

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

June 2026
Volume 34, Issue 6



MISSION STATEMENT

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

CHRIST WITH US IN JUNE

Sheltering in Psalms

“Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name’s sake, lead me and guide me.”

Psalm 31:3-4 (NRSV)

Shelter in place! We are familiar with this instruction and understand that it means “if you want to be safe, stay where you are!”. Sometimes, we get this warning when the weather poses a risk, like during a time of heavy winds, and sadly, sometimes it means there is someone nearby who is presenting a threat to life and limb. Life can feel like we should “shelter in place”. Be alert, don’t go too far, beware of strangers, be prepared. However, as Christians, we have a place of shelter, a place of safety and a place of calm; that place is a place of prayer, a place that puts us in communication with the One who is our Rock, our Shelter and Our Redeemer.

The Book of Psalms provides us with prayers that we can pray any time, anywhere. It is good to read the entire book of Psalms, but it may be hard to memorize an entire Psalm. But there are brief, easy to remember sentences in each Psalm that you can use for those moments in life when breathing is difficult, your heart is aching, and focus is difficult to achieve. Many of us have Psalm 23 memorized, but when things are chaotic, we can find calm in the first verse: “The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want (NRSV). This reminds us of who and whose we are and gives us the assurance that we are under the care of our beloved Savior. Psalm 56:3 (NRSV) provides this short cry; “When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you”. Psalm 108:4 (NRSV) reminds us that: “Your steadfast love is higher than the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds”. This reminds us that nothing will separate us from God’s love and mercy. Psalm 46:1-2 (NRSV) calls out, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, I will not fear...”. There are Psalms that praise, that call for help and refuge, that address sorrow and isolation. It might be helpful to read through the Psalms and write down those one sentence prayers to use when you want to pray, but the words won’t come. Breathe and pray. And don’t fear, even without words, God hears our hearts.

(con’t.)

CHRIST WITH US (Con't.)

Psalm 51 is a Psalm that can be used before taking Communion as it represents a plea for forgiveness. Psalm 104 is a song of praise to the Creator and Provider. Psalm 119 is a study of the glories of God's law. Psalm 148 praises God's universal glory. Finding shelter includes expressing gratitude, praising and thankfulness and living with contentment developed through recognizing that God provides love, mercy and grace. Read a Psalm every day and find perfect shelter, perfect peace and perfect safety resting in God's loving arms.

Heavenly Father, thank you for being my refuge, my fortress, my help in time of trouble. Give me wisdom and discernment as I read your Word. Pour out the Holy Spirit upon me that I might always be led into prayers that keep me in Your will and are pleasing to You. Keep me faithful and thankful for Your love, grace and mercy. Amen



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sometimes when we come to worship service we take for granted the effort put forth to have a welcoming and warm service for all attendees. There is always a place for anyone who wishes to help in the service.

There is a need for ushers and greeters and all you need to do is list your name on the green slip in the pew that you would like to help and place it in the offering plate.

The Call Committee and the Church Council have been working towards attaining a call from a pastor. Sometimes it is 2 steps forward and one step back but we will achieve the goal of a pastor when God feels it is time. We are a unique congregation requiring that "special" Pastor to fill our needs.

I have seen some visitors at worship services. Remember to reach out to these visitors and make them feel welcome.

President, John Arnold



Moving into June means that we will see the year at the mid-point of 2026. A quick look back shows us that we have celebrated our Risen Savior every Sunday; rejoicing in the new year, witnessing the Transfiguration, walking through Holy Week, thrilling at the Easter Good news, seeing the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and exploring the mystery of the Trinity on Trinity Sunday. The end of April was the anniversary of the Commissioning of your first five Vicars and saw our new Vicar (Suzanne Haggett) installed. It has been our great joy to do this work and even in the midst of a “learning curve” we have presented the Word of God in spirit, in truth, with humility and awe.

