

## Call Day Memories

This month in April, I and Holy Cross will have our eyes on Concordia Seminary's Call Day more than ever before. As you know, our congregation decided to apply for a candidate from this year's graduates of Concordia Seminary in Saint Louis. Our Pastoral Call Committee had the opportunity to interview four candidates there. On Tues., April 23, we will find out which of them, if any, will be placed at Holy Cross.

We have grown close to our field workers serving us this year: Vince Otto and his wife Dana, and Owen Duncan and his wife Evangeline. They have served Holy Cross so faithfully during this interim, and I would say that we know each of them and their respective families a little bit more than other field workers in the past. They too will officially find out on April 23 where God will be calling them to serve as pastors.

Traditionally there are two worship services on Call Day: the Assignment of Vicarages and Internships service at 3PM, and the Assignment of Calls service at 7PM. I was fortunate to be volunteering during my first year for both of these services, but the biggest and best memories come from my second year and fourth year.

During my second year at the seminary, Call Day meant I would be attending the 3PM service and receiving the assignment of my vicarage. Like a good majority of my classmates, I had no idea whatsoever about where I would be serving the next year on vicarage. Before the service started, I and my friends and classmates were all gathered in the lower level of the seminary chapel. I was feeling pretty eager and excited about the service. While the pre-service conversation was going on, I remember the placement director, Dr. Glenn Nielsen, coming up to me and saying, "Andy, your fieldwork supervisor is here today. Please be sure to stay afterward for a little while to greet him personally." My excitement and eagerness shifted to a thousand thoughts running through my head: "My congregation must be close by for him to be here."-- "I need to tell Laura!"-- "What do I say to him?"

Shortly thereafter, the service itself began. For both the vicarage service and the call service, I and the rest of my classmates receiving vicarages and internships processed in and were seated up in the front right of the seminary chapel together. The rest of the chapel was filled to the brim with every seat taken in the pews.

Overflow seating was available in the lecture hall across campus! The hymns and the singing were full of joy, talent, and vigor, unlike anything else I had experienced.

Eventually, the time came for the placement director to make his announcements. And so we were called up alphabetically one by one to receive our placement and our packet of information about the congregation or ministry. We were instructed to strongly resist the temptation to rip open the envelope right then and there in the pew! I can still remember the announcement of my vicarage assignment at that service as read by Dr. Nielsen: "Andrew Gimbel - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Midwest City, Oklahoma." Oh, what joy and excitement I had at that moment!

The Call Day service in my fourth year was different. In previous months, I had three interviews for associate pastor positions in congregations across the country. Following these interviews, both Laura and I were confident as to where we would be placed, so the surprise and the anxiety weren't there. For the service itself, our seating arrangements were the same, as were the joy, talent, and vigor of the music and hymns. Just as with the second-year placement service, I remember the announcement of my call placement quite vividly: "Andrew Gimbel, Associate Pastor, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, O'Fallon, Missouri."

The biggest takeaway from each of these services is the power and impact of God sending forth workers into His harvest field. For those two hours, more than 100 men were gathered together in the same physical location. In the course of the next several months, those same men were all across the United States, and even on the other side of the world! It was a living and breathing reminder of how God cares for His church and cares for you!

This year we will celebrate as a congregation (Lord-willing) and celebrate with our field workers. However, let us not forget to celebrate God's powerful work of sending workers into His harvest field, proclaiming the name of Jesus to all those who need to hear it so desperately in this world we live in. It is because of this truth that Call Day is one of the most exciting and invigorating events in the life of the Church at large. I'll be celebrating that truth this year on April 23. Will you be celebrating with me too? ~ Pastor Andy Gimbel



**Morgan Calcaterra**  
 Preschool Director  
 & 4s Teacher  
**Dani Richardson**  
 3s Teacher



(636) 272-4505  
 Ext. 106 Preschool Office  
 Ext. 109 Extended Education  
 ✉ [mcalcaterra@hcross.com](mailto:mcalcaterra@hcross.com)  
 🌐 [preschool.hcross.com](http://preschool.hcross.com)  
 📍 8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway  
 O'Fallon, MO 63366



Top: Mrs. Charity shares a Bible story in chapel.  
 Above: The 4PM kids enjoy painting a leprechaun!



