
Mount Cross Chronicle

May 2022



601 E. Highway 260
Payson, AZ 85541
Phone: 928-474-2552
www.mountcross.org

Sunday Worship Services

9:30 a.m.
Worship/Communion Service

Livestreamed
Online Worship Service

Pastors
Rev. Cliff Hanus
Rev. Linda Hanus
474-2552
pastor@mountcross.org
emergency phone
928-363-1683

Music Director
Daria Mason
daria1024mason@gmail.com

Accompanist
Angeline Ng

Office Administrator
Lenore M. White
secretary@mountcross.org

Custodian
Rod Rice

Pastor's Ponderings

The Merry Month of May

May is a busy month! Many special days turn up in this month. You have Cinco de Mayo, National Day of Prayer, Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day (for active military), Ascension Day, and Memorial Day, at the end of the month.

Of course, there are plenty of other special May days that you have probably not even heard of: National Lumpy Rug Day is on the 3rd, National No Pants Day on the 6th, National Dance like a Chicken Day on the 14th, National Talk like Yoda Day on the 21st, and National Smile Day on the 31st. In fact, May has over 200 "special" days.

While there are many important occasions that speak to us in this month, for me nothing speaks as loudly, clearly and eloquently as the resurrection of Jesus. This year, every Sunday in May remains a Sunday of Easter. Sadly, after May 1st there are no additional Sunday gospel readings containing further appearances of the risen Christ. Thus, in a way, it falls upon us to continue to bear witness to our risen Lord and Savior. Where do we continue to see his presence? Do we share that Good News with others? How might we come to see Christ's presence more often?

So, scrunch up a rug on the 3rd, wear shorts on the 6th, dance away on the 14th, speak like Yoda of *Star Wars* fame on the 21st ("Do...or do not. There is no try."), and may we all find plenty of reasons to smile during May because...

Christ IS risen! He is risen indeed!

In time, by His grace, we too shall rise to a new and glorious life.
Thanks be to God!

Reverend Clifford Hanus



Our
STATEMENT . . .

†
ChristConnectingCommunity



2022 National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 5th

In April of 1952, President Harry Truman signed a bill into law which proclaimed a national day of prayer. President Ronald Reagan amended the law and designated the first Thursday in May each year as the National Day of Prayer.

Then the Lord answered his prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped.

(2Samuel 24: 25b)

How best to handle the fears and uncertainties that face the world, our nation, our state, our county, and our town than to lift our concerns up to our Lord in prayer.

Please spend time in prayer from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on May 5th to place your prayer offerings before the Lord.

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

(Matthew 18:20)



The final Payson Community Kids Sloppy Joe supper for the 2021-2022 school year will be served on Thursday, May 19th. Please plan to arrive at 4:15 p.m. and we are done about 5:00 p.m.



Watching the devastation in Ukraine breaks my heart.

Let us all pray for these people, as well as for God to intercede with the aggressor to stop the aggression.

As of course, that prayer can extend to Africa, China, Malaysia, and our own country. It is a time to heal.

**God's work.
Our hands.**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

We are looking at possibilities for *God's work, Our hands* with respect to our church.

One big project is to replace our handbells. We are currently using some of the Payson High School's bells. We might consider a project to acquire our own bells by different members "adopting" a bell or two.

The other big project is to move the Mount Cross bell from in front of the old church to a kiosk that can be used in our new church. Did you know that our bell is a sister of *THE* United States' Liberty Bell housed in Philadelphia? Any ideas you have for attaining this goal will be considered.

Mount Cross Financial Report (January – March 2022)



2022 Approved Budget	\$306,010.00
Income	\$71,842.00 (23.48% of 2022 budget)
Expenditures	\$75,491.00 (24.67% of 2022 budget)

Total given to the Mortgage Fund during March 2022	\$2,714.00
Total paid out in 2022 for mortgage	\$8,595.00

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

Total income received from Thrivent "Choice Dollars" in 2022	
Mount Cross	\$949.00

As of the end of the first quarter of 2022, the expenditures have surpassed the income. Many of the basic costs have increased substantially due to the rocketing prices for products and shipping. Everyone has been effected by the rising prices, and churches are not excluded.

We thank all who have faithfully contributed during these times of higher costs.

Yours in Christ,
Financial Team



The theme for this year's Grand Canyon Synod Assembly is "*Stirred Up in the Spirit.*" The Assembly will be held at Love of Christ Lutheran Church in Mesa on Friday, June 10th and Saturday, June 11th. Mount Cross is in need of two full-time members, one male and one female, as voting representatives. If you feel the "spirit" prompting you to serve in this capacity, please contact the office and express your interest to Pastors Hanus or Lenore.

Mount Cross Global Missions Team will meet in the conference room after the service on Sunday, May 15th.

Discussion will involve the upcoming "yard sale" to be held August 18th & 19th. Proceeds will go to local charities.

How can you help? Set aside items that you plan to get rid of. As the sale date gets closer, you might consider helping at the sale.



PENTECOST SUNDAY



JUNE 5th
9:30 AM

"Wear Red" Sunday!



