
Mount Cross Chronicle

June 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

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the past two plus years, Mount Cross has experienced the deaths of fifteen of our sisters and brothers in Christ. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions, in most cases, we have not had the opportunity to gather together to give thanks to God for their lives and commend them to God's eternal rest and peace in the Church Triumphant. Some would call this a time for closure that can often help with the grieving process.

The time has come for us to gather together and celebrate the lives of these folks, who were very special to us and blessed our Mount Cross ministries in many ways. On Sunday, June 26th, immediately following our worship service, we will gather in the log building for a time of remembrance, food and fellowship. Please stay tuned for more information regarding the pot-luck meal. Start thinking about stories that you might wish to share regarding our 15 sisters and brothers in Christ.

We will commend to Almighty God:

Alan Douglas	4/02/20
Lynda Reinhardt	4/27/20
Lynn Shoemaker	7/26/20
Elva Jones	8/22/20
Randall Loman	9/28/20
Jannett Bailey	10/02/20
John Shoemaker	12/06/20
Ruth Elkins	12/11/20
Darlene Cole	2/04/21
Jacob Waechter	2/18/21
Rev. Scott Stein	4/15/21
Jerry Metz	4/18/21
June McHenry	11/03/21
Roberta Cogswell	4/26/22
Jim Cheek	5/16/22

“Rest eternal grant them, O Lord. Let light perpetual shine upon them.”

With hope and joy in the promised resurrection to new and eternal life through Christ our Lord,

Pastor Linda Hanus



Our STATEMENT . . .

† ChristConnectingCommunity



We must continue to pray for:

our world,
our country,
our state
and our town.

Praying for cooperation,
praying to focus,
praying for healing,
praying for weather that gives
rain where it is needed and
not such an abundance in
other areas,
praying for farmers to be able
to grow crops,
and praying for our
woodlands, streams, rivers,
lakes and oceans to be healthy
is truly important.



We worked so hard on Jacob's home in order to sell it. It was a team effort. Now we look at our campus, and there may be some projects that need joint efforts to accomplish. Last week I went to see who was weeding the flower beds. So, there are things to be done. One is to build a moveable kiosk to bring our bell over from the old church. We want to be able to move it out before services and then bring it back into the church after services. Ringing the bell is a sign to all that Christ has entered the church symbolically and we sit in places with smiling faces when that bell sounds so the acolyte and pastors do the entrance for worship. The bell is the reminder of where we are and why.

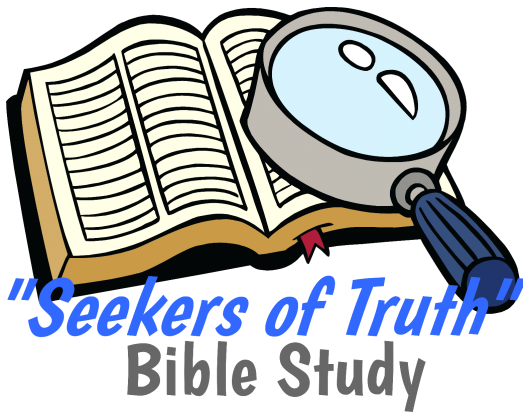


The theme for this year's Grand Canyon Synod Assembly is "Stirred Up in the Spirit." The Assembly will be held at Love of Christ Lutheran Church in Mesa on Friday, June 10th and Saturday, June 11th. Pastors Hanus and Alice Natale will be attending as representatives of Mount Cross.



The monthly WELCA (Women of the ELCA) Bible study will be held in the Ponderosa Room on Thursday, June 9th, at 10:00 a.m.

Bible studies from *Gather* magazine are used. During the summer months, the Bible study focuses on being "Crafted in Christ" and will use the concept of quilting as a medium to discuss rest, renewal, and the Christian community. So, quilters...come join the study!



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. June 16th is the date for this month's meeting. Refreshments will be served; BYB (Bring Your own Beverage.) The group continues to focus on sixteen major and minor Old Testament prophets and at each of the meetings they 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!



Please keep gathering your unwanted household items, because the Global Missions Team will be holding a big outdoor yard sale on *Friday, August 19th* and *Saturday, August 20th*. You may drop off your items in the office conference room.

Please note the items that we will NOT be accepting: Dirty, stained, broken or torn items; VHS tapes; televisions; computers; used plastic food containers (i.e. cottage cheese, sour cream, margarine, etc.) All donations must be in usable condition.

