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 OCTOBER2025 Volume 59 Number 9

Contact church office at secretary@hcross.com 636.272.4505 www.hcross.com

Meet Field Worker Jacob Bode

am thrilled to announce that I am no longer the newest face from Concordia Seminary here at Holy Cross! We have been assigned a first-year field worker named Jacob Bode. As a part of his pastoral training, Jacob will spend the next several years with us learning the basics of conducting worship, teaching Bible class, preaching sermons, and more. I'm sure some of you have met him already, but in an effort to introduce him to all of you, please enjoy this interview between Jacob and myself:



care about training good pastors! I particularly enjoy Greek and Hebrew, which are challenging but very rewarding! I'm looking forward to taking more classes and learning as much as I can about Christ and His church!

Pastor Kohm: You're now more pressed for time than ever before...but when you do have free time, what kind of hobbies do you have?

Pastor Kohm: Where are you from? What was it like growing up there?

Jacob: I'm from Wildwood, just 40 minutes south of Holy Cross! I know the Saint Louis County area pretty well, and grew up at my home church, Saint Paul Des Peres, so I guess you could say I'm a homegrown Saint Louisan!

Pastor Kohm: What are your favorite subjects you've studied?

Jacob: Growing up, my favorite topics in school were always history and literature! I particularly enjoy the Medieval and Renaissance periods, so I've enjoyed taking classes that focus on those topics, particularly those that focus on the church of that time! When it comes to literature, I love all sorts, from German poetry and historical nonfiction to modern fantasy and science fiction! There's nothing I love more than a good story!

Pastor Kohm: Tell me your first impressions of being a brand new student at the Seminary!

Jacob: The Seminary is definitely a change for me! I went to the University of Missouri for my undergrad and have attended public schools all my life, so a place like Concordia is entirely unique! The classes are tough, but the professors are fair and clearly

Jacob: When I can, I bike! I love getting outdoors as much as I can and experiencing all the unique weather Saint Louis has to offer (for better or worse!). Saint Louis has a ton of great hiking and biking trails, so if I don't have much homework, I'll try to hit a trail! I also love books, as I mentioned before, but biking and reading aren't hobbies that tend to blend well together! I particularly enjoy the works of Philip K. Dick and George Orwell, whose dystopian science fiction is suspiciously applicable today, despite their odd premises!

Pastor Kohm: As Holy Cross's new field worker, what are you looking forward to the most?

Jacob: I'm really excited to get to know the people here! Every congregation has its own unique culture, and I can't wait to find out as much as I can about all the history and traditions here at Holy Cross! As I train for the ministry, understanding how this congregation works together to spread the word of God is something that I look forward to! I'm so happy to be able to do my field work at this church, and I can't wait to learn to be a great pastor through my experience here!

Please join me in supporting and praying for Jacob, our new field worker and friend, that God would use us to equip him for his bright future as a pastor.

~Pastor Kohm



Dani Richardson Preschool Director & Lead Teacher

Rebecca Nutter Assistant Director & Extended Care





"Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14



e spent the first month of school learning about school routines and getting to know each other. Our Bible verse for September was Genesis 1:1— "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Each student drew a picture of something God created. We learned that God gives us families who work together to help each other. We also learned about autumn and apples. The 4-year-old students are learning a letter each week and will create their own letter book throughout the year. During Jesus time, we heard the story of creation and began

hearing about the many blessings God gives us through the stories of the Old Testament. We will learn more of God's love all year.

We praise God for the opportunity we have to share Jesus with the families He has brought to our Preschool. Of the 17 students currently enrolled, three that attend a church and 14 who are not associated with a church. We invite you to hear the preschoolers sing praises on Oct. 11 at the 3PM church service. Follow us on our Facebook page at facebook.com/hclpreschool to see more of our activities.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

PRESCHOOL ROOMS 4-5, 7, 11-12 **ARE**

PEANUT- & NUT-FREE

24/7

DUE TO A SEVERE

ALLERGIC REACTION.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR **COOPERATION**









Top Far Left: The 3s class draw shapes in their journals.

Top Near Left: The 4s class enjoy a donation to the class!

Bottom Far Left: The 3s class use fine motor skills to make applesauce.

Bottom Near Left: The 4s practice making an AB pattern.



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:

Grace Evening Guild meets Tues., Oct.14, 6PM. Holy Cross Ladies Guild meets Fri., Oct. 10, 10AM.

