



8945 Veterans
Memorial Parkway
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636.272.4505
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; 1-4 PM
636.272.4505

JOYCE NIEWALD, CHURCH SECRETARY
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). 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 Second Sunday in Lent

March 7-8, 2020

WELCOME TO EVERYONE joining us for worship today! We invite both visitors and members to sign the red fellowship folders in the pew and return to worship with us regularly. If you are interested in membership at Holy Cross, please provide a phone number or email address, or speak to Pastor Gimbel or Pastor Meyer about how you may become part of our fellowship.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Submit prayer requests by filling out a card found in the pew and giving it to an usher, or by 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, **Lovisa** Davison, **Mike** Dawdy, **Carolyn** Delohi; **Jonathan**; **Renea** Erickson, **Connie** Gamache, **Lloyd** Hackbarth, **Audrey** Helsley, **Jayne** Jepsen, **Lizzie** Johansmann, **Edna** Kee, **Kenneth** Lee, **Kevin** Martens, **Shirley** Mercurio, **Dina** Polashek, **Judy** Rutledge, **Mary** Sampl, **Eileen** Seckel, **Trevor** Thornton, **Ernestine** Wilson.

With thanksgiving, **Delsa Dwyer** celebrated her 88th birthday on Fri., Mar. 6.

WE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Elizabeth Abram (Mary Camfield); **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 (brother of Tom Haywood); **Erica** Hedrick (Sandra Fussner); **Sharon** Hesse (Barb Krieger); **Robert** Jobe (Jan Flentke); **Julie** Johnson (Amy Schlesselman); **Suzann** Koehler (Dan Spearman); **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); **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 (Bob & Sue Williams).

Chris Walkenhorst, brother of Rick Walkenhorst, died March 3, 2020.

BAPTISM: *Emma May Saale*, daughter of Justin & Amanda (Karl) Saale, was baptized Sat., March 7, at 3PM by Pastor Gimbel. Emma was born Oct. 11, 2019. Her sponsors are Dave Stein and Sydney Stein.

CONFIRMATION: *Brodie Short* will be confirmed in the 10:30 service this weekend.

FOR PROTECTION OF CHURCH WORKERS IN ASIA:

Coronavirus Outbreak in China: Dr. **Eric** Semler, his wife **Karin**, and their children **Gavin** and **Elena** Semler (Eric is the son of Sandra Semler), **Chris** & **Danielle** Mizel, live and work in LCMS schools in Shanghai, China. **Josh** & **Coco** Lange and their children live in Asia.

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.

This Week's Calendar

Saturday, March 7

Noon LYF Spaghetti Dinner Setup
 3PM Baptism: Emma Mae Saale
 5PM Evening Worship

6 PM LYF Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Savings Time Begins

8AM Morning Worship
 9:15AM Education Hour
 10:30AM Holy Communion
 +Confirmation (rescheduled)
 1-4 PM Baby Shower (gym)

Monday, March 9

PRESCHOOL SPRING BREAK: NO SCHOOL

9:30AM TOPS
 10AM Counters
 11AM Ladies Guild Exec Meeting
 11:30AM Line Dancing
 6:30PM Executive Council

Tuesday, March 10

ELECTION (PRIMARY) IN GYM — ALL DAY

10AM Women's Bible Study
 Noon Staff Meeting
**7PM Grace Guild Meeting
 in Welcome Center**

Wednesday, March 11

6:30AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
 9:30AM Adult Bible Class
11AM LENTEN SERVICE
5:45PM Lenten Meal
 6PM & 8:15PM Choir
7PM LENTEN SERVICE

Thursday, March 12

8AM News & Notes Due
 10AM Alleluia Baskets
 6 PM Boy Scouts

Friday, March 13

8 AM Koinonia Deadline
 10AM Ladies Guild Meeting

Saturday, March 14

5PM Holy Communion

Sunday, March 15

8AM Holy Communion
 9:15AM Education Hour
 10:30AM Morning Worship



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: February 29-March 1, 2020

| Service | Attendance | Communion |
|------------------|------------|------------|
| 5:00 PM SATURDAY | 79 | 71 |
| 8:00 AM SUNDAY | 105 | 98 |
| 10:30 AM SUNDAY | 241 | — |
| Total | 425 | 169 |

Church Attendance for Midweek Lent I, March 4, 2020

| | | |
|--------------|------------|----------|
| 11AM | 45 | — |
| 7PM | 112 | — |
| Total | 157 | — |

Sunday Education Hour: Mar. 1

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Sunday School | 19 |
| LYF | 7 |
| Adult Bible Classes | 45 |
| Total | 71 |

