



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/channel/UCqF0Ll0L0L0L0L0L0L0L0L0)

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 January 10&11, 2026

The Baptism of Our Lord

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:

Bill Adams, **Gerri** Beckmann; **Dennis** Benassi; **Paul & Caroline** Bertram; **Mary Kay** Bethke; **Judy** Bonney; **Kacey** Booth; **Nancy** Caldwell; **Teegan** Cannon; **Logan** Day; **Shirley** Day; **Sandy** Dietz; **Bob & Carolyn** Delohi; **Edna** Deubel; **Sherien** Duello; **Brenda** Duncan; **Renea** Erickson; **Rich** Franzer; **Sandie** Fussner; **Peggy** Gallagher; **Connie** Gamache; **Don** Grzina; **Iris** Hackbarth; **Janine** Haffer; **Kay** Hardman; **Marie** Herrington; **Elaine** Howard; **Lizzie** Johansmann; **Edna** Kee; **Ron** Kettler; **Judith** Kirby; **Sandra** Kohrs; **Debra** Korte; **Joyce** Lang; **Betty** Lee; **Albert & Ingrid** Marhanka; **Terry** McCann; **Bill** Price; **Gloria** Rariden; **Zeita** Reed; **Eileen** Reichert; **Darlene** Rhodes; **Carol** Santoyo; **Roger** Sawall; **Vita** Sayers; **Betty** Schroeder; **Verna** Tucker; **Sharon** Wachter; **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)
Gina Chitwood (William Wichern)
Mark Chiodini (Nicholas Chiodini)
Charles Claxton Jr. (Matthew Claxton)
William Dafler (Wes Dafler)
John Darby (Rick Walkenhorst)
Blake Davis (Kari Spearman)
Olivia Erickson (Ralph & Renae Erickson)
Sandra Fleak (Becky Edgar)
Rev. Dr. **Lee** Hagan, LCMS MO Dist. President
Mark Hanna (Michael Hanna)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Jeff Johns (Denise Johns)
Bobbi Kistler (Mike Kahler)
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Joyce Kroll (David Schlesselman)
Sandy Lockwood (David Gilson)
Harry Martin (Craig Dement)
Malu Martin (Dawn Kahler)
Rev. **Garry** McCracken (Trinity, Troy)
Kenny Meyer (Carla Cooper, Karen Copper)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Violet Mittenberg (Diane Palombi)
Barton Moenster (Carolyn Bertram)
Vera Piazza (Robert & Sherry Piazza)
Cindy Preston (Maryanne McDaniel)
Drew Quinn (Terry Hardy)
Blake Schmalzer (Rebecca Schmalzer)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Christine Scott (Dianne Helvey)
Kelly Schlereth (Patti Koepf)
Mark Shearman (Lois Foster)
Noel Scott Shipley (Amy Schipper)
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)
David Steinbacher (Ernestine Wilson)
Tim (Charity Smith)
Wendell Storm (Brian Storm)
Ryan Stover (Brenda Marhanka)
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)
Sandy Wischmeyer (Marilyn Mana)
Keith Wooden (Randy Jones)

Mary Young (Elaine Alton)
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)
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)
Penni Gronewald, **Kathy** Dore Jepsen, **Mike**
Vanover ~ (Jayne Jepsen)
Alicia Kincaid, **Mark** Kincaid, **Alicia** Kleb,
Marian Schwentker ~ (Michelle Kincaid)
Brandon Ward; **George & Sandra** Roberts,
Rodger Bratvogel ~ (Elma Jane Kramer)
John Bach, **Rachel** Long ~ (Betty Lee)
Pat & Edna McCarty ~ (Orion Melton)
Susan Maag, **Steve** Wulff ~ (Menschers)
Gorman Cooper, **Janie** Machens (
~ Tina Morrison)
Virginia and **Mike** Niewald, **Ken** Wehmeyer
~ (Niewalds)
Paul Palombi, **Elsie** Palombi (Diane Palombi)
Brian Rubar, **Chase** Russell, **Carol** Sills
~ (Barb Parson)
Lee Licardi, parents **Tony** Licardi and **Taylor**
Branstetter; **Karrenbrock family**; **Sarah** Hall,
Katie Hawkey; **Maeve** Pardee & Family
~ (Jayme Price)
Amy Mueller, **Larry** Schenk (Carol Santoyo)
Charlotte Gaines, **Nisseem**, **Daniel**, Dr. **Eric**
Semler; **Larry** Kremer (Sandra Semler)
Scott Steinbruegge, **Marcia** Sheppard
~ (Bob & Karen Steinbruegge)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, January 10, 2026