CRAFT EXPO

NOVEMBER 1, 2025

9AM to 3PM

SHOPPERS WANTED

A great way to start on that Christmas gift list!
Featuring Custom Artwork, Woodwork,
Christmas Items, Jewelry ... and more!
SHOP OUR VENDORS!

SPONSORED BY

GRACE EVENING GUILD
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Proceeds from vendor fees to Holy Cross Benevolence Fund

Annual Ladies Guild Candy & Nut Sale ends Oct. 12. Please visit the table in the Welcome Center before or after services. Pay with cash or check when placing you're an order. Orders will be delivered before Thanksgiving. Sale proceeds will benefit the Concordia Seminary Adopt-A-Student program.

CHURCH WORKER STUDY GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Missouri District, has study grants available for the 2026-2027 school year. Men and women enrolled in a University or Seminary of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod who are 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. Recipients are chosen based on financial need and a 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 either by mail or electronically by **APRIL 15, 2026**.

No application will be considered if it is not complete. For more information contact, LWML Missouri District, Church Workers Study Grant Chairman, Dawn Neil, 19509 State Hwy B, Canton MO 63435; 572-248-9162, or lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com.





You are invited to the Lutheran Women in Mission MO District. ST. CHARLES ZONE RALLY

<u>ALL WOMEN ARE INVI</u>TED

LWML MO St. Charles Zone VP Gail Hahn, Guest Speaker

Equipped to serve — How does God equip us to serve? Joyfully receiving His overflowing gifts is the one thing necessary. What are some opportunities to serve wherever and whenever the Lord needs us?

Gail Hahn will share from God's Word and discuss the equipping gifts God gives, drawing from her recent experience with Mission Opportunity Short Term (MOST) Ministries.

Saturday, October 18, 2025 8AM to 12:30PM

Holy Cross Lutheran Church (Gymnasium) 8945 Veterans Memorial Pkwy, O'Fallon, MO 63366

IN-GATHERING:

Post-it notes, paper plates, index cards Band-Aids, hydration mix packets, Imodium Bible story or catechism posters (creed, Lord's prayer, etc.), education materials

Contact Sue Williams by 10/5 to register, swilliams0514@gmail.com or 314-303-8603

You Are Invited!

Grace Guild Presents
A Special Meeting
October 14 at 6PM in Gym
Learn About Grace Guild's
History, Missions, Fellowship & Fun!

Monthly Music Minute for October 2025

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

always enjoy October. It brings cooler weather, beautiful colors on the trees, and some of the first real "big events" of the year, at least in the music world. Usually in October, musical ensembles have been rehearsing for 6-8 weeks or so, and the first opportunities to share what they've been rehearsing with the public. It's a time of energy and excitement. While we'll have several special events in music this month, there are three in particular that I want to draw your attention to:

Sunday, October 12, 3PM: "Thy New Creation" Hymn Festival

The adult choir's big event for the fall, this year's hymn festival is entitled "Thy New Creation" and will go through the story of creation as told in Genesis 1 using readings, commentary, prayers, and hymns. We'll look at each of the days of creation and ponder how each of the things that God made fit into the story of scripture, of Jesus' death and resurrection, and of what it means for each of us. I know that many of you who have attended in the past have found it to be an enriching, uplifting event, so I hope you can join us again, and invite your friends!

Friday, October 24, 7PM:

Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony For something different, but equally exciting, I am yerv excited to share that we are going to be has

very excited to share that we are going to be hosting the Wind Symphony of Concordia University Chicago for a concert as part of their fall tour. This ensemble holds a special place in my heart, as both Anna and I are alums of the ensemble - it's actually where we met! Under the direction of Dr. Richard Fischer, who has been director of the group for over 50 years and will be on his final tour, the group has performed in over 40 states, Canada, Europe, China, and South Africa, in venues ranging from small churches to Carnegie Hall. The ensemble is both musically excellent and spiritually uplifting; the musicianship is high, but the statements of faith that the group shares through music are what truly sets the group apart. It will truly be a can't-miss event.