**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL**  
 2024-2025 Enrollment and Registration



2024-2025  
TUITION  
STRUCTURE



ABOUT  
OUR  
PROGRAM



2024-2025  
ENROLLMENT  
FORM

*We hope to hear from you soon!*



**P**reschool has been busy this year! We have so much coming up as we prep our four-year-olds to go to Kindergarten!

- We have:
- mastered our first names
  - working on our last names
  - learning our addresses and phone numbers
  - finishing up the alphabet and numbers 1-10
- And working so hard at it every day!

We have been playing hard and having fun. It has been so nice to get back outside on our playground.

We also have enrollments open for next year! Tours are available by request at [preschool@hcross.com](mailto:preschool@hcross.com) with Mrs. Calcaterra. If you would like to come see what we are all about, please send an email!

Our curriculum is fun, fully developed, and great for the kids. Not only are they learning key subjects, but they are learning these subjects in an environment centered around God's love for them.

# Monthly Music Minute for April 2024

*A series in which the music director shares some thoughts about the music coming up in church this month*

**A**lleluia! Christ is risen! This year, as the calendar turns over from March to April, the church calendar turns over from Lent to Easter - and, on the church music side of things, that means 50 days of Alleluias, joyful songs, and many beloved hymns.

One of these beloved hymns for many, I am sure, is LSB 633, *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*. It is a beautiful text married to a triumphant tune that ties the story of the resurrection to the Lord's Supper. It is definitely in my top-ten list of favorite hymns. This Easter season, we will sing it a few times: Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday, and April 28 when it is the assigned Hymn of the Day.

Today I'd like to reflect on and break down one specific verse of this hymn, a verse jam-packed with rich theology and poetry, stanza 3:

"Where the paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!"

There is MUCH here, so let's break it down, line by line. The key to understanding the first line, "Where the paschal blood is poured," has to do with that third word -- "paschal." This is a word we hear a lot this time of year. The Easter candle we light is called the "Paschal" candle. So, what does this word mean? The word "paschal" comes from the Greek word "Pascha," which simply means "Passover". In Orthodox churches, the Easter holiday is called "Pascha" - the term "Easter" didn't come around until much later in the British Isles. So, "paschal blood" means both Passover blood AND Easter blood. How are these two tied together? Let's look at the second line for that.

"Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;" At the first Passover, the blood painted over the doorframe signaled the angel of death to spare that house -- and so life was spared. What, then, is our Passover meal? It is the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, where we too are spared from death and given life, with our sins forgiven in this meal. "Paschal", then, is such an appropriate term to use during Easter, for it is here that we celebrate and take part in our own Passover Lamb. No angel of death can harm us.

Shifting a bit, we move to the third line: "Israel's hosts triumphant go." We move past the Passover meal here to the next event of Exodus -- Israel's march toward the promised land. This line evokes the language of victory; I am reminded of the hymn "This Is the Feast." The people of God march forward, and where?

"Through the wave that drowns the foe." Our minds are brought to the Red Sea. Backs against the wall, God's people walked through the waters of the Red Sea on dry ground -- and Egypt, the enemy, was drowned in the waters as the parted sea came back together. In baptism, we too see our enemy destroyed. Sin is drowned in the waters of baptism. As God's people, as His Israel, around the font we have our Red Sea moment -- and, just like at Passover, God gives us life.

Whew, that's a lot of meaning in just 24 words. I think what I love most about this verse is that it shows how God has always cared for His people, and that, through the sacraments, He continues to do so. The Church is the fulfillment of Israel -- we are His people, and through a meal and water He saves us from sin, death, and the devil. So, we rejoice - Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Happy Pascha! - David Gilson

## CALL DAY WATCH PARTY

**CALL DAY IS COMING SOON!** Holy Cross will be holding a Call Day Watch Party on **April 23 from 6PM** to the end of the service. We have quite a vested interest this year--not only will we be watching to see if an Associate Pastor is coming our way, but also we will want to see where our field workers of the last four years,



Vincent Otto and Owen Duncan, will be sent to start their ministries. You and your families are invited to watch the live-stream event from the Seminary in our pavilion, weather permitting. We will also be providing food and drink! Please see the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center table to indicate your interest.

