
Mount Cross Chronicle

September 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

A Note from Mount Cross Council President

This has been a very busy time as we move forward after Pastors Hanus left our church for their change in lifestyle.

Since that time, I have spoken to Bishop Hutterer a couple of times and have kept up with Rev. Pat Reed, Grand Canyon Synod Transition Coach, almost weekly. In addition, we have had Pastor Dan, the man with a plan, for the past 4 weeks giving us sermons that relate to the gospel teachings each week, as well as sharing his experiences in Kenya as well as in USA.

We had a congregational meeting on August 14th, where we discussed various happenings that occurred with the disposition of a property and the sale of our church van, which was no longer needed for our after-school program. At the meeting, we asked for approval of the van sale, in retrospect of the actual sale, since we had opportunity to sell for a decent price with a quick turn around date for the sale to take place.

The congregation approved that sale, and then it was on to asking for approval to use money from the sale of the Waechter house, as well as van sale, towards paying on the mortgage principle, which was a unanimous vote. This reduces the mortgage to below \$500,000.00 which is a good goal to reach.

Moving forward, we have Rev. Patricia Reed and her husband attending our church on September 11th, as we move forward in our search for a new pastor. She will be available for members to chat with after the service regarding our need for a pastor. After the congregation meets with her, the Council will meet in private to determine our next course of action. The results of that meeting will be presented to our congregation the following Sunday.

My job has been to review the ELCA Constitution, compare it with the one we currently have in place, make any updates that will place us in compliance with overall ELCA Constitution, and then refer Mount Cross By-Laws, which also need to be updated to match current ELCA By-Laws.

Council has approved a policy to not rent our facilities to political groups, since we are a polling place and do not wish to take any sides in political issues.

Other than that, the Council and I would like volunteers to serve on Council, and to join us in making our church an ongoing viable place to worship.

Alice Natale
Council President



Our STATEMENT . . .

† ChristConnectingCommunity




Mount Cross volunteers will again serve a sloppy joe supper the third Thursday of each month, August through December. The next date for providing the meal is September 22nd.

If you are willing to help us out at 4:00 p.m. or provide funds for the food that we buy, please contact Sharon Vaplon, 928-468-8711.

The staff of Payson Community Kids really appreciates our service, because if no one volunteers, they then have to put a meal together. Their goal is to send the children home from the after-school program with a supper each day they attend.

Your support of time and funds for this program are appreciated.

At Mount Cross
beginning
at 8:30 a.m.
in the
Ponderosa
Room
on Sunday,
September 18th.



Flu Shot Clinic

August was a busy month. Holding a large rummage sale takes incredible endurance, patience, and clean up. Working together is fun, and gives us a chance to show our care for each other. Now we can look at new horizons in the future. Ideas for growth of our church, our people are cheerfully accepted.

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



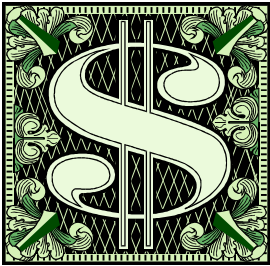

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be in our community on Friday, September 9, 2022 at Mount Cross Lutheran Church. Ultrasound screenings to identify risk factors for Cardiovascular Disease include:

- **Carotid Artery** (plaque buildup-a leading cause of stroke)
- **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm** (an enlargement or weak area in the main blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body)
- **Peripheral Arterial Disease** (hardening of the arteries in the legs)
- **Heart Rhythm Screening** (an EKG to detect Atrial Fibrillation-irregular heartbeat)
- **Osteoporosis Risk Assessment** for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early.

Register online TODAY at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or call 1-866-229-0469 to receive your discount and preferred appointment time.

FREE CPR/AED CLASS

Mogollon Health Alliance is offering a free CPR/AED class on Tuesday, September 13th, at 6:00 p.m. in the log building. Pre-registration is required. To reserve your spot, please call MHA at 928-472-2588.



Mount Cross Financial Report (January – July 2022)

2022 Approved Budget	\$306,010.00
Income	\$164,863.00 (53.9% of 2022 budget)
Expenditures	\$169,662.00 (55.0% of 2022 budget)

Total given to the Mortgage Fund during July 2022	\$4,084.00
Total paid out in 2022 for mortgage	\$20,055.00

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

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

At the special congregational meeting on the 14th of August, it was unanimously approved to pay \$50,000.00 against the principle of the mortgage. That transaction has transpired.

Yours in Christ,
Financial Team



During this month of constant change, computer and internet challenges, telephone challenges and miscellaneous annoyances, the first article in our Gather magazine addressed the need for a Shabat.

Shabat is the Holy Day, starting at sunset on Friday until sunset on Saturday for those of the Jewish faith. Like God, who took the 7th day as a day of rest, the Jewish faith observes this day by worship, meals, and rest and prayer. We call it Sunday, and might also take a time of rest, or simply attend church and then go on to other tasks.

