



Holy Cross Lutheran Church
8945 Veterans
Memorial Parkway
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636.272.4505
secretary@hcross.com
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
Pastor

Charity Smith
Director of Christian Education

David Gilson
Director of Music

Morgan Calcaterra
Preschool Director

Joyce Niewald
Church Secretary
secretary@hcross.com

Services held in Sanctuary:
Saturdays, 3PM,

Sundays, 8AM & 10:45AM
LIVE STREAM ON SUNDAY AT 8AM

EDUCATION HOUR AT 9:30AM
Connect through
www.hcross.com or
YouTube channel at

Holy Cross Lutheran Church O'Fallon MO

*If you want an audio recording (CD) of
the Sunday 8AM service, please notify
the office. We also send out bulletins,
weekly newsletters, and DVD recordings
(visual) to those who request them.*

CHURCH OFFICE

CHECK WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR UPDATES
636.272.4505
secretary@hcross.com



Second Sunday after the Epiphany

News & Notes for January 13-14, 2024

WELCOME TO EVERYONE joining us for worship today in the Sanctuary or by live stream.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Submit prayer requests by calling or emailing the church office. Confidential prayer requests are shared with the Pastor but not published.

WE PRAY for our members: Gloria & John Anderson; Lisa Aston; Dennis Benassi; Barbara Benigno; Marie Benigno; Paul Bertram; Mary Kay Bethke; George Beyer; Kacey Booth; James Boyd; Nancy Caldwell; Dominic Cissell; Mike Dawdy; Shirley Day; Bob & Carolyn Delohi; Brenda Duncan; Renea Erickson; Rich Franzer; Peggy Gallagher; Connie Gamache; Jennifer Goris; Phyllis Gronewald; Rick Johns; Terry Hardy; Karen Heckman; Norma Helms; Marie & Vernon Herrington; Florence Kempf; Al Ketsenburg; Deborah Kiely; Judith Kirby; Debra Korte; Jim Kramer; Janet Kuesel; Bob Kunz; Joyce Lang; Betty & Ken Lee; Dottie Nagel; Donna Nordmeyer; Dina Polashek; Phyllis Robinson; Ron Rutledge; Jim Salarano; Carol Santoyo; Vita Sayers; Ruth Sevick; Winnie Thornton; Larry Williams; Ernestine Wilson; Judie Woelfer.

WE PRAY for our family and friends:

Andrew Bonney (Greg & Judy Bonney)
Susan Bradley (Jerry Bradley)
Marsha Brown (Neil & Cynthia Menscher)
Rachel Butkovich (Haywoods)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
Mark Chiodini (Nicholas Chiodini)
Debbie Collier (Ron Rutledge)
Gorman Cooper (Tina Morrison)
Norma Cooper (Harringtons)
Jim Coots (Doris Coots)
Michelle Creese (Phyllis Gronewald)
Teresa Doerr
Lowell Duncan (Don Duncan)
Sandra Fleak (Becky Edgar)
Darrel Gibson (Meg Cissell)
Mark Gilson (David Gilson)
Mark Grannemann (Darren Marhanka)
Denise Heins (Becky Coomer)
Dennis Helms (Norma Helms)
Sharon Hesse (Barb Krieger)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Marcia Hoemann (Mark Hoemann)
Lois Jobe (Jan Flentke)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
Lisa Markel (Grace Randazzo)
Malu Martin (Dawn Kahler)
Darlene McCarthy (Elaine Howard)
Roger Meihak (Brian Storm)
Kenny & Lois Meyer
(Carla Cooper, Karen Copper)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Shirley Moore (Judy Bonney)
Sarah Nichols (Brenda Marhanka)
Rosemarie Opp (Bob Williams)
Paul Palombi (Diane Palombi)
Virginia Pendley (Shawn Huber)
Jim Saunders (Ralph Erickson)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Jennifer Schueddig (Wayne Wiese)
Sara Shroth
Shirley Tebeau (Ron Hunter)
Stanika Todorova (Paul & Juliana Frerichs)

