



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 Pkwy
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

Dani Richardson
Preschool Director

Joyce Niewald
Church Secretary
secretary@hcross.com

Services held in Sanctuary:
Saturdays, 3PM
Sundays, 8AM & 10:45AM
Live Stream on Sunday AT 8AM
Education Hour AT 9:30AM
Connect through
www.hcross.com or
YouTube channel at
[Holy Cross Lutheran Church
O'Fallon MO](https://www.youtube.com/HolyCrossLutheranChurchO'FallonMO)

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



News & Notes for November 15 & 16, 2025

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Cross Celebrates 65 years as God's People

WELCOME TO EVERYONE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY

PRAYER REQUESTS: Submit prayer requests by calling or emailing the church office. Confidential prayer requests are shared with the Pastors but not published.

WE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Gerri Beckmann; **Dennis** Benassi; **Paul** Bertram; **Mary Kay** Bethke; **Judy** Bonney; **Kacey** Booth; **Nancy** Caldwell; **Teegan** Cannon; **Electra** Day; **Logan** Day; **Shirley** Day; **Sandy** Dietz; **Bob & Carolyn** Delohi; **Edna** Deubel; **Sherien** Duello; **Brenda** Duncan; **Renea** Erickson; **Rich** Franzer; **Janice** Fred; **Sandie** Fussner; **Peggy** Gallagher; **Connie** Gamache; **Don** Grzina; **Iris** Hackbarth; **Janine** Haffer; **Kay** Hardman; **Marie** Herrington; **Judy** Hollandsworth; **Jayne** Jepsen; **Lizzie** Johansmann; **Ron** Kettler; **George** Kirby; **Judith** Kirby; **Paul** Kirby; **Sandra** Kohrs; **Debra** Korte; **Jim** Kramer; **Joyce** Lang; **Betty** Lee; **Catherine** Loney; **Albert & Ingrid** Marhanka; **Terry** McCann; **Bill** Price; **Grace** Randazzo; **Gloria** Rariden; **Zeita** Reed; **Eileen** Reichert; **Darlene** Rhodes; **Carol** Santoyo; **Roger** Sawall; **Vita** Sayers; **Winnie** Thornton; **Wayne** Walkenhorst; **Larry** Williams; **Ernestine** Wilson.

WE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Christy Benigno (Sal Benigno)
Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
Mark Chiodini (Nicholas Chiodini)
Charles Claxton Jr. (Matthew Claxton)
Gorman Cooper (Tina Morrison)
William Dafler (Wes Dafler)
John Darby (Rick Walkenhorst)
Sandra Fleak (Becky Edgar)
Rev. Dr. **Lee** Hagan, LCMS MO Dist. President
Sarah Hall (Jayme Price)
Sharon Hesse (George & Barb Krieger)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Joyce Kroll (David Schlesselman)
Sandy Lockwood (David Gilson)
Malu Martin (Dawn Kahler)
Rev. **Garry** McCracken (Trinity, Troy)
Kenny Meyer (Carla Cooper, Karen Copper)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Barton Moenster (Carolyn Bertram)
Vera Piazza (Robert & Sherry Piazza)
Cindy Preston (Maryanne McDaniel)
Roy Price (Chris Price)
Drew Quinn (Terry Hardy)
Blake Schmalzer (Rebecca Schmalzer)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Christine Scott (Dianne Helvey)
Mark Shearman (Lois Foster)
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)
David Steinbacher (Ernestine Wilson)
Stanika Todorova (Paul & Juliana Frerichs)
Rita Unzer (Karl Schnoor)
Ken Vesper (Mike Vesper)
Frank Wachter (Elaine Howard)
Lance Watkins (Jesse Smith)
Bobette Wetzel (Faith Blackwell)
Fred Wiese (Rick & Carla Wiese)
Sandy Wischmeyer (Marilyn Mana)
Keith Wooden (Randy Jones)
John Allquist III, **Duane** Stuewe (Janet Allquist)
Ina Guethle, **Dale** Stumpf (Amanda Alton)