Weekday Bible Study: March 3-4, 2020

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| TUE AM WBS | 11 |
| Tue 7PM Adult Bible Class | 8 |
| WED AM Men's Breakfast | — |
| WED AM ABC | 19 |
| Total | 38 |

Weekly Offerings Feb. 24– March 1, 2020

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| General Fund | \$ 13,383.50 |
| Building Fund | \$ 130.00 |
| Endowment | \$ 5.00 |
| Mission of Quarter 1 | \$ 929.00 |
| Total MOTQ 1 (2020) | \$ 3,355.00 |

Year to Date as of 01/31/2020

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| Income | \$ 55,638.50 |
| Expenses | \$ 54,278.89 |
| Surplus | \$ 1,359.61 |

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES

Weekly Totals for March 4:

Families 80; Individuals 303

February Totals:

Families 318; Individuals 1,158

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.

BUILDING USE: If you need to schedule an event or meeting at or for the church, please **contact the church secretary** to consult the church calendar. Since we have a Preschool on the premises, it is important to know who is in the building, when and where; this is a safety issue. All members should follow this building use practice. *The Building Use Policy* is available in the Church Office upon request.

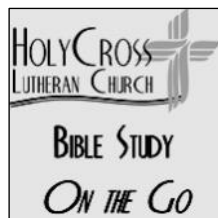
TODAY'S SERMON "Believing God," is based on the Old Testament reading from Genesis 12 where we hear the story of God's first encounter with Abram (who later is renamed Abraham). God's words are bold and courageous as he declares that big changes are ahead for Abram and his family. Abram's response is also one that is bold and courageous, leaving behind many things, as we see how ultimately "Abram believed God" (Romans 4). In our life today, we wrestle with many changes in our lives, from small to great. Fortunately, the same promises and assurance that God gave to Abram through all of the changes that awaited him, God still promises and delivers to us today! – Pastor Gimbel

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Sunday Adult Bible Class turns its attention to the 7 letters to the 7 churches found in *Revelation*. Take the opportunity to join Rev. Denis Wittenberger in taking a closer look at the letters John records in apocalyptic fashion. It's an interesting study!

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY will be held Wed., March 11, at 6:30 AM. Please sign up in the Welcome Center for an accurate count for the chefs on duty.

HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION for 2020-2021 is open to the public. New brochures with curriculum, class options, and pricing are available on the Welcome Center table. Pass one on!

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 for a short 10-15 minute devotion. Great for the drive into work!

ALLELUIA BASKETS. The Board of Stewardship will participate in packing Easter baskets with Alleluia Baskets, alleluiabaskets.org, a local organization that has been packing baskets for underprivileged children for 15 years. **Holy Cross will help on Thurs., March 12 from 10 AM to 11 AM. Sign-up sheet in Welcome Center.**



If you would like to **donate items** for the Alleluia Baskets, they request **infant toys such as bath toys, wash cloths, rattles, and similar items; boys' socks, sizes 9 and up.** Please **place these items in the tub marked Alleluia Baskets in the back of the church by Sun., March 8.** Questions? Call Darlene Drilling 636-293-2353.

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 or 800-325-7912 EXT 1684.

LENTEN MUSIC NOTES: Lenten season music is some of the richest, most soul inspiring, and reflective of the entire church year. For centuries composers have expressed in music the darkness of our sins, and the suffering that Jesus endured on the cross. One of the ways that is done is to write in minor keys and use dissonant chords which give the music a dark foreboding sound. Yet through all of the darkness and suffering many composers still remind us of the hope and promise of the resurrection, and some of them do that on the very last chord of the song. If you attended the 7:00 pm service on Ash Wednesday you heard the choir's anthem use that effect, and Sunday morning's selection uses it again. Listen carefully for the change from sorrow to joy on the very last note of today's choir's anthem. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

— Brian Storm - Elder

MISSION BOARD: Thanks to everyone who came to our Pizza for Puppies dinner. Through your generous donations, we have collected \$3355 this quarter to donate toward the care and training of Comfort Dogs, who have been in the news lately offering comfort to a group of 5th graders and staff who lost one of their classmates and being called to Milwaukee in the aftermath of a shooting, so our contributions are very timely. To learn more about what these dogs are up to in their mission to not only spread comfort but also the comfort of Jesus, check out the Mission board in the Welcome Center and follow Holy Cross on Facebook for stories and updates.

We want to hear from YOU! We're starting a new **Sunday morning Bible study** series after



Easter, talking about whatever YOU would like to talk about! If you have a Bible study topic that you would like to tackle, simply share

your suggestion by visiting our website at hcross.com/you-ask. The final topics will be announced on or before Easter Sunday 2020.

