



MISSION STATEMENT

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

Resounding Praise

“Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights above. Praise Him, all His angels, praise Him all His heavenly hosts”.

Psalm 148:1-2

Psalm 148 doesn't end with the praise of all the heavenly hosts. It goes on to speak of planets and stars, waters, and sea creatures, lightening and hail, snow and clouds, fruit trees and cedars, animals, birds, kings, princes, young men and maidens, old men and children. Simply, Psalm 148 rings with the joy of all creation praising the Lord.

Our God is awesome and so is His creation. It is joyous to imagine each created thing, giving praise in its own way and it speaks to the presence of Christ in all things. When we look out the window in the morning to see what the weather looks like, we can praise God for rain or sunshine because those are God's gifts. All living things treasure life and are true to the characteristics that God gave them. Birds sing in joyful song, deer leap and are beautiful in their movement, even living things that are not so attractive (or are even considered “pests”) are part of God's creation. Everything we have, everything we see, everything we are speaks of our Creator God and how he sustains us.

It is true that God placed the natural world in the care of His humans. Part of praising God means to be good stewards of everything He made. We have not done a very good job of ensuring that our waters are clean, of keeping the very air that we breathe unpolluted. Sadly, we have abused some of God's living creatures so extravagantly that there are species that have been hunted to extinction. Not all people have access to nourishing food, clean water, shelter, or are free from the trauma of war and violence. To truly praise God, we all need to treat His creation as the blessed and holy thing that it is. Sometimes praise means we feed the hungry, care for the widow and the orphan, welcome the stranger, include the marginalized and demand that peace is restored in all places. It also means calling out injustice, accepting and loving those who live on the margins or are unseen and ending prejudice and discrimination. Praise means loving as God loves all things.

Praise also spills into the sharing of our plenty. Stewardship is not to be a grudging offering of talent, time or money. It is to recognize that nothing we have is earned or deserved. Everything...**Every Thing** we have is a gift from God. It is praise when we give joyfully, praising God for all the good things that he has given us and acknowledging that we are giving Him what is His. We praise God when we are good stewards of everything He has supplied.

Praise God! Rejoice in all of His creation. Give thanks for our salvation, for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, for all of His mercy and Grace. What an abundance we have inherited! Praise the Lord!

Heavenly Father, my heart is bursting with gratitude and praise for all the many blessings you have bestowed upon me. Let me go forth rejoicing and in praise. Amen.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



We are approaching a busy time of year for our congregation. Pastor Dave Peterson will be arriving soon and our winter members will be arriving to enjoy fellowship and worship with us.

This will be a time to renew old friendships and hopefully make new friendships and connections.

If you see someone you don't know reach out and welcome them and tell them about how great Gloria de Cristo Church is and what we have to offer to our members through our ministry teams.

It is also a time to remember to wear your name tags. If you don't have a name tag contact the church office and you will have one by the next weekend hanging in the Narthex.

We will also be working our way into 2 services on Sunday and 1 service on Saturday afternoon. Please check your bulletin for more info in the next few weeks. There is a time that should fit everyone's needs.

John Arnold



October! Our Church family members are returning for the winter months and we will celebrate the installation of Pastor Dave Peterson as our new Pastor. God is Good!

We are all eager to welcome and to get to know Pastor Dave and his wife, Rena and we are all looking forward to his leadership as we move forward into a new set of hopes, of expectations, of plans for growth, for fellowship, for renewal. We know that eventually there will be changes and we will need to give each other grace and exercise patience as we all are challenged by the ebb and flow of getting to know each other and finding the new rhythm for our dance of joy in every circumstance.

