

Mount Cross Chronicle

August 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

Pastor
In transition
474-2552
pastor@mountcross.org

Music Director
Daria Mason
daria1024mason@gmail.com

Accompanist
Angeline Ng

Office Administrator
Lenore M. White
secretary@mountcross.org

Custodian
Claudia Landa

Mount Cross Supply Pastor

Dan Albertson was ordained a Presbyterian Pastor in December of 1997 and served as the Senior pastor for a church with 2,000 congregants. He was integral in efforts to both successfully grow the church by 500 members and increase charitable giving by more than 75% in three years.



Importantly, Dan's focus these past years has been his outreach Ministry to the homeless population in Chandler and greater phoenix, through the I-HELP Program at the Chandler Christian Community Center. Within one month of their participation in the program, more than 70% of the homeless clients served through this Ministry have attained meaningful employment and 25% of the clients have secured decent, affordable housing.

Dan is the Past-President of the San Tan Crown Rotary Club, Past Co-Chair and Past Bank President of the Rotary International Micro-Credit Banking in Mexico which educates and mentors persons of low, or no income, in Latin America with the fundamentals necessary to succeed with their business start-ups.

Dan Successfully completed a two-year term as a designated pastor at Southminster Presbyterian Church Phoenix, AZ in September 2019. During that period Membership increased by over 30%, attendance increased and giving increased by 23%

Dan is a commissioner at the Synod of the Southwest, a member of the Finance and Property committees at the Synod of the Southwest, Member of Operations committee at the Grand Canyon Presbytery and the Moderator of Congregations Resource Team at the Grand Canyon Presbytery.

In December 2020 Dan completed the 6-month Navajo and Tohono O'odham Nations Relief Food Boxes Project. He managed the program and coordinated over 100 volunteers to make 1,200 food boxes in five days each month.

Dan is a proud father of three adult children: Emmanuel, Victor and Grace. Dan is currently between Calls. It's our pleasure to welcome Pastor Dan Albertson to our pulpit for the first three Sundays of August.



Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday, August 14th
after the service



Our STATEMENT . . .

† ChristConnectingCommunity



Our church is in transition. Please pray for our congregation: to grow to embrace each other to move forward as we seek a new pastor.

Keep remembering Pastor Linda's first rap and how we reacted and now how we look forward to this uplifting moment.

Jesus will give us other uplifting moments. Just trust Him.

God's work. Our hands.



We need helpers for: Property Committee Altar Guild Congregational Life Gardeners to help with landscaping Joyous folk to: Sing (in the choir, as well as the nave) Greet each other on Sundays.

We need you, especially during this time of transition and as we move forward. Where do your talents fit in?

Please let us know!



August Birthdays

- 10 Sue Bobek 12 Vince Grennon 14 Sharry Lien 19 Scott Stallard 30 Sue Garn

August Wedding Anniversaries

- 9 Joe/Tonnie Dice Ron/Cyndy Plantz 15 Bruce/Mary Havenor 23 Lynn/Sue Hess 26 Roger/Sally Rohrbach

August Baptisms

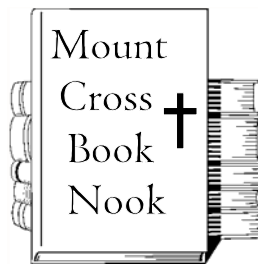
- 1 Sally Rohrbach 18 Nancy Kellett



QUILTERS ALERT!

We are in need of full, queen, and king sized sheets!!

Mark these dates on your calendar. We will meet on Wednesdays, August 3 & 24th. If you can tie a knot you are welcome to join us. We meet at 9:00 a.m. in the log building. Hope we see you there. If you have any questions, call 928-970-1126.



The books on the cart will remain the same, but adjoining it will be the FREEBIE table full of books of all kinds for you to peruse and decide if you would like to add to your personal library or give as a gift to a friend. The church library is about full to capacity so the recently donated books need to find a home. Check the table each week for more books will be added as space opens up.

Your Librarian, Eloise Jones

GLOBAL MISSIONS

Global Missions Committee will be meeting on Sunday, August 7th, after the service. Look for us at the tables in the back of the sanctuary. Anyone who would like to be a part of this ministry is encouraged to attend!

Please make sure to come, as we will be determining who will be available to work at the rummage sale to be held on August 19th & 20th.



Mount Cross Financial Report (January – June 2022)

2022 Approved Budget	\$306,010.00
Income	\$139,940.00 (45.7% of 2022 budget)
Expenditures	\$146,888.00 (48.0% of 2022 budget)

Total given to the Mortgage Fund during June 2022	\$2,729.00
Total paid out in 2022 for mortgage	\$17,190.00

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

Total income received from Thrivent "Choice Dollars" in 2022	
Mount Cross	\$4,708.00

Three out of the first six months of the year the income toward the mortgage exceeded the amount needed for the monthly payment; the other three months fell short of the monthly payment by minimal amounts, thus the months with extra amounts more than covered the months that were shy.

