



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



The Baptism of Our Lord

News & Notes for January 6-7, 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; Janice Fred; Peggy Gallagher; Connie Gamache; Jennifer Goris; Phyllis Gronewald; Rick Johns; Terry Hardy; Karen Heckman; Norma Helms; Marie & Vernon Herrington; Laura Hoffman; 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; Todd Rasche; Phyllis Robinson; Ron Rutledge; Jim Salarano; Carol Santoyo; Vita Sayers; Ruth Sevic; Betty Shaw; Winnie Thornton; Larry Williams; Ernestine Wilson; Judie Woelfer.

WE PRAY for our family and friends:

John Allquist (son of Janet Allquist)
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)
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)
Margaret Meyer (Nancy Caldwell)
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
Eleanor Smith (Mike Kahler)
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)
Carson Aston, Chlaara Aston,
Sharon Staten (Lisa Aston)
Jim & Amy (John Bertram)
Cheryl Arnold, Denise Heins
(Becky Coomer)
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)

Holy Cross Weekly Calendar

Saturday, January 6, 2024

9AM Undecorate Church Decorations
 3PM Holy Communion
 + INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Sunday, January 7, 2024

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS
 8AM Holy Communion
 9:30AM Education Hour
 10:45AM Holy Communion

Monday, January 8, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1PM—3PM
 Preschool Resumes
 9:30AM TOPS
 10AM Ladies Guild Executive Meeting
 11AM Line Dancing
 5:30PM New Member Luncheon Committee
 6PM Church Council Board Meetings
 6:30PM Handbells
 7:30PM Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM
 9AM Preschool Chapel
 10AM Women's Bible Study
 12:30PM Staff Meeting
 6PM Grace Guild
 6:30PM Adult Bible Class

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
 6:30AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
 9AM/1PM Preschool Chapel
 5:30PM Midweek Open Gym
 6PM Beginning Bell Choir
 6PM Children's Choir
 6:15PM Midweek Grades PreK-5
 6:30PM Confirmation & High School
 6:45PM Adult Choir
 7PM Games in gym

Thursday, January 11, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
 8AM News & Notes Deadline
 9AM Circuit Pastors' Meeting at Holy Cross
 10AM DCE Circuit Meeting (offsite)
 6:30PM 20s & 30s

Friday, January 12, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1PM—4PM
 KOINONIA DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY
 10AM Ladies Guild (gym)

Saturday, January 13, 2024

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION
 9AM TO 2PM: Church Game Day
 3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, January 14, 2024

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION
 8AM Holy Communion
 9:30AM Education Hour
 10:45AM Holy Communion

Church Attendance for Dec. 30-31, 2023

Service	Attendance	Matins
3PM	44	—
8AM	80	—
10:45PM	80	—
Total	204	82

All Bible Classes and Other Education were canceled the week of Dec. 31, 2023.

Year to Date as of 11/30/2023

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

Weekly Offerings: Dec. 25-31, 2023

General Fund	\$	13,349.22
Endowment	\$	0.00
Building Fund	\$	570.00
Missions Weekly	\$	100.00
Missions Total Year To Date	\$	24,169.95

H.O.P.E. FOOD

**Weekly Totals
January 3, 2024**
 Families: 75
 Individuals: 257

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 outside the kitchen. Please consider saving your stamps and turning them in at your convenience for this very 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!

January Calendar Items:

- ◆ Ladies Guild Quilt Tying on Jan. 16, 9AM, gym
- ◆ Quilting Fellowship on Jan. 20, 10AM to 3PM, gym
- ◆ LWML Meeting dates:
 - Grace Guild: Tues., Jan. 9, 6PM
 - Ladies Guild: Fri., Jan. 12, 10AM
- ◆ Board of Elders, Jan. 14, 2PM

ALTAR FLOWERS this weekend are given to the glory of God by Mike & Dawn Kahler in honor of their 49th wedding anniversary on Jan. 4, 2024.

Sunday Morning Bible Class – January 7. Do you have a GPS? Do you use your GPS? How much do you trust your GPS? You actually have a second GPS—God's Plan of Salvation. Learn how to use it more and trust it more.

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY, Wed., Jan. 10, starting at 6:30am. Please sign up in the Welcome Center.

FAMILY PICTURE NEEDED NOW: Did you forget to send your family picture for our new pictorial directory? We have received hundreds already, but we need yours. Simply send a jpeg photo from Christmas or have someone snap your picture with their phone. Email the photo to directory@hcross.com and we will take care of the rest. This will help all of us know each other better and will be very helpful to new people joining our congregation in the future. Thanks to all who already sent your picture. If you have not, please do so today.

DID YOU KNOW? Ash Wednesday is 38 days away ...

TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST (TEC) RETREAT:

Youth (16-21 years) and Adults (anyone over 21 years) are invited to participate in a Lutheran TEC weekend retreat being held Sat., Jan. 13, 2024, starting at 9AM, through Mon., Jan. 15, ending at 6PM. The weekend will be held at Glendale Lutheran Church in St. Louis. For registration and more information about the TEC program, visit showmetec.com or contact Vince & Dana Otto.

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@hcross.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@hcross.com

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!

REMINDERS:

- * Deadline for News&Notes items is Thursdays, 8AM. Please email submissions.
- * Check call 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.

Update: Calling an Associate Pastor

At a Special Voters Meeting on Sun., Dec. 10, the voters approved the motion for the Call Committee to pursue the avenue of calling a candidate from one of our seminaries.

The Call Committee put together a congregational profile sheet, a job description approved by the elders, a pastoral profile ranking, and information about our congregation. These papers have been sent to the placement directors at each of the two seminaries as well as to Missouri District President, Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan.

Each seminary placement director is now reviewing their candidates graduating this spring and will select up to five candidates from their seminary that best meet our needs. They will send information to us about those candidates. The Call Committee then plans to conduct interviews with those candidates. Sometime shortly thereafter there will be a Special Voters Meeting where information will be shared, and the voters will be asked to extend a call going through the seminaries.

Please pray for the seminary personnel who will select our candidates, our Call Committee who will be interviewing them, the candidates being interviewed, and the District Presidents who will be making the assignments. Pray that God's will might be accomplished through the work of all humans involved.

Please note that there are more congregations requesting pastors than there are candidates available, so this process does not guarantee that we will receive an associate pastor.

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

LHS NEWS:

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>

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 season. LHS is looking for a Boys Varsity Head Tennis Coach and a Boys Baseball Assistant Coach. Contact the Director of Activities, Mr. Melvin Bethany, at bethany@lhssc.org if interested!

EASY GARDENING: Need a family project to include kids of all ages? Now's 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 (20 minutes) way 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.

INSTALLATION RITE

for all Newly-Elected and Incumbent **CHURCH OFFICERS, COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS, ELDERS, as well as Officers of Auxiliary Groups (LWML and others)** will take place **Jan. 6-7, 2024**, at **all** services.

If you are a recently elected official or an incumbent, attend the service of your choice. Please participate in the installation rite.

HOLY CROSS LEADERSHIP

CHURCH OFFICERS, COUNCIL BOARDS, & ELDERS

POSITION	NAME
Executive Committee	
President	Greg Emerick
Vice President	<i>vacant</i>
Council Secretary	Barb Grosch
Treasurer	Anita Linneman
Board of Elders	
John Bertram	Neal Menscher
Mike Claxton	Rob Paoletti
Solomon Conrad	Chris Price
Kent Haffer	Bruce Richardson
Paul Helvey	Brian Storm
Jerry Lancour	1 vacancy
Board of Stewardship	
Chair	Ashleigh Wallace-Lacey
Financial Secretary	Karen Belter
Member	Cynthia Menscher
Board of Youth	
Member	Trudy Aston
Member	Jennifer Reed
Board of Education	
Chair	Linda Ziolko
Member	Karen Copper
Member	Debbie Parks
Board of Evangelism	
Chair	David Schlesselman
Member	Dianne Anderson
Member	Mark Hoemann
Board of Property	
Chair	Mark Ziolko
Member	Terry Hardy
Board of Missions	
Chair	Liz Belter
Member	Diane Jones
Member	Emily Kahler
Board of Technology	
Chair	Tim Laufer
Member	Bryan Drilling
Member	Nathan Temple
Member	Jeff Waltersdorf
Preschool Board	
Chair	Bruce Linn
Member	Elaine Alton
Member	Laura Gimbel
Member	Dawn Kahler
Member	Sue Williams
Director	Morgan Calcaterra

Redirect Your Missouri Taxes to Support Lutheran Schools: Did you know that you can direct up to one-half of your Missouri state taxes to support Lutheran Schools? The process is simple. You won't pay less taxes, but half the taxes you pay to the state of Missouri can go to Lutheran schools. Pick up a colored flyer "Support Our LCMS Schools" from the Welcome Center table or speak with David Schlesselman.

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.

CHURCH GAME DAY at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Saturday, January 13, 2024
 Bring Games | Bring Food | Have Fun
 Doors Open from 9-2PM
 Gary Ziolko
 garyziolko@yahoo.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.

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

icmgathering.com ENDURE JULY 19-23, 2023 - NEW ORLEANS, LA

4 FAMILY LIFE:
 How Can I Help My Child Find Their Vocation? **Jan. 21, 2023, 12:30 -2PM.** Holy Cross's Gym. Lunch and Childcare provided.
RSVPs due Jan. 14
 Due to DCE Smith, CSmith@hcross.com