



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

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
8945 Veterans
Memorial Parkway
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636.272.4505

secretary@hcross.com
www.hcross.com

Rev. Andrew J. Gimbel
Rev. Jason P. Kohm
Pastoral Team

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



Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

News & Notes for February 22-23, 2025

WELCOME TO EVERYONE joining us for worship today.

WE PRAY for our members:

Bob Aubertin; **Gerri** Beckmann; **Karen** Belter; **Dennis** Benassi; **Marie** Benigno; **Paul** Bertram; **Mary Kay** Bethke; **George** Beyer; **Kacey** Booth; **Nancy** Caldwell; **Teegan** Cannon; **Doris** Coots; **Mike** Dawdy; **Shirley** Day; **Bob & Carolyn** Delohi; **Edna** Deubel; **Brenda** Duncan; **Renea** Erickson; **Rich** Franzer; **Janice** Fred; **Peggy** Gallagher; **Connie** Gamache; **Phyllis** Gronewald; **Marie & Vernon** Herrington; **Lizzie** Johansmann; **Ron** Kettler; **Deborah** Kiely; **Judith** Kirby; **Sandra** Kohrs; **Debra** Korte; **Jim** Kramer; **Bob** Kunz; **Joyce** Lang; **Betty** Lee; **Albert & Ingrid** Marhanka; **Terry** McCann; **Shirley** Niewald; **Donna** Nordmeyer; **Don** Otto; **Debbie** Parks; **Bill** Price; **Gloria** Rariden; **Zeita** Reed; **Eileen** Reichert; **Darlene** Rhodes; **Carol** Santoyo; **Vita** Sayers; **Winnie** Thornton; **Charles** Wardenburg; **Larry** Williams; **Ernestine** Wilson.

WE PRAY for our family and friends:

Jim (John Bertram)
Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
Norma Jean Cecil (Alice Buehne)
Mark Chiodini (Nicholas Chiodini)
Charles Claxton Jr. (Matthew Claxton)
Debbie Collier
Gorman Cooper (Tina Morrison)
Norma Cooper (Wendy Tentschert)
William Dafler (Wes Dafler)
John Darby (Rick Walkenhorst)
Teresa Doerr
Lowell Duncan (Don Duncan)
Sandra Fleak (Becky Edgar)
Jim Fowler (Lovisa Davison)
Louella Franke (Sarah Miget)
John Genola (Verna Tucker)
Penni Gronewald (Jayne Jepsen)
Peter Hernon (Elaine Alton)
Sharon Hesse (Barb Krieger)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
John Kieschnick (Peggy Kuerschner)
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Catherine Loney (Nicole Alton)
Sandy Longo (Randy Jones)
Lisa Markel (Grace Randazzo)
Malu Martin (Dawn Kahler)
Kenny & Lois Meyer
(Carla Cooper, Karen Copper)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Ginny Niewald (Niewalds)
Paul Palombi (Diane Palombi)
Vera Piazza (Robert & Sherry Piazza)
Cindy Preston (Maryanne McDaniel)
Roy Price (Chris Price)
Drew Quinn (Terry Hardy)
Loyce Sagez (Randy & Denise Sagez)
Sherrill Schlimpert (Loretta Ezell)
Blake Schmalzer (Rebecca Schmalzer)
Ray Schmitt (Ron Doerr)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)