None of us can look into the future. We do understand that Gloria de Cristo has an opportunity to meet a challenge and to be a strong presence in our growing community. At this writing, it has not been announced that we have a new Pastor, but in all things, we know that “God’s will be done”. You can depend on your Vicars to continue in faithful service while we patiently wait for God to show us what He has prepared for us. We can take our cue from Colossians 3:12-14: “Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues, put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” (NIV)

We can move forward in unity, in grace, in peace. The Vicars, all the committee members, the various ministries, the Church Council, and all of those who serve will continue to follow our calling. Gaps will be filled, the Holy Spirit will continue to empower and equip. We can move into the second half of the year with energy, hope, optimism, joy. The entire congregation will continue to be faithful to the mission of “walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to all people” while we faithfully serve our Living Lord.

Please continue to pray for your Vicars as they also lift you all in prayer.

Dr. Shirley, Judy, Char, Suzanne & Paula

From the desk of Dr. Shirley . . .



Happy Father's Day

Father's Day 2026 falls on Sunday, June 21—a perfect time to celebrate the dads, grandfathers, and father figures who shape our lives with strength, love, and quiet dedication. This meaningful holiday honors the men who guide, teach, support, and inspire us, whether through big life lessons or small everyday moments. Daily, we can celebrate our Father God, who in Psalm 68:5 is the Father of orphans and protector of widows. We can use Psalm 89:26 to cry out in prayer, “You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!” We can pray with confidence because we know from John 1:18 that “No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.” Because you are God's children, He (God) has sent the Spirit of His Son (Jesus Christ) into our hearts, crying “Abba! Father!”

In each of the Pauline Epistles, you will find in one of the opening verses this greeting and blessing: “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Near the end of 2 Thessalonians (2:16) is a blessing: “May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.” Some versions substitute the word comfort for encourage.

Peter writes to “God's elect, exiles scattered . . . who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: May grace and peace be yours in abundance.” He references all three persons of the Trinity as one God.

John says, “See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. . . .” (1 John 3:1).

Happy Father's Day



EDUCATION

We have only one class going this Summer. Coffee with Jesus on Tuesdays at 9 am. We are doing "Psalms ". We are excited, we are starting to do Zoom this week so our members not here can join in discussion. If you want to participate, contact the office and Char will send you the link.

Will need someone to do Old Testament in the Fall. Anyone interested in leading that? Please give the office a call. 🙏

God is good!
Lynette, Education



First Saturday of every month, 8:00 am, Izzies on Foothills Blvd.

The next date is: June 6, 2026 Please come join us for great food, conversation, and fellowship!

FELLOWSHIP



Our Monthly Potluck was a huge success! Thank you to all the great cooks in our congregation. Our men also did an awesome job, have they been hiding this talent?

It's time to thank (Mr. Coffee) David, for always having the coffee going early. He is very faithful for always giving us that pick me up that we all seem to need! Thank you to our church secretary who really holds us all together so smoothly, and thank you to our Choir, the Bells of Glory, and our Vicars for making our worship so meaningful.

We are blessed with such talent and we are grateful. Everyone from our Vicars, sound techs, ushers and greeters, readers, to our GriefShare leaders, Bible study and prayer group leaders. Thank you also to all the people who fill our freezer with delicious cookies to serve at Fellowship. Our ladies who set up our altar each week work behind the scene and aren't thanked often. We can't forget our Call Committee who have worked and continue to work to secure our congregation with the best candidate.

We are Gloria de Cristo because of all these big hearts who give of themselves!
We are blessed!!

Fellowship Chair, Mona O'Reilly

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MONTH OF APRIL, 2026

	Month Amount	Month Budget	Month Variance	YTD Amount	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
INCOME	\$ 35,430	\$ 22,025	\$ 13,405	\$ 111,284	\$ 88,100	\$ 23,184
EXPENSE	\$ 30,790	\$ 21,045	\$ 9,745	\$ 53,375	\$ 63,137	\$ (9,762)
GAIN OR (LOSS)	\$ 4,640	\$ 980	\$ 3,660	\$ 57,909	\$ 24,963	\$ 32,946

GLORIOUS QUILTERS



Well, well, well June has arrived.

