

## Reflecting on Confirmation

It's no secret that Confirmation at Holy Cross has undergone some major changes recently. I'm fully aware this has generated some confusion, leaving many to wonder "Why?" and "How come?" Pastor Gimbel, DCE Charity Smith and I took several weeks in May to address the current Confirmation program in our Sunday Adult Bible Class, and I'm not so interested in revisiting our rationale in this article. Check out our Bible class recordings if you want to learn more! Instead, I'd simply like to share with you what I have observed happening at Holy Cross as a result of these changes. Put yourselves in my shoes, for a moment, as I walk you through my average week here:

### MONDAY

I arrive at the church building, Starbucks in hand, and pass by my mailbox on my way to the office. I notice, as usual, a stack of yellow service summaries submitted by our students from the weekend's worship services, ready and waiting for my evaluation and feedback. I scoop them into my open arm, unlock my office door, and look through the summaries immediately. I jot a couple notes here and there, I smile at what they got out of the sermon, and I answer some intelligent questions about the Nicene Creed. *It might be a pain, I think to myself, but they're paying attention in church way better than I ever did.*

### WEDNESDAY

It's 6:10pm, more than enough time to set up for my class in 20 minutes. I hear chatter and laughter from the Sacristy as a few parishioners, including one of our Confirmation students, set up for worship this weekend. They handle small yet vital tasks that go almost entirely unnoticed, such as replacing the numbers on the hymnal board and refilling candles with enough oil. I grab my podium and notes from my office and walk towards the Welcome Center. The handbell choir is practicing in the Sanctuary, and it's mostly comprised of our youth and Confirmation students. They sound lovely, but I can't interrupt and tell them that.

### SATURDAY

It's my turn to preach, so I try to show up an hour before the service...but I'm running 15 minutes late. When I arrive, there's a group of people already waiting at the locked front door—a Confirmation student and her parents, ready to usher and wondering why I haven't let them in yet. They assure me it's no problem, and within five minutes they're stationed with stacks of bulletins and ready to personally greet everyone that enters the church. They even unlock the other doors and turn the Welcome Center TVs on for me so I can finish preparing for the service.

### SUNDAY

The service begins. Pastor Gimbel conducts liturgy while I try not to think about my sermon too much. The Word is read, some hymns are sung, I preach and sit back down. The choir sings a special piece during the offertory; the pulpit blocks half my view of them in the balcony. But in the half I can see, I spot a couple of our students singing side-by-side with the adults. *This place is awesome, I marvel silently. It wasn't the first time.*

On my way out, I pass by my mailbox, and sitting within it is a fresh stack of service summaries, begging for my attention. It means more work for me tomorrow morning...but I'm glad they're there.

...

Discipleship. My one-word summary of Confirmation here. It's more than attaining knowledge...it's also about acquiring skills and developing disciplines that are necessary to live the Christian life according to Jesus' call. I only described to you a fraction of what our Confirmation students are up to these days; I left the work of several students out entirely. But I'll say this about them all: they are more than young people with a bright future. They are young disciples who are using their God-given gifts, right now, to serve this church in a myriad of ways.

This place is awesome. And so are these people.

~Pastor Jason

# Monthly Music Minute for June 2025

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

One of my favorite days of hymnody is coming up soon: Trinity Sunday! Trinity Sunday, June 15, is the last major day of the festival half of the church year. On the week following Pentecost, Trinity Sunday is the last feast day before we move to the green season, or Ordinary Time, until Advent. Your memories of Trinity Sunday may include singing bold hymns like “Holy, Holy, Holy” and “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name,” learning imperfect analogies of how to understand the nature of the Trinity (the very-flawed apple analogy comes to mind), and reciting the very thorough, if a little bit lengthy, Athanasian Creed.

I like the hymnody of this day so much because these hymns are complete prayers to each person of the Trinity. We sing praises to Father, to Son, and to Holy Spirit; we pray songs of our beginning, our now, and our yet to come. Hymns trying to praise a God this great and mystical must be theologically rich and musically powerful, and so many of them certainly are.

However, we don't just sing hymns to the Trinity on Trinity Sunday. We have a practice of singing what we call “doxological” stanzas at the end of many hymns. I thought it might be interesting to share the history of how this practice of ending hymns with a doxological stanza came into place.