I encourage you to attend this concert, in particular, if you have young people in your life who are either beginning on an instrument in the school band or might one day wish to do so. The early days of learning an instrument can be very challenging, and

it can be demoralizing when it seems like the young people aren't getting a lot better very quickly, or when practicing just doesn't seem to make much of a difference. I believe this concert can do two things, in particular, for them: Firstly, hearing a group like this can spark excitement around this kind of music. Hearing the potential what their instruments and school bands could one day sound like is such an exciting experience that can really stir up a passion for the arts. Secondly, and more practically, having a collegiate ensemble come to our church can really help get one foot in the door if your young people might be looking at pursuing higher education through a Lutheran university. In any case, I do hope you'll join us. I don't think it's a bold statement to guess that it will be one of the very finest musical events that Holy Cross has ever seen.

Saturday/Sunday, October 25-26, usual service times: Reformation Festival Worship

To cap off the month, we'll have festival worship services with brass and choirs to celebrate Reformation Day. I know this is a favorite day of the church year for many of you. The annual traditions of confessing Psalm 46, sharing in Luther's Divine Service, and singing 1500's hymns like "A Mighty Fortress" joins us with Lutherans throughout the world. One particular highlight for me will be at the 10:45 service, where we'll celebrate the Rite of Confirmation, hearing confessions of faith on the day we celebrate one of Luther's first confessions of faith. At this service we'll also have a special musical treat, where the Adult and Children's choirs will sing a piece together, Gerald Patrick Coleman's "Christ Is with Me." This piece takes passages from Romans, Galatians, and the Gospel of John and ties them together with a simple, yet powerful refrain:

"Christ is with me everywhere I go, never to leave me. This I know."

I love this piece because it's such a simple reminder of what really matters in our faith - and yet, in its simplicity, we find the most profound comfort and peace. In a season of the year where our calendars often get bogged down with many events, when it seems like we might just be running from one thing to the next, it is my prayer that this little refrain may be a constant reminder to each of you. - David Gilson





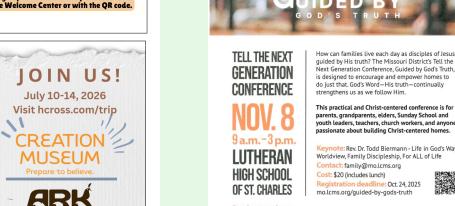




CHECK DEADLINE DATES!!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church in O'Fallon, MO Early Bird Closes January 15th **HOPE SEEDS** Come & Join us! October 2, 2025







Rev. Dr. Todd Biermann - Life in God's Way: Worldview, Family Discipleship, For ALL of Life



- Family Discipleship in Small Congregations Dan Hall
 Scrolling Minds DCE Christina Stackle
 Equipping Parents to Lead Homes in Faith Formation Hannah Knehans, DFLM

- Equipping Parents to Lead Homes in Fatth Formation Hannan Bible, Catechism and Hymnal DCE Pam Nummela Family Camp Rev. Dr. W. Mart & Cheryl Thompson Understanding the Next Generation DCE Charity Smith Developing a Culture of Family Discipleship Rev. Andy Becker Falth & Life Eurvery Matthew Knehans Teach Faith at Home Rev. Steve Andrews, Jr.

- leach Fatth at Home Rev. Steve Andrews, Jr.
 Partners in Parenting DCc Maggle Tritten
 Advent & Lent Family Devotions Andrea Trampe
 How to Reach Out in a Secular Age Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies
 Parenting Middle Schoolers Dr. Laura Fleetwood
 Speaking with One Voice Rev. Dr. Gregory Truwe
 Family Discipleship Facilitators Gathering Moderator: DCE Pam Nummela