Let me tell you that the Ladies, fewer in number, have still been busy sewing many, many quilts. Towards the end of May we had the privilege of working with our Vicars to help them make Pocket Prayer Quilts. This was a little different than what we are used to making and on a much SMALLER scale.

We have been so blessed with donations of fabric. Our Thanks to every one of you. You know it always surprises me when we get a call from someone that isn't even a member of our church. I try to make sure we've shown them around so they can see the process of making the quilts as well letting them know where all the quilts are donated to. I dare say many are surprised as well.

Stop by and visit, see what these Ladies are up to. Coffee break is at 10.

Carol Schock, Project Coordinator
503-338-9358 (please text)

PRAYER FOR GLORIA DE CRISTO

Holy Spirit, who on that first Pentecost established by your outpouring upon the disciples at Jerusalem the Christian Church, we thank you that through the Word and Sacrament You have continued Your Church through the ages and preserved the fellowship of the faithful throughout the years. We pray grant us so firm a faith in the Redeemer, and so steadfast a faithfulness in Thy Service that through us You might continue to build your Church among us here in Yuma at Gloria de Cristo. Protect us from all falsehood and error. Heal all controversies and dissensions, and hasten the day when we shall once again be led by just the right pastor at just the right time. Grant us all grace to be loyal to Your Word, resisting all efforts to set aside Your revealed truth. Take all indifference out of our hearts, and make us zealous instruments of Your Church that many souls may be added to Christ's kingdom through our testimony. May we, through Your grace by our words and deeds bear witness to the hope that is in us and of your glorious indwelling. In Jesus' name. Amen!

Adapted from the Lutheran Book of Prayer



Hello, hello, hello June! I have not a lot to tell you.

We are working with Lynette on the Freedom 400. There's a lot to do to plan this fantastic endeavor. Actually, it's "all hands on deck!!!"

Plans are in the early stages for events to happen in the fall. Text me and then get involved, we can all put our heads together and plan some great events. Remember it takes an army to make a difference.

Carol Schock, Outreach Chair
503-338-9358



PROPERTY



Well, I GUESS I'm officially back as Property Chair. I agreed to finish Jerry Ranby's term. Wishing Jerry and Chris safe travels and a happy return to their home in SD.

The property overall is in good shape due to some forward planning and action. Our electric bill should drop and our water bill should drop a little. I will be trying to find projects that will be inside for the next few months.

Have a safe summer everyoneGod bless see you all,

David Donaldson, Property Chair

PROJECT 400

At a recent vision meeting our consultant encouraged us to plan some sort of event that would bring a large number of guests to our worship service followed by the gathering of packets for a given charity.

We are calling our event, 'Freedom 400' which is just in the planning stages. The date chosen is November 7 & 8, 2026. Following the service we will make care packages for oversea service men and women. The various committee chairs have been designated:

Car Show: David Griffiths; Motorcycle Groups: Andy & Becky Rusten; Parking: Brian Sues; Veteran Photo Display: Jim & Sherrie Wehrer; Lunch: Mona O'Reilly; Program: Randy Zieman; Service: (Dr. Shirley Ehler); Newspaper ad & Advertisement Carol Schock.

For those of you who are away from Yuma and would like to help with this project, please let us know when you will be returning.

We can be strong and show the community we are always ready to help and support our military community.

God Bless,

Lynette Layton, Project Coordinator

208-589-8237

2nd Saturday of the month, 8:00 am at Izzies on Foothills Blvd. The next one is June 13, 2026 All men of the congregation are invited and encouraged to join in on the fellowship and great food.





SOCIAL CONCERNS

The social concerns committee met May 4th. The committee continues with their ongoing projects. There is 1 Rose Garden Assisted Living birthday in May which we will help celebrate. There are no new projects planned for the summer. Some new ideas were brainstormed but these need to be developed.

Blessings,

Evelyn Trone, Social Concerns Chairperson.



WELCA HAPPENINGS

I can't believe this month is halfway over. Let's enjoy the sunshine and marvel at nature's wonders.

We plan to have a second movie night towards the end of June. Date to be determined. Movie being considered is the life of David. Stay tuned for further information.

