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

October 2024 Volume 32, Issue 10



MISSION STATEMENT

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

TO YOU, CALLED BY GOD TO BE HIS OWN, GRACE AND PEACE! NOBODY CARES. NOBODY LISTENS. NOBODY HELPS. NOBODY WANTS ME.

Are any of those statements true? There are many people who think so because they are in a state of hopelessness...they are in a state of lostness...they are in a state of aloneness.

Maybe you, personally, have "been there" or know a number of people that have "been there." Did anyone tell you that God cares...that God listens...that God helps...that God wants everyone?

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

In all reality, God sends other followers of Jesus who care...other followers of Jesus who listen... other followers of Jesus who help...other followers of Jesus who show by their actions that God loves everyone!

Who are these people...who are these followers of Jesus?

They are regular people...people just like you...who are trained in Stephen Ministry!

Stephen Ministry has been an essential part of Gloria de Cristo since 2003...over 21 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!

Of course, some will say "that is the Pastor's job...that's why we "hire" him or her!"

Yet if you look at what the New Testament really says when it describes the pastor's role in the church, it says this: "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 Ministry this fall?

I hope so! I pray so! 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 near the end of November. I hope God moves YOU to step forward!

See you in worship! Pastor Bill Timm

FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT



Welcome to October! We have been waiting for this month for four months. It's not a new wait, every year we wait for friends and members to come back, the weather to change, programs to start up and new people to walk thru the front door.

As you read The Evangel you will see many opportunities for service, fellowship, spiritual growth and combinations of all three. Take notice of the new neighborhood directly behind us. We will have a new mission field across the road! We are praying for the vision and direction to welcome these new people to join us as we "WE WALK WITH JESUS TO BRING NEW LIFE AND HOPE TO EVERY PERSON". One of our Vision Team goals was to increase the number of members that participate in Bible Studies. As fall offers a time for expanding our lives and time together, we are increasing times, locations, formats and focus of our Bible Studies. Currently we have Pastor leading a study of the Gospel of Luke, meeting at 7649 E. 25 St, on Mondays at 12:30. And Zoom sessions on Tuesdays at 10 am. Contact the church office for the Zoom Link. By the end of the year, we will be offering three more studies. The specific time, location and leader will be announced in the weekly bulletin and newsletter.

See you in church, hopefully with your name tag! If you need a new name tag, write on the back of your green communication slip and Char will be happy to make one for you.

SCAM EMAILS

Remember, no Gloria de Cristo Staff or Pastor, will ever ask you through an email for gift cards, cash, access codes or other private information without first having a conversation with you. Please, always check the full address of where an email is from and if you ever have a question, contact the church office first before responding.

From the desk of Dr. Shirley....

Good morning, brothers and sisters! This month I want to tell you about Lay Ministry, since three of us are enrolled in the "Faith+Lead" academy of Luther Seminary. Our class began on May 18, 2024, and another class is beginning in October 2024. The course includes seventeen (17) modules and two hundred sixty-four (264) learning elements (assignments).

The program is not new but has been in existence for several years. Enrollment ranges from rostered ministers from at least three denominations on through a wide range of Christian leadership roles. There are forty-eight enrolled in our particular class from across the United States, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. We have assigned curriculum topics on which to work independently, and then there is a group class via Zoom once a month for devotional enrichment and discussion of the month's topic.

Here are the topics we have or will cover:

Unit 1: You can Preach! The twenty Learning Elements are: Why preach? What is a Faithful Sermon (parts 1 and 2) Faithful Preaching Life; God Shows Up; Engaging the Text; Dwelling in the Word; Reading the Text (parts 1 and 2); Text Support; A Pnemonic; Shaping Your Draft; Manuscripts; Preaching As Presence; Preaching as Event; Final Words; and Optional Self-Evaluation; Reflect and Connect; and Suggested Resources.

Unit 2: Your Spiritual Life Sustains Your Ministry had twenty Learning Elements.

Unit 3: Your Gifts Are Needed (a particularly soul-searching module of work) had twenty Learning Elements.

Unit 4: You Can Plan Worship—Together! Had 17 Learning Elements—one of which required us to get definitions of worship from six different people before we could move on to the second assignment! Then we put those definitions into a word cloud and distilled the essence of what we learned in order to compare that essence with what we, personally, believe the Bible says about worship.

Unit 5: Provide Care and Practice Boundaries (with 20 Learning Elements) is the module we are currently finishing in order to prepare for Zoom meeting on Saturday morning, September 28.

