

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

August, 2024
Volume 32, Issue 8



MISSION STATEMENT

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

TO ALL WHO ARE CALLED BY ALMIGHTY GOD TO BE GOD'S OWN:

A new class of Stephen Ministers will begin training in November 2024 and in this article, I am asking you to think and pray about being trained and equipped to give Christian care to fellow followers of Jesus and to people in the Yuma community, as needed.

There are 50 hours of training, spread over 20 weeks. If a Stephen Minister is matched with a care receiver, they visit about once a week for one hour. Every Stephen Minister is given guidance and support, so they never need feel that they are walking alone in a care giving relationship.

Cost? There are grants from Thrivent to cover the cost of the training materials.

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

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

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

How will I personally benefit from Stephen Ministry training? 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! The pastor or a Stephen Ministry Leader will first meet with the care receiver. Only after the care receiver understands what Stephen ministry is and has agreed to be matched with a Stephen Minister will you be contacted.

Are other people as scared as I am about becoming a Stephen Minister? Probably so! But the excellent training you receive will eliminate much of this fear because you will not only learn what to say but also, and more importantly, how to listen to another person very well!

How can I apply or ask more questions? Please call me at 928-342-6002.

Is God calling you to step out in faith into a life-changing experience?

See you in worship!

Pastor Bill Timm

FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT



In our June newsletter I suggested we use our monthly POTLUCK as our summer Mission Field. We did, we are and it's working! Our last two potlucks have been very well attended, not only have we had first time people; we have intentionally sat with people we have seen but not made a connection with. With a strong September and October effort we will be using the back half of the fellowship hall by November. I have included a copy of the June newsletter in case you forgot.

'Often we hear Pastor Bill remind us that fellowship is important to our growth and support for one another. Sharing a meal or a conversation with another person is a gift from God. We are not here to be alone. If you automatically walk straight to the parking lot after church every Sunday, take a hard left at the door and check out the fellowship hall. It is not necessary to bring anything but a smile, go left for coffee, right for the food line. If you are shy or get lost follow me, I am good at it. There is no 'program,' we just visit and share our stories. Sometimes you see a dish that reminds you of another time. It's fun to try a different casserole, salad or dessert. People are happy to share recipes as well. John likes that because sometimes my cooking is boring. Another good thing is that you don't have to do dishes, just pick up your plates and silverware, put them in the trash or cup tray.'

Oh, yah....Don't forget to wear your name tag!!

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....

Did you come to Choir Camp? **Everyone is invited!** Camp is every Wednesday for the month of August from 5:45 until 7:30 p.m. If you missed earlier weeks, there is still time until August 28, 2024!

Frequently, people say they can't come to choir because they cannot read music. We are helping with that skill so that you can learn to read music code in the notes on the staff. We are also learning to count musically, which is helpful in learning a new song. We are even able to help people who do not want to be in choir but who want to be able to read the notes in the hymnal for songs new to them.

We are doing both unison and part-singing. Unison is when everyone sings the same notes at the same time in their respective ranges. We are singing some "rounds," where everyone sings the same notes, but not at the same time, which creates harmony. That is the first level of part-singing—when everyone sings their part to create a beautiful harmony of sound.

Random Rhythms is a game we play that will help us learn a new song to share in worship in September. Maybe you are one of the people who wish to learn a new skill or polish an old one. Now is the time to live your dream!

"Sing to the Lord, all the earth; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day" (1 Chronicles 16:23).

Matthew 6:31-34: *So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

CALL COMMITTEE

The Call Committee is currently working on updating the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) for prospective pastors to review. This document describes who we are, and details about Yuma. It also outlines what we are expecting from a pastor who takes a call to Gloria de Cristo. It's very lengthy, and we wanted to make sure we continue to update this to stay current with our church, our community, and our goals and vision for the future. We will have it updated in the next week or so. We are continuing to be updated by the Bishop's office, and they assure us that they are doing all they can to find us candidates. The pool is just very small currently, so we need to continue to pray for God's help in finding a pastor. If you know of a pastor you'd like to have considered, please let one of the Call Committee members know.

Call Committe members: Michelle Cegon - co-chair

Sharon Merz

John Gerfen

Ted Duffy - co-chair

Earl Marlatt

Char Schomisch

Gary Raasch

CARE MINISTRY

Our caregivers group is open to anyone caring for a spouse, family member or friend.

We meet every Friday at 11:00 am at various restaurants in Foothills. A devotion is read with a short discussion after. Lunch is a chance for fellowship with others experiencing the challenges of being a caregiver.. Come join us!