Your Vicars will be taking on roles that may be different than in the recent past months. Before that happens, we want to thank all of you for your love, your support, your prayers, your patience as we responded to the high calling of speaking the Word, serving at Christ's table, of comforting, visiting, teaching, baptizing and gathering in new members. We are not unaware that you trusted us to let God lead us, to preach the Gospel in power and in truth, to remember that although we did not have a pastor, we were being lifted up and carried by the power of the Holy Spirit. Your prayers sustained us. Your encouragement lifted us. Your faithful and continued attendance cheered us. We all have been blessed beyond measure and deeply humbled to have been given this opportunity and to have been partners with you in "walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to all people".

Vicar Paula and Vicar Suzanne will continue with their journey through Seminary which becomes active again in September. Pray for them, for wisdom and discernment, for focus and for the Holy Spirit to lift them to this high calling.

Finally, keep Pastor Dave and Rena in your prayers. If we are a bit apprehensive about change, just think about how much their lives are changing....a new state, a new home, new neighbors, getting settled, meeting all of us and entering into leadership at Gloria de Cristo. All good stuff, but all new and different. We'll do it together, in prayer, in love and in Christ.

Your Vicars will continue to serve as we are gifted and called and will continue to lift you all in our prayers. God Bless.

From the desk of Dr. Shirley Fhler....



"Welcome, Pastor Dave and Rena.

This article was prompted by a discussion during Prayer Fellowship.

“The fear of God” refers not to terror but to profound reverence, awe, and submission to God’s holiness, power, and authority, described in both the Old and New Testaments as the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10).

Across Scripture, “fear of God” is a deep recognition of God’s greatness, holiness, and justice. It is not panic or dread but a posture of humility, respect, and accountability before the Creator.

Key Elements:

- **Reverence and awe** — acknowledging God’s majesty and authority.
- **Beginning of wisdom** — foundational for understanding and righteous living (Proverbs 9:10).
- **Moral guidance** — motivates obedience, integrity, and avoidance of sin.
- **Awareness of accountability** — recognizing God as judge (2 Corinthians 5:10–11).
- **Worship posture** — approaching God with reverence and humility (Hebrews 12:28–29).

Biblical Examples

- **Abraham** obeying God in Genesis 22:12 shows trust and reverence.
- **Joseph** resisting temptation because he feared sinning against God (Genesis 39:9).
- **Isaiah, Peter, and John** responding with awe when encountering God’s holiness.

Old Testament Perspective

The fear of God is tied to:

- Wisdom and knowledge (Proverbs 1:7; 9:10).
- Obedience and covenant faithfulness (Deuteronomy 10:12–13).
- Hatred of evil and pursuit of holiness (Proverbs 8:13).

New Testament Perspective

The New Testament continues the theme:

- Reverence for God’s holiness (Hebrews 12:28–29).
- Recognition of divine judgment (2 Corinthians 5:10–11).
- Living in humility and trust (Acts 9:31).

Summary

In Scripture, the fear of God is a central spiritual posture combining awe, reverence, obedience, and humility, forming the foundation of wisdom and righteous living.



EDUCATION

We are continuing at a great pace. Both Coffee With Jesus and Prayer Fellowship are increasing each week. Suzanne is going to be gone to Berkley next week. We ask for prayers for both her and Paula. Vicar Shirley is going to step in to teach Coffee With Jesus.

We are still in need of a leader for the 'Old Testament' Bible Study. Jim & Sherrie Wehrer will be doing the 'New Testament' Bible Study on Monday's.

God Bless

Lynette Layton, Education Chair

FELLOWSHIP



God is good! We have survived Yumas hottest summer on record, the high temps plus awful humidity is going down and we have cool weather again! We have a lot to be thankful for!!

Our Fellowship Hall has been busy with meetings and many other activities. We have had great movies, Bingo and other fun activities to keep us busy throughout the summer. It has gone by reasonably fast. These are wonderful activities for us to enjoy, and they help us keep in contact with our congregation, plus they are free and we are inside and cool.

The First Sunday of the Month Potlucks have been very well attended, and we thank all our gracious cooks who provide us with very tasty dishes and treats to share and enjoy.

Our cookie and treats have gone down, so we again are asking all our bakers to help us fill up the freezer. We very much appreciate all you provide for Fellowship Hour!

