



8945 Veterans  
Memorial Parkway  
O'Fallon, MO 63366  
636.272.4505  
[www.hcross.com](http://www.hcross.com)

*Our Mission:  
With the help of God,  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
grows disciples  
and transforms hearts  
for Christ.*

Rev. Andrew J. Gimbel  
Rev. Jonathan V. Meyer  
Pastoral Team

Meghan Flanick  
Director of Christian Education

Darlene Birk  
Preschool Director

Michelle Sliger  
Music Director

Greg Cissell  
Choir Director

Service Times

Saturday: 5 PM  
Sunday: 8 & 10:30 AM

Sunday Education Hour

9:15 - 10:15 AM  
ADULT BIBLE STUDIES  
SUNDAY SCHOOL & LYF

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday - Friday**

**8:30 AM-NOON**

**636.272.4505**

JOYCE NIEWALD, CHURCH SECRETARY  
[secretary@hcross.com](mailto:secretary@hcross.com)

**LIVE-STREAMING of 8 AM SERVICE**

**WEEKLY:** Holy Cross live streams the 8 AM service each Sunday on a link at our website ([hcross.com](http://hcross.com)). We provide this service for our members who cannot attend worship. The video perspective from the choir loft looks toward the altar and shows all aspects of the service from the sixth row of pews forward. This includes baptisms, children's talks, and communion.

## Weekly News & Notes

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

**WELCOME TO EVERYONE** joining us for worship today through live-streaming. We come to hear the Word of God by way of technology. We pray that the day we are able to meet together in person arrives soon!

We invite our members to call the church office if they need to talk to our pastors or other staff members. Please check our website [www.hcross.com](http://www.hcross.com) for video services and Bible classes. Keep in touch with us by phone or email. We will be contacting you about schedule changes as they occur.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Submit prayer requests by filling calling or emailing the church office. Confidential prayer requests are shared with the Pastors but not published in the prayer list or in the electronic prayer chain.

**WE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS:**

**Delores Ahrens, Gloria Anderson, Carolyn Bertram, Mike Dawdy, Carolyn Delohi; Jonathan; Renea Erickson & Family, Connie Gamache, Lloyd Hackbarth, Audrey Helsley, Jayne Jepsen, Lizzie Johansmann, Edna Kee, Kenneth Lee, Dina Polashek, Judy Rutledge, Mary Sampl, Eileen Seckel, Trevor Thornton, Ernestine Wilson.**

**WE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:**

**Chlarra Aston (Trudy Aston); Deborah Broussard (Darlene Robirds); Anna Mae Bumstead (Roy Bumstead); Carter; Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke); Kelley Christopher (John & Linda Jackson), Deanna David (Jayne Woolley); Nikki Grieshaber (Joy Kelly); Eugene Gronewald (Phyllis Gronewald); Nancy Hammers (Liane Higgins); Jay Haywood (Tom Haywood); Erica Hedrick (Sandra Fussner); Sharon Hesse (Barb Krieger); Robert Jobe (Jan Flentke); Julie Johnson (Amy Schlesselman); Alyssa Spearman, Suzann Koehler (Dan Spearman); Melissa and Elsie Maize (Sarah Smith); John Mitchum (Sharon Mitchell); Mark Morgan (Sherry Piazza); Chuck Mueller (Christine Mueller); Debbie Niewald (Joyce Niewald); Mallory Randazzo (Grace Randazzo); Paul Rau (Elma Jane Kramer); Karen Scheer (Don Wischmeyer); Maureen Schiller; Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher); Sharon Staten (Lisa Aston); Harold Strauss (Dawn Kahler); BJ Urban (Diane Palombi); Elizabeth Vanecek (Becky Edgar); Wendy Waiwood (Janine Haffer); Sandy Wischmeyer (Marilyn Mana); Carol Zeigler (Renea Erickson); Donna Mayes, Jeanette McMillen, Allen Ricks (Cissell Family); Kenny Coomer, Shirley Coomer, Kenny Rogers (Jeff & Becky Coomer); Jean Baker, Joy Rodenberger (Mark Hoemann); Ervin Ebker, Janet Todaro (Lizzie Johansmann); John Bach, Rachel Long (Ken & Betty Lee); Gorman Cooper, John Perotti (Tina Morrison); Mary Alderman, Sylvia Burton, Alex Moentmann, Chuck DeProw (Bob & Sue Williams).**

**THOSE WHO MOURN:** For the family, friends, and loved ones of Marty Zeigler, brother of Renea Erickson, who died suddenly, Thurs., March 19.