Christine Scott (Dianne Helvey)
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)
Stanika Todorova (Paul & Juliana Frerichs)
Rita Unzer (Karl Schnoor)
Mike Vanover (Jayne Jepsen)
Frank Wachter (Elaine Howard)
Lance Watkins (Jesse Smith)
Bobette Wetzel (Faith Blackwell)
Sandy Wischmeyer (Marilyn Mana)
John Allquist III, **Duane** Stuewe (Janet Allquist)
Carson Aston, **Chlaara** Aston,
Sharon Staten (Lisa Aston)
Joanne Bonney, **Shirley** Moore
~ (Greg & Judy Bonney)
Eddie Collier, **Bruce** Brown, **Rush**
Brown ~ Denise Collier
Maureen King, **Ryan** Wells (Kathleen Day)
Lois Jobe, **Ron** Kasten (Jan Flentke)
Laura & Mark Gilson (David Gilson)
Tim Deppe, **Rich** Waiwood
~ (Kent & Janine Haffer)
Alicia Kleb, **Marian** Schwentker; **Andy**
& **Alicia** Kincaid; **Cindy** Kincaid
(Michelle Kincaid)
George & Sandra Roberts
~ (Elma Jane Kramer)
John Bach, **Rachel** Long (Betty Lee)
Pat & Edna McCarty (Orion Melton)
Tim Colvert; **Michelle** Showe
~ (Neil & Cynthia Menscher)
Brian Rubar, **Chase** Russell, **Carol** Sills
(Barb Parson)
Pat Gunn, **Susan** Risinger
~ (Gloria Rariden)
Amy Mueller, **Lary** Schenk (Carol Santoyo)
Charlotte Gaines, **Nisseem**, **Daniel**,
Dr. **Eric** Semler; Rev. **Richard** Nelson
(Sandra Semler)
Wilma Prifts, **John** Halverson
~ (Patrick Szopinski)
Katie & Dan Bohle (Susan Williams)

Holy Cross Weekly Calendar

Saturday, February 22, 2025

3PM Holy Communion
6PM LYF: Traditional Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, February 23, 2025

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL DAY
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion
Noon: Preschool Open House

Monday, February 24, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9:30AM TOPS (Rm 1&2)
9:30AM-9:50AM Preschool Gym time
11AM Line Dancing (Gym)
1:30PM-1:50PM Preschool Gym Time
6:30PM Handbells

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM Quilting
9AM Preschool Chapel
9:10-9:30AM Preschool Gym Time
10AM Women's Bible Study
12:30PM Staff Meetings
6:30PM Adult Bible Class (Rm 1&2)
6:30PM Altar Guild Meeting (gym)-rescheduled

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM/1PM Preschool Chapel
9:30AM Adult Bible Class
11-11:20PM Preschool Gym Time
1:30-1:50PM Preschool Gym Time
6PM Beginner Bell Choir
6PM Children's Choir
6:30PM Midweek
6:30PM Confirmation
6:30PM LYF
6:45PM Adult Choir

Thursday, February 27, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
8AM News& Notes Deadline
9:10-9:30AM Preschool Gym Time
6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class

Friday, February 28, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9:30AM-9:50AM Preschool Gym Time
10AM LWML St. Charles Zone Board (gym)
~~ RESCHEDULED
1:30PM—1:50PM Preschool Gym Time

Saturday, March 1, 2025

Transfiguration
~ Ladies Guild Flower Sale Begins
3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Transfiguration
~ Ladies Guild Flower Sale Begins
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion
1:30PM Board of Elders

Church Attendance for Feb. 15-16, 2025

Service	Attendance	Communion
SAT., 3PM	63	57
SUN., 8AM	89	69
SUN., 10:45AM	85	68
TOTAL	237	194

Bible Class Attendance Week of Feb. 16, 2025

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	2
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	17
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	13
Sunday Adult Bible Class	45
TLC/BASICS	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	C
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	NA
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM	13
Wednesday Nights	30
20s&30s Thursday	NR

Weekly Offerings: February 10-16, 2025

General Fund	\$	8,147.29
Endowment	\$	0.00
Building Fund	\$	50.00
Missions Weekly	\$	318.00
Missions Total 2025	\$	2,501.27

Year to Date as of 11/30/2024

Income	\$	679,220.38
Expenses	\$	669,277.13
Surplus	\$	9,943.25

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES
Weekly Totals: February 20, 2025
Families: 22
Individuals: 68

Prayer List for Active Military:
Dominic Bisesi, Andrew Chema;
Timothy Daniels, Josh Linn,
Justin Quinn, Joshua Rainwater,
Jackson Redfield, Jesse Smith,
and Matthew Thornton.

HOPE Ministries requests these items for February: Peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, soup, oatmeal, toilet paper. Place items in the box under the Mission Board display in the Welcome Center. No expired goods can be accepted.

MISSION BOARD

The Board provides **fresh fruits and vegetables** to the **Seminary**. Write your check to Holy Cross with a memo line for *Mission Board Fresh Foods to the Seminary*. **HOPE Ministries food bank donations** are accepted in the bin **beneath the Mission Board bulletin board**.

