
Mount Cross Chronicle

February 2012



601 E. Highway 260
Payson, AZ 85541
Phone: 928-474-2552
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www.mountcross.org

Sunday Worship Services

8:30 a.m. Traditional
10:30 a.m. Praise Service
6:30 p.m. XaLT

Pastor

Rev. Glenn Zimbelman
363-0155

pastorinjeans@gmail.com

Director of Discipleship
Janice Zimbelman

363-0151

imacoffeebean99@gmail.com

Director of Family & Faith
Formation

Jodi Lorenz

youth@mountcross.org

Music Director/Organist
Dr. Victoria Harris

Praise Team Leader
Wes Hathaway

praise@mountcross.org

Church Secretary
Lenore M. White

secretary@mountcross.org

Dear Disciples of Mount Cross,

“Rejoice in the Lord Always, Again I say Rejoice!”

This is one of my favorite lines of scripture. God is doing some very cool things at Mount Cross Lutheran and I want to use my article to update you on what is happening.

Congregational Planning

We had over 30 people attend our first ever planning day. We spent time in prayer, examined who we are as a church, and worked on what it means to be a church. We also talked about Insider/Outsider thinking, meaning that while it is necessary for churches to do lots of ministry inside its walls, God also calls us to reach out to the world. We easily came up with over 20 “dreams” and we will be reporting to you those specific dreams shortly. Accomplishing these dreams may require people not currently serving in a ministry area to step forward with joy in serving our Lord Jesus. We are confident the good people of Mount Cross will respond.

New Staff People

We are so blessed to have two people who are Associate in Ministry candidates. Jodi Lorenz is already in the AIM process and she is supported financially by the congregation for her tuition and other school costs. She gives back to the congregation by assisting us with youth and family. It was decided by council to give her a title for her efforts. So Jodi is now our Director of Family and Faith Formation. This also helps Jodi as she builds her resume for any future church positions once she graduates.

Jan Zimbelman asked for a stipend salary in place of education support as she enters the AIM process. That stipend support is equivalent to what Jodi receives in education support and was included in our 2012 budget. Because of Jan’s education and extensive church background she can do all of her AIM work online. Jan is now our Director of Discipleship. She assists with growing current Mount Cross disciples in the depth of their faith and serves as worship leader and organizer for our new worship, XaLT!

Both of these staff people give so much of their time and energy for God’s mission all because they love Jesus so please thank them both for their efforts.

General Stuff

You have noticed our new banners. They are a very creative and inexpensive way of letting people know about Jesus. We plan on having rotating banners drawing attention to Jesus and Mount Cross’s ministry. Our last XaLT worship had 8 guests with most of them coming because they saw our signs! The Mission Leadership Academy Team continues to learn and grow and is making plans to strengthen Mount Cross.

I am looking forward to walking with Mount Cross through our Lenten season as we wait with anticipation celebrating our Lord’s resurrection.

Serving Jesus with You,

Pastor Glenn



To proclaim Christ as Lord and Savior
through joyful worship, prayer,
life long learning,
active and loving service.

FAITH FORMATION REFLECTIONS

Matthew 10:30 *And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*

This verse is part of some of my favorite in which Jesus tells us that God knows when the sparrows fall, but we are worth more to Him than sparrows. In fact, God cares so much that He has numbered the hairs on our head. Did you do that for your children? Yet you love them dearly; how much more does God love you? Psalm 139 is another of my favorites in which the Psalmist recognizes just how intimately God knows us and loves us. I am always amazed at just how much the Creator of the Universe loves me.

In our monthly small groups, we are spending time reflecting on those times and events in our lives when we knew God was present and active; times when God got our attention. We tend to see God in our lives during the big events, often the crises of our lives. We can see Him sustaining us, loving us, providing for us when we need the most help. But, do we look for God in our everyday lives? Do we see God actively involved in all the minute details of our lives?

Read the verse from Matthew again and ponder; the creator of the universe has numbered the hairs on the heads of each one of the billions of people on this planet! He cares so much about you, that He took the time to count your hair. I believe God is intimately involved in every aspect of our lives but we don't recognize it as God. James 1:17 tells us that *'Every good and perfect gift is from above....'*

That brainstorm you had that solved a problem? That came from God. That conversation you had with a stranger that uplifted your spirits? That came from God. That 'random' phone call that made your day? That was from God. The Christmas light parade is a great example of a multitude of God moments (be sure to read about it in this newsletter). God moments. Not chance or fate or coincidence; God.

