



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, 5PM
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



News & Notes for May 2&3, 2026 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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:

Chris Alton; **Jameson** Alton; **Brian** Belter; **Dennis** Benassi; **Carolyn** Bertram; **Mary Kay** Bethke; **Kacey** Booth; **Nancy** Caldwell; **Logan** Day; **Shirley** Day; **Bob & Carolyn** Delohi; **Edna** Deubel; **Sandy** Dietz; **Sherien** Duello; **Brenda** Duncan; **Renea** Erickson; **Lois** Foster; **Rich** Franzer; **Ken & Sandie** Fussner; **Peggy** Gallagher; **Connie** Gamache; **Don** Grzina; **Iris** Hackbarth; **Marie** Herrington; **Jayne** Jepsen; **Lizzie** Johansmann; **Emily** Kahler; **Mike** Kahler; **Frieda** Karl; **Edna** Kee; **Ron** Kettler; **Judith** Kirby; **Sandra** Kohrs; **Debra** Korte; **Joyce** Lang; **Betty** Lee; **Sadie** Liefer; **Albert & Ingrid** Marhanka; **Terry** McCann; **Maryanne** McDaniel; **Mabel** McKinney; **Barb** Parsons; **Bill** Price; **Gloria** Rariden; **Zeita** Reed; **Darlene** Rhodes; **Carol** Santoyo; **Roger** Sawall; **Vita** Sayers; **Betty** Schroeder; **Wayne** Walkenhorst; **Larry** Williams; **Ernestine** Wilson.

WE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Addie (5yo in serious condition)
Charlie (former HC Preschool Student)
Joe Bryan (Karen Copper)
Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
Layne Chartrand (Mark & Linda Ziolko)
Gina Chitwood (William Wichern)
Mark Chiodini (Nicholas Chiodini)
Charles Claxton Jr. (Matthew Claxton)
John Darby (Rick Walkenhorst)
Blake Davis (Kari Spearman)
Hobie Dufort (Jonathan Frasch)
Emilie Dusheke (Dale & Karen Dusheke)
Olivia Erickson (Ralph & Renae Erickson)
Sandra Fleak (Becky Edgar)
Rev. Dr. **Lee** Hagan, LCMS Missouri District 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)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Mike Niewald (Niewalds)
Vera Piazza (Robert & Sherry Piazza)
Cindy Preston (Maryanne McDaniel)
Kelly Schlereth (Patti Koepf)
Brenda McCowan (Loretta Ezell)
Blake Schmalzer (Rebecca Schmalzer)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Christine Scott (Dianne Helvey)
Gina Schweer (John Bertram)
Mark Shearman (Lois Foster)
Noel Scott Shipley (Amy Schipper)
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)
Ryan Stover (Brenda Marhanka)
Tim (Charity Smith)
Stanika Todorova (Juliana Frerichs)
Leo Troxel (Alice Buehne)
Rita Unzer (Karl Schnoor);
Linda Vesper (Mike Vesper)
Frank Wachter (Elaine Howard);
Lance Watkins (Jesse Smith)
Bobette Wetzel (Faith Blackwell)