9AM UnDecorating the Church
 9AM Church Game Day (gym)
 9AM Celebration of Lights Breakdown
 12:30PM Mystery Dinner Planning Meeting (1&2)
 3PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, January 11, 2026

8AM Holy Communion
 9:30AM Education Hour
 10:45AM Holy Communion
 Noon to 2PM: Mystery Dinner Rehearsal (gym)

MONDAY, January 12, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: 9AM TO NOON

9:30AM TOPS
 11AM Line Dancing
 6PM Executive Board
 6:30PM Handbells
 7:30PM Council Meeting

TUESDAY, January 13, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9AM Preschool Chapel
 9AM Ladies Guild Quilting
 10AM Women's Bible Study
 12:30PM Staff Meeting
 6PM Grace Guild
 6:30PM Adult Bible Class

WEDNESDAY, January 14, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

6:30AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
 9AM Preschool Chapel
 9:30AM Adult Bible Class
 6PM Beginning Bell Choir, Children's Choir
 6:30PM Confirmation, Midweek, LYF
 6:45PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, January 15, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

8AM News&Notes Deadline
 Circuit Meeting—Here — Welcome Center
 10AM to 2PM: American Red Cross Blood Drive
 6:30PM 20s&30s&40s Bible Class

FRIDAY, January 16, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

KOINONIA (FEBRUARY) DEADLINE

SATURDAY, January 17, 2026

January 17-19: TEC (Pastor Kohm)
 3PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, January 18, 2026

8AM Holy Communion
 9:30AM Education Hour
 + Midweek Teacher Training (Sanctuary)
 10:45AM Holy Communion
 Noon to 2PM: Mystery Dinner Rehearsal (gym)

Church Attendance for December 27&28, 2025

Service	Attendance	Communion
3PM	47	43
8AM	119	98
10:45AM	55	53
TOTAL	221	194

Church Attendance for January 3&4, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
3PM	57	54
8AM	95	70
10:45AM	102	95
TOTAL	254	219

Bible Class Attendance

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

	Week of Dec. 28, 2025	Week of Jan. 4, 2026
Little Lambs, Sunday	1	2
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	18	10
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	6	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	37	35
Women's Bible Study, Tuesday AM	All weekly classes canceled due to the holiday!	11
Adult Bible Study Tuesday PM		NA
Men's Breakfast & Bible Study		NA
Adult Bible Class, Wednesday AM		36
Wednesday Night		30
20s&30s&40s Bible Study—Thursday PM		11

Offerings: December 29, 2025 —January 4, 2026

General Fund	\$ 31,715.15
Endowment	\$ 50.00
Building Fund	\$ 260.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 152.22
Missions 4th Qtr	\$ 6,322.52

HOPE Ministries

requests items:
 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.

PRAYER LIST FOR ACTIVE MILITARY:

**Dominic Bisesi, Andrew Chema, Jacob Franke, Josh Linn,
 Thomas Matoushek, Justin Quinn, Joshua Rainwater,
 Jackson Redfield, Jesse Smith.**

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: For the family and friends of Catherine Weidler-Loney, who entered the Church Triumphant on Jan. 2, 2026. She is the mother of Nicole (David) Alton and a recent member of Holy Cross. Her funeral was held Sat., Jan. 10, in Waukesha, WI. Prayers for the family were said in last week's services.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Join the class as it delves into Psalms relating to Creation. Class is held during the Education Hour at 9:30AM in the gym.

The Technology Board is sponsoring a **Smartphone and Tablet Collection Drive** from Sat., Dec. 20, 2025, to Sun., Jan. 18, 2026 —**extended by one week**— to provide devices for Lutheran Deaf Outreach to use when traveling abroad. The devices must be less than 5 years old and capable of video conferencing. A collection box is placed in the Welcome Center on the Information Desk.

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY meets this Wed., Jan. 14, at 6:30AM. Please sign up on the Welcome Center table.

GRACE EVENING GUILD (LWML) meets Tues., Jan. 13, at 6PM in the gym. All women are welcome!

TUESDAY EVENING ADULT BIBLE CLASS led by Bruce Linn meets Tues., Jan. 13, at 6:30pm in Rms. 1&2.

FEBRUARY KOINONIA DEADLINE is Thurs., Jan. 15. Please get entries in as soon as possible. Pictures of the Celebration of Lights or Sanctuary decorations welcome.

ELDER COMMUNICATION

HEARING ASSISTANCE NOW AVAILABLE: Those with hearing aids can 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 January—March 2026 and new issues of *Lutheran Witness* are on the Welcome Center table.

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*.