We are starting to prepare for Pastor Dave Peterson and Rena's arrival and his installation. We are looking forward to working with him and all the interesting activities coming up.

The 'Going to the Sun' Highway is closed because of snow, so we know there really is an end to these temps! God is good and we really are blessed!

Mona, Fellowship Chair

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MONTH OF AUGUST, 2026

	Month Amount	Month Budget	Month Variance	YTD Amount	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
INCOME	\$ 16,164	\$ 22,024	\$ (5,860)	\$ 179,589	\$ 176,200	\$ 3,389
EXPENSE	\$ 23,728	\$ 21,045	\$ 2,683	\$ 160,939	\$ 168,364	\$ (7,425)
GAIN OR (LOSS)	\$ (7,564)	\$ 979	\$ (8,543)	\$ 18,650	\$ 7,836	\$ 10,814

GLORIOUS QUILTERS



October is here, and with it the promise that the weather will cool down!

Our Church Family is arriving back and the Ladies are yet again busy sewing up more and more quilts.

A special Thank You to Gayle Gerry who brought us some beautiful fabric. The place where her group had been meeting to sew quilts is no longer available so they are disbanding and we reap the benefits.. We are so Blessed!

In September we had a Special Birthday! JoAnne Ausing is now "90"!!!! I am so grateful that she is with us every Monday

Anyone is welcome to join us, you can sew, iron, tie fleece blankets – gosh just come on a Monday and check out what's going on. We're in the Fellowship Hall from 9am - noonish

Carol Schock

503-338-9358 (please text)

We now have 2 Bingo's under our belt. I feel everyone is having a great time.

Our 2nd Bingo was Hawaiian themed since there were blow up palm trees and everyone got a lei. Pineapple upside down cake, brownies, garlic pretzels and Frito's were the treats as well as canned soda.

October is coming up "Spooktacular"! You'll have to come to see what's going on.

We are looking forward to seeing you on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 1 pm. Suggested donations for cards are \$1.00 each with a total of 3 to each person. All money collected goes to the building fund. And YES, of course you have prizes to win! A huge thank you to all of you that came to make this a fun event.

We are still working with Lynette and many others on the Freedom 400 project. There's a lot to do to plan this fantastic endeavor. If you are out and about start picking up personal items ie: toothpaste, deodorant etc. in the small sizes. If we start now when the time comes to put the boxes together for the military, we will have accumulated a lot.

After Bingo the next October event is Trunk or Treat. We learned a lot from last year's event. Watch the Sunday bulletin for when the sign-up sheet will be out.

Please don't forget to save your unwanted blankets for a blanket drive in November. Used or new blankets, all sizes. The weather is starting to get cold so these would be nice to give out during that month and December.

Text me and then get involved, we can all make, Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church, known and seen as a Welcoming place to be.

Carol Schock
503-338-9358



2nd Saturday of the month, 8:00 am at Izzies on Foothills Blvd. The next one is October 10, 2026

All men of the congregation are invited and encouraged to join in on the fellowship and food.



SOCIAL CONCERNS

Social concerns committee has been on summer break but routine activities continue. We delivered 80 lbs. of food to the food bank, greeting Cards continue to be sent and collections center continues.

New members and new ideas welcome. The committee meets the first Monday each month at noon after quilting.

Blessings.

Evelyn Trone,

Social Concerns Chairperson



PROPERTY



Hoping that everyone had a great summer. It has been long and hot here but looking forward to cooler days.

The automatic doors for the Narthex restroom men's and women's and fellowship hall are in and working. It's taking a little bit of a learning curve to get used to how they operate. People want help them close.

The garden in the courtyard got a major trim this month. Don't worry, they look pretty rough now but they will grow back new and be beautiful again. We also installed new rocks around the bushes.