For more information contact the church office



GLORIOUS QUILTERS

September is upon us and I know that the Ladies are really getting ready to come back to quilting as am I. There will be so many summer stories to tell at coffee time.

The push will be on with Veterans quilts, Baby and Adult quilts to be made. I'm sure you think I've lost it, but the ladies have already started working on Christmas quilts in various sizes.

I say, we say, this time and time again you DON'T HAVE TO BE A SEWER to join us. There are several positions you can fill, and if you're a knitter it's a bonus!

Everyone is WELCOME to visit us and see if this is a fit for you. Coffee time and goodies is at 10 am, HINT HINT

The Quilters will resume quilting Sept. 9th

Carol Schock



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 September 7, 2024



FELLOWSHIP

This year has been one of the hottest on record. It has been a true challenge to keep our outdoor plants happy. The temperatures have been up to 118 degrees.

In spite of that fact; we have made progress. Our monthly potluck attendance has increased. Everyone that attended has had a great time being together, telling their stories to each other, joking and talking of things to come. Plus not to mention the greatest food ever. What a happy time!

I have been busy with all the kitchen duties, labeling cupboards, ordering supplies, and planning for the future. We are also starting to plan for our bazaar, so put on your thinking hats of items we can make and sell. Hope you are doing something to donate to the sale. More on this in the coming months.

I will be taking a break for six weeks, for family issues. People will be called to help with the kitchen duties while I'm away, so if you can, please lend a hand. I am grateful for your help in advance.

Merrilee Kaiser, Fellowship Chair



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

All are invited.

The next date is: September 7, 2024

HEALTH & WELLNESS MINISTRY

This month's topic is hydration

Are you drinking enough water? Every cell in our bodies needs water. As we age, we can lose our ability to experience thirst. Don't wait — Hydrate!!

Some Facts and Tips

How much water do you need?

- Guideline — Half your body weight in ounces of H₂O
100 pound person = 50 ounces of water
- Benefits —
 - * Healthy skin
 - * Regular bowel movements
 - * Better kidney function
 - * Regulated body temperature
 - * Less fatigue
- Balance Plain H₂O with Electrolytes Foods —
—Eat a variety of Fruits & Vegetables like watermelon, cherries, berries, lettuces, greens, tomatoes, apples, etc.

How can you tell if you are Hydrated?

Hydrated — Urine looks like lemonade

Dehydrated — Urine looks like apple juice

TIPS:

- ♦ Carry a water bottle
- ♦ Infuse H₂O with fruit slices
- ♦ Drink early in the day



PROPERTY



I'm writing this report from the living room of our RV in beautiful rural Parker, SD. This past spring, we moved from the RV park where we had been the past 10 summers to our son's 5 acre hobby farm. We have 3 dogs, 2 cats, and about 20 chickens, but, most importantly, peace and quiet. The only downside is that we're on a gravel road so my truck is never clean.

So, on with the Property Report. I have come to the conclusion that the Property chair should really be a "year-rounder". We have Dave Donaldson to thank for "taking over" for me this summer. Dave has kept me up to date on all the issues that have come up, and he has done an amazing job of getting things done, such as fixing our irrigation system. Ahh, the irrigation system, without which we probably wouldn't need a Property Committee, just kidding. It does seem to require constant care. One of our future plans is to upgrade the system so it can work well without constant maintenance. We also plan to improve the drainage around the buildings by installing gutters where necessary; we have already installed a drainage system in the columbarium area. We plan to be back in Yuma the end of September. In the meantime, Thanks Dave and keep up the good work!

Jerry Randby, Property Chair



MISSION/SOCIAL CONCERNS

What to write? No meeting this month. But then the spirit moved me to think about how we are the body of Christ, and the body has many branches. My thoughts turned to the gratitude I feel for each of you who so graciously give of your time and talent to be of service. So, I would like to give a big thank you for all you do. Some are committee members, and some have taken on projects on behalf of the committee.

Let me start by saying thanks to our committee members who have contributed their ideas: Barb Blank, Carol Schock, Robin Marlet, Jean Gerfen, Linda Bradshaw, Cheryl Preul. Serving with them makes it a joy.

Next I would like to acknowledge our project leaders:

Sr. Care Ministry: Barb Blank and Carol Schock and Glorious Quilters who make Rose Garden birthday's special.

Card Project: Lola Miller for making beautiful cards and members for donating cards.