**THOSE WHO REJOICE:** David and Maria Drilling were married Sat., March 21. David is the son of Mark & Darlene Drilling.

**MILITARY PRAYER LIST: Dominic Bisesi, Timothy Daniels, Braedyn Dawson, Nathaniel Einfeldt, Brooke Georges, Bella Hoffer; Wes Justmann, Cody Kieffer, Kameron Klette, Jeff Kuerschner, Josh Linn, Thomas Matoushek, Clint Morrison, Justin Quinn, Joshua Rainwater, Andrew Shaw, Matthew Thornton, Andrew Van Gendern, and Conner Walkenhorst.**

*"Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health  
and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well."*

## This Week's Calendar

This weekly calendar reflects changes made in schedules as of Mon., March 16. Further changes may be added, so please check the website often or call the church office for latest information.

Saturday, March 21

5PM Evening Worship cancelled

Sunday, March 22

Preschool Butter Braids Sale Ends

**8AM Morning Worship**  
—Live-stream only

Noon to 2PM Summer Mission Trip Mtng.  
Online; contact DCE Meghan

Monday, March 23

Tuesday, March 24

10AM Women's Bible Study (virtual)  
Noon Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 25

9:30AM Adult Bible Class (virtual)

**7PM Lenten Service**  
—Live-stream only  
at [www.hcross.com](http://www.hcross.com)

Thursday, March 26

8AM News & Notes Due

Friday, March 27

Saturday, March 28

5PM Evening Worship cancelled

Sunday, March 29

**8AM Worship Service**  
—Live-stream only

### PLEASE NOTE:

**KOINONIA Mailers will NOT meet as scheduled on Mon., March 23, and until further notice..**

**PUBLICATIONS: March Lutheran Witness** is available in the Welcome Center. Check the center table. And don't forget **Portals of Prayer** — just a few more weeks in March. The next quarter has already arrived.

If you would like bulletins or audio CDs of services sent to you, please email or call the church office. Currently, we send these items to our shut-ins — but since we all are somewhat shut-in and have different technological abilities, please let us know if we can add you to that list. If there is anything else you want mailed or emailed to you, please ask!



## Bible Study Opportunities

### **LITTLE LAMBS for ages Birth to Age 3:**

- ◆ Sundays, 9:15AM lower level

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL for Ages 3 through 8th grade**

- ◆ Sundays at 9:15 AM in classrooms on the lower level

**LYF--HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH** Sundays, 9:15 AM in the Youth Room

### **SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT 9:15 AM IN THE GYM**

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

- ◆ Tuesday, 10AM in Rooms 1-2

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

- ◆ Wednesday, 9:30AM in Rooms 1-2

### **ADULT EVENING BIBLE CLASS with Bruce Linn**

- ◆ Classes meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7PM

### **CONFIRMATION AND MIDWEEK for Grades 3 through High School**

- ◆ Classes on Wednesdays at 6:45PM

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY:**

- ◆ **Second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 AM**

### **THOSE WISHING TO BECOME MEMBERS OF HOLY CROSS:**

- ◆ **Transfer of Lutherans Class (TLC):** Concluded
- ◆ **B.A.S.I.C.S.** Information Classes for non-Lutherans
- ◆ **BASICS has concluded for this quarter**

### **Church Attendance for Sat-Sun: March 14-15, 2020**

Service	Attendance	Communion
5:00 PM SATURDAY	86	—
8:00 AM SUNDAY	85	—
10:30 AM SUNDAY	110	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>76</b>

### **Church Attendance for Midweek Lent II, March 18, 2020**

11AM	—	—
7PM	Online attendance?	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>—</b>

### **Education Hour: March 15, 2020**

Sunday School	14
LYF	1
Adult Bible Classes	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>

### **Weekday Bible Study: March 17-18, 2020**

TUE AM WBS	—
Tue 7PM Adult Bible Class	—
WED AM Men's Breakfast	—
WED AM ABC	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>—</b>

