



MISSION STATEMENT

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

TO ALL, CALLED BY ALMIGHTY GOD TO BE HIS OWN, GRACE AND PEACE!

After a Lenten season of preparation and self-reflection, we enter an Easter season of celebration!

The Son of God, Jesus, came as a servant to lay down his life for us. On the cross of Calvary, that servanthood was manifested where he opened his arms to sinners, and we gained forgiveness, hope, and eternal life.

A story from Scotland tells of a mother's dramatic rescue of her child. Workmen were blasting rock in a quarry. One day after they had attached the fuse and retired to a safe place and gave the alarm, they saw a three-year-old child wandering across the open space where danger threatened. Every passing second meant death was closing in on the child.

The workmen called to the child and waved their arms, but he only looked at their strange antics with amusement. No man dared to run forward, knowing the explosion was only seconds away. The child most certainly would have been killed, had not his mother appeared at this moment of crisis.

Taking in the situation at a glance, she did what her mother's heart dictated. She did not run toward her son or yell to frighten him. Instead, she knelt down, opened wide her arms, and smiled for him to come.

Instantly, the child ran towards her. Shortly after that, the area shook with the force of the explosion, yet the child was safe in his mother's arms.

What a picture of the grace of God and of the cross. With outstretched arms on the cross, Jesus gives his gracious invitation to the world, inviting all people to come to him!

It is our privilege to bring this Good News of God's love and forgiveness to all people...as we are "Walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to every person!"

See you in worship!

Pastor Bill Timm

FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT



As I write this newsletter article my thoughts are still in Lent, when you read this you will have been a part of the great celebration of Easter! When I was young our Pastor always said Easter without Lent is empty. While he said a lot of smart things, I did not understand that. Easter was really better than Christmas; the celebration was full of family, dinner and candy. No pressure of presents and good behavior. It wasn't until I learned that Lent meant spending time, sometimes in service, many times alone with thoughts and prayers between me and God. And if my first Pastor was still alive I would call him and tell him he was right! He would not be surprised it took me so long to acknowledge he had words of wisdom for a teenager. I hope you take a minute to enjoy a trip down memory lane. Certainly they are not always happy trips, but do give opportunities for growth, forgiveness, and reconnection.

And just like that spring is here! At GDC the celebration of new life brings the migration of some members and friends, traveling back to their summer home. Actually it's what we call bitter-sweet, we miss your singing, service, fellowship (not just at coffee hour, but the wonderful pot luck Sundays) true, finding a parking place at 9:25 is easier. We year rounder's really do miss you. We think about you, talk about you and we pray for you! We hope you keep us in your prayers as well. This year the church council has entered into a contract to create a new and more user friendly website. We are expecting a mid-summer reveal. Keep an eye out in the Evangel. We will be able to connect in real time, not just once a month.

See you in church, or you can see us on Facebook or YouTube, links found on our website.

Sharon Merz

Call Committee Update

We have been informed of a potential candidate, and will be interviewing the candidate after Easter. Just a reminder that all the details are confidential, and cannot be shared outside of the call committee. Please continue to pray for the call process to move forward. Thank you.

Michelle Cegon - Call Committee Chairperson

Vision Team Report

As a part of the Vision process, we needed to determine the environments that people can find to grow as a disciple at Gloria de Cristo. This process defined our Strategy.

What is a strategy? It is "how we do what we do." During the vision team process, we met a fictional guy named Joe. We defined ways that our friend Joe could have clear steps on how to become a part of our church family. How can Joe get involved? Let's give Joe a map where he can find a path to discipleship. We decided on three strategies, and made these a simple way to grow as a disciple.

Gather - Joe can gather for weekly worship. Let's all remember how we found our way here. Were you invited? Do you need to invite Joe?

Discover - Joe can discover God's Word, and our identity by attending Bible Studies and other classes offered. Will you bring Joe to a Bible Study? Have you taken advantage of our weekly Bible Studies yet?

Care & Connect - Joe can attend one of our Care Ministries like GriefShare, or be assigned a Stephen Minister. Do you know if Joe needs one or more of our care ministries? Are you aware of how many people that have been offered care through these ministries become a part of our church family?

Where do you fit in with this strategy? Do you attend worship and also Bible Studies? Do you volunteer with one of our Care Ministries or serve on a committee to support them? Do you come to the Fellowship Hall after services to meet and connect with visitors and other members of the church communities?