Dennis Tracy (Bonnie Walkenhorst)
Mary Tucker (Verna Tucker)
Vita Walkenhorst (Rick Walkenhorst)
Jo Walsh (Rob & Dee Paoletti)
Mike Weiss (Mike Hanna)
Stephen Wichern (William Wichern)
Amy Wisa (Joy & Rick Wisa)
Ken Wischmeyer (Don Wischmeyer)
Sandy Wischmeyer (Marilyn Mana)
Mary Young (Elaine Alton)
Carol Zeigler (Ralph & Renea Erickson)
Carol Ziegler (line dancer at Holy Cross)
John Allquist III, Duane Stuewe
~ (Janet Allquist)
Carson Aston, Chlaara Aston,
Sharon Staten (Lisa Aston)
Jim & Amy (John Bertram)
Maureen King, Ryan Wells
(Kathleen Day)
Don & Linda Beehn (Chris Ehlers)
Linda Elrod, Alicia Kleb, Jeanette Kruse,
Jane Redhage, Marian Schwentker, Andy
& Alicia Kincaid & 5 children; Cindy
Kincaid (Michelle Kincaid)
Bill Knehans, Charlotte Taggart
(Bob & Barb Knehans)
Paul Rau, George & Sandra Roberts
(Elma Jane Kramer)
John Bach, Rachel Long
~ (Ken & Betty Lee)
Pat McCarty, Serena Whiteside
(Orion Melton)
Diane Rippen, Virginia Niewald
(Joyce Niewald)
David Oshia, Chase Russell, Carol Sills
(Barb Parson)
Allan Miller, Loyce Sagez
(Randy & Denise Sagez)
Amy Mueller, Larry Schenk
~ (Carol Santoyo)
Blake Schmalzer, Susan
(Rebecca Schmalzer)
Nisseem, Daniel (Sandra Semler)

We pray for those who mourn: For the family and friends of **Betty Shaw**, 94, who entered the Church Triumphant on Wed., Jan. 10. Arrangements are pending.

For the family and friends of **Margaret Meyer**, mother of Nancy Caldwell, and **Eleanor Smith**, sister of Mike (Dawn) Kahler, both who entered the Church Triumphant this past week.

Holy Cross Weekly Calendar

Saturday, January 13, 2024

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION

9AM TO 2PM: Game Day

3PM Holy Communion

4:30PM Pastoral Call Committee

Sunday, January 14, 2024

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

12:30PM NYG Meeting & Lunch

2PM Board of Elders

Monday, January 15, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

Preschool Closed for MLK Day

Koinonia (February) Deadline

9:30AM TOPS

11AM Line Dancing

5:30PM New Member Luncheon Comm.

6:30PM Handbells

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM, 12:30PM—4PM

9AM Preschool Chapel

10AM Women's Bible Study

12:30PM Staff Meeting

2PM Preschool Board Meeting

6:30PM Adult Bible Class (rescheduled)

7PM Board of Education & Youth (gym)

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1PM—4PM

9AM/1PM Preschool Chapel

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

5:30PM Midweek Open Gym

6PM Beginning Bell Choir

6PM Children's Choir

6:15PM Midweek Grades PreK-Gr5

6:30PM Confirmation & High School

6:45PM Adult Choir

7PM Games in gym

Thursday, January 18, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1PM—4PM

8AM News& Notes Deadline

6:30PM 20s&30s

Friday, January 19, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1PM—4PM

Koinonia production for February

Saturday, January 20, 2024

10AM TO 2PM: Quilting Fellowship (gym)

9AM Cradle Roll Book Exchange (WC)

2PM Easy Gardening (gym)

3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, January 21, 2024

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

Noon 4 Family Life

Church Attendance for January 6-7, 2024

Service	Attendance	Communion
3PM	55	52
8AM	110	82
10:45PM	97	75
TOTAL	262	209

Bible Class Attendance Week of January 7, 2024

NA=not applicable; NR=not reported; C= cancelled

Little Lambs, Sunday	4
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	20
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	38
BASICS/TLC	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	13
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	C
Men's Breakfast & Bible	14
Wednesday AM	NA
Midweek/Confirmation/HS	43
20s&30s Thursday	7