On a different note: do you have a recipe that you're eager to share?? Do you always get compliments on a special dish that you have prepared?? WELCA is considering putting a cookbook together based on your favorite meals. If you would like to have your recipe included, please submit it on a 3x5 card. This can include appetizers, main dishes or dessert. So, I'm calling all cooks to consider making a submission. Recipes will be collected and compiled into a book for sale to raise funds for WELCA. We're just in the planning phase as of now, so if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Days For Girls continues the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month, 9 am in Fellowship Hall.

Your sister in Christ

Sandra Arceneaux, WELCA Convener

Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10



It is only June and I'm already looking forward to the return of our church family that leaves the heat for the summer. We are patiently waiting for God's answer to prayers for a pastor to serve at Gloria de Cristo but meanwhile the 'team of vicars' that we have will continue to bring God's word to those in attendance. Being one of that team, I can say it's a privilege to study, research and write the sermon for my assigned week.

As for my committee, they are most dependable and I don't have to be concerned that the Sanctuary will not be prepared for worship when I arrive on Sunday morning.

We are now in the season of Pentecost, which means there is only the Sacrament of Holy Communion to prepare each week. Worship Assistants are at the door each week and ready to do their part in the service to make our guests, as well as our members, welcome and the service to flow smoothly. This makes me very happy.

The team of vicars have prepared a special service for Trinity Sunday, May 31st, so if you're not able to be in the sanctuary, perhaps you can catch the service online. The Glorious Quilters spent one of their days of quilting to help make 'prayer quilts' to be distributed on that day. We thank them for that.

I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer and able to spend time with family and friends.

God's Blessing

Char Schomisch, Committee Co-Chair

Joanne Ausing, Committee Co-Chair

BITS AND PIECES

So, what's up with Tithing?

The tithe was instituted in the Old Testament as a Law for the Israelites (Leviticus 27:30) requiring one-tenth of all their crops and livestock to be given to the temple, as belonging to the Lord. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ fulfilled all Old Testament Laws, and the New Testament says only that gifts should be 'in keeping with income' (1 Corinthians 16:2).

So, how do I know how much to give?

One way is to consider 'proportional giving'. Each year, consider how much of your income you wish to pledge for the church's work, whether it is 1%, 2%, or even 10%, then make a plan to give each week or month to achieve that goal. The next year, prayerfully consider stepping up your contribution by another percent.

'Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver'. (2 Corinthians 9:7)



QR CODE GIVING: Just use your smart phone's QR Code Reader and scan this QR Code to begin your generosity giving! You can set it up to give your gift for a One Time gift or you can set up a recurring gift (Every Week, every 2 weeks, twice a month (1st & 15th), monthly, quarterly, or annually). You can have your gift taken directly from your bank account or you can give with either your debit or credit card. You can pick the day you want your gift to be given. With this way of giving, you can also give to the General Offering, Church Property, World Hunger, and Lent/Holiday gifts. To view the different giving opportunities: When you first enter the app, just scroll down to the line that says 'View more giving opportunities' below the 'Add to Basket' highlighted line.

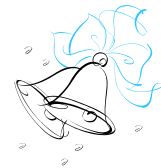
Remember, no Gloria de Cristo Staff or Vicar, will ever ask you through an email for gift cards, cash, access codes or other private information without first having a conversation with you. Please, always check the full address of where an email is from and if you ever have a question, contact the church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



- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Gary Bradshaw | 13 Judy Petrovic | 24 Nila Jacobs |
| 3 Joe Johnson | 15 Jan Klipfel | 27 Larry Unger |
| 5 Anna Stokes | 19 Brigitte Arnio | 27 Jack Greenfield |
| 7 Merrilee Kiser | 21 Jane Todd | 27 Carolyn Wertman |
| 7 Carol Schock | 21 Richard Martin | 28 Diane Grubbs |
| 12 Shirley Johnson | 23 Judy Zeiss | 29 Ruth Nelson |



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 5 John & Sue Nasinec | 12 Dave & Nancy Griffiths |
| 7 Curtis & Carol Roark | 14 Elton & Eileen Brekke |
| 8 Tom & Jeanie Volpe | 21 Walt & Terry Pappin |



