



*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



The Second Sunday in Lent

News & Notes for March 15-16 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; **Electra** Day; **Logan** Day; **Shirley** Day; **Bob & Carolyn** Delohi; **Edna** Deubel; **Brenda** Duncan; **Renea** Erickson; **Rich** Franzer; **Janice** Fred; **Peggy** Gallagher; **Connie** Gamache; **Karen** Heckman; **Marie** Herrington; **Lizzie** Johansmann; **Mike** Kahler; **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)
Luella Franke (Sarah Miget)
John Genola (Verna Tucker)
Peter Hernon (Elaine Alton)
Sharon Hesse (Barb Krieger)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
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)
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)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Christine Scott (Dianne Helvey)

Michelle Showe (Cynthia Menscher)
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)
Virginia and **Mike** Niewald (Niewalds)
Pat & Edna McCarty (Orion Melton)
Brian Rubar, **Chase** Russell, **Carol** Sills
(Barb Parson)
Amy Mueller, **Larry** Schenk (Carol Santoyo)
Charlotte Gaines, **Nisseem**, **Daniel**,
Dr. **Eric** Semler; **Larry** Kremer (Sandra
Semler)
Wilma Prifts, **John** Halverson
~ (Patrick Szopinski)
Katie & Dan Bohle (Susan Williams)

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

Holy Cross Weekly Calendar

Saturday, March 15, 2025

Ladies Guild Flower Sale —Last Weekend to Order!
3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Ladies Guild Flower Sale —Last Weekend to Order!
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
+ Midweek Teacher Training
10:45AM Holy Communion

Monday, March 17, 2025

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

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM Quilting
9AM Preschool Chapel
9:10-9:30AM Preschool Gym Time
10AM Women's Bible Study
5:30PM Preschool Board
6:30PM Boards of Education & Youth

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM Preschool Chapel
9:30AM Adult Bible Class
11AM Lenten Service
11-11:20AM Preschool Gym Time
1:30-1:50PM Preschool Gym Time
5:30PM Lenten Dinner: Missions/Stewardship
6PM Spaghetti Dinner Review (Rms 1&2)
6:15PM Confirmation, Children' Choir
7PM Lenten Service

Thursday, March 20, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
8AM News& Notes Deadline
10AM VBS Meeting
4:30PM Charity's event (gym)
6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class

Friday, March 21, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9:30AM-9:50AM Preschool Gym Time
1:30PM—1:50PM Preschool Gym Time
Noon to 1pm: Alleluia Baskets (Offsite)
6PM CWST Gym Setup for Saturday Workshop

Saturday, March 22, 2025

LWML St. Charles Zone Spring Rally
at Zion, Harvester
8AM CWST Workshop
3PM Holy Communion
+ Preschool Butter Braids Fundraiser Begins

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Preschool Butter Braids Fundraiser Begins
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES
Weekly Totals: March 12, 2025
Families: 67
Individuals: 225

Church Attendance for March 8-9, 2025

Service	Attendance	Communion
SAT., 3PM	84	78
SUN., 8AM	78	62
SUN., 10:45AM	96	80
TOTAL	258	220

Ash Wednesday	Attendance	Communion
March 5, 11AM	49	46
March 5, 7PM	128	93
TOTAL	177	139

Midweek Lent I	Attendance	Communion
March 12, 11AM	36	—
March 12, 7PM	85	—
TOTAL	121	

Bible Class Attendance Week of March 9, 2025

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	2
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	12
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	9
Sunday Adult Bible Class	50
Tuesday Women's 10AM	14
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	5
Men's Breakfast & Bible	11
Wednesday AM Bible Class	33
Wednesday Nights	25
20s&30s Thursday	10

Offerings: February 24-March 2, 2025

General Fund	\$	23,519.62
Endowment	\$	45.00
Building Fund	\$	787.60
Missions Weekly	\$	1,080.00
Missions 2025	\$	3,756.29

Year to Date as of 12/31/2024

Income	\$	772,625.46
Expenses	\$	758,503.72
Surplus	\$	14,121.74

Year to Date as of 01/31/2025

Income	\$	61,442.00
Expenses	\$	64,795.20
Deficit	\$	(3,353.20)

HOPE Ministries requests these items: 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.
Expired goods are not 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 April-June 2025 & **The Lutheran Witness** are available on the Welcome Center table.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS will be presented by Pastor Gimbel. The topic is "Lenten Art: Upper Room."

LAST WEEKEND: THE HOLY CROSS LADIES GUILD FLOWER AND PLANT SALE continues until this Sunday, March 16. Beautiful varieties of plants and flowers are available from Parkview Gardens. Please visit the sales table in the Welcome Center before or after services. Items must be paid for when ordered and will be delivered the first weekend in May. Proceeds will be donated to the St. Louis Crisis Nursery.

NEXT WEEKEND: Preschool starts its annual Butter Braids fundraiser where coffee cakes, cookies, pizzas, and other goodies are featured. Look for the order forms next week in the Welcome Center.

LENTEN SERVICES are scheduled at 11AM and 7PM each Wednesday in Lent.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE: Additional copies of the 2023 pictorial directory have been printed and are available in the Welcome Center by the registration desk. A \$5 donation is suggested to cover printing. Get to know your family members at Holy Cross.

