



*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 Sixth Sunday of Easter

### News & Notes for May 25-26, 2025

#### WELCOME TO EVERYONE joining us for worship today.

**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** Schlimpert (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)

**WE PRAY IN THANKSGIVING** for the birth of **Conner Jameson Black** on Thurs.,  
May 22, 2025. Conner is the son of Sarah (Heckman) and Eliason Black, the first  
grandson of Hugh & Karen Heckman, and the great-grandson of George & Barb  
Krieger.

**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 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 &amp; Preschool Closed

### Tuesday, May 27, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

KOINONIA MAILING FOR JUNE

PRESCHOOL STAFF WORK DAY

PRESCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

9AM Quilting

12:30PM Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, May 28, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9:30AM Adult Bible Study

6PM Preschool End-of-Year Celebration

6:45PM Summer Youth Night

### Thursday, May 29, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

8AM News &amp; Notes Deadline

11AM Anniversary Celebration Meeting

7PM Ascension Service (Holy Communion)

### Friday, May 30, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

4PM CWST Meeting with Immanuel Washington

LYF Flocking

### Saturday, May 31, 2025

LYF FLOCKING

5PM Holy Communion

+ Grace Guild collection of personal care items

### Sunday, June 1, 2025

+ Grace Guild collection of personal care items

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

1:30PM Board of Elders

LYF Flocking

## Church Attendance for May 17-18, 2025

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

### Bible Class Attendance Week of May 18, 2025

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	2
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	18
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	7
Sunday Adult Bible Class	41
BASICS	9
Tuesday Women's 10AM	10
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	5
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM Bible Class	26
Wednesday Nights	43
20s&30s Thursday	9

### Offerings: May 12-18, 2025

General Fund	\$ 14,850.32
Endowment	\$ 10.00
Building Fund	\$ 50.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 290.02
<b>Missions 2025</b>	<b>\$ 3,277.27</b>

### Year to Date as of 04/30/2025

Income	\$ 257,449.09
Expenses	\$ 243,326.56
Surplus	\$ 14,122.53

**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 21, 2025  
Families: 67      Individuals: 218      New Families: 3

**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.

**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](mailto: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/>

### Invest in the future of Lutheran High School!

We are in the home stretch of achieving our *Tier 1: Celebration Goal*! Droste Construction has already begun renovations on the storage area to install the catering kitchen. At the same time, Architect Carl Drafall is finalizing plans for the classroom upgrades and Commons transformation. With your support, we can soon begin these projects to improve these learning, worship and performance spaces for our students.

But we won't stop there. *The Tier 2: Challenge Goal* includes improvements to the baseball/softball field, including dugouts, a new backstop, a "Blue Monster" outfield fence, and a modern press box; and building a multipurpose center to expand our indoor practice areas for extra-curricular programs. This new building will also provide flexible space for school programs and events.

Please join others in the LHS community who have already invested in the future of our students. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Pledge today by completing the online. Use your phone to open the pledge form with this QR code.

Questions: Contact Dr. Doug Kuhlmann, Head of School at (314) 497-3014 or [dkuhlmann@lhssc.org](mailto:dkuhlmann@lhssc.org). Thank you for being part of this mission and helping us *Grow and Serve in Christ!*



Lutheran High School will hire a part-time Accounting Assistant to support its business office. If you or someone you know is interested in this opportunity, please visit the LHS website to apply or email them at [careers@lhssc.org](mailto:careers@lhssc.org) for more information.

### 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.

**DISASTER RELIEF URGENT NEED** The Missouri District has confirmed that multiple LCMS churches in St. Louis were affected by the tornado on Friday, May 16. They are working to assist these congregations and the surrounding communities with the most basic needs right now. Check out Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Facebook page ([facebook.com/bethlehemstl](https://facebook.com/bethlehemstl)) to see what is going on with the clean-up support efforts. The Missions Board will do a special door collection this weekend at all services to send donations to assist the District's efforts. We can accept cash and checks; a card reader will be available for credit card donations. Please consider donating and pray for all those affected by the storms.

**CHRISTMAS TREES FOR VBS:** In December, the VBS planning team asked you to bring your Christmas trees for decorations. Starting June 1, please bring trees to the gym and place them on the south side against the wall by the exterior door under the designated sign. Contact Jamie Price for more details.

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

### DONUTS WITH THE DCE

The LCMS has designated the month of June to celebrate the work of **D**irectors of **C**hristian **E**ducation 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**




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



Bring \$5 and Friend

GIRLS BRING DRINKS  
BOYS BRING SNACKS

RSVP by May 31 with QR Code or at [hcross.com/youth](http://hcross.com/youth)



**CRAFT EXPO**  
**NOVEMBER 1, 2025**  
**9AM to 3PM**

A great way to start on that Christmas gift list!

Featuring Custom Artwork, Woodwork, Christmas Items,  
Jewelry ... and more!

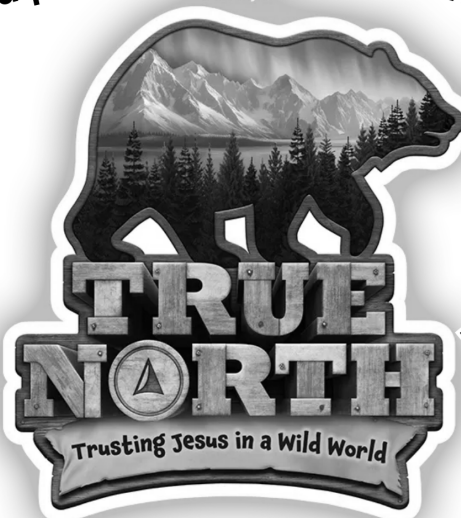
VENDORS WANTED

Contact Applications Administrator Jan Paulson at  
[HCCGraceGuild@gmail.com](mailto:HCCGraceGuild@gmail.com)  
or contact the church office.

SPONSORED BY  
GRACE EVENING GUILD  
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Proceeds to LWML Mites

3 yr olds and potty trained to entering 5th grade

**VBS**



**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](http://hcross.com/vbs)**

#### 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.

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  
[HCCROSS.COM/YOUTH](http://HCCROSS.COM/YOUTH)