Let's make sure the we are all familiar with our 3 paths to discipleship at Gloria de Cristo: **Gather, Discover, Care & Connect**. And, as a bonus, let's all go find our own "Joe" out in the world that may just need your help to get on the path.

Michelle Cegon - Vision team member

“The overriding characteristic of spiritual love predominates the worship of God. It is supported by the full spectrum of humankind attributes; emotive musical expression, the social unity of musical ensembles—including the congregation singing corporate hymns, the mental assertion of the musically-creative will, and the physical actions of human posturing in musical performance facing the object of their adoration: God. . . . A definition for Christian corporate worship might be a community’s response via the Holy Spirit to God’s revelation of Himself in Jesus Christ”.

Music in worship is the glue tying us in our present-day worship to our eternal worship in heaven—whether we are talking about weekly, corporate worship or daily personal lifestyle. This is why we are exhorted in scripture to “address(ing) one another in **psalms and hymns and spiritual songs**, singing **and** making melody to the Lord with all your heart,” (Ephesians 5:19); and “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach **and** admonish one another in all wisdom, **and** sing **psalms and hymns and spiritual songs** with thankfulness in your hearts to God” (Colossians 3:16).

CHRIST is risen! HE is risen indeed!

You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart!

We’re walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to every person.

Thomas A. Seel, Lecture on *A Theology of Music for Worship Derived from the Book of Revelation*, p.8.

Alfred H. Ackley, “He Lives!” in *Great Hymns of the Faith*, (Rodeheaver Co, 1961), #132.



GLORIOUS QUILTERS

Here it is April already!

There have been a few Ladies that have left to go back home, sad to see them go.

We had one week that 29 Ladies were ready to join the well oiled production line of quilt making!

We were able to send quilts to different places such as our Vets, Crossroads Mission, Maricopa Lutheran Church, and Crossroads Lutheran Church

We made soup for the Lenten soup supper.

Yes these Ladies are BUSY.

We would like to thank the Yard Sale committee and all the volunteers for the great donation of monies, over one thousand dollars. The exact amount would be the remainder after tables were bought. This will help us purchase the batting we need to make the quilts. Batting is probably the biggest expense we have. So THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU !

Remember every Monday 9-12 in the Fellowship hall. Come join in and have a fun time

Carol Schock
503-338-9358 please TEXT



FELLOWSHIP

Wow, we are having a good turnout for our monthly potlucks. Like potlucks? Remember that the first Sunday of each month is our time to share your special dishes with each other. Just a reminder that I need to have three or four people to help each time. A number of the dishes need to be in the oven to keep warm and salads are in the frig, so I need to have people help set out them out right after the 930 service, and I also need help to clean up afterwards. As you can imagine, that number of people makes a lot of dirty dishes and silverware. We just need to rinse them and put them in the dishwasher, so it's not really a lot of work, just need many hands to finish the job.

If there is food left over after the potluck, I have some take out containers, and you are welcome to fill these and share with some of your shut-in neighbors.

I also need help every Sunday morning for Fellowship. I would love to see your name on my list to help with the cleanup afterwards. A list of responsibilities is available so you know what is expected of you. The proverbial "Many hands make light work" is so true.

We had a very interesting program for the Annual Ladies Luncheon. Myra Garlit, Executive Director for Crossroads Mission gave an informative presentation of what the Crossroads Mission does and what they need. They serve three meals a day, breakfast, lunch and dinner, to more than 100 people every meal, so they need lots of food. As you clean out your cupboards and pantries getting ready to go to your summer home, I would encourage you to pack up whatever you want to share, **put it in a box marked "For Crossroads Mission" and bring them to the church. I will make sure that they get delivered to the Mission.**

They also need socks and shoes and other items of clothing that you would like to share. Whatever they don't use for the clients, they can put in their Thrift Store and sell. So, nothing will go to waste!

The cookie supply in the freezer is pretty good now, but if you want to bake some cookies before you leave, we can always use more.

As many of you head north to your summer homes, my prayers are with you for a safe trip, and we look forward to seeing you back with us in the fall.