GARDEN PLOTS AVAILABLE AT HOLY CROSS



Would you like to try a summer project of raising vegetables? Holy Cross has 10-foot by 12-foot garden plots provided for members from the congregation and people from the community. The ground will have compost added and be ready for planting once the weather dries up. You may plant whatever you like and are responsible for weeding, watering and harvesting. We had 7 members working plots last year and 5 families from the community and seek to use this as an outreach to our community. 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.

LHS NEWS AND KEY DATES:

Enrollment Now Open! Visit the Apply Now page at www.lutheranhighstcharles.com, or contact Lisa Gnade, Director of Enrollment, at gnade@lhssc.org

Junior Cougar Softball: LHS Junior Cougar Softball will have teams for 7th and 8th graders for Fall 2020. An introductory meeting will be held *Thurs., March 12 at 6:30 PM in the LHS library.* For more information, contact Coach Karl Bulla at kmbulla@charter.net or (636) 352-6966.

THE ANNUAL BUTTER BRAIDS PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER offers

products from Show-Me Dough including original Butter Braids pastry, frozen pizzas, and cookie dough in individual servings.



Preschool board members will be in the Welcome Center to collect order forms each weekend until March 22. Orders may also be dropped off in the Church or Preschool office during the week. All orders are due by 4PM on Thurs., March 26.

Items will be available to **pick up from 9 to 11 AM on Sat., April 4, just in time for Easter.** Funds raised will be used to purchase educational supplies for the classrooms and to support the year-end Family Fun Night.

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



Join us on Wednesdays for Midweek Lenten worship at 11AM or 7PM as we focus on Isaiah



Easter Breakfast
Sunday, April 12, 2020
7:00 am - 10:30 am



Holy Cross Gym

Pastries, Egg Casseroles, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, Fresh Fruit, Juice & Coffee

A freewill offering will take place throughout the morning. Proceeds will benefit the youth and adults attending the 2020 Mission Trip to Detroit, MI and future youth activities. A Sign Up is located in the Welcome Center!



Saturday, April 18 in the gym 7 AM to NOON

Sponsored by Holy Cross Ladies Guild

Drop off items for the Rummage Sale in the Holy Cross gym on these dates:

Wednesday, April 15 from 4 to 6 PM

Thursday April 16 from 5 to 7 PM

Please: no large appliances, furniture, TVs, computers, or electrical items. Bring items to the gym during appointed times. Thanks!

The Gospel Outreach Ministry recipient will be the Lutheran Bible Translators, whose mission is to make God's Word accessible to everyone in the language of their hearts. Habitat for Humanity will receive any items not sold at the sale.



The US CENSUS 2020 is just around the corner. St. Charles County officials encourage you to answer the Census. The Census determines how Federal funds are distributed and affects funding for public schools, healthcare, food programs, roads, public assistance, affordable housing and other crucial services. Also, the Census determines political representation for our State. The goal of the 2020 Complete Count Commission for St. Charles County is to ensure that 100% of the County is included in the Census. Individuals can complete the Census by mail or phone, and, for the first time in 2020, will have the option of completing it online. Census staff also will go door-to-door in communities, distributing forms.

Census Timeline:

- ◆ March 12-20: An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census will be sent in the mail. Some households also will receive paper questionnaires.
- ◆ March 16-24: A reminder letter will be sent.
- ◆ March 26-April 3: If you haven't responded yet, a reminder postcard will be sent.
- ◆ April 8-16: If you haven't responded yet, a reminder letter and paper questionnaire will be sent.
- ◆ April 20-27: If you haven't responded yet, a final reminder postcard will be sent before the Census Bureau follows up in person.

TOGETHER WE SERVE: WEDNESDAY: MARCH 11, 2020

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 11 AM | ELDERS: Joe Snyder, Don Wischmeyer | USHERS: Bill & Shirley Day |
| 7 PM | ELDER: Ed Belter | USHERS: Ehlers Family |

TOGETHER WE SERVE: THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT: SAT., MARCH 14 & SUN., MARCH 15

| | 5 PM HOLY COMMUNION | 8 AM HOLY COMMUNION | 10:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Elder | Solomon Conrad | John Bertram | Will Roundey |
| Ushers | Solomon Conrad, Isaac Conrad | Mark Ziolko, Ed Fattmann, Kent Haffer, Mike Vesper | Jerry Bradley, Mike Kahler, Bill Price, Brandon Shouse, Ken Goodwin |
| Greeters | Wayne & Bonnie Walkenhorst | Jim & Maxine Salarano | Elaine Howard, Carol Crafton |