The *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Services* defines “doxology” as this: “Greek: δοξολογία, ‘word of praise.’ Generally, any expression of praise to God, especially a trinitarian formulation. Specifically, the **Gloria Patri** (‘Glory be to the Father and to the Son . . .’), (used to conclude psalms and canticles. By extension, a concluding ‘doxological’ stanza in hymns that acts as a metered Gloria Patri” (p. xxxv–xxxvi).

Singing to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as part of a hymn dates back to at least the fourth century. At the time, many Christians sang doxologies in response to followers of the Arian heresy, which said that the Son was not coequal to the Father. By the eleventh century, ending hymns with a doxological stanza was a common practice, with the same doxological texts often put in multiple different hymns. This is a practice we still have today (see the final stanzas of LSBs 805, 883, and 923 for an example).

Doxological stanzas are only marked with the triangle signifying standing if the hymn addresses praise to the three persons of the Trinity. We have some hymns, like LSBs 644 “The Church's One Foundation” and 417 “Alleluia, Song of Gladness,” whose final stanzas are about the Trinity, but the praises are not sung directly to the three persons, and so there is no triangle.

Doxologies are not just final verses to hymns. We see doxologies at the end of psalms and in other parts of our liturgy. The Venite in Matins and the Magnificat in Evening Prayer end with doxologies. The Gloria in Excelsis, a song we sing at the beginning of almost every service, is sometimes called the Greater Doxology, as it is a hymn that expands on each person of the Trinity, with a particular focus on the work of Christ.

But let's get back to the hymns themselves for a moment. You are likely familiar with the practice of standing if a hymn stanza is marked with a triangle. These stanzas are doxological stanzas, or final stanzas offering praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Often times you will hear me put on the zimbelstern on the organ, a series of small bells that ring at random, traditionally used to signify singing things that are from above.

For something that may seem on the surface so liturgical, the practice of standing for doxological stanzas is relatively recent. Other than some secondhand recollection from LCMS pastors in the 1940s and 50s, there is no record of this practice. Indeed, it appears to be all but unknown outside of the LCMS. Even within our synod, the practice has not been consistent. For example, in some churches the people stand for all doxological stanzas; in others they do not stand if the hymn is sung during Communion, and in others they do not stand at all.

So, why stand? In a synod whose identity is so rooted in good liturgical practice, why include such a recent practice? There's not one definite reason, at least that I found in my research. Personally, I like to think of it this way: for a Triune God who is so mighty, whose power and might and mystery is so great, the idea that we are pulled out of our seats, overcome with awe at God's great, mysterious nature as we sing is a particularly cool image.

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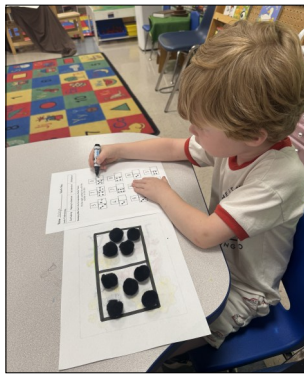
**Morgan Calcaterra**  
Preschool Director  
& 4s Teacher  
**Dani Richardson**  
3s Teacher



(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

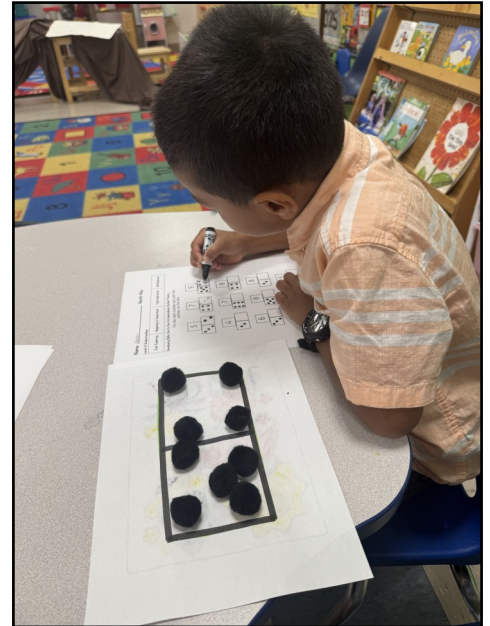
The end of the school year is always bittersweet here in Preschool. We have spent the entire year learning, growing, and making new friends! It is hard to leave. We are so excited for our 4s to go to kindergarten and show their teachers all they learned at Holy Cross. We can't wait to have our three-year-olds return and to start with our newly enrolled three-year-olds!