Additional units are: The Church and God's Mission; Empowered to Manage Ministry; Hope and Encouragement for Small Town and Rural Ministry; The Bible Comes Alive; Our Historical Roots; Journey Through Scripture; Faithful Innovation; Completing the School for Llay Ministry; Bonus Lessons; Bonus Love for Lutherans.

This has been a busy, soul-searching time—one that I am thankful Pastor suggested. I see God continuing to make my thinking more like His while I walk with Jesus to bring new life and hope to every person.

FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE

Thank you for your prayers. The call process is guided by God's plan, so we must trust His timing and pray for our next Pastor's calling.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God" Phillipians 4:6 ESV

God is obviously working in this process. As I worked on this writing this morning, I thought (to myself?) that I would like to include a Bible verse, and I have one in mind which I will add at the end. But, after putting a couple things together, I sat it all aside and opened my daily study guide and God gave me the verse that I included above.

The call committee continues to be in contact with the Synod Transition Team while we work to find our new spiritual leader so that Gloria de Cristo can continue in our mission of bringing new life and hope to every person.

In the meantime, we have members who have stepped forward and are now receiving proper training for Lay Leadership positions in our congregation. These Lay Leaders will be an excellent addition to our options for filling temporary vacancies in worship leadership. This program is in place in many churches around the country and has been very helpful in providing high quality worship services for other churches while covering temporary absences.

Please remember: Lamentations 3:25 "The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him."

Also, "Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord! Psalm 31:24 And, 'Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" Psalm 27:14

We are a strong congregation with a determined mind. God will provide all that we need.

Ted



First Saturday of every month, 8:00 am JimmyK's on Foothills Blvd.

All are invited.

The next date is: October 5, 2024

CARE MINISTRES

HOW GRIEFSHARE HELPS YOU

There is no 'wrong way' to grieve!

Feeling angry or full of regret? Are you depressed and wondering how to heal? Do you walk around in a mental fog? All this is normal and with the GriefShare program you will find many others who are facing the same struggles. So thankfully there is a program that will help with your struggles.

It is a 13-week program in which you will become part of a group where people find support, direction, and help after a loved one's death. You will be encouraged by people who have been where you are, and you will learn to mange your emotions and stress.

Each week you will view a video on a grief-related topic. The videos offer advice from counselors, pastors, and facilitators who have been through a grief program on how to handle grief's challenges.

After the video, the group will discuss what you have learned in the video. After hearing what others are going through can help comfort you and others to experience healing! The next session will commence on September 22, 2024 at 12:00 pm in the classroom part of the Fellowship Hall.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS TEAM (Mental Health Ministry)

Women's Breakfast:

The September meeting was held on September 3rd. The woman's breakfast was held on September 7th, opening with devotion and prayer by Michelle Cegon. Discussion on the changing of others leading the Devotion & Prayer in the future was discussed and decision as to who will lead on November 2nd.

Monthly Awareness Information:

The article for this month was written by Jeanie Volpe on Dental Hygiene.

Life Groups Survey/Social Activities:

Line Dancing will begin in November with leaders Marge Jones and Sharon Noltemeyer. Leith Patnaude will lead for the Spiritual Book Club. Jean Gerfen and Mike Rosenberg will lead the Cards and Games. The walking group needs a leader. Discussion ensued regarding contacting people who signed up for this activity to see if one of them would like to be a leader. Putting announcements in future bulletins expressing the need for leaders is also a possibility.



GLORIOUS QUILTERS

We're BACK!!!!! September came, but not fast enough for many of us. It's finally cooling down. For us there are a few changes, finding new areas to move our talented Ladies into so everyone has a little challenge. You know add a little spice into their lives.

Having spoken to a few new agencies, the age level of our fosters have changed. Now we have many more young people in the 9-16+ age level and a lot fewer babies and youngsters. This has allowed us to change up the size of the blankets we are able to distribute. So not only are we able to make our usual quilt tops, we are going to venture into making the larger ones out of blanket fleece. These will enable the older fosters to have a warm blanket as they transition from Foster Care to being on their own.

Now we can REALLY use the help from you who don't sew to help us get these blankets TIED, actually KNOTTED.

Everyone is welcome. We start Monday mornings at 9 am and have coffee and treats @ 10 and then back to work till noon . Come join us!!