HOLY CROSS LADIES GUILD

The Guild collects packaged and canned **food** and all types of **soap** for the Concordia Seminary Food Bank. Bins are under or on LWML table.

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

STAMP COLLECTION: Ladies Guild collects canceled postage stamps to raise money for missions. Cut stamps from envelopes with about half an inch of paper left all around. Collection baskets are on the Welcome Center bookshelf and on the shelf above the coatrack by the downstairs kitchen.

PAUSE ON PILL BOTTLE COLLECTION:

The response has been GREAT! However, we must put a **pause on collecting** these items until later this year. Keep cleaning and delabeling bottles! Thanks for recycling!

PORTALS OF PRAYER for January-March 2025 & **The Lutheran Witness (January 2025)** are available on the Welcome Center table.

TODAY'S SERVICE: We welcome Rev. Ron Millard of Lutheran High School St. Charles County as our preacher. On Sunday in the 10:45 service the LHS Choir directed by Brian Scheller will participate in the service with choral selections. Please welcome them!

ALTAR FLOWERS are placed to the glory of God by Barb & Roger Grosch who will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on Feb. 27.

LENT begins Ash Wednesday, March 5. We are looking for six groups **who will serve Lenten dinners** before the 7PM services. Three groups have signed up: Ladies Guild, March 5; Grace Guild, March 12; Missions/Stewardship, March 19. **Open dates are: March 26, April 2, and April 9.** Contact the church office at secretary@hcross.com to book your group's date to serve.



The Holy Cross Ladies Guild will hold its annual **PLANT AND FLOWER SALE** again this year! It's cold now, but planting season will be here before you know it! **Orders** will be taken during **the first three weekends in March** and **delivery will be the first weekend in May.**

THE MISSIONS AND STEWARDSHIP BOARDS will work as a team this year with common goals and objectives. **ENDURE**, the theme this year, aligns with the Youth and Education Boards, and the National Youth Gathering. We encourage you to read the February *Koinonia* article for our plans. Currently, we are collecting **MOTQ donations** to **support the Pacific Southwest District and wildfire relief.** Several churches are in the path, and many families have been affected. To learn more, visit the district website, <https://www.psd-lcms.org/disaster-response>. You will also find blank cards on the missions table in the Welcome Center where you can write encouraging notes and prayers for these families and we will mail them for you. Please return the completed cards to the box on the table.

For February, we will sponsor the St. Louis Crisis Nursery by **collecting purses/handbags** for moms in need. Please drop off any new or gently used purses/handbags in the labeled blue bin under the Mission table. This is a quick turnaround: all bags need to be in the blue bin **by 2/26/25** for delivery on time.

2024 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS were emailed between Jan. 21—Jan. 24, 2025, to individual members or the Heads of Household. Paper contribution statements or those without an email address were mailed Jan. 30, 2025. **If you have any questions, please reach out to Brenda Marhanka (bookkeeper@hcross.com) or Darlene Drilling, (treasurer@hcross.com).**

Immanuel Lutheran-Olivetette will hold its annual **Sausage Dinner on Sun., March 2**, from 11AM to 3PM. Menu: pork sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, applesauce, and dessert. Adults \$16. Children 6-12, \$8. Children 5 & under: FREE. All carry-outs \$16. For more info: (314) 993-2394

ALSO: Shop at the **Spring Bazaar** featuring many hand-made, unique items!

ELDERS AND CONGREGANT COMMUNICATION

One of the Elders' responsibilities is to address any questions or concerns from the congregants of Holy Cross. Please feel free to contact any Elder displayed in the Welcome Center if you have questions or concerns regarding services, policies, procedures, personal issues, or other issues. You may also contact either Pastor if you don't feel comfortable discussing something with an Elder. The Elders will keep personal issues confidential unless you state otherwise.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
BAPTISM
OF
HANNAH COTNER
SATURDAY MARCH 8TH
3:00 PM
CAKE AND PUNCH RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
8945 VETERANS MEMORIAL PKWY
O'FALLON, MO

STUDY GRANTS AVAILABLE: Attention High School Seniors and College Students planning a career in Church work: The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Missouri District, has study grants available for the 2025-2026 school year. Men and women enrolled in a University or Seminary of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod preparing for full-time professional church work or as a colloquy student may apply. Applicants must be a member of a congregation located in the Missouri District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or of an English and SELC District congregation active in the LWML located in Missouri for 12 months before applying. The Study Grant program is unique as recipients are chosen according to financial need and commitment to Christian service. Applications and instructions may be downloaded from the Missouri District website at www.missourilwml.org (under forms) or from the CWSG chairman at lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com. Completed applications must be received by mail or electronically by APRIL 15, 2025. Incomplete applications will not be considered. No application will be considered if not complete.