# Grow Your Own Food and Feed Others' Faith



The Holy Cross Community Garden is getting ready for another year. You can get a 12 ft. by 10 ft. plot to grow your fresh vegetables. We have added fall compost and will have your plot tilled and ready for planting this spring. You may plant anything you like. You are responsible for planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting your plot. While you are gardening, you will have the opportunity to share the Word with fellow gardeners. Last year we had five Holy Cross member gardeners and 13 people from the community. If you are interested in a plot, please contact David Schlesselman at 636-578-1766 or [daschlesselman@gmail.com](mailto:daschlesselman@gmail.com). The cost of a plot is \$20 for the season.



Come!  
Join us for  
**HOPE Seeds**  
on Thurs., **April 4,**  
in the gym, **9AM-Noon**

Seed packages are packed for those in need around the world.

Last month, more packets than ever were produced by this group!

It's easy to do  
— and the more the merrier!  
Fellowship is an easy by-product!  
*Sponsored by Holy Cross Stewardship Board.*

## Board of Stewardship:

# CAMPING EVENT



Board of Stewardship is sponsoring a congregational campout on **April 26-27, 2024**, on the back lot of the church.

All types of camping are welcome from tents to motor homes. Come and enjoy fellowship around a campfire with s'mores, camp songs, games and more.

The event begins Friday afternoon and ends Saturday mid-afternoon. We will be enjoying Friday dinner together and Saturday breakfast and lunch.

If you are interested, please **sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Center table**. More detailed information will be available soon.

Contact: Karen Belter, [kbelter55@gmail.com](mailto:kbelter55@gmail.com) or call/text: 636-357-0002.

## Now Available: Holy Cross Buy/Sell Facebook Group

There is a new Facebook group for Holy Cross members.

This group is for member-to-member selling of large goods (not household rummage sale items) as a Stewardship Board fundraiser supporting ministries of Holy Cross.

Members selling are encouraged to donate a minimum of 10% of the sell price to the Holy Cross Stewardship Board.

Check it out and join this new group today. If you have any questions, please email [stewardship@hcross.com](mailto:stewardship@hcross.com) or speak with any Stewardship Board member.



Stewardship Board will sponsor a SHINE Event on **April 20**. Details are still being worked out.

**All ages** are welcome!

A sign-up sheet will be available in the Welcome Center in the coming weeks.

# Siberian Lutherans Still Need Your Prayers, Support

Now more than ever, Lutherans in Siberia need your prayers and support. Even as international sanctions on Russia continue, the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society's support of the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church and its seminary in Novosibirsk remains steadfast. There is no talk of stopping this important work.

Russia needs pastors now, and it will need pastors when the conflict ends. We are committed to standing with our friends in the Siberian Church, helping them carry God's Word and Sacrament to people in Russia and surrounding areas.

Each day, Lutheran pastors continue to carry God's Word and Sacrament to people in Russia and neighboring countries. Despite the conflict, the seminary remains open, preparing more pastors for God's work in the area. Conducting class at the seminary is sometimes difficult as professors turn to online means to provide pastoral instruction to students, especially those close to the conflict and others seeking instruction in countries surrounding Russia.

Please pray for those caught in the tangle of war, particularly individuals who have benefited from the pastoral outreach of the Siberian Church and the Lutheran Seminary in Novosibirsk. Your gift to the Siberian Mission Society and the campaign to keep the seminary operating matters now more than ever. Learn more at [savetheseminary.org](http://savetheseminary.org).

**SCAM Alert!** Recently, Holy Cross has learned of a scam involving individuals pretending to be Pastor Gimbel and sending text messages to members asking for physical gift cards or other monetary compensation. Before acting on these messages, *please verify the needs with Holy Cross or with Pastor Gimbel directly in a different way (e-mail, phone call, in person, etc.)* Thank you, and be safe in the digital world we live in!

## MISSION BOARD

The current mission focus, Lutheran Family and Children Services, wraps up at the end of April. Our goal is to collect a total of \$10,000 to put towards purchasing backpacks for foster children in need. If we reach our goal, we would be able to buy hundreds of backpacks and donate some funds to other areas of need within LFCS.