Let's start looking for God in the small ways in our lives, not just the big. Let's look for God moments every day; recognize that God is in your life 24/7. God loves you that much. Let's share those God moments with each other. As we share with each other, it then becomes easier to share those moments with those outside the church. Those God moments become the conversation that can draw others to God's love, helping us to live out the Great Commission: Go and make disciples.

In Christ's love,
Jan Zimbelman

Presidential Ponderings

Greetings,

A new year is upon us and I pray all of you will find fulfillment, joy and peace throughout 2012. On January 7th, eight Mount Cross disciples, Karyl Blair, Brian and Kerry Cassens, Alice Natale, Joe Vlahovich, Pastor Glenn and Jan Zimbelman and I went to the Missional Leadership Academy (MLA) reunion/retreat at Spirit of the Desert to experience God's word and enjoy fellowship with other ELCA churches involved in the MLA mission. We had the opportunity to hear Peter Marty speak on "A Grace-Filled Approach to Mission: Ministry that is Open-Minded and Open-Hearted" and participate in numerous learning sessions from Missional Mapping to Social Media in Ministry. It was a grace-filled opportunity for all of us.

As a participant in the Grand Canyon Synod's Missional Leadership Academy we are tasked with a lot of reading. In our readings we are learning about many ideas and methods on how we as a congregation can move from maintenance to Mission, from membership to Discipleship, from settled to Sent. As we advance our learning one of the questions to answer as a congregation might be: How do we participate in the mission of God as a doorway to discovering what we are in the Great Commission of Jesus?

In our required January reading, "Ask, Thank, Tell" by Charles Lane, the emphasis is on Stewardship Ministry. Oh, I can hear the groaning already. Stewardship! We just finished our stewardship program; do we have to talk about that again? It's not even October...Well the answer is yes, but I want you to think about stewardship in 2012 a little differently.

Tithing is an important part of stewardship; however, it not the only part. For many church members, stewardship is about budget, i.e. paying the bills, having enough money to meet the churches obligations, occasionally giving extra for a special need. While this is important, I want to suggest another perspective of stewardship often overlooked and that is: Stewardship is about your relationship with God. It is first and foremost about making disciples not about money; and when we talk about making disciples, the primary relationship is not with the congregation (paying the bills); it is about an individual's relationship with God. Our stewardship ministry starts at the front door of Mount Cross.

As suggested by Charles Lane, I leave you with this goal to consider.

**"The goal of our stewardship ministry is to help God's people
grow in their relationship with Jesus
through the use of the time, talents, and finances
God has entrusted to them."**

Next month I'll look at how stewardship can be a catalyst for growing disciples.

Linda Grosser
Council President



Men's Ministry Planning: What Do You Want To Do?

Men's gathering on Saturday, Feb. 4th from 9 am to 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. This time is aimed at all Men for us to explore the question, "If we are to start a Men's Ministry at Mount Cross, what would it look like?" Men's Ministry ideas could include: attending sporting events, enjoying a breakfast Bible study, going on Retreats, exploring service opportunities, and of course, our ever popular Thursday morning crew. The ELCA has a formal Men's Ministry called *Men in Mission* and we will explore that option as well. Please contact Pastor Glenn at pastorinjeans@gmail.com.

LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRIES OF NORTHERN ARIZONA

LOMONA IS AN ACRONYM FOR LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRIES OF NORTHERN ARIZONA

MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2011

CHURCH SPONSORED ACTIVITIES:

WEEKLY

SUNDAY: XALT WORSHIP SERVICE
MONDAY: BOY SCOUT MEETINGS
CUB SCOUT MEETINGS
TUESDAY: MOUNT CROSS CARES

MONTHLY

1ST THURSDAY: DISTRICT ROUNDTABLE
2ND THURSDAY: CANCER SUPPORT GROUP
3RD THURSDAY: SCOUT COMMITTEE MEETING
4TH THURSDAY: CUB SCOUT PACK MEETINGS
3RD WEDNESDAY: FRIENDSHIP CLUB
4TH WEDNESDAY: WELCA QUILTERS

RENTAL BOOKINGS FOR JANUARY:

WEEKENDS

1. ALTA Y OMEGA RETREAT
2. TRINITY FELLOWSHIP YOUTH GROUP

DAY USAGE

1.