In Fellowship

Cheryl Preul, Chairman

HEALTH & WELLNESS MINISTRY

Health and Wellness Ministry Team

The Mental Health Ministry Team has changed its name to **Health and Wellness Team** because our focus is on the general good health of all people. We know that to be healthy requires that we maintain both mental and physical health. Over the past several years we have written monthly articles for the **Evangel** Newsletter that have provided lots of information on how to achieve good mental and physical health especially as we age.

We currently are offering **Chair Exercises** by a qualified instructor who teaches techniques in stretching, balance, and breathing once weekly on Wednesdays at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. The **Caregiver Support Group** meets every Friday at 11:00 at a local restaurant led by Sandy Timm. In the future, we will be offering more information on **Dementia and Alzheimer's** through videos and qualified presenters.

We know that to maintain a positive healthy outlook in our lives, a strong social network is important. We will be starting new **Social Activity Life Groups** that will include: Walking, Hiking, Golf, Book Cubs, Karaoke, and others. There will be sign-up sheets to join these activities in the future. We are also hoping to start a **Women's Breakfast Club** that will meet the 1st Saturday of each month, beginning April 6 @ 8 am at Jimmie K's Café, Foothills Blvd. Look for more info on this in church bulletins!



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!!

The next date is April 6, 2024

2024 YARD SALE

Here's a quick summary of how our 2024 yard sale went:

Average number of volunteers - 46

Total sales - \$10,610.50

Expenses - \$401.96

Net Proceeds - \$10,208.54

Church's share (2/3) - \$6805.70

Balance - \$3402.84

We have been given donations to purchase a 2nd storage container, to help with storing the many items we are collecting over the next year. Part of our yard sale balance will go toward painting the container to match the current one, and also installation of vent fans. The container will be installed after the insulation and painting is completed, hopefully in the next few months.

Additionally, we are donating money to the Glorious Quilters, and we will also be purchasing 10 more tables.

We will begin drop-off of sale items in April. The dates of the drop-offs will all be the 2nd Saturday of the month from 8-10am, skipping June-September.

Drop-Off dates:

April 13, May 11, October 12, November 9, December 14, January 11, and possibly February 8.

The 2025 Yard Sale will be Fri/Sat, Feb. 21-22. Easter is much later in 2025, with Ash Wednesday on March 5, and Easter Sunday on April 20.

We'd like to thank you for all the donations, and thank you to all the many people who helped us have the best yard sale yet! Come join us at any of the drop-off sessions to help sort, and join us for the week of the yard sale, we have a blast!

Michelle Cegon - Yard Sale committee member

OUTREACH

Revelation 19

¹ And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honor, and power, unto the Lord our God: ²For true and righteous are his judgments: ... ³And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. ⁴And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. ⁵And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. ⁶And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

Now you may wonder why I say Alleluia. Of course it is biblical. A lot of Southerners love to read the scriptures from the gospel and here it is in black and white. Alleluia is the highest praise that you can give some one in heaven so when you really want to give thanks and praise say, Alleluia!!!!

Not much going on in Outreach at the moment. Road construction is still going on so no highway clean up for now. Hope everyone is enjoying their spring. Don't have to change the clocks here so that's a good thing.

Remember when you say Alleluia it means Praise!!!!

Joe Johnson, Chair



PROPERTY



Your property committee had a busy month. We installed a drainage system in the columbarium courtyard. Thanks to Dennis Kasin for designing the system and for doing most of the work. Thanks also to Chuck Zinky and Mike Corless for their help, and to Ron Davis for replacing the pavers that had to be removed. Also, we're improving the irrigation system for the oleanders,. Thanks to Jim Hollandsworth, Mike Corless, Rick Sherwood and Chuck Zinky for their help with that. We're also looking to get bids for rain gutters on the front courtyard area.

We've had several light bulbs replaced in the sanctuary. Thanks to Brian Suess and Dave Donaldson for keeping up with that. Finally, thanks to Dave Lester and Lauren Erickson for spraying weeds.

Jerry Randby, Property chair

SOCIAL CONCERNS

"GO SEE" Tour : Amberley's Place

On February 28, 2024 the Social Concerns Committee sponsored a "Go See" tour to Amberley's Place. Ten GDC members participated. We were greeted by Tori Bourguignon, Executive Director who gave us some history, an overview of the program and a tour of the facility. Amberley's Place was founded in 1999 to offer immediate, multidisciplinary crisis intervention 24/7 for victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and elder abuse. By providing multiple services under one roof victims (clients) are not re-traumatized by having to go to different agencies to complete their report and evaluations and receive social services. The services provided are social services, client advocacy, legal assistance with completing an order of protection, developing a safety plan, forensic examinations and a community crisis response team. This is a unique program and no other community in the U.S. has a program like this. Amberley's Place is NOT A Shelter. If housing is needed staff assist with referrals.