Our current total as of printing is \$4,924.44. As always the Mission Board is so thankful for your generosity in supporting the chosen missions.

**A previous mission update:** As you may remember back in the summer of 2021 our MOTQ focus was the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society with a specific focus on the Save the Seminary campaign. Since then, the Mission Board has built into our budget a monthly payment towards the endowment fund to keep the Seminary going. We wanted to share with you the latest update from the campaign (*see left*).

## Fresh Food for Seminary Families

**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 :

Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit,  
Dry Potatoes, Pancake Mix, Syrup

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

## FELLOWSHIP Quilting

**April 6, 10AM to 2PM.**

This group emphasizes *fellowship* and encourages people to bring that project sitting in the closet waiting for completion (crochet, knitting, quilling, painting, sewing, jewelry making). You bring it, and let others be inspired. Along with the benefits of completion and inspiration, gain help where needed, enjoy new friendships, and network with members of our church. **Sign up in the Welcome Center**, or just show up on **April 6**. Lunch will be served. Stop in and check us out.

Contact: Cynthia Menscher, 636.639.5188





## Check out Booklets Available on the Tract Rack in the Welcome Center

These items provided by Lutheran Hour Ministries might include a topic of interest to you or an excellent way to connect a neighbor or friend to Holy Cross. Take a look to see what all is available.

**Helping Your Child Welcome Others:** This booklet will help parents in raising friendly and welcoming children. Gain insights from scripture and experiences that you may find helpful as a parent, grandparent or just someone who works with children.

**The Bible Tells Me So:** This creatively illustrated book for children features Scripture paired with verses in rhyme that help to amplify the text. The Bible is a treasure for us all and this little booklet reminds us that God speaks to us through His Word no matter how old or young we are.

**The Mystery of You:** In this pamphlet the author seeks to guide readers to a deeper understanding of their real selves. Our background and experiences build our perception of self – good or bad. Flawed by sin we are unable on our own to fully discern our true identity. God knows us best, understands us fully, and loves us anyway. Our fullest identity is found in Jesus.

### WELCOME CENTER TABLE:

Pick up *Portals of Prayer* for April–June, *Lutheran Witness*, and other items of interest. Check out the signup sheets there too!

### CALENDAR NOTES:

**EASTER MONDAY, April 1** — The Church Office and Preschool are both **closed** on Easter Monday! Not any April Fool!

**TUESDAY, April 2 — ELECTION DAY** — Gym open for election. Preschool is closed; church office open.

Cradle Role Presents  
**HAPPIEST TODDLER ON THE BLOCK**

Parenting Class for 0-4 yr olds  
Room 6  
Through the month of April  
Sundays 9:30-10:30am  
RSVP March 24  
Melanie Dafler  
630-338-3473

**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. Currently, the LWML Missouri District is in a Mite Challenge: it's Eastern Missouri vs. Western Missouri in an effort to increase Mite-giving to fund the mission grants chosen two years ago at the district convention. Stay tuned to how the challenge is going ....

### CONCORDIA SEMINARY FOOD BANK

Ladies Guild collects **food and soap products** of every kind for the Concordia Seminary Food Bank in St Louis.

### STAMP COLLECTION

The Holy Cross Ladies Guild collects canceled postage stamps which are used 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. A collection basket sits upstairs on the Welcome Center bookshelf and another one is 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.



# Lutheran High

*Grow + Serve in Christ*

**SURVEY:** As a valued member of our Lutheran High School community, LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund) invites you to participate in a survey aimed at crafting a vision statement tailored to the LHS mission of "equipping students for lives of Christian Service" as we "Grow and Serve in Christ." Your feedback will be instrumental in ensuring that LHS remains responsive to the needs of students and families.

Please take a moment to click on the following link to complete the survey:

<https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/9GBq7L>

**LHS Spring Musical:** Disney's *Beauty & the Beast*, **April 11-13 at 7PM!** More details coming soon!

## **CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

**The Sapphires** are Back-to-Back State Champions! First place in Jazz, First place in Pom, and Division 1 Overall State Champions!

Congratulations to the **Cheer team** for competing in the MCCA Gameday State Competition! They placed Second Overall in Class 2A and First in Band-chant!