Please be careful driving back to Yuma this fall. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

David Donaldson, Property Chair



As we head into the Fall season and cooler weather, we will also be seeing those in our church family who leave for the summer begin to return to their winter residence. That is such a glorious time for me. It tickles my heart each time I can greet them on Sunday morning with a handshake and a hug.

The Fall schedule of worship assistants has been mailed. If you are not on that list and would like to be a part of our worship service as an usher, greeter/communion assistant or reader make note on your green attendance slip and I'll fit you into the schedule.

Service time changes has been revised from what I told you in last months evangel. So as to create less confusion, we will begin the Saturday service on Saturday, October 17th. The 8:30 & 10:15 services will begin on Sunday, November 1st. Please make note of this on your calendar.

We welcome Pastor David Peterson to our church family on Sunday, October 11th when he will be installed as Pastor of Gloria de Cristo. This is an exciting time as we've been waiting for this for over 3 years. There will be a reception in Fellowship Hall that Sunday following worship. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Char Schomisch, Worship Co-Chair

Joanne Ausing, Worship Co-Chair



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

The next date is: October 3, 2026 Please come join us for great food, conversation, and fellowship!



WELCA HAPPENINGS

I know we're all happy that the weather is finally cooling down.

Still soliciting recipes for a WELCA cookbook. Please give some thought to sharing a recipe or two.

Movie night has proven to be a great success. Thanks to Char for providing the food and drinks. Thank you Char.

Days for girls continues the second and fourth Saturday of the month. Please feel free to participate. It's okay if you don't sew, we can still put you to work.

I'm still waiting for further information on the ELCA retreat in November. I will keep you informed.

Your sister in Christ

Sandra Arceneaux, WELCA Convener



Do you have a favorite recipe???? The WELCA group from Gloria de Cristo is looking for recipes that they can use for putting together a GDC Cookbook.

If you have a favorite dish that your family or friends enjoy, when getting together, would you mind sharing that recipe with this group?

Please type or print the ingredients and directions on a 3x5 card or on a piece of white paper and drop it in the container marked 'RECIPES' in the Narthex. If you're not in Yuma yet you can send it to the church office....Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church, 11273 E. 40th Street, Yuma, AZ 85367

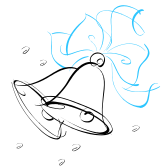
Please get these to us on or before October 15th. Thank You for your support!!



OCTOBER

1 Brent Pfundheller	13 Paul Moglebust	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 Friz	20 Tammy Martin	25 John Nasinec
9 Bem Skarbo	23 Kay Lee Grunst	30 Lola Miller
9 William Timm		

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES



2 Joe & Debora Johnson	10 Randy & Mary Zieman
6 Dave & Marge Graham	12 Max & Nilla Jacobs
8 Bill & Linda Haney	21 Steve & Carol Russell

FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER



4	Dave/Marge Graham	In celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary
11	Jan Klipfel	In memory of husband Dennis
11	Randy & Mary Zieman	In celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary
18	Joanne Ausing	In memory of husband Gerald
18	Donna Staudenmeier	In memory of husband Donald
25	Char Schomisch	In honor of Joseph's birthday

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

Service

Monthly Potluck: The 1st Sunday is our monthly Potluck following worship. Mark your calendar, bring your favorite dish to share and join us for fellowship and food.

Food Pantry: 1st Sunday of each month we collect food for the local Food Pantry. When doing your shopping consider picking up a couple of items to bring and donate.

Women's Breakfast Club 1st Saturday of each month, 8 am at Izzies on Foothills Blvd. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend.

Men's Breakfast the 2nd Saturday of each month, 8 am at Izzies on Foothills Blvd. All gentlemen of the congregation are invited to come.

Days for Girls: will meet the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month @ 9 am in Fellowship Hall. Come join us for fellowship and fun

GriefShare: Sunday's, 12:15 pm, Fellowship Classroom

Bazaar Craft Workshop: 1st & 3rd Thursday's, 9 am, Fellowship Hall

Arts and Craft Social: Friday's, 10 am in Fellowship Hall.