TEXT me with any questions Carol Schock 503-338-9358



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

The next date is October 5, 2024

HEALTH & WELLNESS TEAM

Dental Hygiene and Your Overall Health

The benefits of good dental hygiene go beyond bright smiles. Making sure you're brushing properly, flossing daily, and keeping up with dental appointments preserves your overall health. **Dental problems such as gum disease and tooth decay can contribute to a number of health conditions, i**ncluding heart disease and pneumonia.

Increasingly, researchers are finding significant connections between your overall health and dental health. Poor oral hygiene has been directly linked to pneumonia, a range of serious heart problems, as well as complications during pregnancy and childbirth.

Conditions Linked to Poor Oral Hygiene:

Heart Disease

Over the last several years, a growing body of evidence has linked dental issues, especially missing teeth and periodontitis (advanced gum disease), with heart disease and other cardiac issues. These cardiac and blood circulation problems include:

Coronary Heart Disease: Also known as atherosclerosis: This is when arteries in the heart harden, interrupting or entirely blocking blood flow.

Heart Failure: This is when the heart is unable to pump sufficiently, causing blood to pool in other parts of the body, especially the legs and lungs.

Cardiac Arrhythmia: Characterized by irregular, too fast, or too slow heartbeat, cardiac arrhythmias, such as atrial fibrillation (AFib), may also arise.

Stroke: Caused by blood clots or burst vessels in the brain, strokes cause seizures and are a medical emergency.

Endocarditis: This is an infection of the tissues of the heart. Bacteria in the mouth due to gum diseases gingivitis and periodontitis can enter the blood stream and cause a potentially life-threatening inflammation of the endocardium (the tissues in the inner lining of the heart's chambers and valves.)

People with poor oral health have increased rates of heart attack and stroke, among other cardiac issues. While oral problems may not directly cause cardiac conditions, they may contribute to problems with the heart and are related.

Some Conditions that Worsen Oral Health: Diabetes, HIV/ADS, Osteoporosis, Pneumonia, Rheumatoid Arthritis, and Alzheimer's.

Summary: Dental issues, especially tooth loss and gum disease, have been linked to heart disease, endocarditis, and complications during pregnancy and birth, among other conditions. Furthermore, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and osteoporosis can worsen oral health. **Practicing good oral hygiene and getting regular dental checkups are important for maintaining your overall health.**

Resource: https://www.verywellhealth.com/importance-of-dental-hygiene-



PROPERTY



In the absence of our Property Chairman, I have taken the liberty of reporting this month for the Evangel . First and foremost, I want to thank Bryan Urrey for his hard work in cleaning the weeds out of the gardens in front of the fellowship hall and the courtyard. It looks great! Thanks also for cleaning the sand off the driveway and parking lot.

We trimmed the Palms in front of the church. I hadn't noticed how much they have grown, the branches were rubbing the stucco. Once again thanks to Bryan for helping me. We had a full pickup load that filled the whole dumpster. The cleaning of the property and gardens is an ongoing project and requires constant effort.

The biggest problem of the summer has been the heat and the effect it has had on the irrigation system. We had numerous eruptions throughout the system to the point that we have to replace the old tubing with PVC pipe. I have received an estimate from my irrigation guy to put in ¾" pvc to replace all the old tubing in the courtyard, fellowship hall and each of the Islands in the parking lot. This should solve the problem and stop wasting water. We will get started on this next week.

David Donaldson

Property Committee Member

SOCIAL CONCERNS

The weather is finally giving us some relief from the unrelenting summer heat and fall activities begin. September 8 was God's Work Our Hands Sunday, and we collected a large trash can and ½ of flip flops for Crossroads Mission. This idea came from a committee member, Carol Shock, who had delivered quilts to the mission and one of the residents said to her, "I hope there are flip flops in there so I can take a shower." So now he can take lots of showers! Thanks to all for your generosity.

On September 24 we celebrate a birthday at Rose Garden Assisted Living and gave the resident a cake, a puzzle and a puzzle board. It is great to see the smiles and be able to brighten someone's day.

Sandra Arceneaux continues to send birthday and anniversary cards.

Collections continue for: travel kits, small pill bottles without labels, printer cartridges, greeting cards, eyeglasses. The bins are located in the rear of the Fellowship Hall.

Monthly food collection for the Yuma Community Food Bank continues on the first Sunday of each month. The monthly totals are:

Jan,	178 lbs.	May	217 lbs.
Feb,	138 lbs.	June	84 lbs.
Mar.	245 lbs.	July	83 lbs.
April	253 lbs.	Aug.	144 lbs.