RETREAT WEEKENDS: 2 WEEKENDS/4 NIGHTS

TOTAL DAY USE: 0

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE:

LOG BUILDING

IN THE LARGE CLOSET, LOMONA'S CLOSET IS FINISHED; WE ALSO PUT IN OVER HEAD LIGHTS INSTEAD OF THE SMALL LIGHTS WITH A STRING; THE LIGHT SWITCH IS ON THE RIGHT SIDE AS YOU WALK IN THE CLOSET. A SHELF WAS PUT IN FOR THE PRAYER SHAWL COMMITTEE.

I WENT THROUGH ALL THE TABLE CLOTHS AND THREW OUT THE PLASTIC TABLE CLOTHS THAT WERE TORN. ALSO UNDER THE SHELF FOR PRAYER SHAWLS WILL BE THE PLASTIC TUBS THAT LABEL FOR LONG TABLES AND ROUND TABLES. AFTER YOU USE THE TABLE CLOTHS PLEASE PUT THEM BACK IN THE SAME TUB. I HAVE PLACED SOME TABLE CLOTHS THAT DON'T FIT OUR TABLES. I PUT THEM IN A BOX UNDER THE MAIL BOXES. PLEASE HELP YOUR SELF AND TAKE AS MANY AS YOU WANT.

KITCHEN

WE ARE STARTING TO CLEAN, SANDPAPER, AND VARNISH THE KITCHEN CUPBOARDS AND DRAWERS. THE LABELS WILL BE TAKEN OFF. WHEN THEY ARE DONE I WILL PUT NEW LABELS ON THE DRAWERS, AND CUPBOARDS AGAIN.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

MARYANN ROWE

LOMONA DIRECTOR

LOMONA@MOUNTCROSS.ORG

928-474-3787

In celebration of our 50th anniversary, Mount Cross is planning a 2012 pictorial directory of our church family. Photography dates are to be March 15, 16 and 17th. Pictures will be taken in the log building between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. each of the designated days. Specific details and general information will be provided in future bulletin inserts.





Mount Cross Financial Report (January- December 2011)

Approved Budget Commitment.	\$277,672.00 (100 % of 2011 budget)
Income.	\$288,286.62 (3.8 % over 2011 budget)
Expenditures.	\$263,688.67 (95 % of 2011 budget)

Total Contributions to the Building Fund as of 12-31-2011 \$625,726.76
 Second Capital Appeal Pledges to the Building Fund. \$ 209,120.00
 (Appeal ends October 1, 2013)

Income received from Safeway’s eScrip Program in 2011. \$476.54
 Have you registered for the Safeway program? Forms are beneath the mailboxes.
 There is no cost to you, but there will be income for Mount Cross.

Total income received from Thrivent “Choice Dollars” as of 2011
 Mount Cross. \$4,888.00
 LOMONA. \$1,425.00

In 2010, Thrivent members directed \$1,827 to causes which were important to them here at Mount Cross. This year a total of \$6,313 was received. FANTASTIC! If you are a Thrivent member, please check to make sure your “Choice Dollars are set as a recurring amount to our church, and not just for the year 2011.

Thanks to all disciples who continue to faithfully contribute from their treasures in order to enable Mount Cross to continue the ministries God has given to us. Thanks also to those who limited expenditures when possible.

Ray Wiebe
 2011 Financial Secretary

Facebook Pages and Vision for Campus Use

We have two Facebook pages, Mount Cross Lutheran and our latest page, Ideas Mount Cross. The first one is to post anything general about Mount Cross. Ideas Mount Cross is a place to post ideas about making Mount Cross a better church for Jesus. We have a group looking at many ideas of what to do with our current church building when our new one is built. We are praying about this and we will share with the congregation various ideas as we discern what God wants us to do. For instance, one idea is a chapel. We need more ideas, and invite people who have Facebook to submit them. If you have an idea you would like to be considered and do not do Facebook, right it down and put it the church mail box of one of the members listed below.

Once we settle on a group of ideas for using our current worship space, we will make these available to the congregation for feedback and further discussion. Members of the re-purposing team looking at our current worship building are: Joe Dice, Diana Fletcher, John and Sharon Bryant, Wes Hathaway, Diane Ludwig, Jerry Carlson, June Schranz, and Pastor Glenn. Our next meeting is set for Monday, February 27th, at 6:30 PM.

Tai Chi Returns in February at an Earlier Time

Tai Chi will resume for another six-week session beginning on Wednesday, February 8, at 3:30 P.M. for one hour.

Again, we will meet in the log building. Men and women, as well as friends in the community are welcome. Try to wear loose-fitting clothing that doesn't



restrict one's range of motion. Wear shoes that won't slip and will provide enough support to help you balance. We will meet on February 8, 15, 22, 29 and on March 7 and 14 so you can mark your calendars. Come and join the group of 10-15 who feel a need for better balance and flexibility. The Lenten suppers will follow the class starting on February 29.

