



MISSION STATEMENT

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

TO YOU, CALLED BY ALMIGHTY GOD TO FOLLOW JESUS!

THE SAME GOD WHO LED YOU IN WILL LEAD YOU OUT

Some time ago, Dr. Shirley gave me a copy of *The Red Sea Rules* by Robert J. Morgan. I have found this book helpful in keeping life and our church in perspective.

The book begins by recounting God delivering the children of Israel out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an out-stretched arm. They left the Pharaoh's captivity loaded with gifts from the people. They traveled all the way to the Red Sea and God told them camp there...even though Pharaoh had changed his mind and was leading his armies toward where they were camped.

God knew this...and God was prepared to lead them safely out of Egypt.

Rule #1 Realize that God means for you to be where you are. (i.e., God knows where you are and has not forgot about you!)

Gloria de Cristo has gone through a full year of prayer and study to arrive at God's vision for our future ministry. Our consultant led us through a process that looked at all the factors of our area and of our congregation. The growth of the area was factored in as 226 homes were soon being constructed immediately behind the church. Plans were made. Plans that included the first 90 days, the first year, the first one to three years, and the long term of five years.

Included in those plans was the inevitable Pastoral transition. That transition is not moving forward in the expected time frame due to a terrible shortage of pastors...not just for our congregation, but also for the other 10 congregations in our Synod looking to call a pastor.

As I have told our leadership and the Synod, God willing, I will continue to serve and lead Gloria de Cristo until the new pastor is in place.

Our leadership believes that God is calling us to go forward, trusting that God will continue working through us and will provide what/who is needed in God's good timing. **God knows where we are as a congregation and God will provide all that is needed.**

See you in worship!

Pastor Bill Timm



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

We are always excited when October comes around, this year we are extra excited to welcome seasonal friends and members back. Members have been working most of the summer. As you take your first drive into the parking lot, notice our parking lot was resurfaced, striped, cracks filled and the lot leveled of those dangerous bumps, no more stubbing your toes or almost tripping.

Be sure to check out the newly cleaned and coated floor in the fellowship hall, cleaned chairs and tables. David and his crew of volunteers have been busy returning truck loads of sand from our buildings back to the desert where it came from. We have new information boxes on the front wall and fellowship hall. Some ambitious people even cleaned and organized walk-in closets! I think our biggest outreach project is the new sound system. We look forward to a state of the art AV system, for both live and online worship. As you know, this was a very large project, at a cost of \$136,000; we are within \$10,000 of it being fully funded by members and friends. We have been blessed with donations from \$10 to \$20,000. Every donation is important and we are praying the last will be donated by the end of October when the final payment is due.

It wasn't all work this summer, we worshiped, celebrated answered prayers, learned a new hymn or two, and met some new people in the neighborhood. Welcomed our new secretary, her name is Char, you may remember her, and we are blessed to have her back with us. Pastor has worked through surgery, and still ministered to us, we have been blessed!

Thanks to our committee chairs, programs are ready for the winter season. Our first study will be led by Dr. Shirley Ehler, Worship Matters, beginning October 5th. GriefShare has begun with classes on Sunday and Monday, a new Stephen Ministers class will begin in November.

I would be remiss if I did not put in a plug for wearing your name tag. Talking to someone and using their name is outreach! I know I am not the only one that is aging, it's a fact of life, and we forget names.

As we welcome in October, we also welcome returning brothers and sisters to worship. God continues to bless us with additions to the church family. We are a wonderfully diverse family with an assortment of faith histories in our journey toward eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Each of us realizes that the practice of our faith in worship is important as we learn to be more Christ-like in our daily life choices.

A new class of *Worship Matters* will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 5, in the choir area of the sanctuary. There will be five weekly sessions when we discuss why we do what we do as Lutheran Christians. This class is suitable for the seasoned believer as well as for the person new to Christianity.

Topics include: 1. Why Do We Worship? 2. Encountering God in Word. 3. Encountering God in the Sacraments. 4. Responding to God in Prayer and Praise. 5. Worship and the World.

In response to the question, “What does it mean to worship?”, an unknown author responded:

It is a quickening of the conscience by the holiness of God; a feeding of the mind with the truth of God; an opening of the heart to the love of God; and a devoting of the will to the purpose of God.

Pray about it and sign up to participate.

See you in worship!



YOUTH AND EDUCATION

As the temperature starts to drop and become bearable again, many of us are returning to our winter homes. The Youth and Education Committee will be having its first meeting this month to plan for another season of events. The exact date will be posted in the bulletin.