Weekly Offerings: January 1-7, 2024

General Fund	\$ 20,828.76
Endowment	\$ 150.00
Building Fund	\$ 165.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 1,328.75
Missions Total 2024 To Date	\$ 1,328.75

Year to Date as of 11/30/2023

Income	\$ 702,821.54
Expenses	\$ 643,316.21
Surplus	\$ 59,505.33

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES

Weekly Totals January 10, 2024

Families: 66
Individuals: 215

HOLY CROSS LADIES GUILD collects **food** and all types of **soap** for the Concordia Seminary Food Bank. Food should not be perishable or out-of-date. Place items on the LWML table in the Welcome Center.

STAMP COLLECTION: The Holy Cross Ladies Guild collects canceled postage stamps which are turned in to raise money for mission projects worldwide. Stamps should be torn or cut from the envelope with about half an inch of paper left all the way around. There is a collection basket upstairs on the shelf in the Welcome Center and another one downstairs on the shelf above the coat rack by the kitchen. Please consider saving your stamps and turning them in at your convenience for this worthwhile effort. Thank you.

MITES: Pick up a Mite box from the LWML table to collect loose change to be used for LWML grants to missions around the world.

MISSION BOARD brings **fresh fruits and vegetables** to the Seminary. To contribute, write your check to Holy Cross with a memo line for *Mission Board Fresh Foods to the Seminary*.

HOPE MINISTRIES FOOD PANTRY asks Holy Cross to help out with the following food items during January:

Cereal Canned Soup Canned fruit
Dry boxed potatoes Pasta Sauce

Put food items in bins under the Missions Board display in the Welcome Center.

HOPE Ministries served 3,930 families and 13,995 individuals in 2023. Your contributions matter to our community!

REMINDERS:

- * Deadline for News&Notes items is Thursdays, 8AM. Please email submissions.
- * Check with the church office before scheduling events on the church calendar.
- * *The Divine Service* is the topic for this month's issue of *Lutheran Witness*. Pick up your copy at the Welcome Center table.

SERMON SUMMARY: This week's sermon "Your Calling" is based on the Gospel reading where Jesus calls Nathaniel. Many people in life feel like they have a "calling" of some sort, whether it be their hobbies, their employment, or something else. In all of these cases, individuals feel as if they are born for a specific purpose unique to them, guided or influenced by something much bigger than themselves (e.g. a "higher power"). For us as Christians, we can be much more specific than that. We believe that God has called us in many aspects of life: in society, with our family, at work, and in church. Hear today how God calls people to specific vocations in our Bible passages and how God calls you to live out your vocation today as well.

LAST CHANCE for Family Pictures: Are we missing your family picture for our pictorial directory? We will have a photographer in Rooms 1 & 2 between services on Jan. 28 and again on Feb. 4 to take family photos. If you prefer, you can email a jpeg photo to directory@hccross.com before the end of January. The directory will not be complete without your family picture. A big THANKS to all of you who have already sent yours.

PRAYER LIST: As we begin 2024, the church office asks that you check the prayer list, especially names that have been on the list for more than a year, and let us know if prayers are still needed. Sometimes people forget they have a loved one on the list and the person has recovered. Contact secretary@hccross.com if changes should be made. Please let us know when prayers have been answered. We welcome updates for members, family, and friends.

If you want to join the **Prayer Chain in 2024**, notify secretary@hccross.com

USHERS — Please sign up on the Welcome Center clipboard or online at least one week prior to service. www.hccross.com/usher We would like to have full rosters for all services ahead of the weekend. Thanks.

QUILTING FELLOWSHIP meets Sat., Jan. 20, from 10AM to 3PM in the gym. Bring your quilting projects and get help from experienced quilters. All experience levels are welcome. Contact Cynthia Menscher for more information.