FLOWERS FOR JUNE



7	Dave & Nancy Griffiths	In celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary
14	To the Glory of God	
21	To the Glory of God	
28	Ray & Lisa Crayne	In honor of Mason's Strength

JUNE 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
<p>31 Worship 9:30 12:15 pm <i>GriefShare</i> 1 pm Foothills Social</p>	<p>1 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon</p>	<p>2 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12 :30 pm Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.</p>	<p>3 9 am LineDance Exercise 12:00 am Chair Aerobics</p>	<p>4 7 am TOPS 9 am Bazaar Craft Work-shop 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.</p>	<p>5 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social</p>	<p>6 8 am Women's Breakfast, Izzies on Foothills 9 am TOPS</p>
<p>7 WORSHIP 9:30 am Food Collection for Yuma Food Pantry 11:15 am Potluck 1 pm Foothills Social</p>	<p>8 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon 12 pm Social Concerns 12 PM Worship Mtg.</p>	<p>9 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 1-2 pm Stephen Min. Supervisory Meeting. 6:30 pm Fireside Grp</p>	<p>10 9 am LineDance Exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics</p>	<p>11 7 am TOPS 10 am Prayer Fellowship 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.</p>	<p>12 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social</p>	<p>13 8 am Men's Breakfast Izzies on Foothills Blvd 9 am TOPS 9 AM Days For Girls</p>
<p>14 Worship 9:30 am 12:15 pm <i>GriefShare</i> 1 pm Foothills Social</p>	<p>15 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon</p>	<p>16 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12 :30 pm Chair Aerobics 4 pm Council Mtg. 6:30 pm Fireside Grp</p>	<p>17 9 am LineDance Exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics</p>	<p>18 7 am TOPS 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.</p>	<p>19 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social</p>	<p>20 9 am TOPS</p>
<p>21 Worship 9:30 am 12:15 pm <i>GriefShare</i> 1 pm Foothills Social</p>	<p>22 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon</p>	<p>23 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12 :30 pm Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp</p>	<p>24 9 am LineDance Exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics</p>	<p>25 7 am TOPS 10 am Prayer Fellowship 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.</p>	<p>26 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social</p>	<p>27 9 am TOPS 9 AM Days For Girls</p>
<p>28 Worship 9:30 am 12:15 pm <i>GriefShare</i> 1 pm Foothills Social</p>	<p>29 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon</p>	<p>30 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12 :30 pm Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp</p>	<p>July 1 9 am LineDance Exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics</p>	<p>2 7 am TOPS 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.</p>	<p>3 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social</p>	<p>4 9 am TOPS</p>

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JUNE , 2026

AUTHORIZED VICARS: Dr. Shirley Ehler Suzanne Haggett
 Judy Zeiss Char Schomisch
 Paula Pegues

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

ORGANIST: Dr. Shirley Ehler

PIANISTS: Marie Ritten, Lorie Rapp,
 Pam Carter, Suzanne Haggett

VIOLIN: Ami Gudjohnsen

Guitars: Paula Pegues, Randy Ziemann, Jim Wehrer
 Michelle Cegon, Dr. Shirley Ehler

BELLS OF GLORY: Lorie Rapp

CHOIR: Dr. Shirley Ehler

Stephen Ministry Leaders

Jim & Sherrie Wehrer

Michelle Cegon

Robin Marlatt

GriefShare Leaders:

Ted & Nikki Duffy

Lisa Crayne

Mary Marsh

Church Secretary: Char Schomisch

PRESIDENT:

John Arnold

VICE PRESIDENT:

Dave Griffiths

SECRETARY:

Tammy Martin

TREASURER:

Char Schomisch

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS:

EDUCATION:

Lynette Layton

FELLOWSHIP:

Mona O'Reilly

OUTREACH:

Carol Schock

PROPERTY:

David Donaldson

SOCIAL CONCERNS:

Evelyn Trone

STEWARDSHIP:

Gary Raasch

WORSHIP & MUSIC:

Char Schomisch