Something we love about Holy Cross is the parents who send the younger siblings because they loved their time here so much with the older ones! Next year we have four returning families with younger siblings--how special! Headed into Summer, our hearts are full of gratitude and love and ready for rest. We hope all of our students have the best summer possible!



*Near left and far right: 4 year olds use manipulatives to learn to count.*

*Far left: Making friends and playing with play doh.*



### Continued from page 2:

One last thought on this, though. The practice of standing for doxological stanzas is NOT a requirement, no more than standing or kneeling is for the Confession of Sins. And while good liturgical practice can help center ourselves on things above, it is also helpful to remember that these practices are (sometimes even recently) man-made constructs, and not commands from the scriptures. If standing is difficult for you, or if it is just not something you think makes a lot of sense, that's fine! Christian Freedom removes any requirement or necessity of action from us.

As we head into this non-festival season of the church year, see if you can spot the little doxological "festivals" we have scattered throughout the green season in these last verses of hymns. Add that little extra "oomph" to your singing when we get to them. And stand in awe of your wonderful Triune God. - David Gilson

**THANK YOU** to everyone for your thoughtful messages, gifts, and kind words during Church Musician Appreciation Month. Thank you especially to the CWST for their work putting the reception together, and to both them and the elders for their thoughtful gifts as well. I am overwhelmed by all of your kindness, and am looking forward to much more joyful worship together. Keep on singing! - David Gilson

## WE ARE HIRING

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL  
CLASSROOM ASSISTANT  
SEE POST FOR POSITION DETAILS**



(636) 272-4505  
[preschool@hcross.com](mailto:preschool@hcross.com)

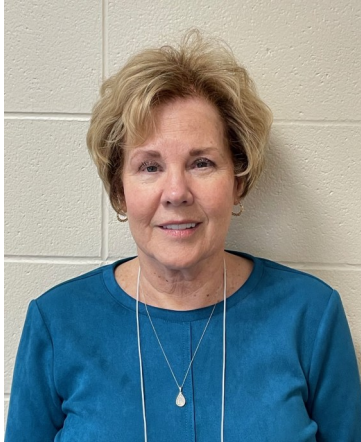
Our preschool is looking for a part-time teacher assistant and a floater who enjoys working with children and sharing God's word. The hours would be 8:30 to 12:00 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings in our three-year-old class. The applicant must be 18 years or older. The position would require a background check and have current physical and TB testing. The teacher aide supports the Director and the teacher by helping to create a caring and safe environment for the children and assisting in activities to improve the quality of education. The candidate must be able to communicate, listen, and work well with others in a team environment. Assisting the staff in implementing a quality educational program and developing a positive relationship with children and families.

Send a message today to inquire!



# Meet the New Members at Holy Cross

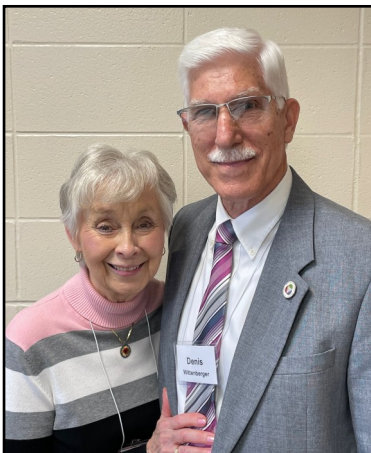
On Sun., April 27, Holy Cross welcomed three new families at the New Member Luncheon. Here is some background information about them so you will get to know them better. Please welcome them to our church family when you see them at worship or other activities.



**NANCY BRAZEE** joined Holy Cross last year, but she missed attending the fall luncheon. She is widowed and lives in the Villas at Crystal Ridge in O'Fallon. She was born in Florissant and has two grown children and five grandchildren. She spent 12 years in banking and 20 years as a payroll/HR manager. She enjoys walking and working out in the gym. She transferred to Holy Cross because she found it to be a place where she could worship and feel at home.



**BRINN MILLER** was born and raised in the Fort Wayne, IN, area and moved to the St. Louis area this past fall when she accepted the position as Choir Director at Lutheran North Middle and High School. Other interests include photography, arts and crafts, board games, puzzles, and running. She joined Holy Cross because she already knew Pastor Kohm and David and Anna Gilson from her days at Concordia Chicago.



