



*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, 5PM,

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 Fifth Sunday of Easter

News & Notes for May 17-18, 2025

WELCOME TO EVERYONE joining us for worship today.

WE PRAY for our members:

Judy Andrews; **Bob** Aubertin; **Cindy** Aubertin; **Gerri** Beckmann; **Dennis** Benassi; **Marie** Benigno; **Paul** Bertram; **Mary Kay** Bethke; **George** Beyer; **Kacey** Booth; **Nancy** Caldwell; **Teegan** Cannon; **Mike** Dawdy; **Electra** Day; **Logan** Day; **Shirley** Day; **Bob & Carolyn** Delohi; **Edna** Deubel; **Brenda** Duncan; **Renea** Erickson; **Rich** Franzer; **Janice** Fred; **Sandie** Fussner; **Peggy** Gallagher; **Connie** Gamache; **Don** Grzina; **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; **Bill** Price; **Gloria** Rariden; **Zeita** Reed; **Eileen** Reichert; **Darlene** Rhodes; **Carol** Santoyo; **Vita** Sayers; **Winnie** Thornton; **Charles** Wardenburg; **Larry** Williams; **Ernestine** Wilson; **Paul** Woelfer.

WE PRAY for our family and friends:

Jim (John Bertram)
Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
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
Sandra Fleak (Becky Edgar)
Luella Franke (Sarah Miget)
Peter Hernon (Elaine Alton)
Sharon Hesse (Barb Krieger)
Joan Hicks (Karen Steinbruegge)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Catherine Loney (Nicole Alton)
Sandy Longo (Randy Jones)
Amy Loyd (Millie Bisesi)
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 Schlumpert (Loretta Ezell)
Blake Schmalzer (Rebecca Schmalzer)
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
Robert Ottinger, **Brian** Ottinger, **Scott**
Ottinger ~ (Carla Cooper)
Maureen King, **Ryan** Wells (Kathleen Day)
Janet Davidson, **Lowell** Duncan
~ (Don Duncan)
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; (Michelle Kincaid)
George & Sandra Roberts
~ (Elma Jane Kramer)
John Bach, **Rachel** Long (Betty Lee)
Pat & Edna McCarty (Orion Melton)
Virginia and **Mike** Niewald (Niewalds)
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)
Wayne Edwards, **AJ** (Kari Spearman)
Lon Prifti, **Wilma** Prifti, **Kit** Kramer,
John Halverson, staff & volunteers at
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
~ (Patrick Szopinski)

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, May 17, 2025

LYF FLOCKING
OUTBACK CAMPING EVENT
5PM Holy Communion
+ Grace Guild collection of personal care items
+ Graduation Recognition

Sunday, May 18, 2025

+ Grace Guild collection of personal care items
+ Graduation Recognition
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
9:30AM BASICS (Rm 1&2)
10:45AM Holy Communion
LYF Flocking

Monday, May 19, 2025

9:30AM TOPS
9:30AM/1:30PM Preschool Gym Time
11AM Line Dancing

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM Preschool Chapel
9:10-9:30AM Preschool Gym
10AM Women's Bible Study
12:30PM Staff Meeting
6:30PM Boards of Education & Youth
6PM Preschool Parent-Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM Preschool Chapel
9:30AM Adult Bible Study
11AM & 1:30PM Preschool Gym Time
6:45PM Summer Youth Night

Thursday, May 22, 2025

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

Friday, May 23, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
LAST DAY OF PRESCHOOL
KOINONIA MAILING
9:30AM & 1:30PM Preschool Gym Time
LYF Flocking

Saturday, May 24, 2025

LYF FLOCKING
5PM Holy Communion
+ Grace Guild collection of personal care items

Sunday, May 25, 2025

+ Grace Guild collection of personal care items
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion
LYF Flocking

Monday, May 26, 2025

MEMORIAL DAY
Church Office & Preschool Closed

Church Attendance for May 10-11, 2025

Service	Attendance	Communion
7AM	62	59
9AM	128	107
11AM	117	85
TOTAL	307	251

Bible Class Attendance Week of May 11, 2025

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	1
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	13
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	7
Sunday Adult Bible Class	53
BASICS	8
Tuesday Women's 10AM	8
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	6
Men's Breakfast & Bible	16
Wednesday AM Bible Class	nr
Wednesday Nights	nr
20s&30s Thursday	