LENTEN SUPPERS — Ash Wednesday is Feb. 14 — 32 days from now. Historically, Holy Cross boards and groups have donated time and energy in creating Lenten Suppers served prior to the 7PM service each Wednesday in Lent. Lenten meals are served from 5:30 to 6:45PM, and diners provide a free-will offering to offset expenses and provide funds for the group's chosen cause. Here are the dates to be covered:

Feb. 14 — Ash Wednesday
Feb. 21
Feb. 28 — Grace Guild
March 6
March 13
March 20

Call the Church Office to schedule your group's date. Please provide the night's menu for future advertising.

FEBRUARY KOINONIA — Production begins this week on next month's newsletter. If you or your group have pictures or articles to share, please send them to secretary@hccross.com ASAP. Calendar items should be sent in by Mon., Jan. 15.

Update: Calling an Associate Pastor

The Call Committee received the names of 7 candidates from the two seminaries for us to consider. We are reviewing the profile of each candidate. We will be meeting on Sat., Jan. 13, to discuss our insights and decide who we want to interview in person. We have outlined our interview process and determined the questions we will be asking each candidate. We continue to be in contact with the placement director at each seminary.

We will be setting up in-person interviews with each of our top candidates in the next several weeks. Once those interviews are concluded and the committee has had the opportunity to pray and discuss the results, we will be scheduling a Special Voters Meeting to extend a call.

Please remember that there will be more congregations requesting a candidate than there are candidates available. Therefore, this process does not guarantee that we will receive an associate pastor. Our work is still in God's hands.

Voters will have an opportunity to extend an exclusive call for the one candidate we feel best meets our needs, or a call ranking our top two or three candidates. In this second scenario, we could receive our second or third choice if our first choice is assigned to another congregation. The Call Committee will be bringing a recommendation for which avenue to pursue once we have interviewed all the candidates.

Please continue to pray that God will lead and guide the interview process and those involved as we work to accomplish His will for the ministry at Holy Cross.

NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON:

Save the Date on **Feb. 4** for a celebration embracing our newest congregation members! This luncheon is always fun because we get to meet the newest among us and eat great food! The time is right after the 10:45AM service that day. We ask church members to help furnish food.

Last Names A to K: bring a side dish and salad
Last Names L to Z: bring a side dish and dessert

Evangelism Committee and Grace Guild will take care of the rest! Remember to wear your name tags!

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

On Jan. 11, 19 donors were able to give 23 productive units of blood. Our goal was 15! These units will help almost 69 patients in need at area hospitals! Thank you!

Future blood drives at Holy Cross have been scheduled for these dates:

Thurs., March 14
Thurs., May 16
Thurs., July 11
Thurs., Sept. 12
Thurs., Nov. 14


Times are 10AM to 3PM in the Holy Cross Gym.

For more information, check out www.RedCrossBlood.org

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS thanks everyone who so generously supported our missions of 2023. For 2024 our mission focus will be based on the Deut. 10:18 which points to the needs of orphans, widows, and travelers. For the first four months of the year, we will emphasize the needs of orphans by seeking the support of Lutheran Family and Children's Services. Informational materials are available at the Mission Board display in the Welcome Center, and a guest speaker will visit in February. God bless you as you consider this very worthy charity.

2024 PORTALS OF PRAYER Regular and large-sized *Portals of Prayer* for January-March 2024 are available on the Welcome Center table.

FROM BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: Pledge Cards for 2024 and Time & Talent surveys are available on the Welcome Center table. Place your responses in the wooden box by the table until the end of December or to the church office after Jan. 1.





HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD FIND THEIR VOCATION?

4 FAMILY LIFE

JANUARY 21, 2023
12:30-2PM

HOLY CROSS'S GYM LUNCH AND CHILDCARE PROVIDED


RSVPS DUE JAN 14 TO DCE SMITH CSMITH@HCROSS.COM

Cradle Roll's Book Exchange

January 20, 9-11 am
Holy Cross' Welcome Center

Parents, come for light refreshments and socializing, plus bring some of your kid's books to exchange with each other.



