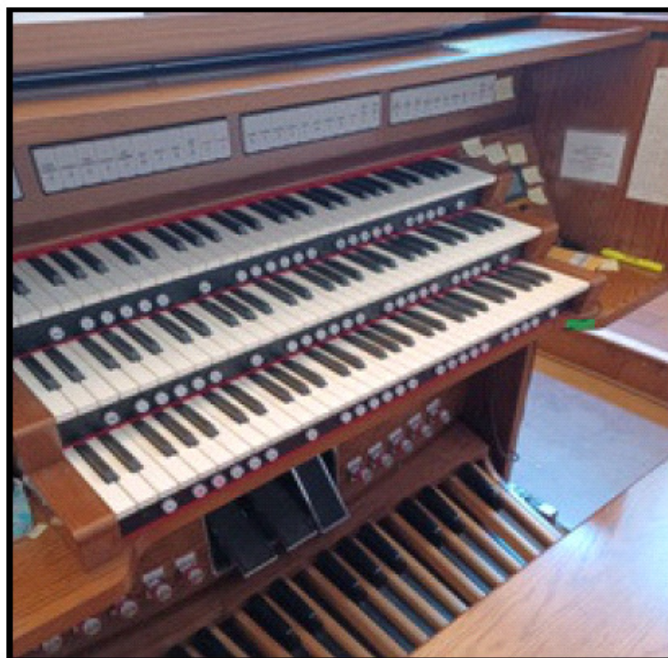
**Special Member Pricing for \$159**

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Plus a **FREE** Hypertension Screening

**4 ways to book your appointment...**

- Call 888-814-0466 and use promo code HSCA001
- Visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA](https://www.llsa.social/hscas)
-  
- Text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.



# AN UNCOMMON ORGAN & PIANO CONCERT

**SUNDAY,  
JUNE 22  
AT 4:00 P.M.**

AT

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
601 E. HIGHWAY 260, PAYSON**



**FEATURING THESE VIRTUOSIC WORKS AND MORE**

**BACH'S TOCCATA AND FUGUE IN D MINOR,  
GRIEG'S PIANO CONCERTO,  
LISZT'S LA CAMPANELLA,  
AND DUBOIS' TOCCATA.**

**MUSICIANS**

**AMELIA HAN-RIEGERT,  
ANGELINE NG,  
ANNABELLE NG-QUICK,  
DANIEL SCHALESKY,  
AND DAVID SCHALESKY**

**THIS IS A FREE CONCERT, WHICH IS OPEN TO EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY.**