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

Diane Lee, Chairperson

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	Year to Date		2023 Budget
	2022	2023	
Revenue	\$211,597	\$219,554	\$410,788
Expense	<u>\$217,941</u>	<u>227,204</u>	
Net Increase	(\$6,344)	(\$7,650)	
In-Person Attendance	5542	5582	
On-Line Connection	3775	4019	
Additional Persons	868	961	

HAVE YOU INCLUDE GLORIA DE CRISTO LUTHERAN CHURCH IN YOUR WILL OR ESTATE PLAN???

Over the years, those Gloria de Cristo members who have conscientiously included Gloria de Cristo in there estate planning have enabled some very important and powerful ministry to happen.

Please consider including Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church in you estate planning!!!

You can enable this congregation to serve many more people in the years and generations to come!!!



GLORIOUS QUILTERS

Here it is October and that means more of our church family are starting to arrive home. And this year as we know it is gone! I can imagine we'll all be busy getting crafts made of our Christmas Bazar, not to mention thinking about the turkey dinner. Most importantly the upcoming birth of the Baby Jesus.

Your Glorious Quilters have still been very busy sewing, laughing and having coffee time with treats. It always amazes me the number of quilts these ladies turn out each and every Monday. We picked up a couple new, to us anyway, organizations we can provide these quilts to. They are Hospice of Yuma and also the Salvation Army. They both were excited to hear from us.

As always this time of year we are starting to gear up for the larger amount of quilts to be given away for the holidays.

And oh least I forget all the knitted and crochet caps to be given away as well.

Anyone is ALWAYS welcome to join us and there are some jobs for the non sewers too.

Have a Blessed October

Carol Schock 503-338-9358

Please text

YARD SALE UPDATE

The Yard Sale committee is going to make it easy for you to drop off items early! On the second Saturday of each month, starting October 14, we will have volunteers stationed at the yard sale trailer in the southeast corner of the parking lot, from 7-10am. As we collect items, we will be doing a presort of donated items. If you would like to help with these sessions, please be at the church by 6:30am to help get set up to receive items. Drop off dates: 10/14, 11/11, 12/9, 1/13, 2/10.

Michelle Cegon

Anxiety/Depression

Occasional anxiety is an expected part of life. You might feel anxious when faced with a problem at work, before taking a test, or before making an important decision. But anxiety disorders involve more than temporary worry or fear. For a person with an anxiety disorder, the anxiety does not go away and can get worse over time. The symptoms can interfere with daily activities such as job performance, schoolwork, and relationships.

Generalized Anxiety Disorder Symptoms include:

- Feeling restless, wound-up, or on-edge
- Being easily fatigued
- Having difficulty concentrating; mind going blank
- Being irritable
- Having muscle tension
- Difficulty controlling feelings of worry

Having sleep problems, such as difficulty falling or staying asleep, restlessness, or unsatisfying sleep

Depression

Depressive disorder, frequently referred to simply as depression, is more than just feeling sad or going through a rough patch. It's a serious mental health condition that requires understanding and medical care. Left untreated, depression can be devastating for those who have it and their families. Fortunately, with early detection, diagnosis and a treatment plan consisting of medication, psychotherapy and healthy lifestyle choices, many people can and do get better.

Depression Symptoms include:

Depression can present different symptoms, depending on the person. But for most people, depressive disorder changes how they function day-to-day, and typically for more than two weeks. Common symptoms include:

- Changes in sleep
- Changes in appetite
- Lack of concentration
- Loss of energy
- Lack of interest in activities
- Hopelessness or guilty thoughts
- Changes in movement (less activity or agitation)
- Physical aches and pains

Suicidal thoughts

Source: **NAMI** (National Alliance on Mental Health) <https://www.nami.org>

Reminder: The Mental Health Ministry offers a **Balance/Stretch chair class** on Wednesdays at 2:30 in the Fellowship Hall. It is \$3.00 per session. We are offering an additional class in November at 1:00. More information will be in future church bulletins. This class teaches techniques in balancing and stretching that will strengthen your body which will give you more peace of mind when walking, hiking, climbing stairs, or just navigating unfamiliar pathways.



SOCIAL CONCERNS

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

Throughout the long hot summer our intrepid members continued to meet and serve. In September we sponsored an offering from The YRMC Foundation Pediatric Oncology program. This will continue through September and a final report will be given when we have a final total.

Thanks to members who responded to our request for greeting cards. We have a bumper crop of cards, but the need is ongoing so keep'em coming.

Please do not bring magazines or soda can tabs. These are no longer needed. We continue to collect pill bottles, travel kits, eyeglasses, printer cartridges, greeting cards.

We delivered 93 lbs. of food to the food bank this month.

