



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

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 July 18&19, 2026

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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: Bill Beck; 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; Julianna Frerichs; Ken & Sandie Fussner; Peggy Gallagher; Connie Gamache; Iris Hackbarth; Dianne Helvey; Marie Herrington; Lizzie Johansmann; Mike Kahler; Frieda Karl; Edna Kee; Ron Kettler; Judith Kirby; Bob Knehans; Sandra Kohrs; Debra Korte; Joyce Lang; Betty Lee; Sadie Liefer; Steve Mabry; Albert & Ingrid Marhanka; Terry McCann; Maryanne McDaniel; Mabel McKinney; Michael McKinney; Shirley Niewald; Barb Parsons; Bill Price; Gloria Rariden; Zeita Reed; Darlene Rhodes; Carol Santoyo; Roger Sawall; Vita Sayers; Betty Schroeder; Verna Tucker; Wayne Walkenhorst; Larry Williams; Ernestine Wilson.

WE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Diane Coppola Bralies (Liz Rasche)
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)
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)
Al Ketsenburg
Bobbi Kistler (Mike Kahler)
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Joyce Kroll (David Schlesselman)
Sandy Lockwood (David Gilson)
Neva Martin (Craig Dement)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Mike Niewald (Niewalds)
Vera Piazza (Robert & Sherry Piazza)
Cindy Preston (Maryanne McDaniel)
Kelly Schlereth (Patti Koepp)
Brenda McCowan (Loretta Ezell)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Julie Schroeder (Dianne Helvey)
Mark Shearman (Lois Foster)
Noel Scott Shipley (Amy Schipper)
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)
Sean Smith-Killan (Justin Smith)
Ryan Stover (Brenda Marhanka)
Dennis Sweeso (Harrison Sweeso)
Stanika Todorova (Juliana Frerichs)
Leo Troxel (Alice Buehne)
Rita Unzer (Karl Schnoor)
Linda Vesper (Mike Vesper)
Rich Waiwood (Kent & Janine Haffer)
Lance Watkins (Jesse Smith)
Bobette Wetzel (Faith Blackwell)
Keith Wooden (Randy Jones)
John Allquist III, Duane Stuewe (Janet Allquist)
Ina Guethle, Dale Stumpf, Larry Zuhone (Amanda Alton)
Krill Family (Trudy Belter)

Kathie Bertram, Gina Schweer (John Bertram)
Mike & Norma, Terry (Greg & Judy Bonney)
Carl Bradley, Kathy Lewis (Darlene Bradley)
Tom Heins, Tony LaChance, Bill Pratt, Cindy Wallace
(Becky Coomer)
Brian Ottinger, Scott Ottinger (Carla Cooper)
Joe Bryan, Lynn Hibbeler (Karen Copper)
Duane Dafler, William Dafler, Laura Robinette
(Wes Dafler)
Ben & Pat Northcutt (Bryan Drilling)
Janet Davidson, Iris & Lowell Duncan (Don Duncan)
Scott Brockmann; Lois Jobe (Jan Flentke)
Bennett Hoemann, Eileen Marting, Keith Marting
(Mark Hoemann)
Matt & Alissa Schneider (Jean Holthe)
Ron Davis, Penni Gronewald, Kathy Dore Jepsen,
Mike Vanover (Jayne Jepsen)
Bobbi Kistler; Donna Rogers; Matt Kahler;
Malu Martin (Mike & Dawn Kahler)
Alicia & Mark Kincaid, Alicia Kleb, Mike Sneed,
Cindy Sneed, Winnie Sneed (Michelle Kincaid)
Betty Bickmeyer, Rodger Bratvogel; George & Sandra
Roberts (Elma Jane Kramer)
Donna Fleischer-Maheras, Jen Gabaluther & Family,
Duane Rahe, Nelda Schmidt (Peggy Kuerschner)
John Bach, Rachel Long (Betty Lee)
Kim Clark & Family, James Olek, Susan Maag
(Menschers)
Gorman Cooper, Janie Machens (Tina Morrison)
Violet Mittenberg, Paul Palombi, Elsie Palombi
(Diane Palombi)
Mark Haeffner, Brian Rubar, Chase Russell, Carol Sills
(Barb Parson)
Sarah Hall, Katie Hawkey; Mary Ellen McAlister;
Maeve Pardee & Family, Lori Miller, Sarah Cattin
(Jayme Price)
Amy Mueller, Larry Schenk (Carol Santoyo)
Charlotte Gaines, Nisseem, Daniel, Dr. Eric Semler
(Sandra Semler)
Cecilianna Wilbur, Tim (Charity Smith)
Scott Steinbruegge, Marcia Sheppard
(Bob & Karen Steinbruegge)
Len Cox, David Steinbacher (Ernestine Wilson)