Mary Young (Elaine Alton)
John Allquist III, **Duane** Stuewe (Janet Allquist)
Ina Guethle, **Dale** Stumpf, **Larry** Zuhone (Amanda Alton)
Carson Aston, **Chlaara** Aston, **Sharon** Staten (Lisa Aston)
Krill Family (Trudy Belter)
Mike & Norma, Terry (Greg & Judy Bonney)
Carl Bradley, **Kathy** Lewis (Darlene Bradley)
Eddie Collier, **Bruce** Brown, **Rush** Brown (Denise Collier)
Tom Heins, **Tony** LaChance, **Bill** Pratt (Becky Coomer)
Brian Ottinger, **Scott** Ottinger (Carla Cooper)
Duane Daffler, **William** Daffler (Wes Daffler)
Ben & Pat Northcutt (Bryan Drilling)
Janet Davidson, **Lowell** Duncan (Don Duncan)
Scott Brockmann; **Lois** Jobe (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)
Morie Winn; **Keith** Wooden (Randy Jones)
Alicia & Mark Kincaid, **Alicia** Kleb, **Mike** Snead (Michelle Kincaid)
George & Sandra Roberts (Elma Jane Kramer)
Donna Fleischacker-Maheras, **Jen** Gabaluther & Family,
Kastens Family; **Nanette** Zander (Peggy Kuerschner)
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)
Violet Mittenberg, **Paul** Palombi, **Elsie** Palombi (Diane Palombi)
Brian Rubar, **Chase** Russell, **Carol** Sills (Barb Parson)
Sarah Hall, **Katie** Hawkey; **Mary Ellen** McAlister;
Maeve Pardee & Family, **Lori** Miller, **Sarah** Cattan (Jayme Price)
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)
Len Cox, **David** Steinbacher (Ernestine Wilson)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, May 2, 2026

10AM TO 1PM: Plant & Flower Distribution

+ Before and after Service

5PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, May 3, 2026

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

+ Children's Choir

1PM Facilities Committee

1:30PM Board of Elders

MONDAY, May 4, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9:30AM TOPS

9:30AM Preschool Recess

11AM Line Dancing

6:30PM Bell Choir

TUESDAY, May 5, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9AM Preschool Chapel

9:10AM Preschool Recess

10AM Women's Bible Study

12:30PM Staff Meeting

3PM Preschool Board Meeting

6:30PM Missions & Stewardship

WEDNESDAY, May 6, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9AM Preschool Chapel

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

11AM Preschool Gym

1-5:30PM Preschool-Parent Conferences

6PM Beginning Bells; Children's Choir

6:30PM Confirmation, Midweek, LYF

6:45PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, May 7, 2026

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: 6-8AM, 11-7PM

RED ROBIN FUNDRAISER FOR PRESCHOOL—ALL DAY

NEWS&NOTES DEADLINE 8AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

RED ROBIN FUNDRAISER FOR PRESCHOOL—ALL DAY

9AM HOPE Seeds

1-5:30PM Preschool-Parent Conferences

9:10AM Preschool Recess

6:30PM 20s&30s&40s Bible Study Rm 1&2

FRIDAY, May 8, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

10AM Ladies Guild

9:30AM Preschool Recess

5PM Youth Paint Ball — offsite

7PM High School Youth Lock-in at Church

SATURDAY, May 9, 2026

9AM TO NOON: TEC 1&2 Meetings

3:30PM Rose Sale Setup

5PM Holy Communion

◆ **Grace Guild Rose Sale**

◆ **Personal Care Items for Seminary Families** Begins through Father's Day

SUNDAY, May 10, 2026

Mother's Day; Grace Guild Rose Sale

Personal Care Items Drive for Seminary Families

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: EASTER 4 April 25 & 26, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
5PM	72	69
8AM	92	78
10:45AM	83	77
TOTAL	247	224

Bible Class Attendance	
Week of April 26, 2026	
<i>NA=not applicable; NR=not reported; C= cancelled</i>	
Little Lambs, Sunday	2
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	13
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	64
New Member Orientation	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	11
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	6
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM Bible Class	48
Wednesday Nights	28
20s&30s Thursday	7

Offerings: April 20-26, 2026	
General Fund	\$ 11,478.06
Endowment	\$ 100.00
Building Fund	\$ 140.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 60.02
Missions 1st Qtr	\$ 9,890.42

Year to Date as of 03/31/2026	
Income	\$ 202,418.56
Expenses	\$ 193,236.22
Surplus	\$ 9,182.34

WE PRAY FOR ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS & RELATIVES
Dominic Bisesi, Andrew Chema, Jacob Franke, Josh Linn, Thomas Matoushek, Doug Mundt, Justin Quinn, Joshua Rainwater, Jackson Redfield, Jesse Smith.