Lynette Layton and Sandra Arceneaux (for stepping up and helping Lynette as she recovers from surgery)

Food Bank Deliveries: All committee members (other volunteers would be appreciated)

Collection Center: All members who give pill bottles. Printer cartridges, travel kits (collection center moved to rear of Fellowship Hall)

"Good Gifts": Volunteers who sit at the table to receive donations.

"God's Work Our Hands": Various projects for day of service throughout the years. This September it will be a donation of flip flops for Crossroads Mission.

Movie Night: Joint activity with WELCA. (If you have suggestions for a Christian - based movie let us know).

It adds up! As it says in John 15:5-8 - "I am the vine you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit..."

Blessings,
Evelyn Trone



Stewardship in the Lutheran Church is a difficult subject for me to write about, much less clearly understand. It is not a subject that is constantly flowing through my "gray matter". But, because I have not burdened you lately about "bringing" various items like diapers, toothbrushes and even old shoes with you when you come to worship, I felt I should write something this month attempting to more clearly define "stewardship". The other reason for writing??? Char told me I must!!! Here goes.

To get even a very basic understanding of Stewardship we must first remember that God has provided us with ALL that we have. Further, all that we have God has entrusted to us to be used for HIS purposes. I think many of us probably struggle with those two sentences and would have difficulty in complete reconciliation. So, how about this: should we give away all that we have for the sake of the poor, the homeless?? Maybe somewhere in the middle?? How about perfection in our thoughts, words and deeds... we confess them each week during worship. Now you see why I don't clearly understand. (continued)

STEWARDSHIP (con't)

So as I am looking for answers in my “little book about being Lutheran”, I found something to perhaps explain even more. For Stewardship to be successful, it must be faithful stewardship. It is not about the amount but rather identity. It is not about balanced budgets but about the way the Holy Spirit works “in and through” us. Now for the “kicker”...remember this, it is faithful stewardship that leads us to “Walk with Jesus to Bring New Life and Hope to Every Person”

Now that I have totally confused us... Please remember also..... generosity is a key element of stewardship in our daily lives, within our church, our community and even our world. All of you can be extremely PROUD of your generosity



WELCA HAPPENINGS

As you know, the popular topic here is the weather. Most of us comment on the high temperatures regularly, but we are blessed to enjoy air conditioning in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall at Gloria de Cristo. In spite of the heat.

Days for Girls meets regularly, every other Saturday morning. A faithful, core group works, plays and eats, all of it with vigor. Typically, work revolves around one piece of the whole kit or bag until a certain number is completed. Then, on to the next piece until all the pieces are finished and ready to send to Lord of Life Lutheran in Sun City West where arrangements are made for distribution. Recently, 50 bags and 600+ liners were completed and donated. Please consider joining us on a Saturday morning, the dates are in the church bulletin every Sunday.

Planning for the Spring, 2024, Cactus Conference continues. A date in late September or early October will be announced inviting those who signed up to be part of the committees plus all women who couldn't attend the June 8th kick-off and would like to be a part of it. At this meeting we will explore the areas of each committee and its relation to the whole conference with lots of questions, examples and guidance. Meanwhile, if you have questions or need clarification, please contact me or Char at our email addresses. Thank you for your willingness to help make us shine.

Blessings,

Donna Brown
diabee1@yahoo.com

Char Schomisch
chargdc@outlook.com



Entering into the month of August makes me feel real anxious. Although it's still a month or so before I see some evidence, I start to visualize those that left for the summer starting to return and that gets my insides tingling. It also means the various programs and classes at GdC will again be activated. I know there are a couple new things that will be happening in the coming season – one being 'line dancing' for exercise. So keep that in mind as it's fun as well as good for you.

We are, at present, in the process of updating the church's website. When it's finished I'll let you know and you can go online and take a look.

So much for this month's article. Enjoy your summer wherever you are and I'm looking forward to seeing you in worship.

Char Schomisch, Co-chair

Joanne Ausing, Co-Chair

YOUTH & EDUCATION

During the summer, most committee members get a break from planning functions and activities. However, most committee chairpersons are looking ahead to fall and outlining what needs to be done.

My chief concern is to be prepared for Sunday School should we have some regular church goers with children. There are multiple ways to proceed with a plan. My wish is to have committee members alternate Sundays so as not to have this task fall to one or two. At the first committee meeting, I'll be discussing this with my committee. There are only 4 of us, which makes lots of room for others to join. If you have Sunday School experience, I'd love to have you join us in November. Watch the bulletin, future Evangels, and the monthly calendar for an exact date of our committee meeting.

Please, think about it.....