Your admission to class is a non-perishable food item or a monetary donation for the Payson Food Bank, a token of our appreciation for our experienced teacher and Mount Cross disciple, Lori Andretta. Lori has studied under masters from China which included a trip to China last spring with a group of Tai Chi students.

Although Tai Chi is slow and gentle and doesn't leave you breathless, it addresses the key components of fitness—muscle strength, flexibility, balance, and, to a lesser degree, aerobic conditioning. The Mayo Clinic staff says, "If you're looking for another way to reduce stress, consider Tai Chi. Tai Chi is sometimes described as 'meditation in motion' because it promotes serenity through gentle movements—connecting mind and body." These classes have been arranged by Women's Ministries (WELCA) of Mount Cross, a group that values the promotion of healing and wholeness.



Payson Community Meals

Our ecumenical church group will hold the first Community Meal for the hungry on Thursday, March 8 at the Methodist Church from 5:00-6:30.

Food will be purchased through the steering committee with menu provided. The four ecumenical churches will rotate so each will supply kitchen staff, set up and take down, personnel and greeters, three times a year as dinners will be served once a month. We need a few more hands to complete the Mount Cross "Crew." Please see myself or Gary DeVar, if you can participate.

June Schranz



Divorce, Children, Possessions, and JESUS

On Thursday, February 9, at 10 A.M., the women's Bible Study will meet at the home of Carol McNulty at 307 W. Christopher Point in Payson. We will meet at the church parking lot at 9:45 to pool rides. Bring a sandwich or other lunch if you are able to stay an extra hour for fellowship after the Bible Study. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Call Carol at 474-9701 with questions. All women and friends are invited to join us for whatever length of time you can stay.

Prepare by reading Mark 10: 1-52 where Jesus answers questions about divorce, the status of children, and the handling of possessions. The Pharisees raised questions about divorce and Jesus emphasized God's intention in a relationship. Jesus repeatedly placed those who are "little and least" at the center of all God is doing in the world, including the children. Children are worthy teachers of what it means to enter into God's gracious presence. Neither status nor prestige automatically move any of us closer to the God we meet in Jesus. The passage being studied includes the young man who asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life or how he can be in God's presence now. This account sets a warning flag atop our stockpiles of acquired riches and resources and results in the only description in Mark of a person who walks away from a direct call to follow Jesus (Mark 10:22). Bartimaeus, however, let go of his few possessions to follow Jesus. In Mark, a variety of people hear Jesus calling them to follow. For each one that follows, some measure of joy and courage are required to respond to these tough questions.

What is your passion? What do you do best?

God has designed each of us with a unique set of skills, passions, personality, and gifts. Have you discovered what that unique set is? Are you using that unique set to serve in the community of Mount Cross; the community of Payson?

There is a difference between serving because you enjoy it and are gifted in that particular ministry versus serving to fill a need that the church has. When we use time and talent sheets, we list the church's needs and ask people to fill those needs. While it is important to fill the church's needs, there is another approach, gifting. This approach starts with first discovering how God designed you, and then discerning how God may want to use you to serve at Mount Cross and/or in the community. Serving then becomes joyful and fulfilling because you are doing what God created you to do.

This approach is the discipleship focus for February. On Sunday, Feb 12th, inventories will be distributed during worship for you to complete at home. This inventory will help you identify your skills, passions, interests, and gifts. Then, we will be able to identify ways for you to serve that fit you best. Some of you know exactly where God needs you; this process will confirm that. Others struggle with knowing where God might use you; this process will help you discover possibilities.

After completing the inventory, you will have an opportunity to schedule a session with Jan Zimbelman to discuss the results and have a conversation about what God may be calling you to do. The Spiritual Gifts class will look at what the Bible says about how God created each one of us and Biblical examples of God using ordinary people for His purpose.

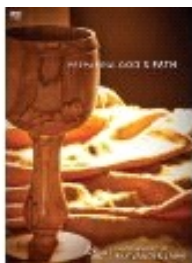
God has an important part for you to play; let's discover what that is.