The Convoy of Hope will now be called Yuma Community Event. It is a multi-church event which will be held in November at the fairgrounds to assist persons and families in need. Volunteers will be needed but more information will be provided as it is received.

Committee members visited Rose Garden assisted living and visited with residents. Barb was able to recruit Gary Raasch to play pool with one of the residents. He was very happy and this was such a blessing. A birthday celebration is being planned. We may be seeking volunteers to help with this project so stay tuned.

Blessings,

Evelyn Trone

1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

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

In preparation for these Evangel articles, I sometimes consult the internet as well as the Bible and then often end up in the pages of the dictionary to make sure I really understand what I've read. The problem is that the dictionary doesn't always agree with the biblical terminology or definition. Some Christian interpretations and definitions of "stewardship" would certainly make you roll your eyes, groan and lock away your wallets and checkbooks.

After Pastor Timm's teaching last week about God's creation from the book of Genesis, I decided to do a little reading. So after finding what I originally wanted, something popped onto the page that I felt could be included in a "paragraph" about stewardship. In Genesis 1:28, God gave Adam and Eve "dominion" over all things.....so, dominion means we are responsible for all things so therefore, we are all stewards or caretakers and even managers of God's creation. Perhaps that is a real stretch in 2023. However, by just keeping our responsibilities to our church, our congregation and our neighbors, we are certainly God's stewards. Each week in worship we are given the opportunity to make monetary offerings. Of course, we are not able to put our equally important offering of time, talents and other points of generosity into the collection plates. Those offerings, whether monetary or of our time, are the essence of our faithful giving as God's stewards. As Lutherans we do that willingly and with loving hearts. Remember, "God's Work, Our Hands".

So, here is the generosity part. A few weeks ago I heard the Director of Crossroads Mission on one of the local radio stations make a public appeal for toothbrushes. National Toothbrush Brush Day is June 1, we are a little late for that; however National Brush Your Teeth Day is November 1..... on November 4 and 5....I will be at the doors of the church collecting TOOTH-BRUSHES prior to the worship services. Only toothbrushes, if you feel you must, toothpaste will also be accepted...Please NO mouthwash or other liquid. I suggest shopping at the variety of so-called "Dollar" stores....toothbrushes there are only \$1.25 !!

This is the time and/or talent appeal. We are still in need of members to assist counting the weekly offerings. It would be wonderful if a few of our winter visitors would spare a few hours, perhaps three or four times during the winter. All of our expert counters perform that task every week throughout the summer months; I'm sure they would appreciate a break. Please give it some thought...call me at 717.715.4009 or ask Char if you have questions. As long as you have toes and fingers and are able to count...you are qualified !! Remember, you are God's steward.

God Bless You

Gary Raasch, 717.715.4009
Stewardship

OUTREACH

Galatians

¹Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead); ² And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia: ³Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: ⁵To whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

⁶I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: ⁷Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. ⁹As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

How many different bibles can you name? I prefer the New King James version, The NIV, the new international version, is very popular and there are many more.

What I caution about is that I believe the bible is the word of God and we should be careful about which ones we read. There are radical groups that rewrite the Bible to meet their agendas but this is not good. We should read the Bible to gain knowledge and wisdom about Jesus Christ and not satisfy a political movement.

Not much going on in Outreach but as soon as the road construction is complete, we will start Highway cleanup details again. Also, the Welcome Back Bash should be just around the corner. Keep an eye out for the information in the bulletin.

Thanks!

Joe Johnson, Outreach chair



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– October 7th



PROPERTY



Several things are happening around the church this past month and in the near future. I am happy to report that we had minimal damage from the rain and windstorms recently. A few tiles blew off the south end of the office building. I was able to replace them with stronger screws so they won't fly off again. There was so much water in a short period of time that it over ran the gutters and created standing water around the foundation we had to brush it away. Several erosions areas occurred around the property I have been refilling as needed with sand that drifted into the cactus beds.

Happy to announce that the Video and sound system is arriving this week. We have received several pallets of equipment. They will start the installation next week.

The parking lot is going to have a new look after this next week . We are resurfacing, repairing. and restriping the full parking area.

Thanks to Mike Coreless, Dave Steinman and Eric Werner for helping me clean and coat the floor in the fellowship hall This was a much overdue project, and it really looks good. I also want to thank Eric Werner for helping me move the last pew over by the sound equipment in order to make room for the new equipment being installed next week. Those pews are very heavy. We moved it seven feet toward the center aisle of the church.

Looking forward to seeing our church family returning to us after a long hot summer... please travel safely.

Blessings, David Donaldson





STEPHEN MINISTRY

A new class of Stephen Ministers will begin training in November, and in this article, I am asking you to think and pray about being trained to give Christian care to fellow members and people in the Yuma community.