Carson Aston, **Chlaara** Aston, **Sharon** Staten (Lisa Aston)
Krill Family (Trudy Belter)
Mike & Norma, Terry (Greg & Judy Bonney)
Eddie Collier, **Bruce** Brown, **Howard** Weber, **Rush** Brown (Denise Collier)
Tom Heins, **Tony** LaChance, **Bill** Pratt (Becky Coomer)
Brian Ottinger, **Scott** Ottinger (Carla Cooper)
Hilda & Doug Breden (Kathleen Day)
Becky Clapper, **Sydney** Hagen (Craig Dement)
Janet Davidson, **Lowell** Duncan (Don Duncan)
Brenda Schlimpert McCowan, **Sherrill** Schlimpert (Loretta Ezell)
Scott Brockmann; **Lois** Jobe, **Ron** Kasten ~ (Jan Flentke)
Tim Deppe, **Rich** Waiwood (Kent & Janine Haffer)
Julie Germain & Family (Norma Helms)
Kathy Dore Jepsen, **Mike** Vanover ~ (Jayne Jepsen)
Alicia Kincaid, **Mark** Kincaid, **Alicia** Kleb, **Marian** Schwentker (Michelle Kincaid)
George & Sandra Roberts, **Rodger** Bratvogel ~ (Elma Jane Kramer)
Linda Thiele, **Darlene** Barr-Walag ~ (Peggy Kuerschner)
John Bach, **Rachel** Long (Betty Lee)
Pat & Edna McCarty (Orion Melton)
Susan Maag, **Steve** Wulff (Menschers)
Virginia and **Mike** Niewald (Niewalds)
Paul Palombi, **Elsie** Palombi (Diane Palombi)
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)
AJ, Blake Davis (Kari Spearman)
Scott Steinbruegge, **Marcia** Sheppard ~ (Bob & Karen Steinbruegge)
Deb Morrison, **Mary** Alderman, **Jordan** Alderman ~ (Sue Williams)

PRAYER LIST FOR ACTIVE MILITARY: **Dominic** Bisesi, **Andrew** Chema, **Jacob** Franke, **Josh** Linn, **Thomas** Matoushek, **Justin** Quinn, **Joshua** Rainwater, **Jackson** Redfield, **Jesse** Smith, and **Matthew** Thornton.

Please review the prayer list. Let us know if any prayers have been answered.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, November 15, 2025

GIVING TREE BEGINS

3PM Holy Communion
4:30-6:30PM BASICS (Rm 1&2)

SUNDAY, November 16, 2025

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
9:30AM Midweek Teacher Training (Sanctuary)
10:45AM Holy Communion
NOON NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON

MONDAY, November 17, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9:30AM TOPS
11AM Line Dancing
6:30PM Bell Choir

TUESDAY, November 18, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY REPORTS DUE

9:00AM Quilting
9:00AM Preschool Chapel
10AM Women's Bible Study
12:30PM Staff Meeting
5:30PM Ed & Youth Board Chairs, CSmith
6:30PM Education & Youth Boards

WEDNESDAY, November 19, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9AM Preschool Chapel
9:30AM Adult Bible Class
6PM Beginning Bells (Sanctuary)
6PM Children's Choir (Choir Room)
6:30PM Confirmation, Midweek, LYF
6:45PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, November 20, 2025

8AM News& Notes Deadline

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
6:30PM 20s&30s&40s Bible Study (Rm 1&2)

FRIDAY, November 21, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
Koinonia Production

SATURDAY, November 22, 2025

GIVING TREE ENDS

11AM Private Event (gym)
3PM Worship Service

SUNDAY, November 23, 2025

GIVING TREE ENDS

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion
NOON VOTERS' MEETING

ELDER COMMUNICATION

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.

CONTACT AN ELDER: Their pictures are displayed in the Welcome Center, so contact them 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.

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

HOLY CROSS LADIES GUILD collects packaged and canned **food** and all types of **soap** for the Concordia Seminary Food Bank. Most needed: **soap — all types; gluten-free items; canned soup, toothpaste, canned vegetables. Thank you for filling 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 provides *fresh fruits and vegetables* to **Concordia Seminary students**. 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 in the Welcome Center*. See list in the bottom right corner.

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES: Weekly Totals: Nov. 12, 2025
Families: 100 Individuals: 333 New Families: 4

Church Attendance for November 8&9, 2025

Service	Attendance	Communion
3PM	63	58
8AM	105	85
10:45AM	84	73
TOTAL	252	216

Bible Class Attendance Week of November 9, 2025

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	1
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	14
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	54
BASICS	13
Tuesday Women's 10AM	13
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	4
Men's Breakfast & Bible	16
Wednesday AM Bible Class	33
Wednesday Nights	41
20s&30s Thursday	8
Hymn Festival	83

Offerings: Nov. 3-9, 2025

General Fund	\$ 16,527.99
Endowment	\$ 150.00
Building Fund	\$ 140.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 105.00
Missions 4th Qtr	\$ 2,437.22

Year to Date as of 09/30/2025

Income	\$ 576,237.31
Expenses	\$ 578,644.35
Deficit	\$ (2,407.04)