Jan Zimbelman

LENTEN MIDWEEK SEASON 2012

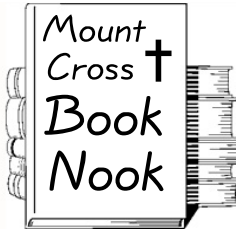
Wednesday, Feb. 22nd—Ash Wednesday
Ecumenical Service at Community Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 29th:—First midweek Lenten Service
5 p.m. Supper hosted by Altar Guild
6 p.m. Service in the LOG BUILDING: *"The Way of the Essenes."*



We will use the new speaker system, screen and video to present the service. The program will be a video series, *"The Path to the Cross,"* by Ray Vander Laan. Discover how the passion of God's people prepares the way for Jesus and his ultimate act of obedience and sacrifice at the cross. Then be challenged in your own life to live as God's people did—by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Wednesday, March 7th—Second midweek Lenten Service
5 p.m. Supper hosted by Friendship Club
6 p.m. Service in LOG BUILDING: *"The Way of John the Baptist."*



There are now two copies of *Opening the Book of Faith* referred to by Jan in her class on reading the Bible. She also donated *Moving into a New Now: Faith for the Later Years* by Mildred Tengbom and *The Word for You Today*, a 365 day devotional book.

Two books suggested in this month's WELCA Gather magazine, *Eat This Book* by Eugene Peterson, author of *The Message* and *Take This Bread* by Sara Miles have been purchased.

The latest donation for the Fiction section is *Christmas at Barncastle Inn*, a four-in-one-collection.

The entire collection of books related to Bible study and prayer can be found on the shelves on one side of the book cart in Fellowship Hall.

Hope you made a New Year's resolution to visit your church library more often in 2012.

Your Librarian,
Eloise Jones



Super Bowl worship!

The Super Bowl is a huge event in our culture. Instead of competing with the Super Bowl, we've decided to adapt XaLt! and have Super Bowl worship. We will use satellite feed to show the game in the log building, and have an abbreviated worship during half time.

The game starts at 4:30 so come at 4:00 pm Sunday, February 5; bring your favorite football food to share and wear your favorite team's colors. Come even if you're not a football fan, you know the commercials will be interesting!



February Birthdays

- 3 Victoria Harris
- 4 Patrick Vlahovich
- 6 Carrie Backe
- 8 Gary Smith
- 9 Bob Kometh
- 10 Herb Felker
Ray Leavens
- 12 Mary Walker
- 18 Glenn Zimbelman
- 19 CR Hewlett
- 21 Diana Fletcher
Ardie Poole
- 25 Dee Revsin

February Wedding Anniversaries

- 4 Marc/Kay Irvin
- 6 Ron/Leona Nelson
- 14 Jim/Darlene Heberling
Jon/Charlotte Robinson



Don't Have Time to Clean?

If you need your house cleaned, Kelly Schatz is willing. For details and more information, contact Kelly at 928-951-0745.



Dear Friends of Mount Cross,
Thank you for the many cards and letters of love and sympathy which we have received. What an outpouring of comfort and concern! We fee very bless.

With love & thanks,
Mary Adams & Family

Dear Mount Cross Lutheran Caroling Group,
The residents and staff of the Powell House would like to thank each one of you for taking the time to come and entertain us. Your wonderful holiday spirit, warming smiles, and beautiful voices were very much appreciated by all.

Thanks again,
Denise Hughes
MPC Powell House

Discipleship in Action

Were you part of the Electric Light Parade? Did you realize that your participation in making the Mount Cross float happen was an example of being Christ's disciples? The whole process started with a brainstorm, using the pontoon boat as a float so Mount Cross would have a community presence during the parade. That idea was planted and watered by God, a Holy Spirit brainstorm! Once the idea/seed was planted, people of all ages stepped forward with ideas and ways to help. Each of those ideas was from God, a Holy Spirit idea. Each person, without realizing, used their gifts, skills, and abilities to ensure that God, through Mount Cross, had a presence in the parade.

Here's a list of gifts and abilities used:

- The pontoon boat itself was borrowed from Sean Mears, a friend of Joe Dice and Joe Vlahovich.
- Jodi's neighbors, Ken and Kathy Martin, hand painted the Mount Cross Lutheran signs hung on the sides of the pontoon boat
- they were just being neighborly!
- many unknown people donated lights
- Doug and Barb Overfield donated use of a generator to provide electricity
- Joe Dice, Joe Vlahovich and Joey Dice. provided the electrical work needed (and rescued the whole operation when the lights wouldn't light just before the parade started!)
- many helped decorate (Joe Vlahovich, Yvette Harpe, Dean Harpe, Tom Harpe, Diana Fletcher. Tonnie Dice, Joey Dice. and Joe Dice)
- René Apps brainstormed the idea of giving out bracelets and did the research about where to order them.
- Lenore White created, printed, cut, and hole-punched tags that announced our Christmas worship schedule
- Many (Karyl Blair, daughter Carmen and 3 yr. old grandson Henry along with Suzanne Bratcher, Arlene Heffernon, Gertrude Bayles, Joe and Terry Vlahovich and Rene Apps) tied the tags to the bracelets (500 in total which was way too few!)
- Josh Horsley went to the town meeting with Jodi to get briefed about the parade rules
- then, Bryan Cassens obtained the required fire extinguisher so we were in compliance with the rules
- Kerry Cassens obtained lights for the walkers to wear and to decorate the bags containing the bracelets
- Tonnie D. obtained costumes and helped get participants dressed
- the scouts and others (Linda and Greg Grosser, Kerry and Brian Cassens, Diane and Rick Ludwig, Joe Vlahovich, Jan and Pr. Glenn Zimbelman and R.J. Butler) walked the parade and handed out bracelets
- several (Elva Jones, Troy Cline, Liz Harpe, Diana and Sophie Fletcher, Dean Harpe and Yvette Harpe) road the float providing smiles and laughter for all.
- Joe Dice drove the truck towing the float while Tonnie Dice gave directions and kept Joe straight
- resident photographer, Diana Fletcher, recorded the event
- others offered help and moral support when critically needed
- Joe Vlahovich helped Jodi take apart the float and put everything away, returning the pontoon boat to the owner

Where was God in all of this? Didn't you notice? Each person played a role in this whole event, using the gifts, talents, abilities, and ideas given by God. The goal of this project was to remind people that Jesus is the reason for Christmas. There was a little planning, a sense of TEAM effort, and a wide range of generations pulled together to help. It all came together because people responded to the Holy Spirit's nudges. That is discipleship in action.

Jodi Lorenz

Director of Family & Faith Formation

February's Bible study will be at Carol McNulty's home on Thursday, the 9th of February at 10am. All women are invited and extra copies of the study will be available. She lives at 307 W Christopher Point in Payson. We will carpool from church at 9:45am, leaving about ten minutes to the hour. We have fellowship after the study and hope that our guests will come and join us. The hostess supplies dessert and beverages and those who wish to eat their lunch at this time are asked to bring their own sandwich or salad.

Quilting has resumed on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 9am in the log building. If you can tie a simple knot, you are an expert quilter! Come and join us. It is a marvelous and enjoyable way to have fellowship and laughter while involved in making something that is much appreciated to someone in need.

THANK OFFERING BOXES

Thank offering boxes will be collected on the first two Sundays in February. The money collected goes to the National office of WELCA (Women of the Lutheran Church in America). This money supports this office where our "Gather" woman's magazine is published, our outreach programs are managed and our Triennial convention plans are prepared. Our president and board members travel to state conventions and try to meet as many WELCA women and to keep us posted on what is happening in the "World Of WELCA." Our donations are gratefully received and acknowledged.

We have a short movie presentation that details what WELCA in doing in this country and overseas. It is amazing to see the impact that women are making in this world. We have power to change lives and give hope where in none. This is why our donations are needed. We thank you for your support in the past and pray that this will continue.

Nancy Peiffer

WELCA president

"Grizzly Bears" at Friendship Club

Can you "bear" the truth?

On Wed, Feb 15, 9:30 am Jim and Virginia McCall will tell of their observations of grizzlies at Grand Teton National Park. She has written articles about "bear antics" It's fascinating!!

Now for the second month on this 5-month experiment, we'll have coffee on at 9:15 and coffee-cake, other desserts and tangerines at 9:30. It worked great in January! 30 adventurous men and women tried it and most liked it a lot! Of course, that's because Gary DeVar's topic of postal service raised so many questions, we could have gone on for another 20 minutes.... But we were finished at 11:00!

One interesting thing: 4 folks who were at Friendship for the first time, told of their lives, where they grew up and so on. Lynn and Sue Hess, Ray and Jeri Leavens told how they met their spouse, etc. We're going to do it again in Feb- Carol McNulty and Carol McCraney have been invited to tell their MN roots and how you can tell them apart. Bringing the coffee-cake are Nancy Peiffer, Mary Adams, Virginia McCall and Elva Jones will bring the tangerines.

I hope you will consider this great 90 minutes of fellowship!

Ed

Friendship Club Acting President

Musicians Wanted:

especially drummer, keyboard, guitar

If you have been to XaLt! you may have noticed our band is ever-changing. God has been providing musicians, but for a variety of reasons, are not able to commit to helping us out. So, we could use some help. First, pray that God would lead us to musicians able to commit to leading worship; second, if you know any musicians ask them to contact me, or better yet give me their contact information so I may contact them.