January 2024 the program served 300 clients. This includes family members as well as the victims. About 85% of clients are female but males are victims too.

When a client comes to the program, they are placed in a private family room to have a confidential interview. The facility is divided into several family and plan rooms and 2 medical examination rooms. The facility is comfortable, cozy, and attractively furnished. The walls are decorated with attractive, fun murals which were painted by inmates.

Four forensic nurses are on-call to complete when needed forensic examinations.

Clients can decide if they choose to report an incident or not. Any evidence collected is given to police and no evidence is stored on the premises. Amberley's Place coordinates with 12 jurisdictions.

Satellite offices are located in Somerton, San Luis, and Wellton

When a client comes in, they are offered something to eat. Frequently, clothing is used in evidence, so the client is given clothing. When discharged the client is given a toy or an age-appropriate item for comfort.

Our group was extremely impressed in the scope of service provided, the attractiveness of the facility and how donations are used, organized and stored.

They do have volunteer opportunities as well and accepting donations. Donations can also be made to the thrift store. All items are used for the benefit of clients.

STEWARDSHIP

Fry's Community Rewards Program: For those not familiar with the program, it is a generosity endeavor of the grocery chain of Kroger, which is the owner of Fry's Super Markets. Fry's donates a small percentage of every purchase in which a Rewards Card has been used and those monies are given to the designee of each Rewards Card. Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church has been approved as a recipient of those funds. For those of you who are familiar with the Fry's website, please navigate and designate Gloria de Cristo as your recipient. I am preparing a "tutorial" that will be printed and all those interested will have an opportunity to take a copy. The very first step is you must possess a Rewards Card and create an "account", so, on your next visit, please stop at the service counter and get started.

Not stewardship. I want to thank Joanne Ausing and Char for helping with the "provisions" and clean-up for the soup nite sponsored by Pastor's Breakfast Group. Very special thanks to the soup chefs: Dave Donaldson, John Gerfen, Jim Hollandsworth, Joe Johnson, Dave Lester, Marijan Petrovic, Jerry Randby, Curt Roark, Rick Sherwood, Eric Werner and Bob Zeiss. Thank you!!!! You made it possible.





WELCA HAPPENINGS

As in every April, our Gloria de Cristo congregation grows smaller when our winter residents leave to travel to their summer homes. I seem to spend at least a month looking for them before I realize I won't get to see them until the Fall season. The wish for "safe travels" really rings true to all of you.

Happenings in April this year reflect less activities as well:

April 2nd – WELCA Planning meeting, 1 pm in the Church's Nursery.

April 9th – WELCA and Social Concerns partner to share a Movie Night beginning at 4:30 that afternoon. Popcorn, water and coffee will be available while we view "The Sound of Freedom." This is the second segment to our study of Human Trafficking.

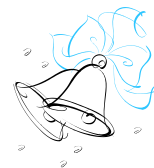
April 13th – The Cactus Conference hosted by Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Sun City West. **A sign-up sheet is in our Narthex, however, the deadline to sign up is April 1st.** The cost is \$15.00 which is submitted to Gloria de Cristo who will send one check for all registrants. The theme is "Sea of Galilee meets Silicon Valley: Artificial Intelligence, Faith Communities and Faith."

Typically, we try to carpool, leaving the church parking lot at 6 am that Saturday morning. When you sign up, indicate if you wish to be a carpool driver. The conference usually lasts up to 3 o'clock which would bring us back to our church parking lot about 6 pm. Lunch is included with the conference fee. More details are available online.

The remainder of April, for WELCA activities, is pretty quiet. Please, winter residents, keep in touch with WELCA at Gloria de Cristo through our newsletters and through emails to the church. Your suggestions and input for future activities are valued.

Blessings,

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



- 1 Raymond & Lisa Crayne
- 4 Morris & Nancy Kisling
- 9 John & Louise MacPherson
- 14 Russ & Alice Neville
- 17 Larry & Bonnie Doll

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR APRIL

- 7 Al & Linda Sprauer in memory of Robert & William Sprauer
- 14 Kermit & Carol Brandt
- 21 Ted & Niki Duffy in memory of son Patrick
- 28 Diane Lee



Another busy celebration has just been completed...the Lenten season and Holy Week...all leading up to the death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. I hope that you were able to participate in these worship services, if so, you have the whole story..not just the ending.