**REV. DENIS AND BARBARA WITTENBERGER** have been regular visitors at Holy Cross for some time as Denis filled vacancies at different area congregations. Their home is in the Fox Ridge Subdivision in Wentzville. Denis was born and raised in Wisconsin, and Barbara in Normandy, Missouri. They were both teachers before Denis went to Concordia Seminary to become a pastor. They have one daughter and several grandchildren who live in O'Fallon. Barbara enjoys reading, singing in the choir, and working with children and youth. Denis loves the outdoors and hiking, collects music of the 60s, and enjoys helping friends and neighbors. They joined Holy Cross because "it's a welcoming church with a combination of uplifting liturgical worship and

Bible Study, its in-reach of service and support, and its mission out-reach to the community."



### CONFIRMATION CLASS April 2025:

Front row: Pastor Gimbel, Oría Ray, Jacob Hardebeck, Benjamin Schnoor, Pastor Kohm.  
Second row: Lacey Sumski, Jameson Alton, Lucas Van Wave.  
Benjamin Schnoor was confirmed October 27, 2024, on Reformation 2024.

**CONFIRMATION STUDENTS:** During Holy Week, 11 Holy Cross youth partook of their first communion on Maundy Thursday, April 17, at 7PM. The five listed below were confirmed during the Easter Vigil service on Sat., April 19, at 7PM. Banners and posters hung in the Sanctuary to portray the confirmands' visual presentation of their verses.

#### JAMESON SCOTT ALTON

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. ~ Colossians 3:17

#### JACOB ALLEN HARDEBECK

Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established. ~ Proverbs 16:3

#### ORIA BROOKLYN RAY

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine. When you pass through the

waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." ~ Isaiah 43:1-2

#### LACEY ELIZABETH SUMSKI

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me? ~ Psalm 56:4

#### LUCAS RYAN VAN WAVE

"For I know the thoughts I think toward you," saith the Lord, "thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." ~ Jeremiah 29:11

#### RITE OF FIRST COMMUNION

Along with the confirmands, six students underwent the Rite of First Communion Prior to Confirmation during the Maundy Thursday, April 17, service at 7PM: **Chloe Benigno, Jocelyn Elick, Rachel Evans, Lila Gimbel, Kason Smith, Katherine Wiese**



# Holy Cross **SHINES**

On May 10th, 13 members of Holy Cross participated in the LCMS Missouri District SHINE Event. SHINE is a statewide servant event where groups all across the state, and even into Illinois and Kansas, find and carry out a service event in their community. This is the fourth year Holy Cross has participated in the SHINE event. Holy Cross members teamed up with the City of Cottleville again this year. Despite weather concerns and rescheduling, Holy Cross had a strong group of volunteers to help clean up Legacy Park in Cottleville. Donuts were eaten and fun was had by all.



Right picture, left to right: Ashleigh Wallace-Lacey, Karen Duschke, Cynthia Menscher, Ben Schnoor, Owen Schnoor, Anna Schnoor, Karl Schnoor, Neal Menscher, Dale Duschke, Tom Haywood; Not pictured: Marilyn Newby

## HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Those with hearing aids can now download and use a smartphone or tablet app that broadcasts the service to their hearing aids. (Bluetooth connection required)

### Step 1. Log in to the Guest Wi-Fi

Network Name: **HC-Guest**

Password: **Romans1:16**

You will be prompted to join the "HC-Guest" Wi-Fi network

### Step 2. Download the ListenWIFI App

Search your device's app store for the **ListenWIFI** app by Listen Technologies

## FROM THE ELDERS:

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.

6th -12th Grade  
**LOCK-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 [hccross.com/youth](https://hccross.com/youth)




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](https://hccross.com/youth)

8 yr olds and potty trained to entering 5th grade

**VBS TRUE NORTH** June 16-20  
Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

Family Dinner 5:00-6:00 pm  
VBS 6:00-8 pm  
**Registration closes 6/10!**

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

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

JULY 27  
**SUMMER POOL PARTY**

SPONSORED BY HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
7:45 - 9:45PM  
ALLIGATOR CREEK AQUATIC CENTER

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT  
NO ALCOHOL ALLOWED  
OUTSIDE FOOD AND DRINK ARE WELCOMED. JUST NO GLASS




Come & Join us!  
Thurs., June 5, 2025  
Thurs., July 3, 2025  
Gym, 9AM-Noon

Seeds packed for missions.

