

THE EVANGEL
Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church
11273 E. 40th Street
Yuma, Az.

November 2023
Volume 31, Issue 11



MISSION STATEMENT

Walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to every person

TO YOU, GOD'S BELOVED, CALLED TO FOLLOW JESUS!

Stephen Ministry training classes start Wednesday, November 15th.

Stephen Ministry has been a key part of Gloria de Cristo for over 20 years.

Stephen Ministers are everyday people like you that take time to learn about Christian caregiving as part of a class that meets weekly for 5 months. In these classes, you will learn the depths of God's love and how to bring that love and care into caring relationships throughout your life.

Are you ready and willing to allow God to use you in a new way?

I would like to have many of you in class from 9:30 am to Noon!

Please call me at 928-342-6002 with any questions!

Mission Congregation Anniversary Celebration

Maricopa Lutheran Church will be celebrating their 10th anniversary of ministry on Sunday, November 12th.

Worship is at 9 am and the party/celebration/reception is from 1 to 3 pm.
Would you like to be part of the "group" going over from Gloria de Cristo?
Call the office if you are interested!

Audio/Visual System Update

People worshipping online across the US and Canada have noticed the big difference in sound and video quality of the worship services. This has brought a vast improvement and was the first item the Vision Team chose to address as Gloria de Cristo moves forward in our mission.

*Thank God for good work and thank God for your generosity which made this possible!
Dedication of this system will take place in worship on Sunday, November 19th!*

See you in worship!
Pastor Bill Timm

From the desk of Dr. Shirley....

Thanksgiving is a national holiday celebrated on various dates in the United States, Canada, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Brazil, Germany, Japan, and Liberia. The dates vary by country. It is a day of giving thanks, prayer, feasting, spending time with family, and sacrifice for the blessing of the harvest of the preceding year.

To wish you a blessed Thanksgiving, following are some Bible results for “Thanks be to God” from the New International Version.

[Nehemiah 12:46](#) – “For long ago, in the days of David and Asaph, there had **been** directors for the musicians and for the songs of praise and **thanksgiving to God.**”

[Daniel 6:10](#) – “Now when Daniel learned that the decree had **been** published, he went home **to** his upstairs room where the windows opened **toward** Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving **thanks to his God**, just as he had done **before.**”

[Romans 7:25](#) – “**Thanks be to God**, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave **to God’s** law, but in my sinful nature a slave **to** the law of sin.”

[1 Corinthians 15:57](#) – “But **thanks be to God!** He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

[2 Corinthians 2:14](#) – “But **thanks be to God**, who always leads us as captives in Christ’s triumphal procession and uses us **to** spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere.”

[2 Corinthians 4:15](#) – “All this is for your **benefit**, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause **thanksgiving to** overflow **to** the glory of **God.**”

[2 Corinthians 9:15](#) – “**Thanks be to God** for his indescribable gift!”

[Philippians 4:6](#) – “Do not **be** anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with **thanksgiving**, present your requests **to God.**”

[2 Thessalonians 1:3](#) – “We ought always **to** thank **God** for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, **because** your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.”

[Revelation 7:12](#) - saying: “Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and **thanks** and honor and power and strength **be to** our **God** for ever and ever. Amen!”

Thanksgiving at Gloria de Cristo is the prelude to Advent when we celebrate both the first and second coming of Jesus into the world. See you at Thanksgiving Eve service at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, 2023.

VISION TEAM TEMPLE TALK FROM OCT. 8

Good Morning..My Name is Kay Lee Grunst. I have been worshiping here at Gloria de Cristo for about 15 years. My husband and I had been living in a motorhome for several years and most weekends, we found a Lutheran church nearby to worship. Small congregations, large congregations, friendly people greeting you and sometimes not-so friendly people that were involved in the busyness of the morning. Never thought too much about it. We were just visiting, so we participated in worship and went on our way.

Then we arrived in Yuma, and national economics, being what they were in 2007/2008, we settled in. We have been blessed in so many ways. Here at Gloria de Cristo we found the choir and music program we enjoyed being a part of and welcoming people who became friends and our Yuma family.

Over the years, I became involved with the council, the ministry teams and also the Bells of Glory, in addition to singing in the choir. I noticed the sign over the gate as you leave the courtyard and walk toward the parking lot. "You are entering the Mission field", it says. I thought – Yeah, I live a Christian Life and people can see that, so what else? Then I was asked to serve on a committee to look toward the future and where Gloria de Cristo would be in ten years or more. I had some ideas that the congregation would probably remain a group of older retired people, traveling and vacationing in the sunny southwest. But, I agreed to commit to a lengthy study which would be led by Pastors associated with Auxano (a consultant group). There are twelve of us on this Vision Team and we began the journey in February 2022.