MIDDLE SCHOOL LATE NIGHT at Immanuel Lutheran Church St. Charles. Jan. 26, 7-11PM. **RSVP due Jan. 21.** Cost \$10 per youth. Pizza. Door Prizes. Bring food donations for St. Trinity Lutheran Church.


LHS NEWS:

Join the Sapphires Dance Team for their **3rd Annual Daddy Daughter Dance** on Sat., Jan. 20 from 6-8PM in the LHS Commons! Snacks, games, DJ, dancing, photo booth, and crafts! Register here: <https://form.jotform.com/240035438584053>

Paint it Pink event on Jan. 19: Fundraising, philanthropy opportunities available during the evening for the American Cancer Society! Game times: Freshmen Boys 3PM; JV Girls 4:15PM; JV Boys 5:30PM; Varsity Girls 7PM; Varsity Boys 8:15PM. Food available for purchase from A&W and Grandma's Cookies. Future Cougar Basketball--come line up with the Cougar Varsity basketball teams as they get announced!

Coaches are needed for the Spring & Fall seasons. LHS is looking for a Boys Varsity Head Tennis Coach, Boys Baseball Assistant Coach, and Head Football Coach. Contact the Director of Activities, Mr. Melvin Bethany, at bethany@lhssc.org if interested.

Join us for our **Annual Trivia Night!** Friday, Feb. 9, in the LHS Commons. Doors open at 6PM, Trivia starts at 7PM. Register at <https://lutheranhighstcharles.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/2024LutheranHighSchoolTriviaNight/tabid/1405599/Default.aspx>





NYG 2025 Meeting!

January 14
12:30 pm in the gym
Pizza Lunch

Topics of the meeting

- Fundraising
- Adult Leaders
- Timeline
- Cost
- Expectations

Current 7th - 11th Graders

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

CHILDREN'S CHOIR CHOIR ROOM PREK - 5TH GRADE 6-6:15PM	BEGINNING BELLS CHOIR LOFT 6TH GRADE TO ADULT 6-6:30PM
ELEMENTARY CLASSES 6:15-7PM PREK - 1ST ROOM 12 & 13 2ND & 3RD ROOM 7 & 8 4TH & 5TH ROOM 3	6TH - 12TH GRADE 6:30-7:30PM LEVEL 100 WELCOME CENTER LEVEL 200 ROOM 1 & 2 LYF ROOM 11
OPEN GYM STARTING AT 5:30PM PARENT SUPERVISED	GAMES ELEMENTARY 7-7:15PM PREK - 1ST IN ROOM 2ND - 5TH IN GYM 6TH - 12TH 7:30-7:45PM IN GYM

NOTES
PARENTS, PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CHECK YOUR CHILDREN IN AND OUT WITH TODD RASCHE OUTSIDE THE KITCHEN DOORS.
PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO SCHEDULE AND ROOM ASSIGNMENT DURING ADVENT AND LENT.

SAUSAGE DINNER—ALL YOU CAN EAT hosted by Salem Men's Club, Sun., Feb. 4, 2024, 11AM to 5PM, in the cafeteria of Salem Lutheran School, 5025 Lakewood Ave., Affton, MO 63123. More information available at <https://slcas.org/church/mens-club/mens-club-sausagesupper/>

EASY GARDENING: Need a family project to include kids of all ages? Now is a great time to dig into "Easy Gardening." All YOU need is a place that offers 10 hours or more of sun and access to water. If that means your paved driveway or patio, it's do-able! Come join us on Jan. 20 at 2PM in the gym for a demonstration of seed starting and a quick way (20 minutes) to set up a 4 ft. x 4 ft. (maximum) square foot garden, ahead of planting season. Sessions of different gardening techniques will be offered throughout the spring and into early summer. Sign up is in Welcome Center. Contact: Cynthia Menscher 636.639.5188.