Easy task.  
Great Fellowship.  
World Impact.

Sponsored by Holy Cross Stewardship Board.

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL**  
2025-2026 Enrollment and Registration



We hope to hear from you soon!

Contact our Director: Morgan Calcaterra, [mcalcaterra@hccross.com](mailto:mcalcaterra@hccross.com)




MOTQ is supporting Phil's Friends, an organization "providing Christ-centered support and hope to those affected by cancer." They 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 for a loved one battling this disease, do so here <https://philsfriends.org/request-a-care-package/>. MOTQ donations from Holy Cross 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 here <https://philsfriends.org/>.

Look for details in News & Notes for a July 19 event in the gym from 9AM to 7PM to support Phil's Friends.





## ByLaw Proposals: Next Steps

Thank you to everyone who attended the Bylaw Education Sessions in April and May! We are receiving great feedback from the congregation. The open comment period has ended (5/18 - 6/1), but the Bylaw Committee is reviewing all feedback and making adjustments to the Bylaw draft proposal as appropriate. Next steps are below:

1. Bylaw Committee reviews feedback and adjusts Bylaw draft proposal (June/July)
2. A final Bylaw draft proposal will be publicized for a 2-week review period by Voters' Assembly members (June/July)
3. A special Voters' Assembly will be called (likely in July) for a vote to approve or reject the Bylaws
4. If approved by the Voters' Assembly, the Bylaws will then go on to the Missouri District for final approval
5. Pending District approval, the Bylaws will go into effect at the November Voters' Assembly

Please contact anyone on the Bylaw Committee if you have any questions. (Karen Belter, Ralph Erickson, Dave Schlesselman, Ashleigh Wallace-Lacey)



**Summer Youth Nights**  
6:45-8pm

**May 21 & 28**  
Brainstorm + Vote on ideas for next school year & Games!

**June 4, 11 & 18**  
VBS days

**June 25, July 2, July 9, 16, 23 & 30**  
Blow Up Your Bible & Games!

**Aug 6**  
High School: Backyard Bash at Holy Cross with local LCMS churches. \*Note flyer for different times\*  
Middle School: Photo scavenger hunt at Fort Zumwalt Park.



**All women of Holy Cross are invited to attend the 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 meets second Friday, 10AM.**  
**Grace Evening Guild will meet in September.**

**ANNUAL HOLY CROSS  
LUTHERAN CHURCH LADIES GUILD  
RUMMAGE SALE**  
**Sat., Aug. 9; 7 AM to Noon**

**RUMMAGE  
SALE**

Drop-Off Dates for donated items at the gym are:

Wed., Aug. 6, 1 to 7PM and

Thurs., Aug. 7, 1 to 4PM

**We cannot accept clothing, electronics, or large furniture.**

Proceeds from this year's sale will be donated to Youth in Need. This group provides emergency shelter for kids ages 10 - 19, transitional housing for homeless youth ages 16-21, youth development programs, school-based counseling, early Head Start, teen parenting services, foster care case management, and regional safe-place provider programs.

**GRACE GUILD ANNUAL CRAFT EXPO**

**November 1, 2025, 9AM to 3PM**

**FEATURING CUSTOM ARTWORK, WOODWORK, CHRISTMAS ITEMS,  
JEWELRY, CARDS, CRAFTED HANDIWORK**

**VENDORS WANTED**

**Contact Applications Administrator Jan Paulson  
HCGraceGuild@gmail.com**

**Proceeds will be donated to Holy Cross Benevolence Fund**



**41<sup>ST</sup> BIENNIAL  
CONVENTION**  
Omaha, Nebraska  
**June 26-29, 2025**

Pray for the Holy Cross members attending the convention, that they have safe travels and enjoy the fellowship.



# Community “Empty” Easter Egg Hunt

On Sat., April 12, God provided a perfect spring day for an outdoor event. We had about 90 young children and their families in our pavilion and on our backfield hunting Easter eggs. More than 1,600 eggs were filled with candy, and 100 “empty” eggs were to remind children of the empty tomb.

Those “empty” eggs contained only a small slip of paper that said “Jesus is Alive.” When children found one of those slips, they could redeem it for a children’s book about the resurrection. No child left without a book.