ALLELUIA BASKETS: Packing Easter baskets will be on **March 21 from Noon to 1PM** at 1016 Rock Creek Elementary Dr. O'Fallon, MO 63366 (Lower Level, First Brick Building on the Right.) If you would like to **join** us, please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Center. If you would like to **contribute items** to fill the baskets, they are currently in need of: socks for teen boys, large print puzzle books and flashlights or night lights for seniors, and deodorant for teens. A tub for these items will be placed in the Welcome Center. Please have them in by Sun., March 23. If you have any questions call Darlene Drilling 636-293-2353. Questions: alleluiabaskets.org

ELDERS AND CONGREGANT COMMUNICATION

One of the Elders' responsibilities is to address questions or concerns from the congregants of Holy Cross. Please 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. Personal issues will be kept confidential.

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).**

APRIL KOINONIA DEADLINE MARCH 15, 2025

Please submit articles, pictures, calendar items for April by Monday, March 17.

GARDENING PLOTS: The Community Garden at Holy Cross will operate this summer with 24 plots, each 10 feet by 12 feet. Compost was applied last fall, and the soil will be tilled for planting. Plant, water, weed, and harvest the plants of your choice. Holy Cross members pay \$20 for the season and community members garden free. If you want to reserve a plot, contact David Schlesselman at daschlesselman@gmail.com or 636-578-1766.

COMMUNITY "EMPTY" EASTER EGG HUNT: Mark your calendars and invite your friends to a community Easter Egg hunt on Sat., April 12, at 11AM in our backfield. It is open to children ages 1 to 10 but will be divided into age groups for hunting. Kids come for candy which they will get in some eggs. The goal, however, is to find the "empty" eggs (the empty tomb) which wins them a book about Jesus. Pick up a card in the Welcome Center with all the details and share it with children who may need to learn more about Jesus.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO STUFF PLASTIC EGGS:

We will prepare 1,500 eggs for our Community "Empty" Easter Egg Hunt so many hands will make light work. Our stuffing night will be Wed., March 26 from 5:00 to 6:45PM. You can work for 15 minutes or an hour or more. You can stuff before or after you eat dinner here at Holy Cross. We will conclude in time for you to get to evening worship. We have candies, goodies, and Christian stickers to stuff in the plastic eggs. All members 11 to 99 can help with this project. We will be set up in Room 1 & 2. Thanks in advance for your help.

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS: 13 productive units on a goal of 15—Every unit makes a difference, and we are so grateful for your support in helping save lives.

From STEWARDSHIP: Join us in **Mission Clean Stream** in Cottleville, MO on **April 5, 2025**. Typically, this event lasts 2 hours in the morning. We will start at 9AM and pick up trash until 11AM or until we clean up our assigned area, whichever happens first. We will meet in our assigned area, and donuts will be provided for breakfast! More information will be provided once Cottleville releases its group assignments. Sign up on the Welcome Center table, using the QR code, or on the church website Events page.



Immanuel Lutheran Wentzville IS HIRING

JOB POSITIONS

- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- HUMAN RESOURCE PROFESSIONAL
- RECEPTIONIST

CONTACT THE
CHURCH OFFICE
IF INTERESTED
636-327-4416
church@ilcsw.net

MISSIONS AND STEWARDSHIP BOARDS:

MOTQ donations will 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.



2025
New Melle Community
Passion Play

New Melle Sports and Recreation
4700 Hwy Z New Melle, MO 63365

Saturday April 5
7:00 PM

Sunday April 6
2:00 PM & 4:30 PM

Saturday April 12
7:00 PM

Sunday April 13
2:00 PM & 4:30 PM

Admission Free

Seating is on First-come
First-seated basis

For groups or
more information

Call 636-384-0576
Or Email
nmpassion@gmail.com

Check us out:
Facebook us at:
New Melle Community
Passion Play



LENTEN MEALS

Served from 5:30 to 6:45PM in the gym

March 12, 2025

Dinner Host: Grace Evening Guild
Menu: Casseroles, Bread sticks, Salads,
Desserts

March 19, 2025

Dinner Host: Mission/Stewardship
Boards
Menu: Sloppy Joes

March 26, 2025

Dinner Host: 20s&30s Bible Study
Menu: Soups, Fixings, Desserts

April 2, 2025

Dinner Host: Council

Lent 6—April 19, 2025

Dinner Host: Board of Elders
Menu: Pancakes & Sausages

LHS NEWS:

Tickets are available for *Mary Poppins!* Performances will be April 3-5, starting at 7PM! Visit <http://lutheranstcharlestheatre.ludus.com> to purchase tickets. If you want to pay with cash, tickets will be available at the door! Plenty of reserved seating is available in the first 3 rows for each performance.

Help wanted: Student Services is excited to host Mental Health Matters Day on Fri., March 28, from 12:30 -2:30 and we need your support! This event provides students with valuable

strategies, therapies, and resources to enhance their mental well-being. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make this day a success. If you're interested and available, please apply using the following link: <https://forms.gle/4KDJcDkURayjunt28>

Summer Camp 2025: Check out the full camp schedule on the LHS website and start planning the summer: <https://lutheranhighstcharles.com/athletics/summer-camps/> Registration will be open soon, so check for details!

CONCORDIA SEMINARY RETREAT: Interested in a distinctively Lutheran retreat that offers an introduction to life as a seminarian, time to spend in God's Word, and the opportunity to learn from some of the brightest theologians in the church? Concordia Seminary, St. Louis invites you to attend *Vocatio: Retreat* — a three-day retreat (April 6-8, 2025) geared toward college students and second-career men and women who are considering serving as a pastor, deaconess, missionary, or chaplain. Visit csl.edu/vocatio-retreat. Registration closes on March 21.

STUDY GRANTS AVAILABLE: To 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 LWML 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. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

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.



41ST BIENNIAL CONVENTION
Omaha, Nebraska
June 26-29, 2025

Online registration for the 2025 LWML Convention opens March 1!