Congratulations to **Calvin Gross** for finishing 4th at 190 lbs in the Class 2 Boys State Wrestling Championships!



## **The Run for Life and Learning June 1!**

### **Benefiting Birthright Counseling, St. Louis**

Join us at Creve Coeur Lake on June 1 for a chip-timed 6K Run/Walk, 1 Mile Fun Walk/Run, and ¼ Mile Kids Run with FRED BIRD®.

Register or donate at [runsignup.com/run4lifeandlearning](https://runsignup.com/run4lifeandlearning).

Proceeds enable women who are financially stressed by an unplanned pregnancy to continue their education and secure better lives for themselves and their families.

For sponsorship opportunities, email [run4lifeandlearning@gmail.com](mailto:run4lifeandlearning@gmail.com).

Scan to register  
or donate

# LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

## *A good gift plan*

can present solutions  
to challenging family dynamics.

Years ago, a husband and wife were meeting with their LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor. Both had been married before, as their spouses had been called home to Jesus. Each of them brought children into the relationship. The assets they brought were not equal. Urged by the advice of various people, they began considering a way in which they could isolate their assets from each other, creating multiple trusts.

Complicating matters, because they truly loved each other, they wanted to provide for each other when the first of them was called home. They felt uncomfortable about such absolute separation of their assets if they truly were going to share their lives as "one flesh", in keeping with the model of marriage from Genesis 1.

They laid out a complicated stream of thoughts before the LCMS Gift Planning Counselor. After a lengthy conversation, the gift planning counselor noticed an interesting phenomenon about their assets relative to family. Coming into this marriage, one spouse had twice as many financial assets as the other. That same spouse with the greater assets also had twice as many children as the other spouse. The ratio made sense. If they combined their assets and equally divided them among all their children, each child would receive the same amount as if they had put in place a complicated legal set of trusts to separate their assets. The Gift Planning Counselor conveyed a message to their attorney, and they emerged from that attorney with a simple plan that made them feel content. The plan they created together also allowed them to make some gifts to support ministry in the future. In addition, this plan did not foster an imposed separation between their children.

Taking the time for extended conversation and prayer allowed this couple to discern the right thing to do, rather than pursuing plans that would be expensive, complicated, and less than satisfying. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor is available to meet with you in the same way.

**Contact Teresa Nelson at (319)351-6529  
or [Teresa.Nelson@lfn.org](mailto:Teresa.Nelson@lfn.org).**



**LWML Missouri District:**

**Church Worker Study Grants**

Grants are available for Seminary students and persons going into full-time professional Church work in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. The applicant must be a member of a congregation in the Missouri District of the LCMS for 12 months prior to filing an application. Applications are available online at [www.missourilwml.org](http://www.missourilwml.org) and must be postmarked by April 15, 2024, to qualify for the 2024-2025 school year. For more information, contact Dawn Neil at [lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com](mailto:lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com) or call 5732489162.

**All women** of Holy Cross are invited to attend meetings of either or both Guilds. Join us as we “serve the Lord with gladness” by raising funds for missions at home and around the world.  
 Holy Cross has two LWML groups:  
**Holy Cross Ladies Guild: Fri., April 12, 10AM**  
**Grace Evening Guild: Tues., April 9, 6PM**

*Lutheran Women’s Missionary League*  
**Missouri District 28th Biennial Convention**  
**June 7-9, 2024**  
**Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center**  
 18011 Bass Pro Drive  
 Independence, Missouri 2024

The early registration rate for the Missouri District LWML convention ends April 30. Early/late registration fees include a Saturday boxed lunch and Saturday evening banquet.

Last day to book a hotel room at the convention site, Stoney Creek Hotel in Independence, is May 6.

Be sure to use **CODE LWML24** when you call the hotel at 816-908-9600. The room reservations open to the general public after that date.

There are many reasons to attend a convention; not the least of which is spending time in **worship** and **Bible study**.

But there are also some new things this year: You can participate in a mid-afternoon **Mission Walk**, join friends for **Friday Fun Fest**, plan to **Wake up in the Word** with Deb Burma or Pastor Benkendorf on Saturday from 6:45AM – 7:30AM, and enjoy a **Leadership Development Program** Saturday afternoon, just to name a few.