Gym, 9AM-Noon

	9:30am—9:50am 1:30pm—1:50pm	9:10-9:30am	11-11:20am 1:30-1:50pm	9:10-9:30am	9:30am—9:50am 1:30pm—1:50pm	RECESS TIMES
ALL SAINTS DAY 3PM HC 9AM TO 3PM: Grace Guild Craft Expo (gym)	PRESCHOOL CLOSED Grace Guild Craft Expo Setup Time TBD	PRESCHOOL CLOSED 8am News & Notes <u>Deadline</u> 6:30pm 20s&30s Bible Class	9AM Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 6PM Beginning Handbells 6PM Children's Choir 6:30PM Midweek 6:30PM Confirmation 6:30PM LYF 6:45PM Adult Choir	9AM Preschool Chapel 9AM Quilting 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Adult Bible Study	KOINONIA MAILING 9:30 AM TOPS 114M Line Dancing 6:30PM Bell Choir	REFORMATION (Obs) 8 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour + Transfer Lutheran Class 10:45AM Holy Communion + RITE OF CONFIRMATION + Children's Choir
1 November	31	30		28	27	26
REFORMATION (OBS.) 3PM Holy Communion 5-7PM Trunk or Treat	KOINONIA PRODUCTION NOON: Arrival, Setup for concert 7PM Concordia University Chicago Wind Symphony [Concert in Sacristy]	8am News & Notes <u>Deadline</u> 6:30Pm 20s&30s Bible Class	9AM Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 6PM Beginning Handbells 6PM Children's Choir 6:30PM Midweek 6:30PM Confirmation 6:30PM LYF 6:45PM Adult Choir	9AM Preschool Chapel 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Youth & Education Bds.	9:30 AM TOPS 11AM Line Dancing 6:30PM Bell Choir	8 am Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour + Midweek Teacher Training 10:45AM Holy Communion
25	24	23	22	21	20	19
8am to 12:30pm: LVMIL St. Charles Zone Rally [Gym] 3pm Holy Communion- + Beginner Bells	KOINONIA DEADLINE Preschool School Closed: Workshop 10AM to 2PM: LWML Zone Rally Setup [Kitchen & Gym]	8am News & Notes <u>Deadline</u> 6:30pm 20s&30s Bible Class	9AM Preschool Chapel 9: 30AM Adult Bible Class 6PM Beginning Handbels 6PM Children's Choir 6:30PM Midweek 6:30PM Confirmation 6:30PM LYF 6:45PM Adult Choir	MO Distr. Pastors Conf. 9AM Preschool Chapel 9AM Quilting 6PM Grace Guild 6:30PM Adult Bible Study	MO Distr. Pastors Conf. 9:30 AM TOPS 11AM Line Dancing 6PM Council Boards 6:30PM Bell Choir. 7:30PM Council Meeting	Ladies' Guild Candy & Nut Sale ENDS &AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion 3PM Fall Hymn Festival
18	17	16	15	14	ವ	12
Lutheran Roots Tour To Perry County (Elders) 11am Escape Room 3pm Holy Communion + Preschool Sings + Ladies' Guild Candy & Nut Sale	10AM Ladies Guild	8am News & Notes <u>Deadline</u> 6:30pm 20s&30s Bible Class	6:30AM Men's Breakfast 9AM Preschool Chapel 9:30AM Adult Bible Class 6PM Beginning Handbells 6PM Children's Choir 6:30PM Midweek 6:30PM Confirmation 6:30PM LYF 6:45PM Adult Choir	9AM Preschool Chapel 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meeting 2PM Preschool Board 6PM Missions & Stewardship	9:30am TOPS 11am Line Dancing 6:30Pm Bell Choir.	LWML Sunday Ladies' Guild Candy & Nut Sale 8 MM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion 1:30PM Board of Elders
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LWML Weekend Ladies' Guild Candy & Nut Sale 3PM HC	9AM LWML ST CHARLES ZONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (GYM)	8am News & Notes <u>Deadline</u> 9am HOPE Seeds 6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class	9am Preschool Chapel 9: 30am Adult Bible Class 6rm Beginning Handbels 6rm Children's Choir 6:30rm Midweek 6:30rm Confirmation 6:30rm LYF 6:45rm Adult Choir	9AM Preschool Chapel 9AM Quilting 10AM Women's Bible Study 12:30PM Staff Meeting	KOINONIA MAILING 9:30 AM TOPS 11AM Line Dancing 6:30PM Handbells	Ladies' Guild Candy & Nut Sale 8 AM Holy Communion 9:30AM Education Hour 10:45AM Holy Communion
4	3	2	1 OCTOBER 2	30	29	28
SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
		ndar of Events	October 2025 Lutheran Church Calend	Oc Holy Cross Lutherd	Ho	

October 2025 Celebrations

The LORD will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Happy Birthday!