Through all the session, we worked toward planning for the future and examined the organizational structure here at Gloria de Cristo. Were we offering the type of worship, bible study, activities, that would grow our congregation, make us better Christians? Our findings and conclusion have resulted in a new mission statement, "Walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to every person", and a Vision for the Future of Gloria de Cristo to be a stable and growing community in the Foothills Yuma.

Our future is now! Each of our worshippers is encouraged to be active, not only in worshipping, but being a participant in that worship. Ushering and care of the altar and communion preparation are a couple of examples. Acknowledge the talents and gifts of giving we have received from our Lord, by generously sharing your time on a Ministry Team, whether it is attending a meeting and reporting on it or organizing an activity or cooking and baking for Fellowship Hour. And don't be shy about letting people know that you love Jesus and you want others to know and love him too. Invite (or perhaps bring) a friend to church.

And become a participant in the Bible Book Club. If we love this book, we want to share it, and learn more about it and it's message. Group discussions are educational, both in-person and online. The new sound system not only helps the in-person worshipper hear better and not miss anything, but the live-streaming of the worship service reaches travelers, and friends or acquaintances as well as our out-of-town members.

Temple Talk (con't.)

Praise God and be thankful for the past vision to begin and organize this congregation – for the present vision to be involved and support this congregation – and the future vision to expand our involvement and support the congregation.

This Temple Talk is to tell you that we are not done and that our future is now and that you – everyone of you in this room, whether a member, associate member, regular or sometime visitor or friend, or stopped by to satisfy your curiosity of what is going on here – yes – everyone of us, needs to get excited about our Faith and our love for Jesus.

Don't be left out. Don't just take it for granted that there will be a Lutheran congregation to welcome you. Someone had a vision and did something about it. Now it is our turn. Be a part of the future as we 'Walk with Jesus to Bring New Life and Hope to Every Person'.

Thank you and God Bless You!

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



We are entering into a time of thanks and also a time of anticipation. We will celebrate Thanksgiving with our friends and families and praise God for all the he has blessed us with, both as his children and with his forgiveness. Then we will anticipate the celebration of Jesus' birth. We are truly blessed that we are saved by grace and can look forward to our time with Jesus in heaven. We, as a congregation, have much to be thankful for as we have been able to update our sound system and our ability to stream our worship service to those who cannot attend in person. We have a beautiful church and make all feel welcome. Gloria de Cristo offers many ways to further your involvement in church and to expand your personal growth in God's word. Please take time to read the bulletin and check out the different offerings for involvement in the church.

YOUTH AND EDUCATION

Welcome home all of those who have returned to the Desert Southwest and Gloria de Cristo.

Plans are being made for the upcoming season: Adult Vacation Bible School (End of January 2024) and Youth Fund Raising Events.

Please consider serving on this committee or any other committee that can use your God given time and talents.



Diane Lee, Chairperson



GLORIOUS QUILTERS

Hmmmm, like many of us that write these articles each month we sit and ponder what are we going to tell you that's new and exciting.

Yes, finally our Church Family is filtering home from places here and there. We are so very glad to see everyone.

It was a pleasure to visit the Salvation Army and leave them some of our quilts. They made mention that at Christmas time they'll need a lot more.

I, (WE) need to thank all of you that made a monetary donation to our quilters, whether by check or Thrivent grants. It's time again to order the batting. So, through your generosity we can do that and be able to pay for it. What a load off our minds.

It's funny, no that's not the word, to see how excited we all get to see the quilters returning home. It's like seeing your friend you haven't seen in forever. We truly are a Family!

Feeling bored with the same ol' routine? Come join us on Mondays from 9-12. You don't have to sew, we have other things you can do to be most helpful. And besides we stop for coffee, tea and treats at 10!

Text me at 503-338-9358

Carol Schock

FELLOWSHIP

We are definitely going into fall. The weather has been cooling down and it is pleasant to sit out at night and get some yard work done. We also are beginning to see more and more of our church family returning from their summer homes. It is so much fun to greet them as they come back.

Potlucks are still a good time to get together and share your favorite dish. We had such a great array of food this past potluck and look forward to November's event.