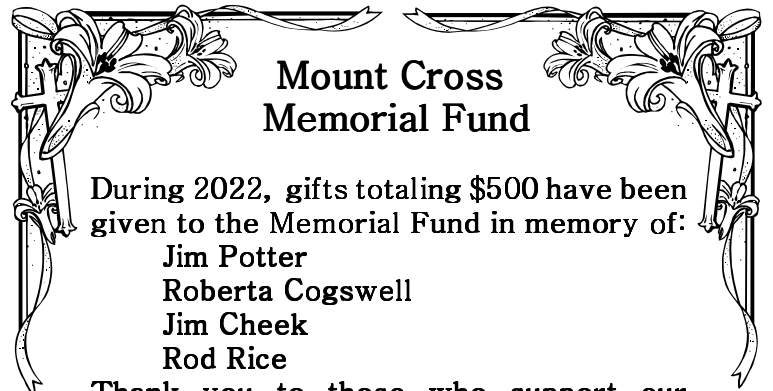
Mid-year numbers show both expenditures and income as below the budget. On average the expenses exceed the income by approximately \$1,150.00 per month. In looking at the general picture, Mount Cross is doing well. Thanks continues to be given to those who faithfully bless Mount Cross with their financial support.

Yours in Christ,
Financial Team



Come one, come all...and attend the Rummage Sale to be held on Friday the 19th from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and Saturday, August 20th from 8:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

Would you like to help the Global Missions Team with this event? Please attend the meeting after the service on August 7th or drop by sometime after 7:15 a.m. on Wednesday & Thursday the 17th & 18th to assist with set-up and/or the days of the sale to work.



During 2022, gifts totaling \$500 have been given to the Memorial Fund in memory of:

- Jim Potter
- Roberta Cogswell
- Jim Cheek
- Rod Rice

Thank you to those who support our Memorial Fund in this way.

Our funds are used for "things" needed within the congregation.

Past funds were used for:

- Communion ware
- Van fund
- Repaint soffit on front of church
- Organ cabinet
- Banners for sanctuary
- Piano bench
- Ponderosa furniture

Memorial Committee
Sharon Vaplon, Treasurer



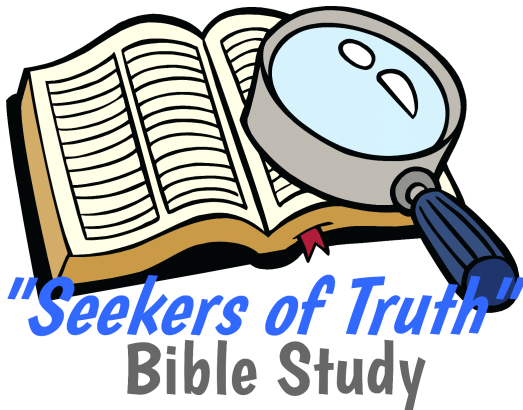
Women's BIBLE STUDY

The monthly WELCA (Women of the ELCA) Bible study will be held in the Ponderosa Room on Thursday, August 11th, 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...there is still time for you to join the study!

Seekers of Truth Bible study, support, social, and friendship group, is held on the third Thursday of each month in the Ponderosa Room at 10:00 AM; August 18th 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 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 questions, 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!

Thank You THANK YOU for hosting the Payson Community Blood Drive on Monday, July 25th.

There were 82 donors that registered to donate; ten donors were deferred. Three donors that did not qualify due to 'quantity not sufficient' (this is usually due to the blood clotting prior to the blood donation being completed). We collected 63 units of whole blood. Six donors that provided power red cells and we collected 11 red cells from those donors. There were a total of 69 successful procedures!!!! The lives of 200 patients in need could be impacted by these efforts!!!

We are so very grateful to Mount Cross Lutheran Church for providing such a beautiful location for this important lifesaving event!!! WE ARE SO TRULY GRATEFUL!!!!

We look forward to the next Payson Community blood drive on Monday, October 24th!!!

Lori Bone Hilliard
Account Manager
Vitalant Blood Services

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

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.



Peace to This House

(Luke 10)

What a wonderful way to greet someone. Try bringing "*peace to your house*" (a semi-quote). We are besieged with ads on television, both hate-filled and some you have to wonder why they are on daytime television. Then we see people acting foolish or angry or violent and we wonder why? We see a severe lack of civility, and we see no respect for tradition or each other. I wonder how far we have come from living as representatives of Christ in loving one another as we love ourselves.

As I reviewed the WELCA lesson for July and August, it used a quilt analogy as a vehicle for our lesson. The lesson also included pruning a plant to rid it of dead branches. For quilting, traditional quilts were made from scraps of cloth, carefully cut, stitched, and at the end of the process, a pattern was developed that would be beautiful. Slave women made crazy quilts, a tradition that has continued in Oakland, CA, as well as in the South. Never waste anything was the impetus behind crazy quilts. Today's women or men make quilts that are complex, with themes, or cloth sculpturing, pieces of art. New fabric is used most often, with vibrant colors and intricate designs. The point is to create something out of what is disparate parts.

Plants are pruned to shapes or to encourage growth, or fruit. So how does this relate to us? We are in the middle of considerable change. We also are in need of trimming or pruning some of our ways to make our Christ walk stronger. We have a path to keep tradition alive, but maybe with a new pattern to revitalize our walk. We have future and current designs to build on the traditional and overall keep Christ as foremost in our lives.

As the Women of the ELCA there are things we can do to keep our focus on the life that God has given us. Less time spent in feeling sorry for ourselves, less time spent in complaining, and more time spent in sharing God's love with others, as examples, as faith builders, and as God's hands here on earth will give you joy and purpose. If you do not complain, you have peace in your heart. If you live a life as an example of Jesus' teachings, you share kindness. If you live as God's helper on this earth, you will find a sense of peace and joy at all times. *May peace be brought to your house.*

Alice Natale

WELCA president



Office Administrator's Time Away

Our office administrator will be going to Wyoming for her future daughter-in-law's bridal shower, thus the office will be:

**Closed
Friday, August 5th**

**Office Hours
Monday through Wednesday
August 8th – 10th
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.**