Reading and Learning

Coffee With Jesus: every Tuesday @ 9 am, Fellowship Hall

Prayer Fellowship: every Thursday @ 10 am, in the Sanctuary.

Fun and Fellowship

Line Dance Exercise: every Wednesday @ 9 am, Fellowship Hall

Chair Aerobics : Classes are held every Tuesday, (12:30 pm), Wednesday (12:00 pm), and Thursday (11:30 am) in Fellowship Hall. A donation of \$5/session is appreciated to offset the cost of the instructor. Everyone is welcome.

Social Bingo: 2nd Saturday of each month @ 1 pm, Fellowship Hall

Movie Nite: 4th Thursday of each month @ 4 pm, Fellowship Hall

OCTOBER 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
27 Worship 9:30 1 pm Foothills Social	28 11 am Alanon	29 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12:30 pm Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	30 9 am Linedance exercise 12:00 am Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	1 OCTOBER 7 am TOPS 9 am Bazaar Craft Work-shop 10 am Prayer Fellowship 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	2 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social	3 8 am Women's Breakfast, Izzies on Foothills 9 AM Days For Girls 9 am TOPS
4 WORSHIP 9:30 am Food Collection for Yuma Food Pantry 12:15 pm GriefShare 1 pm Foothills Social	5 9 am Glorious Quilters 12 pm Worship Mtg. 12 pm Social Concerns Mtg. 11 am Alanon	6 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12:30 pm Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	7 9 am Linedance exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	8 7 am TOPS 10 am Prayer Fellowship 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	9 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social	10 8 am Men's Breakfast Izzies on Foothills Blvd 9 am TOPS 1 pm Bingo
11 Worship 9:30 am Installation of Pastor David Peterson 12:15 pm GriefShare 1 pm Foothills Social	12 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon	13 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12:30 pm Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	14 9 am Linedance exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	15 7 am TOPS 9 am Bazaar Craft Work-shop 10 am Prayer Fellowship 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	16 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social	17 9 AM Days For Girls 9 am TOPS 4 pm Worship
18 Worship 9:30 am 12:15 pm GriefShare 1 pm Foothills Social	19 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon	20 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12:30 pm Chair Aerobics 4 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	21 9 am Linedance exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	22 7 am TOPS 10 am Prayer Fellowship 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 4 pm Movie Nite 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	23 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social	24 9 am TOPS 4 pm Worship
25 Worship 9:30 am 12:15 pm GriefShare 1 pm Foothills Social	26 9 am Glorious Quilters 11 am Alanon	27 7 am TOPS 9 am Coffee With Jesus 11 am Coffee Club 12:30 pm Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	28 9 am Linedance exercise 12 pm Chair Aerobics 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	29 7 am TOPS 10 am Prayer Fellowship 11:30 am Chair Aerobics 6:30 pm Fireside Grp.	30 8 am TOPS 10:30 am Spanish/English Conversation 10 am Arts & Crafts Social	31 9 am TOPS 4 pm Worship TRUNK OR TREAT

BITS AND PIECES



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.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES:

As you read through your Evangel each month, please take note of the businesses listed near the end. When and if you need the services in any of these areas, please consider contacting the one listed here. By purchasing the ad, they are paying for the printing of the Evangel and it's nice of us to make use of them in return. Thanks for your support!

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OCTOBER, 2026

PASTOR: Pastor David Peterson

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

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 Niki Duffy
Michelle Cegon Sandy Corless
Robin Marlatt

GriefShare Leaders:

Ted & Nikki Duffy Endowment Committee:
Lisa Crayne Dave Graham Niki Duffy
Mary Marsh Janis Suess Sharon Merz
Earl Marlatt

Church Secretary: Char Schomisch

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VICE PRESIDENT: Dave Griffiths
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TREASURER: Char Schomisch

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WORSHIP & MUSIC: Char Schomisch