Thank you for your generous donations. If you would like to help with monthly deliveries let a committee member know, and we will orient you to the process. You can even ride along. It is very simple and the volunteers at the food bank do all the work!

On the horizon is Angel Tree in November and Good Gifts in December.

You are welcome to join us.

Blessings, Evelyn Trone, Chairperson 928-210-8015

1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

As each received a gift, use it to serve one another, a stewards of God's varied gifts.



OUTREACH

Fun facts. Did you know who wrote gospel music:

Frances Jane van Alstyne

Frances Jane van Alstyne (née Crosby; March 24, 1820 – February 12, 1915), more commonly known as Fanny J. Crosby, was an American mission worker, poet, lyricist, and composer. She was a prolific hymnist, writing more than 8,000 hymns and gospel songs, [a] with more than 100 million copies printed.

Fanny J. Crosby wrote many beloved hymns and gospel songs. Some of her most famous works include:

- "Blessed Assurance"
- "To God Be the Glory"
- "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"
- "Safe in the Arms of Jesus"
- "Rescue the Perishing"

These hymns have been cherished by many and are still sung in churches around the world today. Do you have a favorite among her songs?

Somehow I thought gospel just magically appeared. I never really gave it much thought as to who wrote them but they were so loved by churches everywhere that many songs are still being sung today.

Not much going on in Outreach. I contacted the county highway department and he said they will be working until December in our section by Daybreakers. I am looking into getting t-shirt sales going again so watch the bulletin for updates. Not much else going on. Waiting to see when the Welcome back bash will be so keep you posted.

Thanks.Joe Johnson Outreach



As we move into the Month of October we see that the temperatures are beginning to be what those 'winter visitors' are looking for so that they can return to their winter residence and back in worship at Gloria de Cristo. For me...I like the warm weather but I also like to have our church family all together. So this weekend I will undoubtedly change my wardrobe to longer pants and the shoes to something other than sandals.

This is a time for excitement as many of the programs that stop during the summer months will resume in October. There are also some new things happening, so watch the bulletin or the Evangel for information on those things.

You will also be amazed at the happenings around the church area and other parts of the Foothills....we sure are growing...which gives each of us the opportunity to share God's word with those newcomers..whether it be in a store, standing in line at the post office or in your own backyard. We are all God's disciples and every place we go is our 'mission field'.

Thank You to all the volunteers that make our worship a pleasant experience for our church family and guests.

Char Schomisch, Co-Chair Worship Committee

Joanne Ausing, Co-Chair Worship Committee

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

From the Forum Letter, pages 7 & 8 written by Pastor Richard Johnson

The ELCA's largest congregation (over 10,000 members), Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines, IA, has left the ELCA. There has been some tension between the congregation and the synod for some time, mostly over Church of Hope's calling of several clergy not on the ELCA roster or on the roster of full communion partners, though previous bishops have let it slide.

The synod's present bishop, Amy Current, is not so inclined, and asked the Southeastern Iowa Synod Council to remove the congregation. Subsequently, she released a very gracious statement: "Lutheran Church of Hope is a vibrant congregation with deeply Lutheran theology and is full of individuals who serve their neighbor and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. This decision is a result of the reality that Lutheran Church of Hope and the ELCA constitution no longer align."

The church's senior pastor, Mike Householder, also wrote graciously to his congregation: "The bishop and I hold no animosity toward one another, and since neither wants to revoke the calls of any of our gifted Lutheran (but not ELCA) pastors at Hope, we both agree that it's time for the ELCA to let Hope go...Hope will remain a Lutheran church...When the time is right...we will affiliate with another Lutheran body or start a new one in partnership with friends from other Lutheran churches who share our passion to 'reach out to the world around us and share the everlasting love of Jesus Christ!"

Would that more ELCA bishops and pastors were so irenic (at least that's how it appears from here) in dealing with departing congregations."

Lutheran Church of Hope has over 20,700 members. It is a flagship of congregational and community service and evangelism.