Jan Zimbelman

Discipleship/Faith Growth Opportunities

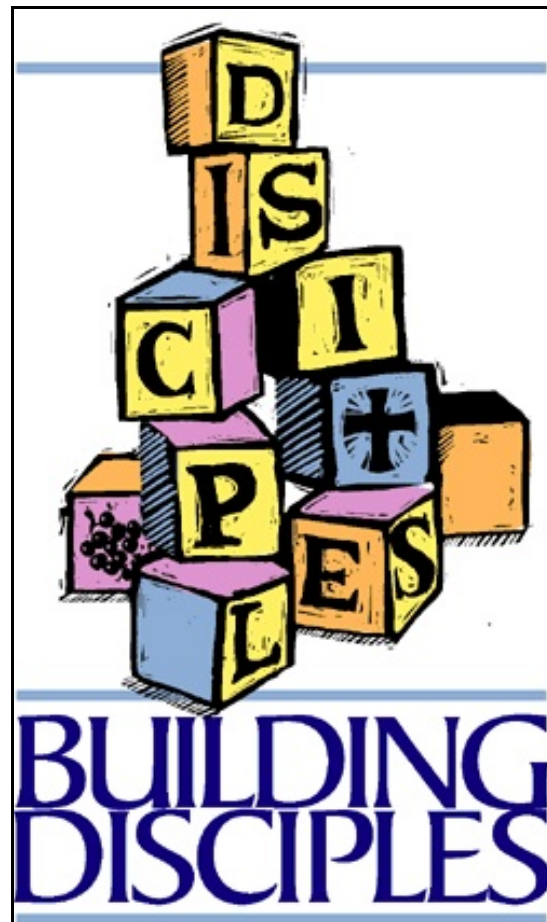
The focus for February is on spiritual gifts for service within and outside of the church. You will have several different kinds of opportunities to discover what God created you to do:

- Attend the Spiritual Gifts class
- Complete the spiritual gift inventory and interest surveys distributed during worship
- Schedule a personal session with Jan Zimbelman to discuss ways to serve using the gifts and passions God has given you

Spiritual Gifts: How has God created me to serve the world? (Attend ONE session)

Learn what the Bible says about how God created you. We will also look at Biblical examples of how God used ordinary people to serve the world.

Wednesday	Feb 8	10:30 AM - noon
Monday	Feb 13	1:30 PM -3:00 PM
Tuesday	Feb 28	6:30 PM -8:00 PM



THANKS FOR HELPING THE NAVAJO HEATING BILL

Thanks to your generosity, Mount Cross was able to send a check on December 31 to the Navajo Lutheran Mission for \$1151.32 which helped finance the cost of the second fill earlier in December. That means we have sent a total of \$3,157.32 for this year's heating season. Fortunately, we have a good start on our next check with contributions arriving in the little stoves in Fellowship Hall and in your envelopes. The area of the Four Corners, which includes Rock Point where the Navajo Mission is located, has been cold as you can tell by the temperatures noted on the news. In addition, it is very windy on the Colorado Plateau which creates the feel of an even lower temperature (windchill). Now we have reached over half of our Mount Cross goal of raising \$6,000 for this heating season. Please continue to give generously for the benefit of the 70 students, the teachers, the Lutheran congregation at the Navajo Mission called House of Prayer, and the staff who live on the campus. Consider giving 1-2% of your own heating bill as a gift for the needed propane at the Navajo Mission. Notice the thank you note we received posted on the mission bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

If you haven't designated your 2011 Choice Dollars from Thrivent, consider giving them to Mount Cross and let Ron Nelson know by phone or note the amount you want designated for the Navajo Mission. Some Thrivent members did that this past fall.

The large Campbell's Soup can on the table by the main doors has acquired more UPC labels from the soups and from Swanson products, as well as box tops for education from a large variety of General Mills products. Refer to the January "Chronicle" for details. Keep on clipping those important labels!! They are needed and appreciated.

Karyl Blair
Global Missions Team

Contributions by Disciples of Mount Cross in 2011 to Needs Beyond the Congregation

A list has been gathered of the known contributions made by the Mount Cross congregation, committees, and individuals to various charitable causes beyond the congregation in 2011. These are known gifts in the Mount Cross records and do not include gifts given privately to some of these same causes and charities.