Don't delay!—register today!  
 Online registration can be found at [missourilwml.org](http://missourilwml.org)



**2022-2024 Missouri District Mission Grant Feature**



Liberian

**#12 – The WAY from Africa to Missouri – LUMA - \$18,400**



Congolese

The Lutheran Urban Mission Agency (LUMA) provides holistic care for refugees who desire Jesus and His provisions of daily bread, instruction, and grace through LCMS churches and individual members of those churches. These LWML mites would be used to provide assistance for the Congolese, Liberian, and Oromo refugees in Kansas City, Missouri, to purchase needed household goods and assistance for gas and repairs to vans in order to attend church services. Also, the Mites for this grant would provide financial assistance for leaders in these refugee groups to become LCMS pastors and instructors by paying tuition and travel costs and provide Bibles, Catechisms and other teaching materials.

**WE PRAY:**

Providing God, You told Your ancient people to care for the foreigner and sojourner in their midst, for they themselves were once an alien people in a foreign land (Deuteronomy 10:18–19). Lead us to show care and concern to the refugees and immigrants among us that they may be well supplied for life in a new homeland. May Your people of every nation see ourselves as pilgrims through this earthly life and citizens of heaven (Philippians 3:20). In the name of Jesus, who will one day return to gather us to our eternal home. Amen.

**LADIES GUILD QUILTERS** meet **9AM, Tues., April 16**, in the gym to piece and sew quilt tops. They have added an extra day to their quilting schedule to stay on track with creating the quilt tops they later will tie. Contact: Norma Helms or Christel Hundt

Do you have an interest in quilting for missions? Need a new hobby? These witty ladies bring spice to their labors of love! They bring a new meaning to the LWML motto: “Serve the Lord with gladness!” Join them! Bring a lunch!

This group is sponsored by Holy Cross Ladies Guild.





# 4 Family Life: How to have tough conversations with your kids.

April 14 12:30-2:00 pm  
Free Lunch and Childcare  
RSVPs due April 7



# 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.

April 28

2nd - 5th Grade

# PLAYTIME

ARCADE & BAR

Contact Person  
Jennifer Reed

DETAILS TBA

3 yr olds and potty trained to entering 5th grade

# SCUBA

diving into friendship with god

## VBS June 17-21

Family Dinner 5:30-6:30 pm  
VBS 6:30-8 pm

**Registration is open!**

Register by May 31 and get a FREE themed t-shirt

To register, volunteer or donate, visit [hcross.com/vbs](http://hcross.com/vbs)