When they turned in their plastic eggs, they received a “Jesus Loves You” sticker, which entitled them to an Andy’s ice cream Dixie cup.

One little girl expressed to her mom as they were leaving, “This is the best day ever!” Anytime we can share the Easter story with people is a great day. PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY DAVID SCHLESSELMAN



Captions: Children hunted eggs by age. Above, the 2s get some help from parents, and the 5s took off running to find theirs.

## LHS BOARD APPROVES TIER I PROJECTS

The Lutheran High School Board of Directors has officially approved moving forward with **Tier I construction projects** as part of the *Empowered by Christ: Enriching Our Future* capital campaign. Construction begins this month on the following Tier I projects:

- ♦ Seven General Purpose Classrooms
- ♦ Two Science Laboratories
- ♦ Renovated and Expanded Commons

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have already surpassed \$2.1 million in campaign pledges!

### \$100,000 Matching Gift Challenge Now Active!

We are excited to share again that a generous LHS family has offered a **\$100,000 matching gift challenge** for all new gifts and pledges made between now and August. Every dollar you give will be matched **dollar**

### for dollar—doubling your impact! Now Raising Funds for Tier II and Tier III Projects

With Tier I fully underway, we are now turning our attention to raising funds for Tier II and Tier III, which include the following exciting projects:

#### Tier II – Challenge Goal

- ♦ Phase I Baseball/Softball Complex Improvements
- ♦ Multi-Purpose Center

#### Tier III – Victory Goal

- Phase II Baseball/Softball Turf Infield
- Parking Lot Repaving

If you would like to learn more, make a pledge, or take part in this transformative effort, please contact Dr. Doug Kuhlmann, Head of School at [dkuhlmann@lhssc.org](mailto:dkuhlmann@lhssc.org) or (314) 497-3014.

Thank you for your continued support as we *Grow and Serve in Christ!*

## DONUTS WITH THE DCE

On Sun., June 8, Holy Cross celebrated the work of **DCE**, Charity Smith! During the Bible Study hour, Charity's leadership with LYF, Sunday School, Educational Programs, VBS, Family Ministry, and Children's Messages during worship services was acknowledged and celebrated with delicious donuts, milk, coffee, and tea at 9:30AM in the gym!



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

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

## JUNE 2025: Holy Cross Lutheran Church Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Grace Guild Personal Items Collection for Seminary 8 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion 1:30PM Board of Elders	<b>2</b> 9:30AM TOPS 11AM Line Dancing	<b>3</b> P. Woelfer Visitation 9 to 11AM Funeral at 11AM 2PM Preschool Board 6PM Bds of Stew. & Missions	<b>4</b> 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 6-9PM VBS Work Day 6:45PM Summer Youth Night 7:30PM VBS Volunteer Training	<b>5</b> <u>8AM News &amp; Notes Deadline</u> 9AM HOPE Seeds 6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class	<b>6</b> 9AM to 4PM: Online MO District Mental Health First-Aid 6-9PM VBS Work Day 7:30PM to 7:30AM 6th to 12th Lock-in 7:30PM VBS Volunteer Training	<b>7</b> Grace Guild Personal Items Collection for Seminary 5PM Holy Communion
<b>8</b> Grace Guild Personal Items Collection for Seminary 8AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour + Donuts with the DCE 10:45AM Holy Communion	<b>9</b> 9:30 AM TOPS 6PM Council Boards 7:30PM Council Meeting	<b>10</b> 9AM Ladies Guild Quilting 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meeting 1:30PM Evangelism Bd. 6PM Youth & Education Bds.	<b>11</b> 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 6:30PM Summer Youth Night 6-9PM VBS Work Day 6:45PM Summer Youth Night 7:30PM VBS Volunteer Training	<b>12</b> <u>8AM News &amp; Notes Deadline</u> 6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class	<b>13</b> KOINONIA DEADLINE FOR JULY 10AM Ladies Guild 6-9PM VBS Work Day 7:30PM VBS Volunteer Training	<b>14</b> 5PM Holy Communion + Grace Guild Personal Items Drive for Sem ends
<b>15</b> <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> Grace Guild Personal Items Collection ends 8 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion	<b>16</b> <b>VBS</b> 9:30 AM TOPS (Rm1-2) 10:30AM LWML Fall Rally Planning meeting	<b>17</b> <b>VBS</b> 12:30PM Staff Meetings	<b>18</b> <b>VBS</b> 9:30AM Adult Bible Class	<b>19</b> <b>VBS</b>	<b>20</b> <b>VBS</b> KOINONIA PRODUCTION 10AM Grace Guild Branch off-site	<b>21</b> STEWARDSHIP 3 5PM HOLY COMMUNION +Baptism
<b>22</b> STEWARDSHIP 3 8AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion	<b>23</b> <b>KOINONIA MAILING</b> 9:30 AM TOPS (Rm1-2) 11AM Line Dancing	<b>24</b> 9AM Quilting 6:30PM Adult Bible Class	<b>25</b> 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 6:45PM Summer Youth Night	<b>26</b> <u>8AM News &amp; Notes Deadline</u> 6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> FAMILY FISHING DAY 8 TO 10AM 5PM Holy Communion
<b>29</b> 8 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour + TLC 10:45AM Holy Communion Noon: NYG Meeting with Lunch	<b>30</b> 9:30 AM TOPS (Rm1-2) 11AM Line Dancing	<b>1</b> 12:30PM Staff Meeting 6PM Mission & Stewardship	<b>2</b> 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 6:45PM Summer Youth Night	<b>3</b> <u>8AM News &amp; Notes Deadline</u> 9AM HOPE SEEDS 6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class	<b>4</b> FOURTH OF JULY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>5</b> 5PM Holy Communion