- 1: Jim Bastian, George Beyer, Dale Kling, Angie Maue, Justin Smith, Karen Steinbrueaae
- 2: Carla Cooper, Oria Ray, Maxine Salarano, David Schlesselman, Wanda Woodhouse
- 3: Cindy Aubertin, Paul Bertram, Elma Jane Kramer, Tracy Porter
- 4: Mark Eaton, Joan Humphries, Justin Saale
- 5: Justin Cross, Clint Morrison, Ryder Smith
- 6: Dean Gooding
- 7: Craig Miget, Drew Miget, Carol Santoyo
- 9: Dianne Anderson, Kevin Rheinecker
- 10: Clayton Jones, Joshua Strubelt
- 11: Sandy Dietz, Holden Gimbel, Judith Peer
- 12: Linda Ledford
- 13: Spencer Dafler, Alli Smith, Linda Ziolko
- 14: Betty Lee, Emmett Zimmerman
- 15: Aleeah Ray, DJ Spearman

- 16: Elaine Alton, Jennifer Dillender
- 17: Terry Amos, Jessica Mincher, Jan Ogar
- 18: Janet Allquist, Liz Belter, Ella Emerick, Loren Herr, David Ulrich, Katherine Wiese, Cherie Zimmermann
- 19: Anna DeMent, Rich Franzer, Miriam Gimbel
- 20: Glenda Kramer, Robert Reidel
- 21: Elsie Claxton, Sherian Duello, Kenny Sayers, Jeanette Stewart, Sharon Wachter
- 22: Peggy Goodman, Deborah Hegykozi, Ren Koepke. Lydia Legoute
- 24: Mark Hoemann, Mary Sawall, Valentina Smith
- 25: Nancy Brazee
- 26: Liam Conroy IV, Mark Unger
- 27: Kacey Booth, Bennett Dafler
- 28: Michelle Bettdur, Natalie Elick
- 29: Ingrid Marhanka, Matthew Maue
- 30: David Sampl, Jeff Schwentker
- 31: Homer Langley, Brian Storm, Darlene Wischmeyer

Happy Baptism Anniversary!

- 1: David Kunzweiler, Curt Paulson, Ray Schroeder
- 2: Melinda Meyers
- 3: Jenna Palmisano
- 4: Brett Albano
- 6: Jeff Schwentker
- 7: Austin Shouse
- 8: Kennedy Bartlett, Garrett Piazza
- 10: Jesse Smith
- 11: Mary Bollinger, Ian Claxton, Edna Deubel
- 12: Donald Duncan
- 13: Angela Maue, Christopher Polashek, Kiersten Tichenor
- 15: Beth Wuertz
- 16: Tina Hevey, Ian Laufer

- 17: Stanley Ziolko
- 19: Karen Copper
- 21: Jonathan Frasch
- 22: Mariah LaBeau
- 23: Beckett Einsporn, Addisyn Freand
- 24: Holden Gimbel, David Schlesselman, Justin Shouse
- 26: Ian Essmyer, Loretta Essmyer
- 27: Gordon Robinson, Megan Walkenhorst, Judie Woelfer
- 29: Elsie Claxton, Harper McCulloch, Maggie McCulloch, Kelly Schlereth
- 30: Jameson Alton, Jill Danchus, Elma Jane Kramer, Miriam Gimbel

Blessed Wedding Anniversary!

- 1: Harold & Sandra Kohrs (65) Nick & Rachel Sampl (9)
- 2: Jim & Carol Boyd (5)
- 3: Mark & Jennifer Crider (27)
- 6: Bob & Robin Cross (41)

 Mark & Joan Humphries (35)
- 9: Craig & Carolyn DeMent (32) Ryan & Natalie Van Wave (21)

- 12: Michael & Lauren Claxton (12) Steve & Denise Lackey (41)
- 13: David & Mary Sampl (46)
- 16: Bob & Karen Steinbruegge (26)
- 20: Drew & Sarah Linn (13) Susan & Douglas Mays (41)
- 23: David & Lauren Kunzweiler (5)
- 24: Frank & Deborah Hegykozi (51)
- 27: Barb & Charles Smock (59)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway O'Fallon, MO 63366

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STAMP

OCTOBER 2025



Put Address Label Here

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Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

8945 Veterans Memorial Pkwy O'Fallon, MO 63366 (636) 272-4505 www.hcross.com secretary@hcross.com

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

Charity Smith
Director Christian Education

David Gilson Director of Music

Dani Richardson Preschool Director

Joyce Niewald Church Secretary

GROW YOUR FAITH THROUGH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Preschool (weekdays) for 3s & 4s. Extended Care available.

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): Oct. 26, 9:30AM (Rm 1&2)** *Call the office for next dates.*

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10AM, RMS 1&2

Adult Bible Class: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 6:30рм, кмs 1&2

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study: October 8, 6:30AM

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

Confirmation (grades 6-8); MidWeek Classes (grades PreK-5)

— see Wednesday night schedule

High School Wednesdays, see calendar

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