



News & Notes for February 28 & March 1, 2026

The Second Sunday in Lent

WELCOME TO EVERYONE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY

PRAYER REQUESTS: Submit prayer requests by filling out a prayer card found in the pew and putting it in the offering plate. Or call or email the church office. Confidential prayer requests are shared with the Pastors but not published.

WE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Gerri Beckmann; Dennis Benassi; Paul & Carolyn Bertram; Mary Kay Bethke; Judy Bonney; Kacey Booth; Nancy Caldwell; Teegan Cannon; Doris Coots; Kathleen Day; Logan Day; Shirley Day; Sandy Dietz; Bob & Carolyn Delohi; Edna Deubel; Sherien Duello; Brenda Duncan; Renea Erickson; Rich Franzer; Ken & Sandie Fussner; Peggy Gallagher; Connie Gamache; Don Grzina; Iris Hackbarth; Janine Haffer; Kay Hardman; Marie Herrington; Elaine Howard; Lizzie Johansmann; Mike Kahler; Frieda Karl; 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; Wayne Walkenhorst; Paul Weber; Larry Williams; Ernestine Wilson.

WE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
Layne Chartrand (Mark & Linda Ziolk)
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)
Hobie Dufort (Jonathan Frasch)
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)
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)
Kelly Schlereth (Patti Koepf)
Brenda Schlimpert McCowan (Loretta Ezell)
Blake Schmalzer (Rebecca Schmalzer)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Christine Scott (Dianne Helvey)
Mark Shearman (Lois Foster)
Noel Scott Shipley (Amy Schipper)
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)
David Steinbacher (Ernestine Wilson)
Rev. **Aaron** Sterling (Georgia)
Tim (Charity Smith)
Ryan Stover (Brenda Marhanka)
Stanika Todorova (Paul & Juliana Frerichs)
Rita Unzer (Karl Schnoor)
Frank Wachter (Elaine Howard)
Lance Watkins (Jesse Smith)
Bobette Wetzal (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)
Carl Bradley, **Butch** Whitworth, **Kathy** Lewis
(Jerry & Darlene Bradley)
Eddie Collier, **Bruce** Brown, **Rush** Brown
(Denise Collier)
Tom Heins, **Tony** LaChance, **Bill** Pratt
~ (Becky Coomer)
Brian Ottinger, **Scott** Ottinger (Carla Cooper)
Hilda & Doug Breden (Kathleen Day)
Ben & Pat Northcutt (Bryan Drilling)
Janet Davidson, **Lowell** Duncan (Don Duncan)
Scott Brockmann; **Lois** Jobe, **Ron** Kasten
~ (Jan Flentke)
Bennett Hoemann, **Eileen** Marting (Mark
Hoemann)
Matt & Alissa Schneider (Jean Holthe)
Tim Deppe, **Rich** Waiwood (Kent & Janine Haffer)
Penni Gronewald, **Kathy** Dore Jepsen,
Mike Vanover ~ (Jayne Jepsen)
Alicia Kincaid, **Mark** Kincaid, **Alicia** Kleb
~ (Michelle Kincaid)
George & Sandra Roberts (Elma Jane Kramer)
John Bach, **Rachel** Long ~ (Betty Lee)
Pat & Edna McCarty ~ (Orion Melton)
James Olek, **Susan** Maag, **Steve** Wulff ~
(Neal & Cynthia Menscher)
Gorman Cooper, **Janie** Machens
~ Tina Morrison)
Virginia and **Mike** Niewald ~ (Niewalds)
Paul Palombi, **Elsie** Palombi (Diane Palombi)
Brian Rubar, **Chase** Russell, **Carol** Sills
~ (Barb Parson)
Sarah Hall, **Katie** Hawkey; **Mary Ellen**
McAlister; **Maeve** Pardee & Family ~ (Jayme
Price)
Irina, Cara, Mindi, Richard, Dawn, Ross,
David ~ Patricik Szopiniki
Amy Mueller, **Larry** Schenk (Carol Santoyo)
Charlotte Gaines, **Nisseem, Daniel**, Dr. **Eric**
Semler (Sandra Semler)
Scott Steinbruegge, **Marcia** Sheppard
~ (Bob & Karen Steinbruegge)
Connie Uhlis, **Tommy** Uhlis (Sue Williams)

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/UC...)