### **Weekly Offerings March 9-15, 2020**

General Fund	\$ 9,667.10
Building Fund	\$ 30.00
Endowment	\$ 5.00
Mission of Quarter 1	\$ 290.00

### **Year to Date as of 02/29/2020**

Income	\$ 110,964.61
Expenses	\$ 108,998.76
Surplus	\$ 1,965.85

### **H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES**

**Weekly Totals for March 18:**

**Families 81; Individuals 292**

### **February Totals:**

**Families 318; Individuals 1,158**

**TODAY'S SERMON:** "From a Dead-end Road to the Path of Life." This morning, we will meditate on Genesis 22 in which God tests Abraham by charging him to sacrifice his son Isaac. From Abraham's perspective, it appears as if God is leading him down a dead-end road: a road that would end in the death of his one and only son whom he loved. However, through this narrative, God takes what appears to be a dead-end road and provides the path of life. God accomplishes this through a ram caught in a thicket that would take Isaac's place as a sacrifice. In this way, scripture foreshadows how God would ultimately take the seemingly dead-end roads of our lives and open to us the path of life through Jesus. Christ, the Lamb of God, takes our place and walks the road of death for us so that the road of our lives might end in everlasting life.— Sem. Adam Flanick

**HELP THE PRESCHOOL**

Preschool had to close due to COVID19 mandates after their Spring Break ending March 15. Preschool Director Darlene Birk has started a Google Classroom where the staff is posting videos of the classroom teacher reading the curriculum and Bible stories. Papers for the children to complete their letter, math and theme projects with their caregiver will be provided.

**BUTTER BRAIDS PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER**

Thank you to all who ordered from the Preschool Show-Me Dough Butter Braid fundraiser. If you still want to order pizza or cookie dough, please contact the church office no later that Wed., March 25. Payment is needed with the order.

Pick up ordered items from **9 to 11 AM on Sat., April 4, at the gym door.** Sanitation and social distancing will be observed during pick up.

Freezer space at church is limited, so please make every effort to pick up your orders during that time window.

Funds raised will be used to purchase educational supplies for the classrooms and to support the year-end Family Fun Night.

**HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION for 2020-2021 is open** to the public. Check the website at [www.hcross.com](http://www.hcross.com) (click the Preschool tab) to find information about curriculum, class options, and pricing.

**Call Preschool Director Darlene Birk at 636-272-4505 for more information.**



Some Holy Cross members helped create Alleluia baskets. See April Koinonia for more details.

Church Leadership met on Mon., March 23, to plan for how we as Holy Cross move forward in ministry in the midst of the Coronavirus outbreak, the call for social distancing, and limiting groups to 10.

Pastor Gimbel's email to the congregation is reprinted on page 4 of these News & Notes.

The following events have been cancelled until further notice or given date (although this can change at any time!):

**Wednesday Lenten worship services at 11 AM.**

The 7PM service will be live-streamed only.

**Saturday 5PM services** — not happening

**Sunday 10:30AM services** — canceled

**Sunday Bible Class and Sunday School classes**

**Confirmation/Midweek Classes**

**Choir** — until further notice

**Quilting & setup** — until further notice

**Ladies Guild April 17 meeting** — canceled

**Ladies Guild Rummage Sale on April 18** — postponed & drop-off dates (April 15-16) — postponed

**All remaining Lenten meals** — canceled

**Men's Breakfast** — until further notice

**Easter Egg Hunt** on Palm Sunday — canceled

**The LYF Sedar Meal** — canceled

**Easter Breakfast** — canceled

**TOPS meetings until further notice**

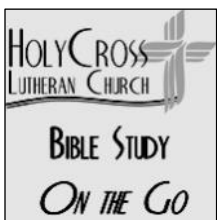
**Line Dancing** until further notice

**Boy Scouts** until further notice

**Holy Cross Preschool** is closed until further notice

**Council & Board meetings** will meet by tele-conferencing or in other virtual circumstances

**Mission Trip Meeting** today held by tele-conferencing



**LENTEN PODCAST!** Check out this new devotional resource! Join Brian Belter, Isaac Conrad, Pastor Gimbel, and special guests in our second annual conversational devotional podcast! This year we are working through the book of Isaiah, hitting the highlights of some of the most treasured passages of this book.