We move into the sad time of the year for those of us that are fulltime in Yuma..a time when we bid farewell to many of our church family that spend the summer months elsewhere... BUT..we look forward to the fall when they again return to spend time with us here at Gloria de Cristo. We pray for safe travels to all of them both coming and going.

I have come to the time of doing another schedule for worship assistants and I pray that those hanging out here in Yuma will be able to serve until our wanderers return in the fall. I am so appreciative of those that help make our worship services flow smoothly. Thank You

Char Schomisch, Co-Leader
Joanne Ausing, Co-Leader

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Lisa Crayne | 10 Marge Graham | 16 Marijan Petrovic |
| 2 Jim Neely | 11 Dennis Munson | 17 Elaine Hofslie |
| 3 Marcia Herberg | 14 Barbara Blank | 18 Gary Raasch |
| 4 Illa Mattingly | 14 Roger Friz | 19 Sue Martin |
| 6 Alyce Waverly | 14 Carolyn Lester | 22 Morris Kisling |
| 8 Joan Ausman | 14 Emma Pacewic | 22 Sue Nasinec |
| 9 Esther Thurman | 15 Darus White | 26 Linda Bradshaw |

APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 12:00 pm Worship Mtg. 12 pm Social Concerns 12:30 & 3:00 pm Bible Study, Pastor's home	2 4:00 pm Health & Wellness Mtg. 10 am Zoom Bible Study	3 1:00 pm Chair balancing & Stretching 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	4 7:00am TOPS 4 pm Bible Study 5:00 pm TOPS	5 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	6 8 am Men's Breakfast, Daybreakers 8 am Women's Breakfast, Jimmy K's 9 am Days for Girls 4:00 pm Worship
7 Worship 9:30 Potluck following 9:30 Collection of Food for Food Pantry 1:00 pm Foothills Social	8 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 12:30 & 3:00 pm Bible Study, Pastor's home 2 pm Fellowship Mtg 4:30 pm Stephen Min. Potluck, Fellowship Hall	9 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10 am Zoom Bible Study 1:00 pm Foothills Social	10 1:00 pm Chair balancing & Stretching 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	11 7:00am TOPS 4 pm Bible Study 5:00 pm TOPS	12 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	13 4 pm Worship
14 Worship 9:30 Stephen Ministry Commissioning 12:00 pm GriefShare Fellowship Classroom 1:00 pm Foothills Social	15 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 12:30 & 3:00 pm Bible Study, Pastor's home	16 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10 am Zoom Bible Study 1:00 pm Foothills Social 4 pm Exec. Council 4:30 pm Council Mtg.	17 1:00 pm Chair balancing & Stretching 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	18 7:00am TOPS 5:00 pm TOPS	19 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	20 4 pm Worship
21 Worship 9:30 12:00 pm GriefShare Fellowship Classroom 1:00 pm Foothills Social	22 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 10 am GriefShare Class, FC 12:30 & 3:00 pm Bible Study, Pastor's home	23 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10 am Zoom Bible Study 1:00 pm Foothills Social	24 1:00 pm Chair balancing & Stretching 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	25 7:00am TOPS 5:00 pm TOPS	26 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	27 Last 4 pm Worship
28 Worship 9:30 12:00 pm GriefShare Fellowship Classroom 1:00 pm Foothills Social	29 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 10 am GriefShare Class, 12:30 & 3:00 pm Bible Study, Pastor's home	30 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10 am Zoom Bible Study 1:00 pm Foothills Social	1 MAY 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	2 7:00am TOPS 5:00 pm TOPS	3 8:00am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	4

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

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
YUMA, AZ. 85367
PERMIT NO. 190

APRIL 2024

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

GriefShare Leaders:
Ted & Nikki Duffy
Lisa Crayne
Mary Marsh
Lynette Layton

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: Cheryl Preul
OUTREACH: Joe Johnson
PROPERTY: Jerry Randby
SOCIAL CONCERNS: Evelyn Trone
STEWARDSHIP: Gary Raasch
WORSHIP & MUSIC: Char Schomisch