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



WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, February 28, 2026

PRESCHOOL BUTTER BRAIDS FUNDRAISER BEGINS

LADIES GUILD FLOWER SALE BEGINS

3PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, March 1, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

PRESCHOOL BUTTER BRAIDS FUNDRAISER BEGINS

LADIES GUILD FLOWER SALE BEGINS

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

+ Music Rehearsal in Sanctuary

10:45AM Holy Communion

+ Preschool Sings + Holy Baptism

1:30PM Board of Elders

MONDAY, March 2, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9:30AM TOPS

9:30AM Preschool Recess/Gym

11AM Line Dancing

1:30AM Preschool Recess/Gym

6:30PM Bell Choir

TUESDAY, March 3, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

9AM Preschool Chapel

9:10AM Preschool Recess/Gym

10AM Women's Bible Study (Rm 1&2)

12:30PM Staff Meeting

3PM Preschool Board Meeting

6:30PM Boards of Stewardship & Missions

WEDNESDAY, March 4, 2026

LENT MIDWEEK 2

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9AM Preschool Chapel

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

11AM Service of Prayer & Preaching

11AM Preschool Gym/Recess

1:30PM Preschool Gym/Recess

5:30PM Lenten Dinner: Missions & Stewardship

6:15PM Confirmation Level 100 & 200

7PM Evening Prayer

8PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, March 5, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

NEWS&NOTES DEADLINE

9AM HOPE Seeds

9:10AM Preschool Gym/Recess

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

FRIDAY, March 6, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9:30AM Preschool Gym/Recess

SATURDAY, March 7, 2026

PRESCHOOL BUTTER BRAIDS FUNDRAISER

LADIES GUILD FLOWER SALE

2PM Holy Baptism

3PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, March 8, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

PRESCHOOL BUTTER BRAIDS FUNDRAISER BEGINS

LADIES GUILD FLOWER SALE BEGINS

8AM Holy Communion + LHS Choir

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

Church Attendance for February 21&22, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
3PM	69	65
8AM	88	74
10:45AM	74	61
TOTAL	231	200

ASH WEDNESDAY ATTENDANCE: FEB. 25, 2026		
11AM	55	—
7PM	68	—
TOTAL	123	—

Bible Class Attendance Week of February 22, 2026

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	1
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	15
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	6
Sunday Adult Bible Class	53
New Member Orientation	—
Tuesday Women's 10AM	11
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	NR
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM Bible Class	40
Wednesday Nights	17
20s&30s Thursday	6

Offerings: February 16-22, 2026

General Fund	\$	16,036.28
Endowment	\$	10.00
Building Fund	\$	20.00
Missions Weekly	\$	180.02
Missions 1st Qtr	\$	2,960.74

Year to Date as of 12/31/2025

Income	\$	797,091.37
Expenses	\$	782,240.70
Surplus	\$	14,850.67

LENT Midweek 2 Theme:

Forgiveness Is Our Greatest Need

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 March: *Beef Stew, Jelly, Peas, Pork & Beans*

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES: Weekly Totals: Feb. 25, 2026
Families: 87 Individuals: 290 New Families: 8

ELDER COMMUNICATION

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE: Instructions for its use are provided in the Welcome Center.

CONTACT AN ELDER: Contact them if you have questions or concerns regarding services, policies, procedures, personal or other issues. Or 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.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: Robert Kohrs, brother of Harold Kohrs, died Feb. 23. Robert, 94, was a long-time member of Immanuel St. Charles before moving to Phoenix, AZ, where he died. Funeral arrangements are not finalized but will be handled by Baue, and his obituary will be published on their website with further details.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Join the class at 9:30AM to learn about Imprecatory Psalms.