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 May: *Pasta Roni, Tuna Helper, dry potatoes (may include mashed potatoes), pasta noodles*.

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES: Weekly Totals: April 29, 2026
 Families: 79 Individuals: 237 New Families: 4

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.

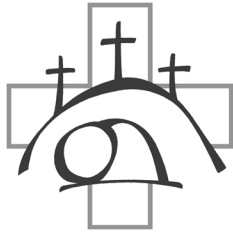
CONTACT AN ELDER: Their pictures are displayed in the Welcome Center, so contact them if you have questions or concerns regarding services, policies, procedures, personal or other issues. You may also contact either Pastor. Personal issues will be kept confidential.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for April—June 2026 and new issues of *Lutheran Witness* are 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 coat rack by the kitchen.



RESURRECTION WORKSHOP

Come and learn how the Resurrection victory impacts our life, death, burial and the funeral of a Christian

Sundays at 9:30 AM & Tuesdays at 10 AM

HAPPY EASTER 5!

This weekend we continue our celebration of Easter. Saturday service time has changed to 5PM. Adult Bible Class on Sunday will continue the Resurrection Workshop.

CALL DAY! Holy Cross Seminarian **Isaac Conrad** learned that he and his wife Alyssa have been assigned to Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School in Lakewood, Colorado, for his vicarage. The Conrads will leave for their assignment late this summer.



From Grace Evening Guild:

MOTHER'S DAY ROSE SALE Grace Guild will host its Rose Sale on Mother's Day weekend. Long-stemmed roses specially tagged for Mother's Day will be available thirty minutes before and after services, May 9-10. Honor a mother, aunt, grandmother, good friend, or other significant woman in your life. Freewill offering. Proceeds will be given to the Holy Cross Organ Fund.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS: Grace Guild is celebrating the parents of Concordia Seminary. Between Mother's Day, May 10, and Father's Day, June 21, personal care items for Dads/men and Moms/women and other items needed for young families will be collected for the Concordia Seminary Food Bank. A pack-n-play will be set up in the Welcome Center to collect items. A box will be included for cards and messages of encouragement for the parents. We pray for God's blessings on the Concordia Seminary families.

CAN YOU READ A LITTLE BIT OF SCRIPTURE IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE? On Pentecost Sunday, May 24, something new will be added to our worship here at Holy Cross. And you're invited to be part of it! When the Second Reading for the day is read, different voices will join in speaking two verses from Acts 2. Perhaps you can read in Spanish ... or German ... or French ... or Greek ... or Polish ... or Swahili ... or any other language you or your ancestors spoke in the past or that you studied (or are studying now). The two verses will be Acts 2:17 and 2:21. If you don't have a Bible in a different language, you can find these verses translated at www.biblegateway.com. If you're curious about this or committed to being part of it, send an e-mail to Rev. Mark Barz – one of our newest members here at Holy Cross – at barzm@csl.edu.

COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS Available at Holy Cross Holy Cross will offer 10-foot by 12-foot garden plots 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; you 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 636-636.578.1766.

MUSIC DIRECTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Thank you to everyone for your kind and heartfelt words, messages, and cards for my appreciation Sunday. Thank you especially to the CWST for putting together a wonderful event last week. It is such a joy to worship and make music with all of you!

-- David Gilson

Ascension Day Join us for worship on Thurs., May 14, at 7PM as we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord. This feast of the church year is celebrated 40 days after Easter, and our service will include Holy Communion and an Easter hymn sing.

From Church Council:

PROPOSED NEW PLAYGROUND & FUNDRAISING:

The Building Committee has determined we will need a new playground before the 2026-2027 preschool academic year, since the current one no longer meets state requirements. An official proposal will be presented at the May Voters' Meeting; however, the Church Council has approved preliminary steps and want to begin raising funds for this need now. The proposed all-inclusive cost of the playground is \$90,000. If you would like to contribute to this project, specify Preschool Playground on the check memo line, or write it on the envelope with your contribution and place in the offering plate. Contributions can also be made online at Simply Giving/Vanco.