## Holy Cross Lutheran Church Calendar of Events — April 2024

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
31	MARCH	1	APRIL	2		3		4		5		6	
<b>EASTER</b> 7AM Holy Communion 9AM Holy Communion 11AM Holy Communion		Church Office & Preschool Closed		<b>ELECTION DAY</b> <b>Preschool closed</b> <b>Preschool Teacher Mtg.</b> 12:30pm Staff Meetings 2pm Preschool Board 6pm Boards of Educ & Youth 6:30pm Evangelism Board		9AM/1pm Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 5:30pm Open Gym 6:00pm Beginning Bell Choir 6:00pm Children's Choir 6:15pm Midweek Prek—5th 6:30pm Confirmation, LYF 6:45pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Open Gym		8AM News & Notes <b>Deadline</b> 9AM HOPE Seeds 6:30pm 20sx30s		District Youth Gathering, April 5-7		10AM TO 2PM (GYM) —Quilting Fellowship 3pm Holy Communion	
8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion 1:30PM Board of Elders		9:30 AM TOPS 11:00AM Line Dancers 6PM Council Boards 7:30PM Council Meeting		9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meetings 6PM Grace Guild 6:30pm Adult Bible Class 6:30pm Handbells		6:30AM Men's Breakfast & Bible St. 9AM/1pm Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 5:30PM Open Gym 6:00PM Beginning Bell Choir 6:00PM Children's Choir 6:15pm Midweek Prek—5th 6:30pm Confirmation, LYF 6:45pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Open Gym		8AM News & Notes <b>Deadline</b> <u>Circuit Meetings</u> 6PM Preschool Open House 6:30PM 20sx30s		10AM Ladies Guild		9AM TO 4:30PM — Mental Health First Aid Training (Gym) with Mission Board 3PM Holy Communion	
8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion Noon 4 Family Life		<b>Koinonia Deadline</b> 9:30 AM TOPS 10:00AM Quilt Setup 11:00AM Line Dancers 6:30pm Handbells 6:30-8pm: LHS/LCEF Alignment (gym)		9:00AM Preschool Chapel 9:00AM Quilting (gym) 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meetings		9AM/1pm Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 5:30PM Open Gym 6:00pm Beginning Bell Choir 6:00PM Children's Choir 6:15pm Midweek Prek—5th 6:30pm Confirmation, LYF 6:45pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Open Gym		8AM News & Notes <b>Deadline</b> 6:30PM 20sx30s		<b>Koinonia Production</b>		SHINE Event—TBD 3PM Holy Communion 5PM Baptism (Rincaud)	
8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour +Midweek Teacher Training 10:45AM Holy Communion		<b>Koinonia Mailing</b> 9:30 AM TOPS 11:00AM Line Dancers 6:30PM Handbells		9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meetings 6PM Call Day Watch Party (Pavilion or gym) 6:30pm Adult Bible Class		9AM/1pm Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 5:30pm Open Gym 6:00pm Beginning Bell Choir 6:00PM Children's Choir 6:15pm Midweek Prek—5th 6:30pm Confirmation, LYF 6:45pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Open Gym		8AM News & Notes <b>Deadline</b> 10:30AM Preschool Dad's Day (gym) 6:30PM 20sx30s 6PM Preschool Open House		10:30AM & 2:30PM —Preschool Dads Day (gym) Stewardship Camping Event April 26 6pm to April 27 9pm.		Circuit Convocation —Time to be decided 3PM Holy Communion	
8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Field Worker Thank You & Send-off Reception 10:45AM Holy Communion + Preschool Sing's 1-3pm Playtime Party (Grades 2-5)		<b>Koinonia Mailing</b> 9:30 AM TOPS 11:00AM Line Dancers 6:30PM Handbells		9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meetings 6:30pm Adult Bible Class		9AM/1pm Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 5:30pm Open Gym 6:00pm Beginning Bell Choir 6:00PM Children's Choir 6:15pm Midweek Prek—5th 6:30pm Confirmation, LYF 6:45pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Open Gym		8AM News & Notes <b>Deadline</b> 9AM HOPE Seeds 6:30PM 20sx30s		Ladies Guild Flower Delivery		3PM Holy Communion + Ladies Guild Flower Pickup May 4-5	

# April Celebrations 2024

*The Lord will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9*

## Happy Birthday!

### God's Blessings in Your New Year!

- 1: Madeline Maull, Carl Wardenburg
- 2: Willa Gimbel, Ron Hunter, Heather Koepke, Beth Wuertz
- 5: Amanda Alton, John Bertram, Electra Day
- 6: Barb Krieger, Theodore Langley, Elizabeth Rasche, Aubrey Rheinecker
- 7: Chloe Benigno
- 9: Owen Gooding, Gregg Kreyling Jr., Ashleigh Wallace-Lacey
- 10: Marc Maull Jr., Terry McCann, Kelly Sumski
- 11: Bob Brueggeman, Jennifer Crider, Kathy Darst
- 13: Barbara Benigno
- 15: Ray Booth
- 16: Beckett Einsporn, Carolyn Delohi, Tonya Walkenhorst

## Baptism Anniversaries:

### May God Continue to Bless You

- 1: Gerri Beckmann, Bethany Claxton, Peggy Lancour, Idel McCullough, Mark Schnefke, Anna Stiffler, John Temple
- 3: Kayleigh Brown, Tricia Hogan, Florence Kempf, Lily Schoenike
- 4: Andrew Darst
- 5: Valorie Peters
- 6: Matthew Alton, Mike Dawdy, Carleen Hardy, Dee Paoletti, Bailey Schoenike, Carolyn Tichenor
- 7: Chris Marhanka
- 9: Meg Cissell
- 10: Phyllis Robinson
- 11: Keith Wachter
- 12: Baylee Albano, Jill Albano
- 15: Willa Gimbel, Cara Shouse
- 16: Lainey Alton, Grace Niemeyer, Ashleigh WallaceLacey
- 17: Paul Woelfer
- 18: Byron Alton
- 19: Amelia Hunter, Bryce Hunter
- 20: Tom Gallagher,
- 21: Darlene Bradley, Ashton Estill, Margie Green