There are 50 hours of training, spread over 20 weeks. If you are matched with a care receiver, you will visit about once a week. You will receive guidance and support at supervision meetings held monthly.

Cost? The congregation covers the cost.

Will I have to spend money on the person I am caring for? No.

Will my phone be ringing constantly? No, you care for one care receiver at a time.

Will our pastor still help and counsel people? Most definitely!!! Stephen Ministers complement the pastor's ministry and provide even more care to those who need it.

What if I get in over my head, with people who need more care than I can provide? First of all, you will never knowingly be assigned to people who might be in those situations. The Stephen Ministry training also helps you to know exactly when and how to help your care receiver get professional help when necessary. The Stephen Ministry Group, leaders, and pastor are also there to help you make such decisions.

How will I personally benefit from this experience? You will learn many skills that will be valuable in your personal life as well as in your Stephen Ministry. Also, the satisfaction of helping another person is a wonderful blessing.

Will the care receiver really want my care? Yes. A pastor or Stephen Leader will meet first with the care receiver. Only after the care receiver understands Stephen Ministry and has agreed to meet with a Stephen Minister will you be contacted.

Are other people as scared as I seem to be about this undertaking? Probably so! But the training will eliminate much of this fear because you will not only learn what to say but also, and more importantly, how to listen.

How do I apply or ask more questions? Call me at 928-342-6002.



WELCA HAPPENINGS

Thank goodness for air conditioning which allowed the WELCA women and one man to meet every other Saturday morning. The work of Days for Girls continued at a truly amazing pace. Each person assumed a task of ironing, sewing, surging, cutting, pinning, tracing and gluing. As a result, we were able to transport 697 liners, 130 shields, 25 pouches and varied sizes of underwear, along with washcloths and soaps to the Phoenix Triennial Gathering held in September. Our mentor, Shari Jones, at Lord of Life Lutheran in Sun City West, will assemble the materials to form the kits. From there, the kits will go to the national Days For Girls to be shipped wherever there's a need.

We have asked Shari if she'll come to Yuma to share her story of how she got involved with Days for Girls and the importance of our role at Gloria de Cristo as contributors. Tentative plans are a presentation at our November Gather potluck and program, the exact day to be announced soon.

The WELCA Planning committee will meet in October. The day, time and location will be in our church bulletin and our calendar. Since all of our congregation's women are Women of the ELCA (WELCA), all input, ideas, suggestions, via emails or texts or in-person are valued and welcome. Watch for the planning meeting date and the Gather potluck date and come and enjoy.

Blessings,
Donna Brown



Here we are in the month of October and looking forward to the return of the rest of our church family. The new sound system has been installed and for the teams doing the live streaming, it's a learning experience. Hopefully by the time we get into Advent we will have worked out all the bugs and the worship experience of those listening on line will be a beautiful experience.

In the coming weeks we will be having various people doing the teaching as Pastor Timm will be recuperating from yet another surgery.

Char Schomisch, Committee Co-Chair

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER



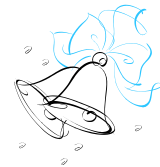
- 1 Shirley Ehler in honor of Paul's 85th birthday
- 8 Dave & Marge Graham in celebration of their 62nd Wedding Anniversary
- 15 Joanne Ausing in memory of husband Gerald AND Donna Staudenmeir
In memory of husband Don
- 22 Jan Klipfel in memory of husband Dennis
- 29 Char Schomisch in honor of Joseph's 12th birthday



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Pat Bunker | 15 Jeanette Miller | 23 Klee Grunst |
| 1 Brent Pfundheller | 15 Tom Volpe | 23 Joe Martinelli |
| 1 Rick Theroux | 16 Rick Sherwood | 24 John Achen |
| 9 Bernard Skarbo | 17 Don Bunker | 24 Larry Doll |
| 9 Pastor Bill20 | 17 Jean Gerfen | 25 Linda Haney |
| 10 Janet Van Dyke | 18 Nina Eriksson | 25 John Nasinec |
| 13 Paul Moglebust | 18 Rob Monson | 25 Katy Pacewic |
| | 20 Tammy Martin | 30 Lola Miller |

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES



- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 Joe and Debora Johnson | 10 Randy and Mary Ziemann |
| 3 Jim and Jackie Neely | 12 Max and Nilla Jacobs |
| 6 Dave and Marge Graham | 14 Richard and Diane Ludwig |
| 8 Bill and Linda Haney | 14 Rob and Mary Kay Monson |
| 10 GP and Jan O'Donnell | |



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OCTOBER 2023



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

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

Church Secretary: Char Schomisch
A/V Technician: Michelle Cegon

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