HOPE Ministries requests items for **OCTOBER:** Pancake Mix, Syrup, Oatmeal, Stuffing, Corn Muffin mix, Pasta Roni, Ramen Noodles. Place items in the box under the Mission Board display in the Welcome Center. **No expired goods.**

BASIC Class: This **two-session class** will cover the basic doctrines of our Lutheran faith. It is an excellent way to introduce a partner or friend to what we believe as Lutherans. Offer to attend the class with them so you can refresh your beliefs and talk about those beliefs with each other. Pastors will have the **first session on Sat., Nov. 8, from 4:30 to 6:30PM**, followed by the **second session on Sat., Nov. 15, from 4:30 to 6:30PM**. Please talk to either pastor if you have questions.

THE GIVING TREE: The Missions and Stewardship Boards are partnering with Youth in Need (youthinneed.org) for the **2025 Giving Tree**. Holy Cross will sponsor 44 youth this year and bless them with some gifts this Christmas. We will have a tree in the Welcome Center beginning the weekend of **Nov. 15 through Nov. 23** for you to pick a youth tag to sponsor from the tree. Grab a name from the tree and a paper bag from underneath the tree. **Return items in the paper bags with the tag inside underneath the Welcome Center tree by Dec. 3.** Please direct any questions to Liz Belter or Ashleigh Lacey.

MOTQ: Currently, the Missions and Stewardship Boards are supporting Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT), a ministry program of the LCMS that trains volunteers to assist in times of disaster. These teams respond to both natural and man-made disasters by providing Christian care and assisting with cleanup, debris removal, and other essential services in affected communities. Several members of Holy Cross have attended LERT training in the past and have utilized the skills learned to support our community. All MOTQ donations from now through the beginning of 2026 will be used to help fund and support LERT projects.

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS – WALK-THROUGH NIGHTS
The City of O'Fallon is hosting **Walk-Through Nights on Dec. 7, 8, and 9**. Holy Cross will provide free parking and serve hot drinks and cookies in the gym as we share hospitality with our community. People come to us, and we get to share Jesus with them. Once again, we will need a few volunteers to help with parking cars and serving refreshments, as well as more people to donate cookies. You can sign up on the sheets in the Welcome Center. Thanks in advance for helping with this outreach project.

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS — More Help Wanted:
Gate Nights: **Dec. 8** at the back gate starting at 5:30PM—six people needed; **Dec. 11** at the front gate starting at 5:30PM—six people needed. During the Holiday Stroll (Dec. 7-9), at least two volunteers are needed to hang out at the scene and greet visitors. Sign up sheets are on the Welcome Center table. For more information, contact Elder Chris Price.

THANK YOU! Your warm generosity came just in time for the cold weather. Thank you to those who donated 19 sleeping bags collected at Holy Cross in October. They were made available for use by homeless people in the St. Charles area. – Karl Schnoor

CANDY & NUTS

from the Ladies Guild fundraiser
will be available to pick up this weekend
in the Welcome Center.

THE **FALL NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON** is **THIS Sunday, Nov. 16**. Holy Cross welcomes its newest members at this potluck starting around noon (immediately after the second service). Current church members are asked to bring side dishes:

Last Names A to K: side dish & dessert

Last Names L to Z: side dish & salad

The Evangelism Board provides a meat dish, and Grace Guild will serve and cleanup. *Bring your name tags!*

Holy Cross Voters' Assembly

Sunday, Nov. 23, 2025

after the 10:45AM worship service

In the gym (around noon)

All Holy Cross Voting Members are encouraged to attend.

Attendance counts! Contact Council Secretary Barb Grosch

(councilsecretary@hccross.com or 314.368.8142)

if you are unable to attend to get an excused absence.

Agenda Items Include: Officer & Board Elections, 2026 Budget Approval, Council Board Reports

Please sign in when entering the meeting.

Only a physical signature records attendance.

New Members to Holy Cross:

Contact your Elder or the church office about becoming a Voting Member of Holy Cross.

A lunch will be served prior to the meeting.

MENU:

Pasta dishes, salad and cookies

Join Us
THANKSGIVING SERVICE
WED., NOV. 26, 2025, at 11AM & 7PM
HOLY COMMUNION

Decorating for Christmas



Help us decorate
the church for
Christmas
Nov. 29
9AM
Bring the family!