The Thursday morning work parties have been attended by only a few of our members, but we have been accomplishing a great deal. We have a fairly good amount of items lined up for the bazaar and continue every second and fourth Thursday morning to make more items. I am amazed at the talent we have; I know I am impressed with the creativity and beauty of items they are making. My only concern is that we don't have enough members there; I know we have a lot more women with creative ideas to share. PLEASE come and join us and share those ideas. We had a very good attendance at the Farewell party for Kay Lee and Tom. It was unfortunate that Tom was not up to coming out, but we send our love and prayers to both of them for a safe trip to their new home. We had a great crew making up the food, serving and cleaning up. Thank you to all of you.

The freezer was beginning to look a little bare, but several of our members have stepped up and baked up a supply of cookies. Thank you to each of you that supplied goodies for everyone to enjoy on Sunday mornings. We can always use more cookies.

Please remember to put December 2 on your calendar for our Holiday Bazaar and bake sale. We are asking any of you who bake bread to provide us with loaves of bread and rolls, We would also like to have pies, cakes, cookies and candy. Another item that has been popular in the past is canned pickles and peppers, and homemade jams and jellies. We will do the setup on December 1 from 9 to noon, and the Bazaar/bake sale will be from 8 to noon on December 2. We would like opinions about the hours of operation, would it be good to continue till 1 pm or 2 pm?

Looking forward to seeing you in Fellowship.

Cheryl Preul, Fellowship Chairman



MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Mental Health Ministry

The Mental Health Ministry Team is a group of GDC members who are interested in sharing information and awareness about mental health. Our goal has been to provide information to help destigmatize mental health issues so that as a congregation we can strive to fulfil **Galatians 6:2** “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”

Over the past several years we have reported on many types of mental illness and shared numerous articles in the **Evangel**, bulletin boards, and church bulletin inserts.

The following activities are ways to learn more information, and help keep your mental and physical health in sync.

Balance/Stretch Class meets every Wednesday at 2:30 in Fellowship Hall. In November an additional class will meet at 1:00. (Learning techniques to help with balance could save you from falling.)

Mindfulness Group meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 in the Fellowship Classroom. (This class uses Bible verses, breathing, and singing bowls to help relax and calm you.)

Caregiver Support Group had their first organizational meeting October 20. Look for more info in future church bulletins. (This group meets and discusses how to cope with taking care of someone.)

Dr. Ricky Ochoa Presentation on Saturday, November 18 at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Dr. Ochoa discusses caregiving, nutrition, and coping with dementia, and other disabling illnesses.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Promote understanding of the human needs and social problems within our congregation, the community, and beyond

October Emilia Cortez, Development Director for Arizona's Children Association, attended our meeting . She informed us there are 1,700 children in foster care in Yuma County and 11,000 state-wide. The Social Concerns Committee will again sponsor a clothing/toy drive the last 2 weeks of November. Gifts can be for any age (0-18), up to \$25.00 and should not be wrapped. There will be containers in the Narthex and your gift needs to be turned in by December 2nd. Last year we filled a pick-up truck with Christmas cheer. Let's do it again!

December we will also sponsor the ELCA Good Gifts drive. This is an emphasis on missions where you can purchase a farm animal or other items to support ELCA missions. Volunteers will be needed to take donations.

Birthday celebrations at Rose Garden continue with another birthday celebration planned for November. If you are interested in being part of these celebrations contact me, Barb Blank, or Carol Schock.

Food deliveries to the Yuma Community Food bank continue. In October we delivered 113 lbs. of food. This is another opportunity for you to participate. If you would like to assist with delivering food let me know. We have a rotating schedule, so no one has to make a long-term commitment. This gives you the opportunity to see the food bank in action.

September we received \$ 430.00 for the YRMC Pediatric Oncology Assistance Program. Many thanks for you contributions.

Blessings,

Evelyn Trone
928-210-8015

1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

As each received a gift, use it to serve one another, as stewards of Gods varied gifts.



NEW MEMBERS

Bob & Judy Zeiss

928-247-3375

10231 S. Universe Avenue, Yuma 85367

Bob was born 8/8/1944 in Bloomington, Illinois. He was raised and lived in San Diego. He graduated from Kearny High School in 1962 and enlisted in the Air Force from 1962-1966. He worked for the City of San Diego for 38 years as a refuse collector and when he retired, he and Judy retired to Idaho for 13 years. We have been in Yuma for about 5 years. Bob has two younger brothers and one adult daughter.

Judy was born in Lakewood, Ohio and grew up in San Diego, Ca. I was baptized and raised in the Lutheran Church. I graduated from San Diego State with a liberal arts degree and worked throughout my adult life. I have two adult children and one grandson.