HOLY BAPTISM: Judith A. Kirby will be baptized in the 10:45AM service.

LENT DEVOTIONALS have been replenished.

WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS on Tuesday, 10AM, will begin a new topic on the Four Gospels.

PRESCHOOL BOARD MEETING on Tues., March 3 at 3PM.

LENTEN DINNERS: This week's dinner on March 4 will be hosted by Missions & Stewardship Boards. The menu will be soup, salads, desserts. Next up: Elders (pancakes) **March 11**; Grace Guild (casseroles, bread sticks, salad, desserts), **March 18**; Wednesday Morning Bible Class, **March 25**. *Thanks to these groups for volunteering!*

FLOWER AND PLANT SALE STARTS THIS WEEKEND

The Ladies Guild Flower and Plant Sale starts this weekend, Feb. 28/March 1, through March. Please visit the flower sale table in the Welcome Center before and after services to see the many beautiful choices available. Orders must be paid by cash or check payable to Holy Cross Ladies Guild at the time of the order. Flower pickup is May 2&3. Thank you for being so supportive.

ALLELUIA BASKETS: Grace Guild is sponsoring a morning of packing baskets for Alleluia Baskets on March 19 from 10 to 11AM. Alleluia Baskets has moved to **401 E. Wabash St., O'Fallon, MO 63366**. If you would like to come, please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Center. Most needed items to fill baskets include bubbles, teen deodorant, and decks of cards. Donations from any member can be put in the designated container in the Welcome Center. For more information, contact Darlene Drilling or the church office.

COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS Available at Holy Cross

Would you like to eat fresh vegetables and save money at the grocery store? Holy Cross will again have 10-foot by 12-foot garden plots available for members this year. Compost was added last fall, and the ground will be tilled once the weather warms up. You may plant whatever you like; and are responsible for weeding, watering, and harvesting. The cost for a plot is \$20 for the season. If you are interested in a plot, please contact David Schlesselman at 636-578-1766 or daschlesselman@gmail.com. We pray that participants will be blessed through the physical exercise, the fellowship with other gardeners, and the fruits of their labor.

Vocatio: Retreat at Concordia Seminary: College students and second-career men and women considering service as a pastor, deaconess, missionary, or chaplain are invited to *Vocatio: Retreat April 12-15, 2026*, at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. This distinctively Lutheran retreat offers an introduction to life as a seminarian, as participants spend time in God's Word and join in sessions with the Seminary's renowned faculty. Register by March 22 at www.csl.edu/vocatio-retreat or by Googling "Vocatio: Retreat Concordia Seminary."

PRESCHOOL BUTTER BRAIDS FUNDRAISER

The Preschool is offering products from Show Me Dough, including the original Butter Braids pastry, frozen pizzas, cake rolls, and cookie dough in individual servings. Orders may be placed online (QR code available next weekend) or in person. Preschool Board members will be in the Welcome Center to collect order forms each Saturday **and Sunday, Feb. 28 - March 15**. Orders may also be dropped off at the Church office during office hours. All orders are due by Wed., March 18. Items will be available for **pick-up on Mon., March 30, 3 to 5 PM, in the gym** just in time for Easter. Funds raised will be used for playground improvements. Call Dani Richardson at 636-272-4505 for more information.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2025 Offering Statements for Church Members who do not have an email address in Breeze or who have requested paper statements were mailed Fri., Jan. 30, 2026.

All other offering statements were **emailed to members at 9AM on Fri., Jan. 30, 2026. Please check your spam folder** if you did not receive it in your inbox.

