



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 24&25, 2026

The Conversion of St. Paul

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, **Pam** Beck, **Gerri** Beckmann; **Dennis** Benassi; **Paul & Carolyn** Bertram; **Mary Kay** Bethke; **Judy** Bonney; **Kacey** Booth; **Nancy** Caldwell; **Teegan** Cannon; **Doris** Coots; **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; **Roger & Sadie** Liefer; **Albert & Ingrid** Marhanka; **Terry** McCann; **Bill** Price; **Gloria** Rariden; **Zeita** Reed; **Eileen** Reichert; **Darlene** Rhodes; **Carol** Santoyo; **Roger** Sawall; **Vita** Sayers; **Betty** Schroeder; **Marion** Schwentker; **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 & 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, **Brian** Lewis, **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 Schlampert McCowan, **Sherrill** Schlampert (Loretta Ezell)
Scott Brockmann; **Lois** Jobe, **Ron** Kasten
~ (Jan Flintke)
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, ~
(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)
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)
Denny Morrison, **Mike** Schweiss (Sue Williams)
Therese and **Roger** Daoin

WE PRAY for the family and friends of Dennis Rattner, husband of Anita Rattner, who died this week. Service will be held at a later date.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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: Mystery Dinner Rehearsal (gym)

MONDAY, January 26, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: 9AM TO NOON

9:30AM TOPS

9:30AM Preschool Gym/Recess

11AM Line Dancing

6:30PM Bell Choir

TUESDAY, January 27, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9AM Preschool Chapel

9AM Ladies Guild Quilting (Gym)

9:10AM Preschool Recess/Gym

10AM Koinonia Krew (Gym)

10AM Women's Bible Study

12:30PM Staff Meeting

6:30PM Adult Bible Class (Rm 1&2)

WEDNESDAY, January 28, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9AM Preschool Chapel

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

11AM Preschool Gym/Recess

6PM Beginning Bell Choir, Children's Choir

6:30PM Confirmation, Midweek, LYF

6:45PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, January 29, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

8AM News&Notes Deadline

9:10AM Preschool Gym/Recess

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

FRIDAY, January 30, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9:30AM Preschool Gym/Recess

SATURDAY, January 31, 2026

3PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, February 1, 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)

1:30PM Board of Elders

2:30PM Caroling: Sing Away the Blues

Church Attendance for January 17&18, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
3PM	43	39
8AM	90	77
10:45AM	83	69
TOTAL	216	185

Bible Class Attendance Week of January 18, 2026

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	2	
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	18	
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	6	
Sunday Adult Bible Class	47	
New Member Orientation	NA	
Tuesday Women's 10AM	13	
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	NA	
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA	
Wednesday AM Bible Class	33	
Wednesday Nights	39	
20s&30s Thursday	12	

Offerings: January 12-13, 2026

General Fund	\$ 13,355.31
Endowment	\$ 10.00
Building Fund	\$ 50.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 590.62
Missions 4th Qtr	\$ 7,183.16

Year to Date as of 11/30/2025

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

LENT
Begins In 25 Days
ASH WEDNESDAY: FEB. 18
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**. Requested food for February: Tuna, Tuna Helper, Spaghetti Noodles, Pasta Roni

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES:

Weekly Totals: Jan. 21, 2026

Families: 79 Individuals: 264

New Families: 3

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 the Psalms. Class is held during the Education Hour at 9:30AM in the gym.

SING AWAY THE WINTER BLUES: On Sun., 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 sing hymns and spiritual songs that 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.*

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 25 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.

ORGAN COMMITTEE: With the 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.

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!

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: Jan. 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: NEW DATE!

Please join us next Sunday, Feb. 1, 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

Lutheran High School is committed to preparing students for Christ-centered lives of purpose and service. We are currently receiving inquiries and preparing applications for several 2026-2027 staffing needs. If you know someone gifted in teaching or student engagement, please invite them to visit our website apply under "Work at LHS" or careers@lhssc.org with questions.

Join us for **Pink Out Night** as Cougar Basketball takes the court in support of cancer awareness and research. We're proud to partner with the American Cancer Society and Coaches vs. Cancer for two nights of competition, community, and purpose. Wear pink!

Thurs., Feb. 5: Boys vs. Hazelwood West, 4:30PM & 6PM

Fri., Feb. 6: Girls vs. Tipton, 5:30PM & 7PM

Dads & Daughters 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/tabid/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!)

Thank you so much for all of your hard work and support in hosting the recent **Holy Cross Lutheran Church blood drive**. Thanks to your efforts, we were able to collect **13 units on our goal of 15**, which will have a meaningful impact on patients in need across our community.

Marshall Wallut
American Red Cross - Blood Services

Our next Blood Drive at Holy Cross is March 12.

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

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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

CREATION MUSEUM
Prepare to believe.

ARK
ENCOUNTER®

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

Regular Registration Due March 15

FLOWER AND PLANT SALE IS COMING Good news!! The Holy Cross Ladies Guild will hold its annual flower and plant sale again this spring! Please watch the *News&Notes* and *Koinonia* for more information soon.

BIRTHDAY WISHES: These January birthdays were left off the *Koinonia* list unintentionally (production error —sorry!). Please wish them a blessed birthday:

January 30: Baylee Albano, Cindy Buehne, Floyd Darling Jr., Jack Estill, Anthony Losch, Barbara Wittenberger
January 31: Trudy Belter, Brody Van Wave