Diane Lee, Chairperson

YARD SALE UPDATE

It's hard to believe, but we are closing in on fall already! That means starting to think about what might get donated for the Yard Sale when our winter visitors return. We are ready to accept donations starting in October, since it's just too hot here to even think about working in the heat until it starts to cool down in Yuma. Also, we are once again asking for volunteers to help with the drop-off sessions, which will be the second Saturday of the month from 8-10am. Many hands make light work, so come on out and lend a hand.

If you are dropping off items to donate this fall, please keep in mind that there are certain items we do not sell at the yard sale:

Shoes – we give all donated shoes to Crossroads Mission, so if you have shoes to donate, please consider just taking them directly to the mission.

Undergarments – These items will also go to the mission.

Mattresses – These items would need to go through a process of sterilization and cleaning, and they also take up a large amount of space in the containers. So, at this time, we are not accepting mattresses.

Pre-sorting your donations can be very helpful. We sort items into boxes by type of items.

Clothing – it's helpful to have separate boxes/bags for womens, mens, and children's clothing

Glassware – please wrap glassware if possible, and mark the box as fragile/glass

Kitchen items – any non-glass kitchen items such as bowls, glasses, cookware, silverware, etc.

Books

Games/puzzles

Crafts - yarn, fabrics, craft supplies, etc

Tools

Electronics – any item that has an on/off switch and plugs in will need to be tested prior to sale

Miscellaneous non-breakable items

Purses/belts/hats

Christmas items

Drop-Off dates:

October 12, November 9, December 14, January 11, and possibly February 8.

The 2025 Yard Sale will be Fri/Sat, Feb. 21-22.

Michelle Cegon

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR AUGUST

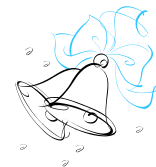
- 4 Judy Zeiss in honor of Bob's 80th birthday
- 11 Gary Raasch in memory of my Bride's birthday
- 18 John & Jean Gerfen in memory of Neal's birthday
- 25 Marijan & Judy Petrovic in memory of loved ones



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----|---------------|----|-------------------|
| 2 | Duane Carter | 11 | Diane Lee | 18 | Mary Becker |
| 5 | David Donaldson | 12 | Jerry Taylor | 20 | Lisa Fink |
| 5 | Ted Duffy | 13 | Charlie Rothi | 20 | Brian Neigum |
| 7 | Robin Marlatt | 14 | Becky Werner | 29 | Louise MacPherson |
| 8 | Jewel McNamee | 15 | Linda Kasin | 29 | Amber Pacewic |
| 8 | Bob Zeiss | 16 | Janis Suess | 31 | Linda Anderson |

JULY ANNIVERSARIES



- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 5 | Ben & Judy Skarbo | 27 | Paul & Shirley Ehler |
| 14 | Charlie & Bonnie Rothi | 29 | Scott & Lisa Fink |
| 17 | Richard & Tammy Martin | 31 | Dave & Carolyn Lester |
| 20 | Don & Suzan Hormann | 31 | Roger & Jackie Tracey |

AUGUST 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00am TOPS	2 8:00am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	3 8 am- Men's Breakfast, Daybreakers 8 am Women's Break- fast Club, Jimmy K's 9:00 am TOPS
4 Worship 9:30 Potluck following 9:30 Collection of Food for Food Pantry 1:00 pm Foothills Social	5	6 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social	7 1 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir Camp	8 7:00am TOPS	9 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am English/ Spanish Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	10 9:00 am TOPS
11 Worship 9:30 1:00 pm Foothills Social	12	13 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social .	14 1 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir Camp	15 7:00am TOPS	16 8:00 am TOPS 10:30 am English/ Spanish Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	17 9:00 am TOPS
18 Worship 9:30 1:00 pm Foothills Social	19	20 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social	21 1 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir Camp	22 7:00am TOPS	23 8:00am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	24 9:00 am TOPS
25 Worship 9:30 1:00 pm Foothills Social	26	27 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social	28 1 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 pm Choir Camp	29 7:00am TOPS	30 8:00am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	31 9:00 am TOPS

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August 2024

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ORGANIST: Dr. Shirley Ehler
PIANISTS: Marie Ritten, Lorie Rapp,
Pam Carter, Suzanne Haggett
FIDDLE: 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 Secretary: Char Schomisch

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS:

CARE MINISTRY: Mary Marsh
EDUCATION: Diane Lee
FELLOWSHIP: Merilee Kaiser
OUTREACH: Joe Johnson
PROPERTY: Jerry Randby
SOCIAL CONCERNS: Evelyn Trone
STEWARDSHIP: Gary Raasch
WORSHIP & MUSIC: Char Schomisch