### ELLA EMERICK

2025 Graduate of The University of Mississippi with a Bachelor of Science in General Engineering with Emphasis in Manufacturing. Ella is employed as a manufacturing engineer at Raytheon.



### BRODY VAN WAVE

Graduated from Fort Zumwalt North High School on May 24, 2025. Plans to attending Harvard University in the fall to study Materials Science and Mechanical Engineering and to play cello in the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra

### CARL WIESE

BA in Business Administration with emphasis in Management and certificates in Human Relations and Insurance Underwriting from the University of Missouri.

### BENJAMIN WIESE

Associate's degree in Applied Science and Welding from State Tech.



# June Celebrations

*May He give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed. —Ps. 20:4*

## Happy Birthday!

- 2:** David Heim, Denton Raymond
- 3:** Maryanne McDaniel
- 4:** Tim Davison
- 5:** Rebecca Schmalzer
- 6:** Robert Duss II, Shana Elick, Bruce Linn
- 7:** Nicole Alton
- 8:** Adrienne Blackwell, Brody Einsporn, Janine Haffer, Cynthia Menscher
- 9:** James Foster, Logan Harmon, Lukas Harmon
- 10:** Jesse Estill, Cara Shouse
- 11:** Susan Bastian, Pam Beck, Charles Eaton, Alex Miget
- 12:** Melanie Dafler, Jill Frederking
- 13:** Kurt Bey, Emma Hummel, Duane Lang, Jeff May
- 14:** Bryan Drilling
- 15:** Juliana Frerichs, Liane Higgins, Sharon Mitchell
- 16:** Ralph Erickson, Autumn Jones
- 17:** Steve Holtschlag
- 18:** Mark Morrison
- 19:** Marian Hoehner
- 20:** Patty Ulrich
- 21:** Mary K. Bethke
- 22:** Colton Cameron
- 23:** Adam Elick, Owen Schnoor
- 25:** Chris Price, Ethan Schnoor
- 26:** Bill Adams, George Kunzweiler
- 27:** Rhys Langley
- 28:** Kathleen Day, Ned Koprowski
- 29:** Megan Walkenhorst
- 30:** David Alton, Judy Andrews, Patti Groves

## Happy Baptism Anniversary!

- 1:** Judith Brueggeman, Linda Jackson, Eileen Reichert, Stevie Schuler
- 4:** Alexis Durmeier, Caden Martens, Ben Schnoor, Denis Wittenberger
- 5:** Blanche Richterkessing, Nick Sampl
- 6:** Jennifer Frasch, Ray Karl, Terry McCann, Anna Wacker
- 8:** Brenda Duncan, Karl Schnoor
- 9:** Ede Emerick, Denise Lackey
- 10:** Alaina Martens, Gus Waltersdorf, Christy Witte
- 11:** Jacob Estes, Debbie Martens, Alex Miget, Jackie Polashek
- 12:** Edna Kee
- 14:** Camden Danchus
- 15:** Bruce Richardson
- 17:** Alisha Ellis
- 18:** Frieda Karl, Dustin Mueller, Jackson Purtle, Jordyn Purtle
- 21:** Alexander Schlereth, Miles Van Wave
- 22:** Malinda Bryant, Wesley Durmeier
- 23:** Electra Day, Theodore Kunzweiler
- 26:** Baylor O'Brien
- 29:** Emilia Eidson, Milo Zimmerman
- 30:** Anita Rattner