From Ladies Guild:

FLOWER AND PLANT ORDERS PICKUP NEXT WEEKEND: Flowers and plants should be picked up **Fri., May 1, from 3PM to 6PM; and Sat., May 2, from 10AM to 1PM;** and **before and after the Saturday worship service.** [[**No Sunday pickup** for flowers and plants.]]

CASH CULTIVATOR REMINDER! If you bought any of the Cash Cultivator gift certificates from the Ladies Guild Flower and Plant Sale, it's time to spend them! Ladies Guild gets an extra percentage if you spend your Cash Cultivators at Parkview Gardens between April 15 and May 15. Of course, you can use them anytime you want, but please consider using them during this time to add to our profits and allow us to donate even more to the World Lutheran Deaf Outreach. Thank you!

WORLD LUTHERAN DEAF OUTREACH

Pastor Reinke will visit the May 8 Holy Cross Ladies Guild meeting, where he will be presented with a check from proceeds from the Plant and Flower Sale. When asked about items we might collect to help with his work, Pastor Reinke suggested new and used copies of the Concordia Self-Study Bible, and new or used reading glasses of various strengths. Self-study Bibles can be bought new or used online. Pastor Reinke will be here on **May 8** to collect them. If you would like to contribute any of these items, please look for the box on the LWML table in the Welcome Center. The box will be there for 2 weeks: **April 25&26, and May 2&3!** Thank you for your help!

MISSION OF THE QUARTER currently supports National Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Association (NLOMA) camps, helping provide camp experiences that nurture faith and fellowship for youth and families.

Graduation Recognition

MAY 16 & 17

Write ups and pictures must be turned in by May 1st to Joyce at secretary@hcross.com

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

Registration Closes May 15th

Serv'n in the Hills

HIGH SCHOOL SERVANT EVENT
MAY 31 - JUNE 5



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

3yr olds and potty trained to entering 5th grade



June 22-26

Family Dinner 5:00-6:00 pm

VBS 6:00-8 pm

Registration is open!

Register by May 31 and get a FREE themed t-shirt

To register, volunteer or donate, visit hcross.com/vbs

Red Robin® will give

20% OF FOOD SALES* BACK TO

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to your server to have your sales counted.

FUNDRAISER DETAILS

1440 Mexico Loop Rd East, O'Fallon, MO 63366
May 7, 2026*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at redrobin.com/order and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- 3 Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4 Add your meal items and check out.
- 5 Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

*Fundraiser during restaurant operating hours. Visit redrobin.com and find this location to view hours. Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.

This Week!
All Day!

Red Robin

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, MAY 7

Holy Cross will open its doors on May 7 for its members and the community to spend time in the Sanctuary in prayer. Times have changed compared to the previous year. Elders will be available to meet the public at 6 to 8AM; and 11AM to 7PM.

HOLY CROSS VOTERS' ASSEMBLY, MAY 17

The meeting will start after the second service ends, around noon. All Voting Members are encouraged to attend. Please sign in when entering the meeting; only a physical signature records attendance. Contact Council Secretary Barb Grosch at councilsecretary@hcross.com or 314.368.8142 if you are unable to attend for an excused absence. **Agenda items** include: the audit, 2025 financial review, bylaws update, and the proposed playground. New members to Holy Cross who are 18 years old and above may become voting members by coming to the meeting and signing in as a visitor; proposed new members will be announced at the end of the meeting by an elder and a vote will be taken for their acceptance into voting membership. New members will then sign the constitution. Lunch will be served prior to the meeting.

HIGH SCHOOL LOCK-IN on May 8-9.

RSVP by May 1.

Contact Trudy Belter for more information:

Tbelter@fz.k12.mo.us

YOUTH: Paint Ball! RSVP by May 1. Event on May 8 is for 6th-12th grade and their friends. Cost is \$25 per person. Drop off and pic up at Wacky Warriors Paintball in Wentzville, from 3:45-7:15PM.