Offerings: May 5-x, 2025

General Fund	\$ 22,123.61
Endowment	\$ 793.02
Building Fund	\$ 140.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 57.25
Missions 2025	\$ 10,063.08

Year to Date as of 03/31/2025

Income	\$ 198,896.09
Expenses	\$ 187,094.90
Surplus	\$ 11,801.19

HOPE Ministries requests these items for MAY: Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Pasta Roni, Pasta Sauce, Spaghetti noodles or pasta noodles, gravy mix packets. Place items in the box under the Mission Board display in the Welcome Center. **No expired goods.**

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 LWML table. Seminary students attend year-round, so **food items are still needed during the summer. Fill those bins!**

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 above the coatrack by the kitchen.

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**.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for April-June 2025 and a new **The Lutheran Witness** are available on the Welcome Center table.

ELDERS AND CONGREGANT COMMUNICATION

Please contact any Elder whose picture is displayed in the Welcome Center if you have questions or concerns regarding services, policies, procedures, personal or other issues. You may also contact either Pastor. Personal issues will be kept confidential.

Hearing Assistance Now Available: Those with hearing aids can now download and use a smartphone or tablet app which broadcasts the service to your hearing aids (Bluetooth connection required). Instructions for its use are provided in the Welcome Center.

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES: Weekly Totals: May 14, 2025
Families: 68 Individuals: 231

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

Today we recognize those who have graduated from high school, college or postgraduate programs. If you did not send in a bio or picture, you are still welcome to come up for the blessing during the service. Your Holy Cross Family congratulates you on your achievement and success!

BASICS OF THE LUTHERAN FAITH: Pastors will offer a 4-week class on the basics of our Lutheran faith on Sunday mornings during the Bible Class hour from **9:30 to 10:30AM. May 18 is the final class.** This class is open to anyone wanting to learn about our Lutheran beliefs and is a great place to bring a curious friend. The class will be held in Room 1&2.

ASCENSION DAY Join us at Holy Cross on **Thursday, May 29 at 7PM** for a service celebrating the Ascension of Our Lord. The service will begin with an Easter Hymn Sing and include Holy Communion.

THANK YOU ALL for your generous donations to Grace Guild for our Hearts of Rose Sale. Proceeds of \$736 will go to LWML Mites. Blessings from God!

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. You plant, water, weed, and harvest the plants of your choice. Holy Cross members pay \$20 for the season, and community members garden for free. To reserve a plot, contact David Schlesselman at 636-578-1766 or daschlesselman@gmail.com.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES: 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.

TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING?! The Holy Cross Ladies Guild Rummage Sale will be **held Sat., Aug. 9.** Consider saving items to donate to the Rummage Sale with proceeds to Youth in Need. **Broken items, electronics, or clothing will *not* be accepted.**

MOTQ is supporting Phil's Friends, an organization "providing Christ-centered support and hope to those affected by cancer." Their mission is to send care packages, free of charge, to your friends, family, and neighbors who are fighting cancer. If you would like to request a care package sent to a loved one battling this disease, you can do so here <https://philsfriends.org/request-a-care-package/>. MOTQ donations from our congregation members will be used to purchase care package items to send to the headquarters in Illinois for packing. For more information, check out the Phil's Friends website at <https://philsfriends.org/>

FELLOWSHIP QUILTING will take a break this summer to allow them time to determine how to proceed this fall.

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY, SUNDAY MAY 18:

All voting members are urged to attend in order to vote on items. A meal will be served prior to the meeting at noon (or after second service is over). Agenda items include 2024 Financial reports, Bylaw Committee Update, and Council Board Reports. Find out what is happening at Holy Cross!

If you are unable to attend, contact Council Secretary Barb Grosch at councilsecretary@hcross.com or 314.368.8142 by Fri., May 16 for an excused absence. Three unexcused absences might impact your membership in the Assembly. Attendance is recorded by signature.