MORE PRAYER REQUESTS

— see page 3

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, July 18, 2026

5PM Holy Communion
5PM CWST Pork Steak Dinner &
Corn Hole Tournament

SUNDAY, July 19, 2026

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion

MONDAY, July 20, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION

— ALL WEEK
— USE ALTERNATE ENTRANCE TO CHURCH OFFICE
9AM TOPS
11AM Line Dancing

TUESDAY, July 21, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

10AM Women's Bible Study
12:30PM Staff Meeting
6:30PM Youth & Education Boards

WEDNESDAY, July 22, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

AUGUST KOINONIA DEADLINE

9:30AM Adult Bible Class
11AM Evangelism Board
6:45PM Summer Youth Night

THURSDAY, July 23, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

NEWS&NOTES DEADLINE 8AM

KOINONIA PRINTING

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

FRIDAY, July 24, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

10AM Koinonia Mailing

SATURDAY, July 25, 2026

9AM TO 5PM: Youth Christmas in July
Movie Marathon (Youth Room)
3:30PM Baptism (private)
5PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, July 26, 2026

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion
NOON Baby Shower (Private—gym)

WE PRAY FOR ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS & RELATIVES

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

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: July 11 & 12, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
5PM	53	51
8AM	128	103
10:45AM	97	74
TOTAL	278	228

Bible Class Attendance Week of July 12, 2026

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	0
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	12
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	2
Sunday Adult Bible Class	58
New Member Orientation	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	14
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	7
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM Bible Class	39
Wednesday Nights	8
20s&30s Thursday	NR

Offerings: July 6-12, 2026

General Fund	\$ 13,354.13
Endowment	\$ 0.00
Building Fund	\$ 0.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 513.02
Missions Total	\$ 3,189.44

Year-To-Date: 05.31.2026

Income	\$ 329,767.09
Expenses	\$ 333,570.83
Deficit	\$ (3,803.74)

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 July: *Ramen noodles, cornbread mix, rice, Stovetop Stuffing*.

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES: Weekly Totals: July 15, 2026
Families: 82 Individuals: 268 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 and **on the inside cover of the service bulletin**.

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 July—September 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by **Verna Tucker** as she celebrates her 103rd birthday July 23.



Come and learn
about one
Bible book
each week

Tuesdays this Summer
at
10:00 AM

DIVE INTO SUMMER! Join the Holy Cross family for a **POOL PARTY** at Alligator's Creek on July 24 from 7:45PM to 9:45PM. Adults must accompany their children. No alcohol allowed. Outside food and drink are welcome – just NO glass.

BACK TO SCHOOL MUSICIANS For the Back to School Bash on Sun., Aug. 9, we are looking for student musicians to help out with the service. If you know (or are) a student of any age and would like to play an instrument in church, either in a group or as a solo, please talk to David Gilson or email him at dgilson@hcross.com by Aug. 2.

RUMMAGE SALE COMING SOON

The Annual Ladies Guild Rummage Sale will be held on Sat., Aug. 15, from 7AM until NOON. Please save your unwanted items for the rummage sale! You can drop your items off on Wed., Aug. 12, from 1PM to 7PM, and on Thurs., Aug. 13, from 1PM to 4PM at the Holy Cross gym. We do not accept clothing, electronics, or furniture. Proceeds from the rummage sale will benefit the O'Fallon Senior Center which provides Meals on Wheels and other services in the City of O'Fallon. Come to the Rummage Sale and get great bargains on cool stuff!

PONY RIDES AND PETTING ZOO: On Sat., Aug., 15, children can ride two ponies at Holy Cross from 9AM to 11AM. Everyone can pet and feed smaller animals, including a calf, miniature horse, goat, sheep, rabbit, duck, lizard, and dog. The event is free to everyone. Bring your children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors. This is a great opportunity to welcome people to Holy Cross, as we will also have free spiritual information available to everyone who attends. Let the animals invite people so we can share Jesus with them.

A CHURCH TRIUMPHANT SERVICE for Ruth Seveck will be held at Holy Cross on July 27. Public visitation is at 10AM; service is at 11AM; luncheon is at noon.

CHURCH CALENDAR: If you have events, meetings, or activities in July or future months, double-check that those items are on the church calendar by contacting the church secretary at secretary@hcross.com

USHERS: Sign up today if you plan to serve next weekend or in the near future, at the Information Table in the Welcome Center (near the windows).

CHURCH BOOKKEEPER NEEDED: Holy Cross Lutheran Church is seeking a part-time bookkeeper to work about 16 hours a week. Must have bookkeeping experience, preferably Quickbooks. Banking software and payroll software experience is also recommended. Please send inquiries and/or a resume to treasurer@hcross.com

NEW CHURCH VICE PRESIDENT: Rob Paoletti has been appointed vice president until the November Voters' Assembly election. Todd Rasche, who had that position, is now acting president after Greg Emerick resigned due to a move out of the area.

From Holy Cross Preschool

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the playground fundraiser! We surpassed the \$85,000 goal and raised \$90,000! We are so grateful to have such a supportive congregation!