May Birthdays

3 Bobbie Priest
19 Tonnie Dice
25 Carol McNulty
John Proescholdt

May Wedding Anniversaries

22 Ed/Terri Stevens
27 Mark/Jan Bartoli

May Baptisms

1 Alice Natale



As our continued study of the Holy Spirit and Heaven this past month, we had a great discussion on what we think Heaven is like. We discussed those who had died and then returned and what their experience is like. There are many books written on this subject, some with commonalities, and others that are totally different in results. Our overall study kept us on our toes.

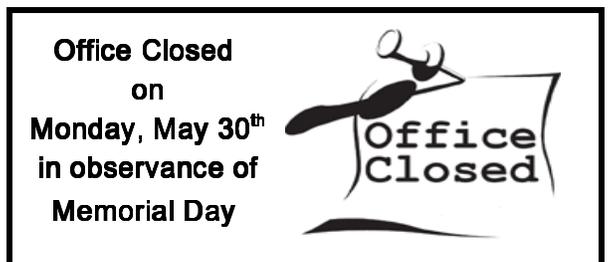
As we move forward, we are looking for new ways to study, new ways to live our faith and new ways to bless others. This is a challenge to our church community, our local community, and to the world.

I view this as our own walk with Christ. How do we perceive his ways and then integrate them into our own view of life? Are we representing him with a happy, cheerful manner, or with a downtrodden view that turns people off? Many years ago, my brother had attended church with me here at Mount Cross. His comment was that "whatever we had, he wanted some of the same" in joy, love and care. I have never forgotten it. He is still looking, but I occasionally remind him that if you keep picking and picking for the little things, you eventually will be picking the proverbial waste. If you keep looking at the big picture, you see God in everything you do. So a challenge is to be positive and outreaching in your faith. It will keep you in touch with all possibilities.

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

Alice Natale

WELCA president



Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Daily Devotions

A daily devotional time, led by Pastors Linda and Cliff Hanus, is available online via the church website on Facebook.

Online devotional held Tuesdays through Saturdays, 8:30 AM

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



WELCA Bible study

This is a monthly Bible study using the studies found in the WELCA publication "Gather". All women are welcome to attend.

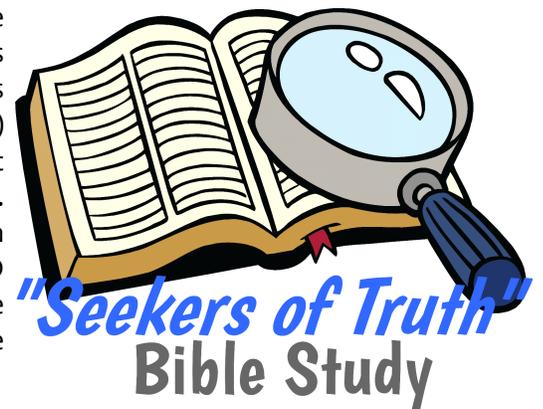
2nd Thursday of the month, 10:00 AM in the Ponderosa Room.

Seekers of Truth Bible study

This is a monthly Bible study which will be focusing on the biblical prophets. All are welcome to attend.

3rd Thursday of the month, 10:00 AM in the Ponderosa Room.

Seekers of Truth Bible study, support, social, and friendship group, will be held on the third Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM at Mount Cross Church in the Ponderosa Room. May 19th is the date for this month's meeting. Refreshments will be served; BYB (Bring Your own Beverage.) The year's focus will be on sixteen major and minor Old Testament prophets and at each of the meetings we will discuss one or two prophets. Members of the group will be given handouts before each meeting with information about the prophet or prophets to be discussed. There is NO book requirement. Members of the group who have study Bibles will be encouraged to read about each prophet in their own Bible and to share with the group what their Bibles say about each prophet.



The last part of the meeting will be a time for socializing, eating, and supporting each other.

Jan Bartoli is the facilitator of the group and Sue Bobek is the discussion leader. If you have question, suggestions, or wish to be a part of this group, please call Jan at 928-517-1119 or Sue at 928-478-6166.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



The monthly WELCA (Women of the ELCA) Bible study will be held in the Ponderosa Room on Thursday, May 12th, at 10:00 a.m.

Gather magazine's Bible studies are the medium normally used. This month there will be a break from the regular multi-session Bible studies and *Gather's* supplied devotional guide will be utilized. These devotionals will to consider inter-generational relationships and the sharing of the provided stories.

The Warming Center Open House

Community Fundraiser

May 5th 3:00PM-6:00PM



**LOCAL VENDORS :LovEm's Bikery , Local
Artist ,AnyTime Fitness, Back to Basics ,
Time out Shelter,CBI,SWBH.....**

**The Famous Lymans Ranch Beef Tacos
Enchiladas by the dozen and more !!!!**

50/50 RAFFLE, PRIZES , LIVE MUSIC , ART, FOOD

**All Proceeds go to the PHHVI 7 days a week
community Dinner!**

For Donation or Question please call 928-

951-3560