If you are a new member of Holy Cross or have decided to get more involved with your congregation, you may obtain membership in the Voters' Assembly by attending this meeting, signing in as a guest, and telling the council secretary or elder that you wish to join the Voters' Assembly. Your name will be announced to the Assembly at the end of the meeting, a vote will be taken, and you will sign the Constitution after the meeting and get a copy of it. You will then be eligible to vote in future meetings.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS DRIVE FOR SEMINARY:

Grace Guild is celebrating the parents of Concordia Seminary. Between Mother's Day, May 11, and Father's Day, June 15, personal care items for men and women and items needed for young families will be collected. A **complete list of items** will be in the April/May *Koinonia* and **in the pack-n-play in the Welcome Center.** The list includes toothbrushes, deodorant, feminine products, face wash, body wash, shampoo/conditioner, razors, shaving cream, lotions, fruit or vegetable juice boxes or 64-oz bottles. A pack-n-play will be set up in the Welcome Center to collect items. Usually, Grace Guild sponsors a diaper drive during this period; however, God has provided the Seminary with a monthly donation of diapers by another congregation. A box will be included for your cards and messages of encouragement for the parents.

The LCMS has designated the month of June to celebrate the work of **Directors of Christian Education** within all congregations.

On Sun., June 8, Holy Cross will celebrate the work of our **DCE**, Charity Smith! During the Bible Study hour, we will show our appreciation for Charity's leadership with LYF, Sunday School, Educational Programs, VBS, Family Ministry, and Children's Messages during worship services. Please join us as we celebrate Charity's work among us with 'Sweet Thanks'. Delicious donuts will be provided with milk, coffee, and tea. This special recognition will begin at 9:30AM in the gym!

A mailbox will be located on the Welcome Center table during the *entire* month of June. How wonderful it would be if every family could write a note of thanks to Charity and place it inside the mailbox.

SAVE THE DATE! ~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
65TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 13 AND 14, 2025
DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

EVERY WEEKEND IN MAY

FLAMINGO FLOCKING FUNDRAISER

Sponsored by
Holy Cross Youth

SIGN UP TO SEND OR
DELIVER A FLOCK OF LOVE
AT HCROSS.COM/YOUTH

\$50 for 50 birds
or
\$25 for 25 birds
\$100 for Insurance

Proceeds benefit

DAKOTA BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH



6th -12th Grade


LOG IN

June 6-7
7:30 PM - 7:30 AM

Bring \$5 and Friend

GIRLS BRING DRINKS
BOYS BRING SNACKS

RSVP by May 31 with QR
Code or at
hcross.com/youth



BRANSON TRIP
Immanuel Wentzville is sponsoring a bus trip to Branson on Sept. 24-25, 2025, to see "David" at the Sight & Sound Theatre and some other attractions. Call Darlene Whited at 636.327.8551 if you want to sign up for the trip. Brochures describing the trip can be found on the Welcome Center table.

The brochure does not mention which Immanuel is sponsoring this trip, which has caused some confusion. **Immanuel Wentzville is the sponsor and the bus will be leaving from its parking lot.** Immanuel St. Charles is NOT involved.

3 yr olds and potty trained to entering 5th grade
The Easy VBS®




VBS TRUE NORTH June 16-20

Family Dinner 5:00-6:00 pm
VBS 6:00-8 pm

Registration is open!

Register by May 24 and
get a **FREE** themed t-shirt

To register, volunteer or
donate, visit hcross.com/vbs




To register, volunteer or donate,
visit hcross.com/vbs

WORK DAYS
June 4, 6, 11 & 13 6-9pm

VOLUNTEER TRAINING
June 4, 6, 11 & 13 7:30-8:30pm
Station leaders see additional training details

VBS June 16-20



SPONSORED BY HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



LET'S GO FISHING!

JUNE 28, 8-10AM

VETERANS TRIBUTE PARK ON KISKER RD,
MEET NEAR THE LAST PAVILION.

15 AND UNDER NO LICENSE, AND 16 AND UP WILL NEED A LICENSE.
CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY.
BRING YOUR OWN FOOD, DRINKS, CHAIR, AND GEAR.

FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND FUR BABIES ARE WELCOME.
SIGN UP BY JUNE 22ND

TO FIND OUT HOW TO GET A FISHING PERMIT
OR RSVP USE THE QR CODE OR VISIT
HCROSS.COM/YOUTH