HOLY CROSS AND CHILD OF GOD GOLF FOR SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT is on **Sept. 7 at The Falls**. The sign-up sheet and more details are on the Welcome Center table. The signup deadline is Aug. 31, 2026. For questions, contact Jason White at 713.859.0244 or Neal and Cynthia Menscher at menschmi@yahoo.com.

ALTERNATE OFFICE ENTRANCE NEXT WEEK.

During the anticipated playground construction starting this week, the church office will have an alternate entrance. Use the glass double doors on the north side (facing the pavilion and parking lot – next to the elevator) during construction.

THE GRACE GUILD CRAFT EXPO is scheduled for Nov. 7, 2026, from 9am to 3pm at the Holy Cross gym. Vendors will feature custom art, woodworking, handcrafted jewelry, Christmas items, and many other items. If you are a potential vendor, please find application forms and more information on the Welcome Center table.

CPH LSB SALE! Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the *Lutheran Service Book*! Stock up on new editions for \$20 for your home or church during the 20th Anniversary Sale! Plus, save 20% on all other *Lutheran Service Book* editions. This deal is only here for a limited time, so make sure to check it out before midnight on July 31. Go to cph.org

Anchored in Faith

St. John's Lutheran Church in Warrenton will sponsor a **Ladies Retreat on Aug. 1, 2026. RSVP by July 25** to Marcia 636-346-6037 or Church Office 636.456.2888. Registration & Continental Breakfast 8 to 9AM. Guest speaker is Amy Nunn. Informational discussion and activities. Salad lunch ending at 12:30PM. Donations please: Please bring 13-gallon trash bags, dish soap, or laundry detergent for ANCHOR HOUSE Warrenton.

Christmas in July

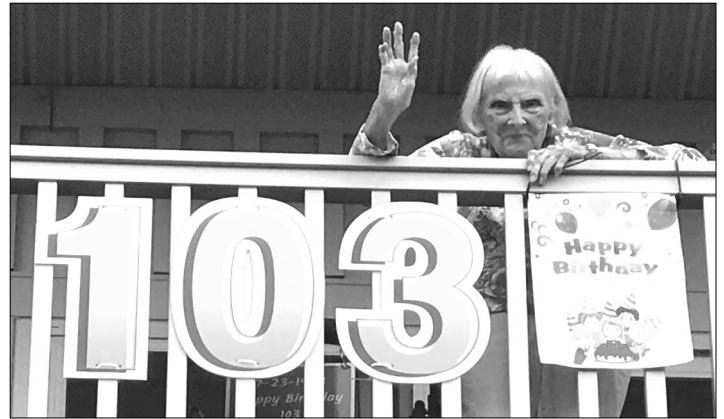
Rising 6th to 2026 Grads + Friends
Location: Holy Cross' Youth Room
Time: Come and go from 9-5pm
Date: July 25

Come along for...

- Christmas in July Movie Marathon with movies like Elf, The Year Without A Santa Claus, The Grinch, and more!
- We will have chocolate milk, classic Christmas cookies, and Christmas Games.
- Youth can bring blankets, pillows, snacks, and come in comfortable, appropriate pajamas.

SPONSORS:
Gimbel & Elick Families

RSVP by July 17th



HAPPY 103rd BIRTHDAY, VERNA TUCKER!

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

When I first volunteered to teach Sunday School, I thought I was signing up to help the kids. What I didn't expect was how much I would get out of it myself.

It's been a great way to reconnect with Bible stories and lessons I hadn't thought about in years, and it's definitely strengthened my faith along the way.

Just as important, it's helped me build friendships and connections with people I might not have gotten to know otherwise. Over time, those relationships have become a real faith family.

And volunteering doesn't have to mean a weekly commitment. There are plenty of ways to help, whether serving as a substitute teacher, assisting behind the scenes, helping with special events, or lending a hand when you're available.

If you've ever considered volunteering, I'd encourage you to give it a try. You don't need to be an expert—just willing to show up. The rewards have been much greater than the time I've invested. – Jayme Price

Contact DCE Charity Smith, Education Board Chair Trudy Belter, or the church office.

From the WELCOME CENTER COMMITTEE

To keep the Welcome Center clean, organized, and inviting for all members and visitors, any new display, table, sign-up area, or promotional setup must receive **prior approval from the Welcome Center** Committee before being placed in the space.

Requests can be emailed to committee members: Rob Paoletti (vicepresident@hccross.com), Pastor Gimbel (agimbel@hccross.com), and Ashleigh Wallace-Lacey (stewardship@hccross.com).

If your group has an existing display and is requesting additional space, you may first be asked to consolidate materials into one designated area.

We are blessed with many active ministries and events, but we must also remain mindful of our limited space.

Additionally, **all fundraisers** — whether supporting Holy Cross ministries, missions, youth groups, or outside organizations — must receive **prior approval from the Board of Elders** before being promoted or conducted on campus. Fundraiser requests may be submitted to elders@hccross.com.

SUMMER YOUTH NIGHTS

Rising 6th graders to
2026 HS graduates

6:45-8PM

July 8, 15, 22 & 29
YouthLead Bible Study & Games!