Mason (Rick) & Barbara Sherwood

253-255-1806

11589 E. 36th Street, Yuma 85367

253-537-2253

Rick was born October 16, 1942 in Kansas City, Missouri. Grew up in Shelbyville, Illinois. From there attended DeVry Technical Institute in Chicago, receiving a degree in electronic engineering. Hired by Boeing aerospace Seattle to work on the minuteman missile systems in Minot, North Dakota. After a short stint moved back to Seattle (Puyallup) hired with Weyerhaeuser Company as a data communication analyst. During this time, I met Barbara and 52 years later we have two children, 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandson.

Barbara was born September 18, 1944 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. At the age of two my family moved to the Sumner/Puyallup area of Washington state where I grew up with an older brother and a younger sister until graduating from high school. I was baptized and confirmed Lutheran during this time. I met and married Rick 52 years ago and together we have two children, six grandchildren and a great grandson, all living in Washington. My work career consisted of trust departments in several large banks, picture frame shop owner/operator, and commercial real estate appraisal firms. My most rewarding career was as a stay-at-home mom for several years when our son was young. We moved to Meadview, Arizona in 2006 and have spent the last 2 1/2 years here in Yuma. We were going to attend several churches in the area until we found a fit for us, but it turned out Gloria de Cristo was the first church we attended and we didn't need to look any further.

NEW MEMBER'S (con't.)

Anthony (Tony) Gingras
7825 E. 38th Lane, 85365

928-210-2439

Anthony (Tony) Gingras, originally from western Massachusetts, came to Yuma, Arizona in 1996 as a United States Marine. After completing his enlistment, he attended Arizona Western College, Arizona State University, and Northern Arizona University. He completed degrees in Industrial Technology, Operations Management, and his graduate level degree in Program Management. Tony is employed with the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) as currently the Chief, Ammunition & Armaments Division. He has served many different positions for the last twenty-one years supporting our War Fighters. He has a son Chase, who is a former Army Airborne Soldier and Radar Technician at YPG. Tony enjoys time with family, friends, the great outdoors, motorcycles, movies, and traveling.

OUTREACH



Acts 2

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: 21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Have you ever wondered what happens in the final days of earth? Joel gives us a brief description of what happens and how to deal with. Let everyone know that you believe in Jesus and you will be saved.

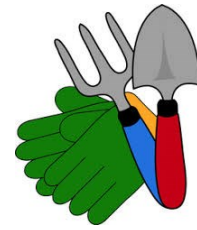
Pretty quiet in outreach. Can't do highway clean up until the road construction is complete. Watch the bulletin for updates.

Welcome back bash is going to happen December 6 at the civic center. Volunteers are needed. If you can help out, please call the church office.

Joe Johnson, Outreach Chair



PROPERTY



Happy to announce that the new sound and video system have been installed this past week. It had its first trial Sunday, except for one minor mistake, the system functioned well. Received several positive comments from viewers. Big thanks to Michelle Cegon and Char Schomisch for their expertise in making this happen. They were both very diligent in learning a very high-tech professional system and succeeded in pulling it off. My hats off to you for a job well done.

During the same week that the sound system was going in we had the Parking lot resurfaced. You will notice that several uneven places were leveled, and it will be less hazardous walking across the lot in the future.

I will be out of town for two weeks. I have my first great grand baby Girl to go meet in Mobile, Alabama. She is 4 months old, so thought I better go see her before she starts walking.

So very happy to see our church family returning to us here at GDC after a long hot summer. Praise the Lord.

Blessing to all
Property Chair, David Donaldson

STEPHEN MINISTRY

TO ALL STEPHEN MINISTERS....You are invited to a potluck gathering on Wednesday, November 1st from 11am-12:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a side dish to compliment 'Sloppy Joe's'.

Hope this will fit your schedule so you can join us for food and fellowship.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

TO ALL PEOPLE, CALLED BY GOD TO BE HIS OWN!

NOBODY CARES...NOBODY LISTENS...NOBODY HELPS...NOBODY WANTS ME...

Are any of those laments true? Many people think so, because they are in a state of hopelessness...lostness...aleness...

Maybe you have "been there" or know a number of people that have "been there".

Did you know that God cares...God listens...God helps...God wants everyone?

How does God do this for so many people at the same time?

God sends other Christians who care, who listen, who help, who show that God wants everyone!

Who are these people?

Regular people like you and me who are trained in Stephen Ministry!

Stephen Ministry has been at Gloria de Cristo since 2003...over 20 years...so many people have been trained...so many people who have been cared for by Christians just like you who are trained in Christian Caregiving!

But that is the Pastor's "job"...that's why we hire him...