H.O.P.E. FOODMINISTRIES:

Weekly Totals: Jan. 7, 2026

Families: 86

Individuals: 288

New Families: 6

FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL-ST. CHARLES

Do you have a heart for teaching and a passion for sharing Christ's love? Lutheran High School is seeking a full-time Biology teacher beginning with the 2026–2027 school year. If you feel called to this ministry or know someone who is, please **apply on the Lutheran High website** or reach out to careers@lhssc.org. Join us in our mission to equip students to Grow and Serve in Christ!

THANK YOU to the Holy Cross Church family for your prayers, support, and meals. We would also like to thank the pastors, David and the choir, the Ladies Guild, and all who offered their help during Dad's wake and funeral. Your kindness and compassion during this difficult time are greatly appreciated. ~ From the family of Joe Snyder

POINSETTIAS: Thanks to Barb & Roger Grosch and June Kirk's two sons for supporting poinsettias on the altar this season. The Elders picked up the tab for the other 11 plants; however, if you would like a poinsettia, please feel free to take one or more home today after the service.

MISSION & STEWARDSHIP BOARDS are continuing the year's theme of The Things God Has Made by supporting the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Ministries from January to March. This will include donation opportunities, a service project, and a potential visit from the Comfort Dogs to Holy Cross. Be on the lookout for more information in the coming weeks.

LENTEN DINNERS: While it may be hard to believe, Lent is near. Ash Wednesday is 40 days away. Three of 6 possible hosts have already signed up for Lenten dinners. Would your group be interested in one of those Wednesday meals? This information should be published in the February Koinonia. Please contact the church office as soon as possible. Thanks for your consideration! Available dates: Feb. 25, March 18, March 25.

PICK UP DISHES: Whether from the Celebration of Lights Cookies or a recent funeral dinner, clean platters and dishes from those events have been placed on the coat rack downstairs. Please pick up dishes.

THANK YOU to John Bertram and the crew who showed up Saturday to put Christmas decorations away!

LAY BIBLE INSTITUTE at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis: "The Unambitious Ambition: Leading Quiet Lives of Hope"; In 1 Thessalonians, St. Paul encourages us to "make it your ambition to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands." It's a surprising kind of ambition — one that sees God's grace in the small and hope in the ordinary. This workshop is for anyone who has ever questioned their significance or felt like they have to prove their worth. You do not need to make a name for yourself — the Triune God has already given you His. Sat., Feb. 7, 2026, 10AM to 3PM, Sieck Hall, Room 202. Dr. Ryan Tinetti, Associate Professor of Practical Theology. Registration: **Deadline: January 26, 2026;** csl.edu/lbi or 314.505.7286. *Students register: ce@csl.edu* Cost: \$25 (\$18 boxed lunch) *This event is free for all CSL students/spouses (without lunch).*

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.

HOLY CROSS YOUTH PRESENTS MYSTERY DINNER Sat., February 21

Annual Youth Group Fundraiser

ALIBIS
by Peter Kennedy
Everyone is *Dying*
to have this much *Fun*!

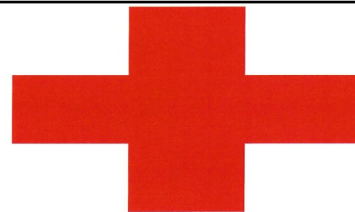
TICKETS AVAILABLE JANUARY 25

Rehearsals on Sundays, Noon to 2PM

Want to be a crew member?
Contact Shana Ziolk
at shana.ziolk@gmail.com

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of Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Give blood.
Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.
American Red Cross



Blood Drive Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Gym
8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway
O Fallon, MO 63366


Thursday, January 15, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: HolyCrossLC
to schedule an appointment.

Come to give Jan. 1-25 for chance to win trip for 2 to
Super Bowl LX in Calif! rcblood.org/SuperBowl




1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App



**TEENS
ENCOUNTER
CHRIST**

JANUARY 17-19
GLENDALE LUTHERAN CHURCH
GLENDALE, MO

\$25 per person
Must be 16 or older
RSVPs due to Pastor Kohm



Adventure, Fun, and Learning!
July 27-31, 2026*

Solon, IA
Youth going into grades 5-8.

\$75 PER YOUTH

Official Dates TBA

Lutheran Education Tuition Assistance

Holy Cross Lutheran Church supports families who desire a Lutheran Education. Students who, along with parent(s) or legal guardian(s), are members of Holy Cross are eligible for Tuition assistance. Students must be enrolled in grades K-12 at an LCMS Lutheran school in St. Charles County or in a Concordia University System (LCMS) higher education institution.



Applications are in
the Welcome
Center and must be
turned in by
March 31.

JOIN US!

July 10-14, 2026

Visit hcross.com/trip

CREATION
MUSEUM

Prepare to believe.

**ARK
ENCOUNTER®**

Hosted by

Holy Cross Lutheran Church in
O'Fallon, MO

Early Bird Closes January 15th