Here is the church's website: wdm.lutheranchurchofhope.org

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER

- 6 Dave & Marge Graham in celebration of their 63rd Wedding Anniversary
- 6 Jan Klipfel in memory of husband Dennis
- 13 Randy & Mary Zieman in celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary
- 13 Joanne Ausing in memory of husband Gerald
- 13 Donna Staudenmeier in memory of husband Donald

20

27 Char Schomisch in honor of Joseph's birthday



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Brent Pfundheller	13	Paul Moklebust	23	Joe Martinelli
1	Rick Theroux	15	Tom Volpe	24	John Achen
3	Suzanne Haggett	16	Rick Sherwood	24	Larry Doll
3	Larry Shilley	17	Jean Gerfen	25	Linda Haney
4	Joanne Fritz	18	Nina Eriksson	25	John Nasinec
9	Ben Skarbo	20	Tammy Martin	25	Katy Pacewic
9	William Timm	23	KayLee Grunst	30	Lola Miller

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES



2	Joe and Debora Johnson	10	Jan & G.P O'Donnell
6	Dave & Marge Graham	10	Randy & Mary Ziema
8	Bill & Linda Hanev	12	Max & Nilla Jacobs

		00	OCTOBER 2024			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
29 Worship 9:30 New Member Class, 10:40 am, FC 12:00 pm GriefShare FC 1:00 pm Foothills Social	30 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 100 am Zoom Bible Study 12:30 pm Bible Study 7649 E. 25th Street	1 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 11 am Caregivers Lunch 1:00 pm Foothills Social 4:00 Health & Wellness Mtg.	2 1 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir	3 9:am Bazaar Workshop 7:00am TOPS	4 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/ English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	8 am- Men's Breakfast, Daybreakers 8 am Women's Breakfast Club, Jimmy K's 9:00 am TOPS 4:00 pm Worship
6 Worship 9:30 New Member Class, 10:40 am, FC 12:00 pm GriefShare FC 1:00 pm Foothills Social	7 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 100 am Zoom Bible Study 12 pm Worship Meeting 12 pm Social Concerns Mtg. 12:30 pm Bible Study 7649 E. 25th Street	8 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 11 am Caregivers Lunch 1:00 pm Foothills Social	9 1:00 & 2:30 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir	10 7:00am TOPS 9 am Bazaar Workshop	11 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/ English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	9:00 am Days for Girls 9:00 am TOPS 4:00 pm Worship
13 Worship 9:30 New Members Received 1:00 pm Foothills Social	14 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 100 am Zoom Bible Study 12:30 pm Bible Study 7649 E. 25th Street	15 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10 am Zoom Bible Study 11 am Caregivers Lunch 1:00 pm Foothills Social . 4 pm Exec. Council 4:30 pm Council Mtg	1:00 & 2:30 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir	17 7:00am TOPS 9 am Bazaar Workshop	18 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/ English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	19 9:00 am TOPS 4:00 pm Worship
20 Worship 9:30 12:00 pm GriefShare FC 1:00 pm Foothills Social	9:00 am Glorious Quilters 100 am Zoom Bible Study 12:30 pm Bible Study 7649 E. 25th Street	22 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10 am Zoom Bible Study 11 am Caregivers Lunch 1:00 pm Foothills Social	1:00 & 2:30 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory	24 7:00am TOPS 9 am Bazaar Workshop	8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/ English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	26 9:00 am Days for Girls 9:00 am TOPS 4:00 pm Worship
Worship 9:30 12:00 pm GriefShare Fellowship Classroom 1:00 pm Foothills Social	28 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 100 am Zoom Bible Study 12:30 pm Bible Study 7649 E. 25th Street	29 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10 am Zoom Bible Study 11 am Caregivers Lunch 1:00 pm Foothills Social	30 1:00 & 2:30 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir	31 7:00am TOPS 9 am Bazaar Workshop	1 November 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/ English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	8 am- Men's Breakfast, Daybreakers 8 am Women's Breakfast Club, Jimmy K's 9:00 am TOPS 4:00 pm Worship

Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church, ELCA

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OCTOBER 2024

PASTOR: Bill Timm

ORGANIST: Dr. Shirley Ehler

PIANISTS: Marie Ritten, Lorie Rapp,

Pam Carter, Suzanne Haggett

VIOLIN: Ami Gudjohnsen

BELLS OF GLORY: Lorie Rapp

CHOIR: Dr. Shirley Ehler

GriefShare Leaders:

Ted & Nikki Duffy

Lisa Crayne

Mary Marsh

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

Pastor Timm Michelle Cegon Jim & Sherrie Wehrer **CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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VICE PRESIDENT: John Arnold
SECRETARY: Jackie Tracey
TREASURER: Char Schomisch

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS:

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Church Secretary: Char Schomisch