If you really look at the New Testament description of the pastor's role in the church..."the task of the pastor is to equip the saints for the work of ministry"

Is God urging you to consider being trained as a Stephen Minister?

I hope so...I pray so...because God needs as many Christians as possible trained and equipped as God's partners in caregiving!

Please call me at 928-342-6002 if you have any questions.

Training will begin in November. I hope God moves YOU to step forward!

See you in worship!
Bill Timm, Pastor



WELCA HAPPENINGS

GATHER POTLUCK: All ladies of the congregation are invited to a ‘Gather Potluck’ on Tuesday, November 7th at 5:00 p.m. The featured speaker for the evening is Shari Jones from Lord of Life Lutheran Church. There will be a sign-up form in the bulletin at the end of the month. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. The Guys are also welcome!!

Thank Offering for WELCA: On November 19th we will have the offering collected that supports the women’s programs of the National WELCA. All ladies of the congregation are members of WELCA so we ask that you consider making a donation to support these programs. Envelopes will be distributed the weekend prior to the 19th. Thank You!



Met briefly with the committee to see if there was any concern with preparation for communion.

Reminded them that we will soon be in the rush of things to be done. Our next change over will be for Reformation, which is October 28/29th weekend. We will plan to make those changes on Monday of that week. We will then have a couple of weekends that small banners are needed before we will prepare for Thanksgiving service on Wednesday, November 22nd.

Choir and Bells are rotating Saturday’s and Sunday’s (9:30) and Lori Rapp will be taking over directing the Bells with Klee leaving us.

Sound system.. will be looking at setting up some teams for that with training first as a group with power point presentation on how it’s done. Then on one-one-one training to actually run the system during Saturday service but not putting it on line with Michelle or I sitting with each one of them. Volunteers thus far include Gary Raasch, Niki Duffy, Tom Volpe, Rick Sherwood, David Donaldson, and Michelle and me. Will try to get them together on probably a Saturday morning in the near future. Til then Michelle and I are handling it.

Char Schomisch, Co-chair

Worship & Music Committee

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR NOVEMBER



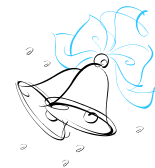
- 5 Friends of Neva Fhrolick in celebration of her birthday
- 12 Lorie Rapp
- 19 Terry & Judy Mann in celebration of their 58th wedding anniversary
- 26 Wes & Donna Hewitt in celebration of their 42nd wedding anniversary



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|----------------|----|----------------|
| 4 | Dave Graham | 14 | Char Schomisch | 24 | Eric Werner |
| 4 | Rosella Lesher | 16 | Audrey Mangel | 26 | John Arnold |
| 4 | Anna Rosenbohm | 19 | Tina Jarmer | 27 | Don Urrey |
| 4 | Ron Van Dyke | 20 | Mike Rosenberg | 29 | Ed Anderson |
| 7 | Eliza Johnson | 24 | Mary Brown | 29 | Donna Brown |
| 8 | Michelle Cegon | 24 | Marilyn Davis | 30 | Patrick Girard |
| 10 | Roland Anderson | 24 | Alice Morvec | 30 | Judy Skarbo |

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|----|-----------------|
| 9 | David & Jeannette Olson | 24 | Bob & Mary Hall |
|---|-------------------------|----|-----------------|



Mens' Breakfast will meet on the first Saturday of the month at 8am at Daybreakers. Please join us for a time of food and fellowship!!

This month– November 4th



Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church,
ELCA
11273 E. 40th Street
Yuma, Az. 85367
Phone: 928-342-6002
Fax: 928-342-7613
Website: www.Gloriadecristo.com

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NOVEMBER 2023



PASTOR: Bill Timm
ORGANIST: Dr. Shirley Ehler
PIANISTS: Marie Ritten, Lorie Rapp
BELLS OF GLORY: Lorie Rapp
CHOIR: Dr. Shirley Ehler

GriefShare Leaders:
Ted & Nikki Duffy
Mary Marsh
Lisa Crayne

Stephen Ministry Leaders:
Pastor Timm
Michelle Cegon
Jim & Sherrie Wehrer

Church Secretary: Char Schomisch

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Sharon Merz
VICE PRESIDENT: John Arnold
SECRETARY: Jackie Tracey
TREASURER: Terre Munk

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS:

EDUCATION: Diane Lee
FELLOWSHIP: Cheryl Preul
OUTREACH: Joe Johnson
PROPERTY: Dave Donaldson
SOCIAL CONCERNS: Evelyn Trone
STEWARDSHIP: Gary Raasch
WORSHIP & MUSIC: Char Schomisch