ELCA Synod and National Benevolence--\$33,081.68 as follows:

- \$28,500—directly to the Grand Canyon Synod which sends half to the ELCA national headquarters in Chicago.
- \$ 3,600—directly to the Grand Canyon Synod for Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest.
- \$ 981.68 —directly to the ELCA office in Chicago for World Hunger

Additional Contributions by the Mount Cross congregation--\$3852.00 as follows:

- \$ 400—Friends of Scouting, Boy Scouts of America
- \$ 3,152—Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission for winter heating which includes the offering of \$546 received at Pastor Zimbelman's installation.
- \$ 300—Luther Seminary for Jodi Lorenz' education at the request of the Congregational Council

Contributions from the Altar Guild—\$170 as follows:

- \$ 170—St. Vincent de Paul Society (Food Bank)

Contributions from Friendship Club—\$360 as follows:

- (Decisions made 01-18-2012 for money contributed in 2011)
- \$ 60—St. Vincent de Paul Society (Food Bank)
- \$ 60—Payson Christian Clinic
- \$ 60—Veterans Helping Veterans
- \$ 60—Time Out Shelter
- \$ 60—New Beginnings
- \$ 60—Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission

Contributions from Mission Endowment Fund--\$4,695.20 as follows:

- \$ 500—Missionary support for the Grow-Hanson family who has now completed its call to Senegal.
- \$ 3,562—Tuition support for Seminary Student, Jodi Lorenz
- \$ 50—Grand Canyon Retired Pastors' Retreat
- \$ 583.20—Tithe to Grand Canyon Synod for Jodi Lorenz at Luther Seminary

Contributions from Outreach Committee--\$ 558.03 as follows:

- \$ 58.03—Purchased paper products and dish soap for residents at Pine View Manor. Additionally, many people donated the same items in the box in Fellowship Hall near the kitchen labeled for Senior Citizens.
- \$ 500—To Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church in Clarkdale (Cottonwood), AZ.

Contributions from WELCA--\$1,014.37 as follows:

- \$ 180—Support for Sujana Suneetha, our foster child in India
- \$ 235.32—Thank offering sent to WELCA in Chicago for national programs in literacy and anti-racism, domestic violence, and health and wellness.
- \$ 200—Grand Canyon Synod WELCA Offering
- \$ 197—spent for quilt batting with 55 quilts made and given away to the Time Out Shelter, New Beginnings, and the Navajo Lutheran Mission

Contributions of disciples through individual envelopes/gifts--\$4,647.71 as follows:

- \$ 631.35—Good Samaritan Fund
- \$ 2,916.82—St. Vincent de Paul Society (Food Bank), includes \$836.20 collected on the 2011 Souper Bowl Sunday, February 6.
- \$ 934.46—Payson Helping Payson which includes the offering of \$559.46 at the April 22 ecumenical Good Friday service held at Mount Cross.
- \$ 1,650.78—Mount Cross Cares, of which \$1452.88 was spent in 2011.

1,170 pounds of nonperishable items given to the Food Bank

Undetermined hours of time and talents given by Mount Cross people to many charitable causes in Payson.

Total: \$48,378.99 of measurable cash donations given through Mount Cross.

Karyl Blair, 2011 Congregational Secretary

“Building to Serve Christ” Auction Fundraiser

Saturday, April 14th, 5 PM

Plans are forming for our first “annual” auction to support our building fund. Letters will be sent out asking for donations from businesses and sports teams. Mount Cross Disciples are invited to donate items and acts of service to be auctioned off. Since it is easier to get donations from businesses if we include a charity, a portion of the profits will go to our various children outreach ministries. Auction may include dinner and entertainment but those ideas are pending. Please let me know if you can help with planning.

Pastor Glenn

Each monthly Chronicle will contain an updated auction list. This is a great event to invite friends and family. What are we looking for? See some examples below!

- Quality items (a notch or two above Garage Sale items)
- Acts of Service: For example, house cleaning, 1 pie a month for six months, air plane ride, ATV ride, pick-up load of wood...be creative!
- Any kind of class: Painting, Photography, Piano Lessons
- Time Share Weeks and Sports Tickets, Gift Certificates
- Wine and Smaller gifts to be used to make up gift baskets
- Quality hand made items: Quilts, Woodworking Items

Current List as of January 1st

- Very nice deer artwork
- Gourmet Dinner for 4 at the Pastor’s House

Please fill out form below for Auction Item and return to Pastor Glenn or the church office.

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Name _____ Rough Value? _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Describe Item or Service:

Office Use Only: Sold To _____ Price _____