Watch for two new episodes each week during Lent. Tune in on our Facebook Page or from the Holy Cross website at [hcross.com/onthego](http://hcross.com/onthego) for a short 10-15 minute devotion. Great for the drive into work!

**OFFERINGS:** Since we are not meeting for awhile, please feel free to mail in your offering envelopes or switch to electronic giving (see the website [www.hcross.com](http://www.hcross.com) on how to do this.)

## HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH O'FALLON COVID-19 "Coronavirus" UPDATE 3/16/2020

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Based on the recent news announcements in the last 36 hours, we are going to take action to comply with the suggestions of our public health officials and government leaders. We will still continue to do ministry as best we can, but we will be making the following changes, effective immediately:

- \* Worship services will be held live stream only. We will be broadcasting our 7 PM Lent Midweek service as well as our 8 AM Sunday service as we have in the past. These services will not be open to the public.
- \* We will no longer be holding worship at our other regularly scheduled times (Wednesday morning, Saturday evening, or late Sunday Morning). Sunday Morning Education Hour has also been suspended until further notice.
- \* All Bible studies this week have been cancelled, as well as all outside groups and organizations until further notice. This includes but is not limited to:
  - \* Weekly Bible studies
  - \* Grace Evening Guild
  - \* Ladies' Guild
  - \* Altar Guild
  - \* Quilters
  - \* TOPS
  - \* Line Dancers
  - \* Boy Scouts
  - \* Choir
  - \* Handbells

- \* All essential meetings will be held via teleconference whenever possible
- \* The Preschool has also announced that they have closed today (March 16) through April 3 at the earliest.
  - \* Butter braid orders are due this coming weekend to the church office, so please **consider ordering online**. Pickup will still take place as scheduled with as little in-person contact as possible.

Even with these changes, we are still here to care for you in any way we can. Please continue to feel free to reach out to the church, to our pastors, our DCE, and the rest of our staff via phone, e-mail, and other means.

We are working on some more opportunities to provide spiritual care through technology and other means while limiting in-person social contact, so be on the lookout for some new things as time goes.

The staff and leadership will be re-evaluating this situation next week Monday (March 23), if not before.

Finally, and most importantly, please continue to pray for our congregation, our nation, our leaders, first responders, and everyone else as they are affected by this pandemic.

May God's peace and comfort be with you all!

- Pastor Gimbel

**LCMS FOUNDATION:** Will you owe an estate tax when the Lord calls you to heaven? Right now, the personal exemption from estate tax is \$11.58 million for an individual or \$23.16 million for a couple. You might chuckle and think, "I guess I'm pretty safe." But what about state estate or death tax? Do you know? Your LCMS Gift Planning Counselor can begin teaching you about the implications and how that impacts your planning. Contact **Teresa Nelson** at the LCMS Foundation, [www.lcmsfoundation.org](http://www.lcmsfoundation.org) or 800-325-7912 EXT 1684.

### SAINT CHARLES COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVICE:

- ◆ Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- ◆ If you don't have access to soap and water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is 60-95% alcohol.
- ◆ Avoid touching your mouth, nose or eyes with unwashed hands.
- ◆ Stay home when ill.
- ◆ If you are coughing, cough into your sleeve at the crook of your elbow.
- ◆ Use a tissue to blow your nose, and throw the tissue away.
- ◆ Regularly wipe down commonly touched surfaces handles, switches, phones, handrails, etc.

### GARDEN PLOTS AVAILABLE AT HOLY CROSS

Holy Cross has 10-foot by 12-foot garden plots provided for congregation members and people from the community. The ground will have compost added and be ready for planting once the weather dries up. Plant whatever you like and you are responsible for weeding, watering and harvesting. The cost for a plot is \$20. If you are interested in a plot for 2020, please contact David Schlesselman at 636-578-1766. We pray that participants will be blessed through the physical exercise, the fellowship with other gardeners, and the fruits of their labor.



### PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN CHURCH HOURS:

**As of March 21, church office hours will change to 8am to noon Monday through Friday. This is, of course, subject to change on a daily basis. Call or email before coming to church. Technology allows us to answer you from our home offices (at least, most of us!).**

**The Passion Play in New Melle and the Palm Sunday Cantata at Salem Lutheran in Affton** have both been canceled.