The author suggests that we take a Shabat moment when we feel overwhelmed. Perhaps a whole day, a couple of hours, a few minutes, or simply one minute. We thank our God for the day, the hour, the minute or the ability to complete our tasks. I call it regrouping. For myself, I make a list of the to do's, then check them off, read a page of whatever I am reading, and then move forward. It helps to keep me centered. For all of us, keeping centered is important.

At present, I am whittling time for God in what is a task-oriented period of my life. I can greet him as an old friend, thank him, pray for a few who need prayer, and then get back to the never-ending list of tasks that need to be done before the end of the year.

As we go through the many changes in our church, plan to create your own Shabat. Time with God is critical for surviving our changing world.

Alice Natale
WELCA president



Friday, September 2nd
and
Monday, September 5th
Office will be closed
in observance of
Labor Day.



For this month, please *for*:

1. **our church**, that we may move forward with the pastor God has in mind for us,
2. **our sick**,
3. **all those** with whom we interact,
4. **ourselves**, as we accept whatever the future holds.

pray *to*:

5. **be kind**,
6. **be a joy to others**,
7. **be understanding** of other people's circumstances,
8. **be Christ's light** in a dark world!



September Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--|
| 6 | Ron Plantz
Helen Rodgers
Gene Verhulst |
| 8 | Jean Larson |
| 11 | Virginia McCall |
| 12 | Kathi Merkel |
| 19 | Cyndi Plantz |
| 21 | Clyde Longberry |
| 23 | Eloise Jones
Barry Peiffer |
| 25 | Marlu Allan |

September Wedding Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Bob/Mary Walker |
| 4 | Gary/Carole Wilder |
| 15 | Patric/Sherri Taylor |

September Baptisms

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 25 | Virginia McCall |
| 30 | Scott Stallard |

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.



Future of Mount Cross?



Are you wondering what may be in the future for Mount Cross? Here is an opportunity for you to express your thoughts and find out what options are available to the church. Rev. Patricia Reed will be visiting Mount Cross on Sunday, September 11th. She is a transition coach for Grand Canyon Synod. You are welcome to stay after the worship service and visit with her. There will be an impromptu Council meeting with her after the "meet & greet" with the congregation.





Women's BIBLE STUDY

The monthly WELCA (Women of the ELCA) Bible study will be held in the Ponderosa Room on Thursday, September 8th, at 10:00 a.m.

Bible studies from *Gather* magazine are used. Since the physical magazine has been delayed due to mail delays for the September/October issue, you can now download the September 2022 *Gather* Bible study, "*Jesus and nature: Teachers of faith*," at:

<https://www.gathermagazine.org/jesus-and-nature-teachers-of-faith/>.

Printed copies have been made available and can be found on the clipboard near the church mailboxes.

Written by the Rev. Sara Olson-Smith, this free downloadable session offers participants new perspectives on the character of God and ways to deepen our stewardship of God's creation. As a supplement to the study, the following video may be viewed online:

<https://www.gathermagazine.org/september-2022-video-supplement-to-jesus-and-nature-teachers-of-faith/>

During the summer months, the Bible study focused on being "*Crafted in Christ*" and used the concept of quilting as a medium to discuss rest, renewal, and the Christian community. Even though the studies used the quilting concept, no actual sewing experience is required to complete the study.

Video editions are available to enhance your study experience:

June 2022, Session 1: "A summer of rest and renewal," focuses on choosing patterns and re-assessing the shape of our lives. We find life-giving patterns in worship, Sabbath and service. View the June 2022 video supplement:

<https://www.gathermagazine.org/katie-hines-shah-leads-gathers-june-2022-bible-study/>

July 2022, Session 2: "Quilt cutting and piecing," explores how our lives and Christian communities come together into a cohesive whole, including people of all shapes and sizes, abilities and talents. View the July 2022 video supplement:

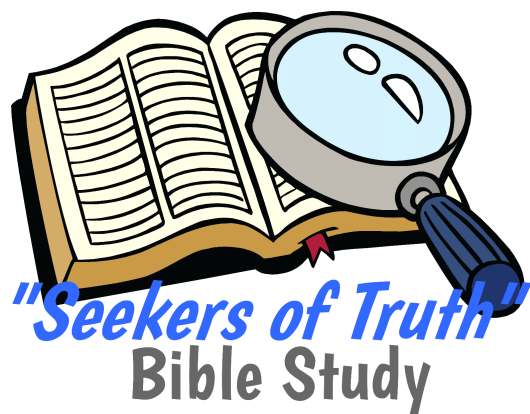
<https://www.gathermagazine.org/july-2022-video-supplement-to-gather-bible-study-crafted-in-christ/>

August 2022, Session 3: "Ties that bind," examines how God invites us to commit to a new way of life with God and with each other. View the August 2022 video supplement:

<https://www.gathermagazine.org/august-2022-video-supplement-to-crafted-in-christ/>

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; September 15th 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!