- 17: Tristan Claxton
- 18: Diana Antal
- 19: Jim Redfield
- 20: Robert Aubertin, Kenneth Lee, Valerie Schnefke, Christy Witte
- 21: Mason Dillender, Luke Gaglio, Kathy Holt, Robyn Johnson, Callie Jones, Christine Mueller, Jackson Purtle, Jordyn Purtle
- 23: Alisha Ellis, Alexander Frerichs
- 24: Dennis Benassi, Jamie Estes, Andy Goodman, Jill Kirk, Kristin Sadler, Rachel Tichich
- 25: Tom Duncan, Tim McDaniel, Nick Sampl
- 26: Anna Gilson, Kathy Losch, Ernestine Wilson
- 27: Alyssa Crider, Kari Spearman
- 28: Brett Albano
- 29: Wesley Durmeier, Ede Emerick, Steven Macke, Tina Morrison
- 30: Ben Schnoor

22: Luciano Chinnici, Layla Hamlin

23: Julia Tichenor

24: Darlene Rhodes

25: Trudy Belter

27: Cindy Downs, Jaxson Showen

28: Jeff Coomer, Jill Kirk, Tim Laufer, Larry Williams

30: Charlie Feller

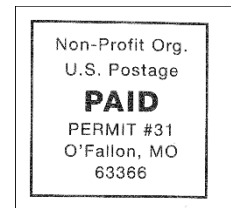
## Wedding Anniversaries:

### May God Bless Your Marriage

- 1: Jesse & Charity Smith (8)
- 7: David & Patty Ulrich (34)
- 8: Jennifer & Dalton Powers (7)  
Sandra & Richard Semler (57)
- 12: Nathan & Katie Temple (10)
- 26: Chris & Jayme Price (10)
- 27: Jerry & Darlene Bradley (56)
- 28: Bill & Joy Adams (45)  
Ron & Katherine Hunter (18)
- 29: Laura & Bryce Irvin (7)
- 29: Madalyn & Trystan Bartlett (1)

*Koinonia-Fellowship* Newsletter, a publication of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway, O'Fallon, MO 63366, is published monthly with information for its members. Deadline for the May 2024 issue is April 15, 2024. Email submissions to [secretary@hcross.com](mailto:secretary@hcross.com) **prior** to the deadline.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway  
O'Fallon, MO 63366  
Address Service Requested



April 2024



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

Put Address Label Here

## Holy Cross Lutheran Church: 1960 ~ 2024

### Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

8945 Veterans Memorial Pkwy  
O'Fallon, MO 63366  
(636) 272-4505  
www.hcross.com  
secretary@hcross.com

Rev. Andrew J. Gimbel  
Pastor

Charity Smith  
Director Christian Education

David Gilson  
Director of Music

Morgan Calcaterra  
Preschool Director

Joyce Niewald  
Church Secretary

### GROW YOUR FAITH THROUGH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Preschool** for 3s & 4s — Weekdays, varying hours. Call for details.
- Sunday School** for ages 3 through High School —Sundays, 9:30AM and **Little Lambs** (under 3s with a parent)
- Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class:** 9:30AM in the gym
- BASICS:** For those who want to join the Lutheran Church  
**TLC (Transfer for Lutherans Class)**  
*Call the office for next date.*
- Women's Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 10AM, Rms 1&2
- Adult Bible Class:** Tuesdays, March 12, March 26, 6:30PM, RMs 1&2
- Men's Breakfast & Bible Study:** April 10, 6:30AM, RMs 1&2
- Adult Bible Class:** Wednesdays at 9:30 AM, GYM
- Confirmation (grades 6-8); MidWeek Classes (grades PreK-5)**  
— *Wednesdays, see calendar*
- High School** *Wednesdays, see calendar*
- 20s & 30s Bible Study:** Thursdays, 6:30PM, Rm 1&2.