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH BOAR'S HEAD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL: The 29th year for this medieval pageant celebrating our Savior's birth. 2025 presentations: Thurs., **Dec. 4**, 7:30PM; Fri., **Dec. 5**, 7:30PM; Sat., **Dec. 6**, 7:30PM; Sun., **Dec. 7**, 2:30PM, and 6PM. Tickets are free and available Nov. 3 at 737 Barracksview Road, St. Louis, MO 63125. Call 314.892.5610 or www.peaceboarshead.org. Free will offering will be accepted at each service.

IMMANUEL BOAR'S HEAD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
The 37th Boar's Head Festival will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in St. Charles, **Dec. 11, 12, 13, and 14**. There will be a 7:30PM performance each evening with afternoon performances at 4PM both Saturday and Sunday. Tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 8AM Mon., Nov. 3, by calling their church office at 636-946-2656. While there is no charge for the tickets, there is a limit of 5 tickets per person.

THE H.O.P.E. FOOD PANTRY needs a volunteer for the 4th and 5th Thursdays of each month to pickup food from the Olive Garden in Wentzville. Pickup time would be around 9 to 9:30AM. If you are interested, please call Cheryl at the Pantry number 636-281-1069 on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday between 10AM and 2PM; or leave a voice-mail on her landline (no texting) 636-240-6443.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WARMING SHELTER: Are you looking for a way to serve your neighbor this winter? Chapel of the Cross-St. Peters will be hosting a warming shelter during the weeks of Jan. 11, Jan. 25, and Feb. 22. They are looking for volunteers. The shelter will open any night during those weeks when the temperature is expected to be 20 degrees or below. Chapel needs help with greeting and registering people as they arrive (from 9 -11PM) and overnight in two shifts: 11PM to 3AM, and 3AM to 7AM. If you are interested in helping or would like more info, please contact Jennie Bain at 636-288-3373 or jenniembain@gmail.com. Thank you!

Direct Up to Half of Your Missouri Taxes to Lutheran Schools: Through a fairly simple process, you can send half of your taxes to the State of Missouri to support a student in a Lutheran school. This will not only save you money but also will not cost additional dollars. If your Missouri State Tax on Line 36 last year was \$1,000, you could have sent \$500 to support a student in a Lutheran school and the other \$500 to the State of Missouri. This program began in 2022. Since then, the Missouri District has awarded over \$5 million in scholarships, enabling more than 900 students to attend 45 Lutheran schools across Missouri. Many of these children are experiencing their first year in a Lutheran school—an opportunity made possible through MOScholars. Interested? Pick up a colorful sheet entitled "Support Our LCMS Schools" and/or talk with David Schlesselman to learn more. Together, we can help another child learn more about Jesus.

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL —ST. CHARLES COUNTY

Join us for a joyful celebration of the Christmas season at Lutheran High for our first **Very Cougar Christmas** on Sat., Dec. 13, 9AM to NOON at Lutheran High School — 5100 Mexico Road, St. Peters— with Santa photos from 10AM to NOON. No cost. Stop by and enjoy a nice holiday morning. We'll have activities for kids, including: photos with Santa, breakfast treats, crafts, and more! Don't worry, parents, we've got you covered too! Enjoy a coffee on us to say Merry Christmas! All are welcome — bring your friends and family to celebrate the joy of this Christmas season!

SUBSTITUTE ART TEACHER WANTED: LHS seeks a long-term substitute with experience in art education from mid-December to mid-February. Visit the Lutheran High School website (Explore Careers), <https://lutheranhighstcharles.com/about/faculty-staff/careers/> to apply. Contact the LHS principal, Dr. Jon Bernhardt, at jbernhardt@lhssc.org for more information.

Support the Cheer team! Poinsettias are on sale now! Perfect for decorating your home or gifting to brighten someone's day this Christmas season.

Spring Coaching Positions available: Girls Head Soccer Coach, Boys Head Tennis Coach, Boys & Girls Track & Field Coach

ADVENT BEGINS Nov. 29-30

The Advent Series will focus on Old Testament prophecies. Sunday sermons will be drawn from the book of Isaiah, while Wednesday sermons will focus on the fulfilled prophecies referenced in Matthew 2.



Wednesday services at 11AM & 7PM will be Dec. 3, Dec. 10, and Dec. 17.

Advent Dinners on those same nights will start serving at 5:30PM until 6:45PM. Dinner hosts this year are Holy Cross Preschool, Ladies Guild, and the Missions & Stewardship Boards. More information will follow.



OUR SAVIOR

Christmas

MARKET

DECEMBER 6TH

10AM - 2PM

40+ LOCAL VENDORS - COOKIE SALE
FREE PHOTOS WITH SANTA

2800 ELM, ST. CHARLES, MO