



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

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 17&18, 2026

The Confession of St. Peter

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 (Denice 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 Koepp)
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 & Julian 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)

Karenbrock Family (Jameson Alton, Jayme Price)

Ina Guethle, **Brian** Lewis, **Dale** Stump
~ (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 Schlumpert McCowan, **Sherrill**
Schlumpert (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
~ (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; **Sarah** Hall, **Katie** Hawkey; **Maeve**

Pardee & Family

~ (Jayme Price)

Amy Mueller, **Larry** Schenk (Carol Santoyo)

Charlotte Gaines, **Nissem**, **Daniel**, Dr. **Eric**

Sebler; **Larry** Kremer (Sandra Sebler)

Scott Steinbruegge, **Marcia** Sheppard

~ (Bob & Karen Steinbruegge)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, January 17, 2026

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)

MONDAY, January 19, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: 9AM TO NOON

PRESCHOOL IS CLOSED: MLK DAY

9:30AM TOPS

11AM Line Dancing

Noon: Mystery Dinner Meeting

4:45PM Education & Youth Board Chairs

7:30PM Council Meeting

TUESDAY, January 20, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9AM Preschool Chapel

9:10AM Preschool Recess/Gym

10AM Women's Bible Study

12:30PM Staff Meeting

1:30PM Confirmation Mtg with Elders

6:30PM Boards of Youth and Education

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9AM Preschool Chapel

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

11AM Preschool Gym/Recess

1PM Evangelism Board

6PM Beginning Bell Choir, Children's Choir

6:30PM Confirmation, Midweek, LYF

6:45PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, January 22, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

8AM News&Notes Deadline

9:10AM Preschool Gym/Recess

10:30AM Preschool Muffins with Moms (gym)

6:30PM 20s&30s&40s Bible Class

FRIDAY, January 23, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

KOINONIA PRODUCTION

9:30AM Preschool Gym/Recess

10:30AM Preschool Muffins with Moms (gym)

SATURDAY, January 24, 2026

3PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, January 25, 2026

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

Noon to 1:30PM: Preschool Open House (gym)

Noon to 1:30PM: Mystery Dinner Rehearsal (WC)

Church Attendance for January 10&11, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
3PM	46	NR
8AM	94	81
10:45AM	96	74
TOTAL	236	155

Bible Class Attendance Week of January 11, 2026

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	1	
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	11	
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	6	
Sunday Adult Bible Class	58	
New Member Orientation	NA	
Tuesday Women's 10AM	11	
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	4	
Men's Breakfast & Bible	15	
Wednesday AM Bible Class	35	
Wednesday Nights	37	
20s&30s Thursday	12	

Offerings: January 5-11, 2026

General Fund	\$ 15,178.31
Endowment	\$ 100.00
Building Fund	\$ 50.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 270.02
Missions 4th Qtr	\$ 6,592.52

Year to Date as of 11/30/2025

Income	\$ 700,147.69
Expenses	\$ 703,217.68
Deficit	\$ (3,069.99)

LENT
Begins In 32 Days

Midweek Theme: Forgiveness

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.**

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES:

Weekly Totals: Jan. 14, 2026

Families: 70 Individuals: 224

New Families: 0

ELDER COMMUNICATION

HEARING ASSISTANCE 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.

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

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, Ash Wednesday is 32 days away. Four of 6 possible hosts have already signed up for Lenten dinners. Would your group be interested in one of those Wednesday meals? Please contact the church office as soon as possible. Thanks for your consideration! Available dates: Feb. 25 or March 11.

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

ORGAN COMMITTEE

With the frequent recent mechanical failures of the organ, the Church Council has authorized a committee to begin pursuing a replacement of the organ. The committee includes David Gilson, Wes Dafler, and Karen Belter, with Andy Goodman serving as an advisory member. The process is still in its early stages, but please feel free to reach out to David with any questions you might have.

SING AWAY THE WINTER BLUES: On Sunday, Feb. 1, people of all ages are invited to "Sing Away the Winter Blues" to residents in several local retirement communities. Meet in the church parking lot at 2:30PM and travel in car pools to retirement homes of several members. We will be singing hymns and other spiritual songs you know and enjoy. No music talent is required, only the desire to brighten someone's day and your own. We should finish between 4:30 and 5PM. Please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Center so we can plan for the afternoon.

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).*

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

HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL ART SHOW AND SENSORY OPEN HOUSE:

Please join us next Sunday, Jan. 25, for the Preschool Art Show and Sensory Open House from Noon to 1:30PM.

Activities:

- ◆ Slime and Play-Doh.
- ◆ Obstacle course with Balance Gym.
- ◆ Cars with Mats.
- ◆ Legos — and much more.
- ◆ Students' artwork will be on display in the hallway for your viewing pleasure (Multiply projects).

Please join us for this free event and bring a friend. A light snack will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Director Dani Richardson at drichardson@hcross.com or 636-272-4505 Ext: 106

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION for the 2026-2027 school year opens to the public on February 1. Children must be 3 or 4 years old before August 1, 2026.

FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL-ST. CHARLES

It's time to **PACK THE DEN!** Join us on Fri., Jan. 23, pack the stands and bring the energy for Cougar Girls Basketball! The Varsity game is at 6PM. First 50 students get FREE giveaways! Fill the gym, support our athletes, and show what Cougar Nation is all about!

Congratulations to our Quarter 2 Cougar Character Award Winners:

Ruth Ohmie 9th; Kaitlyn Stemme 10th; John Bain 11th; Ryan Feldhake (12)

Dads & Daughters — make sweet memories together! Join the Sapphires for **A Night in Candy Land**, Sat. Jan. 31, from 6:30–8:30PM. Register today: <https://payit.nelnet.net/form/lnha7paG>

Trivia Night 2026: Get your teams together now!

Registration is now open on this site:

<https://lutheranhightcharles.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/2026LutheranHighTriviaNight/tbid/1572319/Default.aspx>

Event Details:

- Date:** Friday, February 27
- Time:** Doors open at 6PM, Trivia Begins at 7PM
- Location:** LHS Commons
- Theme:** 90's vs. 00's – Test your knowledge of everything from the 90's and 2000's!
- Team Size:** Teams of 8 people (so grab your squad!)

Get ready to answer questions about music, pop culture, movies, and more – all based on these two epic decades. Whether you lived through the 90's, the 00's, or both, this night promises tons of nostalgia and fun!

Lutheran High School is seeking mission-driven educators and ministry partners for the upcoming school year.

Open positions include: Full-Time Biology Teacher, Part-Time Spanish Teacher, Part Time Strings Teacher, Curriculum Coordinator, and Director of Student Engagement, which includes both teaching and programming. Please visit the LHS website and apply under "Work at LHS" or reach out to careers@lhssc.org with questions.

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
Usually in the gym

Want to be a crew member?
Contact Shana Ziolko
at shana.ziolko@gmail.com

Produced by special arrangement with
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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



Hosted by
Holy Cross Lutheran Church in
O'Fallon, MO

Early Bird Closes January 15th

Serv'n in the Hills

**HIGH SCHOOL
SERVANT EVENT**
MAY 30-JUNE 6



CAMP TRINITY
NEW HAVEN, MO
\$50 PER PERSON
REGISTER BY MAY 1

**... VBS ...
Save the Date**

June 22-26, 2026
Holy Cross
Lutheran Church



**SAVE THE
DATE**

June 30-July 3, 2026
Rising 9th - 2026 Grads



**CONFIRMATION CAMP
SAVE THE DATE**

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