If you have any questions, contact **Brenda Marhanka, the church bookkeeper. She is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons after 1PM, and can be reached by email (bookkeeper@hcross.com) or voicemail (636.272.4505 x 105) any time.**

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.**

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



FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL-ST. CHARLES

Lutheran High School has **completed the first phase** of the *Empowered by Christ: Enriching Our Future* campaign. Seven new classrooms and two new science labs are already in daily use. These spaces support collaboration, hands-on learning, and faith formation. Students are growing academically while being grounded in Christ. This reflects our commitment to spiritual and academic excellence. Phase II builds on this strong foundation. The next phase focuses on expanding student opportunities through additional space. These improvements directly support our mission to *Grow and Serve in Christ*. Thank you for supporting a strong Lutheran, Christ-centered education.

Congratulations to our Wrestling State Qualifiers!

Caleb Dyer and Colin McLean are headed to the **Mizzou Arena** to compete for a State title after a strong showing at **Class 2 District 2! District Results: 1st Place** – Caleb Dyer (113 lb); **3rd Place** – Colin McLean (120 lb).

LHS announces the start of an **Intentional Christian Grandparenting Group**. Come on Sun., March 8, from 3 to 4 PM at Lutheran High School in the Library, to hear the vision, ask questions, and see how grandparents can support one another. All grandparents, future grandparents, and adult children who want to encourage their parents' spiritual role are welcome! Light refreshments will be served. RSVP on the LHS website or contact Vince & Karen Braddy (+kvb6483@gmail.com).

STAFFING for 2026-2027: If you know someone gifted in teaching or student engagement, please invite them to visit the LHS website and apply under "Work at LHS" or reach out to careers@lhssc.org with questions.

The **LUTHERAN HIGH HALL OF HONOR** celebrates alumni, athletes, coaches, teachers, and supporters who exemplify faith, service, and excellence. Nominations are open until March 15, 2026. Nominate a deserving individual whose contributions reflect the Christ-centered values that define LHS. Celebrate those who have shaped our legacy! More information and the nomination form are found on the LHS website. Questions: contact Dr. Doug Kuhlmann at dkuhlmann@lhssc.org

WALTHER LEAGUE 2.0 Bible Study Dates for the remainder of the school year at LHS: March 11, April 15, May 13! Join us at 8:15AM in the Academic Success Center. After the study, stay for Chapel at 9:20AM. Park at the front entrance, enter through the main doors, and head right to find the Academic Success Center (Library). Pastor Millard is leading a study through the Book of Revelation.

ANNUAL SAUSAGE DINNER AND SPRING BAZAAR

Sun., March 1, 2026, Serving 11AM—3PM. Carry-outs available 11:30-3:30PM. **Immanuel Lutheran Church—Olivette** (9733 Olive Blvd. (east of St. Paul's cemetery; 3 miles east of I-270). Featuring home-made sausage made by the Immanuel Men's Club. Menu includes all you can eat pork sausage, real mashed potatoes, with gravy, sauerkraut w/pork meat, green beans w/ bacon & onion, applesauce, bread, dessert (pie, cake, cookies), drinks. Adults \$16; Children (6-12) \$8; children 5 and under — free; All carry-outs \$16 The Spring Bazaar features many hand-made, unique items.

JOIN US!
 July 10-14, 2026
 Visit hcross.com/trip

CREATION MUSEUM
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ARK ENCOUNTER®

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

Regular Registration Closes March 15th

LASE Specialized Education is seeking part-time and full-time Educational Specialists to serve the growing needs of our Lutheran partner schools. The demand for Christ-centered special educators and speech therapists to support and encourage our unique learners continues to rise. Should you be seeking a new avenue to share your gifts and experience, or if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact LASE's Executive Director, Rev. John Jameson, by phone (text/call) at 636-515-0501, or at john.jameson@lutheranspecialied.org

SALEM (AFFTON) MEN'S CLUB has **RESCHEDULED** its **SAUSAGE DINNER**, to **Sun., March 1**, from 11AM-4PM in the Salem School Cafeteria (originally scheduled for Sun., Feb. 1). Tickets are still available (\$14 per adult / \$6 per child, ages 5-12/ kids age 4 and younger eat free!). Call their church office for ticket information. Previously purchased tickets will be honored March 1. Contact Tim Howard at 314-574-7596 for a refund if unable to attend.