Proceeds from the sale will go to local charities. If you are interested in helping with the sale, please join the fun and contact Nancy Kellett. The more the merrier! Many hands will be needed to set up and to help with the sale itself.



June Birthdays

- 1 Rob Reifschneider
- 5 Lori Andretta
- 7 Doug Herbster
- 10 Donna Reifschneider
- 11 Gail Bensen
Jim McCall
- 12 Pastor Cliff Hanus
- 14 Mary Havenor
- 15 Tom Backe
Nancy Peiffer
- 16 Alice Natale
- 25 Pastor Linda Hanus
- 26 Marty Ahlman
- 30 Clay Ricker

June Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Gary/Sharon Vaplon
- 16 Doug/Myra Herbster
- 21 Barry/Nancy Peiffer

June Baptisms

- 15 Tom Backe



The final handbell practice (5:30 p.m.) for the season will occur on Thursday, June 2nd; Praise Choir practices (6:45 p.m.) for June will take place on the 2nd, 9th, and 16th and will not be practicing on June 23rd or 30th.

The Praise Choir will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays June 26th and July 3rd, prior to the service for a quick run through of the selections for the day.



Mount Cross Financial Report (January – April 2022)

2022 Approved Budget	\$306,010.00
Income	\$95,5089.00 (31.2% of 2022 budget)
Expenditures	\$100,823.00 (32.9% of 2022 budget)
Total given to the Mortgage Fund during April 2022	\$3,669.00
Total paid out in 2022 for mortgage	\$11,460.00

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

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

After wrapping up the 1st quarter and moving into the second, contributions fell short of expenses. This year started off with "across the board" higher expenses such as rising utility costs, increases in repair and custodial products. All of us are experiencing the results of the rising cost of living. Please prayerfully consider contributions to your church home. A big "thank you" to those who faithfully support Mount Cross with their contributions on a consistent basis.

Yours in Christ,
Financial Team

May 20, 2022

Mountain Cross Lutheran
601 AZ-260
Payson, AZ 85541



Payson Community Kids wanted to thank you so much for helping with feeding our kids with your food donation!

We wanted to make sure we acknowledge how very grateful we are to have such a helpful food establishment here in the Payson community!

We appreciate all your help making sure our kiddos at Payson Community Kids are fed dinner before they go home in the evening.

The kids always enjoy your sloppy joes and veggies. I just wanted to tell you I appreciate you guys and the time you donate to come here and serve the meal. Also I am sorry I was not in the kitchen this time to personally thank you. Kat

Thank you again,

Payson Community Kids

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 women are welcome to attend.

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

Women of the ELCA

As we move into summer our lives become more focused on the outdoors and how very beautiful God has made our world. Even with this severe drought in the west, our world is a wondrous thing. Each day, opening the windows we see a bright sun, some clouds, and hear birds singing with joy. On Sundays, we also sing with joy the hymns of celebration. As we celebrate Christ's return and then ascending, to be seated at the right hand of God. I love the verse, "*This is my son, in whom I am well pleased.*"

With Father's Day coming up, I wonder how many men have said that to their sons? How many sons could reverse that phrase? This is my father in whom I am well pleased/blessed? It is a time to remember our parents and grandparents as well as our God, who is our Holy Father. Take a moment to think with real focus on the 'thankful' part. Since we spend a great deal of time asking for intercession as well as assistance, maybe it is time to just be grateful.

We are planning a *Celebration of Lives* for those who have departed us during this covid/remote living period from which we have emerged. The Sunday of June 26th will be our Mount Cross personal memorial event with a pot luck lunch following service. This will be a time to remember, a time to thank them, and a time to share stories of our departed. Please plan to attend.

All set up and take down will be up to all of us. The current Congregational Life folks are Nancy and Ernie Kellett, Alice Natale, John and Patricia Prescholdt (when they are in Payson) and the Pastors at times. For big events we need more volunteers.

Our WELCA study over the previous months has focused on the Holy Spirit and how our lives are affected by the third Person of the Trinity; Holy Trinity Sunday will occur on June 12th, so the studies have been a wonderful lead-in to this celebration. This month, we will be starting the summer sessions of the Bible study and will use quilting as an example of how each of us is crafted in Christ. All women are welcome to attend on the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 until 11:30 a.m. in the Ponderosa Room.

Alice Natale

WELCA president