## Blessed Wedding Anniversary!

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1:</b> Ray &amp; Paula Hein (1)<br/>Rick &amp; Carla Wiese III (29)</li> <li><b>2:</b> <b>Andy &amp; Laura Gimbel (18)</b><br/>Frank &amp; Dina Polashek (35)</li> <li><b>4:</b> Ray &amp; Frieda Karl (64)</li> <li><b>6:</b> Steven &amp; Cathy Estes (38)<br/>Samantha &amp; Lucas Kessels (5)</li> <li><b>7:</b> Tom &amp; Sue Haywood (45)<br/>Keith &amp; Sharon Wachter (45)</li> <li><b>8:</b> Darren &amp; Brenda Marhanka (12)<br/>Isaac &amp; Alyssa Conrad (1)</li> <li><b>10:</b> Richard &amp; Margie Green (58)</li> <li><b>11:</b> Duane &amp; Joyce Lang (59)</li> <li><b>12:</b> Rick &amp; Denice Johns (36)<br/>Bob &amp; Donna Kaltmayer (32)</li> <li><b>13:</b> Sarah &amp; Jon Langley (10)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>14:</b> Don &amp; Marilyn Otto (61)<br/>Bruce &amp; Dani Richardson (45)<br/>Brandon &amp; Kelly Sumski (17)</li> <li><b>15:</b> Mike &amp; Jill Albano (29)<br/>Michael &amp; Debbie Cammann (40)<br/>Greg &amp; Ede Emerick (29)</li> <li><b>16:</b> Russel &amp; Jennifer Reed (35)<br/>Gary &amp; Katie Ziolk (19)</li> <li><b>17:</b> Robert &amp; Alison Blundell (2)<br/>Ralph &amp; Renea Erickson (48)<br/>David &amp; Anna Gilson (3)<br/>Josh &amp; Grace Linn (14)</li> <li><b>18:</b> Wes &amp; Melanie Dafler (14)</li> <li><b>19:</b> Jerry &amp; Peggy Lancour (54)<br/>Randy &amp; Diane Jones (55)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>20:</b> Jim &amp; Sue Bastian (56)<br/>Hugh &amp; Karen Heckman (33)</li> <li><b>21:</b> Andy &amp; Peggy Goodman (34)<br/>Vince &amp; Dana Otto (5)</li> <li><b>22:</b> Bob &amp; Carolyn Delohi (62)<br/>Wayne &amp; Brenda Fore (46)</li> <li><b>23:</b> Paul &amp; Julianna Frerichs (18)</li> <li><b>24:</b> Ryan &amp; Adrienne Blackwell (7)</li> <li><b>25:</b> Mark &amp; Linda Ziolk (48)</li> <li><b>26:</b> Byron &amp; Elaine Alton (49)</li> <li><b>27:</b> David &amp; Bernice Sutliff (45)<br/>Melinda &amp; Rick Windsor (5)</li> <li><b>29:</b> Dennis &amp; Connie Gamache (55)<br/>Rick &amp; Joy Wisa (46)</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|

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**June 2025**

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## Holy Cross Lutheran Church: 1960 ~ 2025

### Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

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O'Fallon, MO 63366  
(636) 272-4505  
[www.hcross.com](http://www.hcross.com)  
[secretary@hcross.com](mailto:secretary@hcross.com)

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

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. Extended Care. School starts in September.

**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 dates.*

**Women's Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 10AM, SEE CALENDAR

**Adult Bible Class:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 6:30PM, RMS 1&2

**Men's Breakfast & Bible Study:** See future calendars

**Adult Bible Class:** Wednesdays at 9:30 AM, GYM

**Summer Youth Nights:** 6:30pm  
— see Wednesday night schedule

**20s & 30s Bible Study:** Thursdays, 6:30PM, Rm 1&2