Holy Cross Lutheran Preschool

OPEN HOUSE!

FEBRUARY 23rd at NOON!

Come do crafts, jump in our bounce house, and see our school! Registration for 2025-2026 is open and will be available at the open house. The event is open to any and all children, but to enroll in our school, the child must be age 3 or age 4 by July 31st, 2025.

MO District Youth Gathering

6th-12th Graders
April 4-6 \$60 per youth
Cross Point Retreat Center
Rocky Mount, MO
Registration Due March 2

Lutheran Education Tuition Assistance

Holy Cross Lutheran Church supports families who desire a Lutheran Education. Students who, along with parent(s) or legal guardian(s), are members of Holy Cross are eligible for Tuition assistance. Students must be enrolled in grades K-12 at an LCMS Lutheran school in St. Charles County or in a Concordia University System (LCMS) higher education institution.

Applications are in the Welcome Center and must be turned in by March 31.

Grow + Serve in Christ



Lutheran High School began in 1982 with only 17 students in two classrooms in a trailer, housed on the grounds of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in O'Fallon. Enrollment grew, and the school moved several times before building its current facilities on Mexico Road in 1989.

More classrooms and spaces have been added to maintain an exceptional learning environment where students "Grow and Serve in Christ." The 2017 Reach Up, Reach In, Reach Out Capital Campaign funded a new chemistry lab, a STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering & Math – classroom, a music room, 3 new general-use classrooms, a library/media center, a lecture hall, and a new gym.

Now, it's time to finish what we started: With new major fundraising efforts, we will renovate nine additional classrooms and science labs, which have not been updated since the building was built. By investing in these renovations, we will create classrooms that reflect the excellence of our Christ-centered education while meeting the evolving needs of our students and teachers.

As part of that commitment, we seek to enhance the Commons, a space transformed from a gym to a multi-purpose area during the 2018 Reach Campaign. While it continues to serve many needs, recent feedback has highlighted the importance of further renovations to create a more inviting environment for worship, performances, and gatherings. Planned upgrades – including increased stage space and improved lighting, sound, and operational enhancements – will enrich daily chapel service services, allowing students to grow spiritually in a space designed for worship and reflection. These improvements will support community events as well as student performances in theatre and music, ensuring the Commons becomes a vibrant hub where faith and fellowship thrive.

Through this renovation, we remain dedicated to equipping students to live out their faith and serve others in Christ's name. We deeply value your support, and while we are not asking for campaign contributions at this time, detailed information will be sent to each household during March and April.

Lutheran High School Trivia Night: Mark your calendars for an evening of fun and friendly competition on **Fri., Feb. 28** at the LHS campus. Gather your team of 8, test your knowledge, and enjoy a night filled with laughter, great questions, and community spirit. This year's theme *By the Numbers: Jerseys, Records, and GOATS* will revolve around a wide variety of popular culture. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/lhstrivia2025> for more details and to register your team.

Pink Out Week: Catch the Boys Basketball games Tues., Feb. 25, and the Girls Basketball games on **Wed., Feb. 26**. Enjoy performances by the Cheerleaders and Sapphires, grab delicious food from special vendors, and get in on the pink pom giveaways, t-shirt, and sock sales!

Walther League 2.0 Bible Study next meets on **Wed., March 19**. Fellowship begins at 8AM, Bible Study at 8:30AM in the Library. Rev. Ron Millard will be guiding a study on

Revelation. Stay for chapel. Bring your Bible!

Bowling for a Cause: Support the LHS Baseball Team at the fundraiser on **March 1** at Plaza Lanes Bowling Center! Form a team of 5 for just \$100 per team, which includes two games and shoe rental. It's a great way to have fun while supporting our players! Don't miss out—gather your squad and help us knock down some pins for a good cause. For more information, contact Andy Calleros at 636-544-6442. See you on the lanes!