
Mount Cross Chronicle

May 2025



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

Pastor

Rev. Carl Sirotzki
928-474-2552

608-370-1284 (emergencies)
pastor@mountcross.org

Music Director
Daria Mason

daria1024mason@gmail.com

Accompanist
Angeline Ng

Office Administrator
Lenore M. White
secretary@mountcross.org

Custodian
Keri Morris

Pastor's Musings & Ponderings

"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, rejoice."

(ESV, Philippians 4:4)

Although it has only been a couple of weeks since we celebrated Easter, we will remain in the Easter season until Pentecost which is on June 8th. So what does it mean that we are in the Easter season?

The church has long considered that our Lord's resurrection is far too significant of an event to be limited to just one day. Easter Day is both the culmination of the Three Days (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil) and the beginning of Easter, which is celebrated over the fifty days from Easter Sunday through Pentecost, the fiftieth day. It is on Pentecost that we are reminded of Jesus' resurrection promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit being fulfilled. Throughout the Easter season, the paraments and vestments will stay white. The Paschal Candle will be lit before every service and will remain near the altar until Pentecost when it will be returned to near the Baptismal Font. It is important for us to remember that on every Sunday, especially Easter Sunday, we proclaim the message of salvation as we join together to Jesus Christ and one another in Holy Eucharist.

During these fifty days, there will be a New Member Orientation at a date to be determined in May. If you are interested in becoming a member of Mount Cross or would simply like to find out more about Mount Cross, please let Lenore or me know.

This past Easter Sunday also marked the displaying of the mosaic cross made with the broken plates that so many of you brought in. I am so appreciative of the skill that went into making the wooden cross and all who assembled the broken pieces into a very beautiful cross. This was truly a labor of love for everyone involved. If you haven't had the opportunity to view the cross up close, I encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience.

Please remember that if you would like a visit or know someone who would like a visit, please let me know.

Peace,

Pastor Carl

Philippians 1:3-4



Our STATEMENT . . . + ChristConnectingCommunity





LIFE LINE SCREENING®
The Power of Prevention

**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

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.

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call **888-814-0466** and use
promo code **HSCA001**

Visit  **LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA**



Text the word **"circle"**
to **216-279-1607**



2025 National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 1st

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 1st 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)



Lord, we know that You are fully aware of all that is going on within the world You gave us to oversee and take care of. Adam and Eve were remiss in allowing Satan to "trick" them into handing over that authority. You are the only one who can change the mistakes made since that time and turn them to good. Please place Your hand upon this nation and heal it!



Mount Cross Financial Report (January – March 2025)

2025 Approved Budget	\$335,793.00
Income	\$78,500.00 (23.4% of 2023 budget)
Expenditures	\$79,449.00 (23.7% of 2023 budget)

Total given to the Mortgage Fund during March 2025..... \$2,955.00

Total paid out in 2025 for mortgage

\$11,505.00

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

Total income received from Thrivent "Choice Dollars" in 2025

Mount Cross..... \$1,565.00

The Church Council would appreciate your attendance at the second and third Church Finance Meetings scheduled immediately following the Sunday morning services on May 4th and May 11th.


Thank you to those who faithfully support Mount Cross with their contributions. We would also like to thank those who have directed their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Mount Cross.

Yours in Christ,

Mike Roberts

Mount Cross Financial Secretary

OFFICE HOURS



Office will be closed on
Friday, May 23rd
and
Monday, May 26th
(Memorial Day celebrated)



May Birthdays

3 Bobbie Priest
19 Tonnie Dice
25 Carol McNulty

May Wedding Anniversaries

22 Ed/Terri Stevens
27 Mark/Jan Bartoli

May Baptisms

1 Alice Natale

PENTECOST SUNDAY



JUNE 8th
9:30 AM

"Wear Red" Sunday!

God's work.
Our hands.



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

Are hands the only part of our body that can do work for God?

How about our voices? Do you like to sing?

The Mount Cross Praise Choir would love to have you join with them.

Lifting praise to the Lord through song raises the spirit within us and that joy becomes apparent to others around us and is contagious. This joy that is spread through song can provide encouragement and hope to others.

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Worship Services

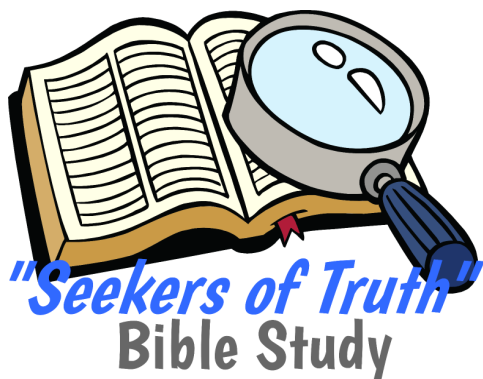
Weekly in-house communion & worship service held in the sanctuary; live stream of the service is available on Facebook.

Sundays, 9:30 AM

Seekers of Truth Bible study

This is a monthly Bible study which will be focusing on the parables of Jesus. All are welcome to attend.

3rd 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 Ponderosa Room at 10:00 a.m. May 15th is the date for this month's meeting.

The group is currently studying the parables of Jesus. At the May meeting, the group will be covering the parables of the Kingdom: The Seed and the Soil (Matthew 13: 1-23), the Work of the Enemy (Matthew 13: 24-43), People of the Kingdom (Matthew 13: 44-46), and God's Kingdom (Matthew 13: 47-52).

Here is a link to a video about why parables were used by Jesus:

https://youtu.be/XX-aAg4_U2Q?si=I8dlU-HGSmadd_zc

All are welcome to attend. All you need is a Bible. The formal discussion period of the meeting generally lasts about an hour and is followed by a time for sharing and support. If you have questions please contact Sue Bobek, the group discussion leader or Jan Bartoli, the group facilitator.



The featured items for the month of May will be miscellaneous items: condiments (not packets from fast food restaurants), crackers, pudding packs, instant soups/mashed potatoes, and cereal. Featured items may be placed on the table located in the narthex near the entrance doors going into the sanctuary.

Reminder: the 3rd 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.



A special congregational meeting was held on Sunday, April 27th. This was the first in a series of three (3) special congregational meetings regarding church finances.

Information was handed out to those in attendance and has been sent via email to all voting members for review.

On May 4th, there will be a special congregational meeting to answer the congregations questions related to the information provided.

A final meeting will occur on May 11th to present a series of motions to the congregation for their consideration.