



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 August 22 & 23, 2026

The Thirtieth 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: Jim Bastian; Karen Belter; Dennis Benassi; Carolyn Bertram; Mary Kay Bethke; Kacey Booth; Nancy Caldwell; Logan 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; Mark Hoemann; Lizzie Johansmann; Mike Kahler; Frieda Karl; Edna Kee; Ron Kettler; Judith Kirby; Bob Knehans; Harold Kohrs; Sandra Kohrs; Debra Korte; Joyce Lang; Betty Lee; Sadie Liefer; Steve Mabry; Albert & Ingrid Marhanka; Terry McCann; Maryanne McDaniel; Mabel McKinney; Matthew McKinney; Shirley Niewald; 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:

Milton Alton (Byron Alton)
Diane Coppola Bralies (Liz Rasche)
Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Ben Carlton (Bill Price)
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)
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)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Mike Niewald (Niewalds)
Vera Piazza (Robert & Sherry Piazza)
Cindy Preston (Maryanne McDaniel)
Kelly Schlereth (Patti Koepf)
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)
David Steinbacher (Ernestine Wilson)
Ryan Stover (Brenda Marhanka)
Dennis Sweeso (Harrison Sweeso)
Stanika Todorova (Juliana Frerichs)
Leo Troxel (Alice Buehne)
Rita Unzer (Karl Schnoor)
Rich Waiwood (Kent & Janine Haffer)
Lance Watkins (Jesse Smith)
Bobette Wetzel (Faith Blackwell)
John Allquist III, Duane Stuewe (Janet Allquist)
Barb Auping, Ina Guethle, Dale Stumpf, (Amanda Alton)

Krill Family (Trudy Belter)
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)
Jade; Neva Martin; Quinn Valdick (Craig DeMent)
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)
Penni Gronewald, Kathy Dore Jepsen (Jayne Jepsen)
John Longo, Keith Wooden (Randy Jones)
Bobbi Kistler; Donna Rogers; Matt Kahler;
Malu Martin (Mike & Dawn Kahler)
Alicia & Mark Kincaid, Alicia Kleb, Mike Sneed,
Cindy Sneed, Winnie Sneed (Michelle Kincaid)
Rodger Bratvogel; George & Sandra Roberts
(Elma Jane Kramer)
Donna Fleischacker-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 Haefner, 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)
Cecilianna Wilbur, Tim (Charity Smith)
Scott Steinbruegge, Marcia Sheppard
(Bob & Karen Steinbruegge)
Michelle, Nick, & Maddie DeMercurio (Bob & Sue
Williams)

We pray for those who mourn: For the family of Cindy Disterhaupt, wife of Alden, who died suddenly last week. Alden is the brother of Maryanne McDaniel and uncle to Cindy Preston.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

**THIS WEEKLY CALENDAR IS THE MOST
UPDATED INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK.**

SATURDAY, August 22, 2026

5PM Holy Communion
7:45 to 9:45PM Rescheduled Holy Cross
Pool Party at Alligator Creek

SUNDAY, August 23, 2026

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
+ New Member Orientation (Rm 1&2)
10:45AM Holy Communion

MONDAY, August 24, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

9AM TOPS
11AM Line Dancing
6:30PM Handbells

TUESDAY, August 25, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9AM Quilting
10AM Women's Bible Study
12:30PM Staff Meeting
6:30PM Adult Bible Class

WEDNESDAY, August 26, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

9:30AM Adult Bible Class
6:00PM Beginning Bells + Children's Choir
6:30PM Confirmation
+ Midweek: PreK to 6th Grade
6:45PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, August 27, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

8AM NEWS&NOTES DEADLINE
6:30PM 20s&30s&40s Bible Study

FRIDAY, August 28, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM

SATURDAY, August 29, 2026

9AM Church Work Day
5PM Matins (No communion)

SUNDAY, August 30, 2026

8AM Service of Prayer & Preaching
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Service of Prayer & Preaching

**WE PRAY for Active Military Members &
Relatives: Dominic Bisesi, Andrew Chema,
Jacob Franke, Josh Linn, Doug Mundt, Justin
Quinn, Joshua Rainwater, Austin Rasche,
Devon Ruffin, Jesse Smith.**

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: August 15&16, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
5PM	61	57
8AM	92	78
10:45AM	109	95
TOTAL	262	230

Bible Class Attendance Week of August 16, 2026

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	0
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	14
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	5
Sunday Adult Bible Class	44
New Member Orientation	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	16
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	NA
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM Bible Class	23
Wednesday Nights	48
20s&30s Thursday	NR

Offerings: Aug. 10-16, 2026

General Fund	\$ 5,219.072
Endowment	\$ 00.00
Building Fund	\$ 00.00
Missions Weekly	\$ 140.02
Missions Total Fiscal Yr Pt 1 2026-2027	\$ 240.02

Year-To-Date: 07.31.2026

Income	\$ 447,876.77
Expenses	\$ 464,294.56
Deficit	\$ (16,417.79)

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.

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.

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: *Mashed Potatoes, Corn Muffin Mix, Rice-a-Roni, Spaghetti Noodles, Pasta Sauce, Gravy Packets.*

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES: Weekly Totals: August 19, 2026
Families: 86 Individuals: 268 New Families: 1

Bible Book Club



Come and learn
about one
Bible book
each week

Tuesdays this Summer
at
10:00 AM

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION: If you are new at Holy Cross and would like to join our family, please consider attending this session. On Sun., Aug. 23, Pastor will meet with newer members to get to know them better and explain the different programs and ministries at Holy Cross. You will also get to meet other new members as you are welcomed to our family. The session will run from 9:30 to 10:30 and will meet in Room 1 & 2 downstairs by the gym.



HANDBELL REHEARSALS begin Mon., Aug. 24, at 6:30PM. The group plays in church every 3-4 weeks. Handbells are a great way for anyone, including those who may not be the most musical, to get more involved in music at Holy Cross.

Email or talk to David Gilson if you're interested in joining!

ADULT CHOIR begins Wed., Aug. 26 from 6:45-8PM. The group is open to *anyone* high school-age and older. Rehearsals are weekly, and the group sings in church every 3-4 weeks. Email or talk to David Gilson if you're interested in joining!



NEW BOOKKEEPER: Shana Elick, a member of Holy Cross, has accepted the position of church bookkeeper. She has office hours on Wednesdays from 9AM to 4PM. She can always be reached by email at bookkeeper@hccross.com, or by calling the church office.

LADIES GUILD RUMMAGE SALE This year's sale was a huge success! We will be donating \$2,550 to the O'Fallon Senior Center to support Meals on Wheels and their many other programs for seniors. Special thanks to everyone from the congregation who helped with setup and clean up. Your assistance was sincerely appreciated!

CANDY AND NUT SALE Ladies Guild will hold its Annual CANDY AND NUT SALE again this year. Orders will be begin Sept. 12. Watch the *News&Notes* for more information.

WARNING: BLOOD CRISIS

The American Red Cross has declared the second national blood crisis in its history. All blood types are needed, but the situation is especially dire for type O. The blood supply fell nearly 25% in June, and blood donations are now at a four-year summer low. Donors are asked to take action immediately to help save lives. Schedule an appointment for the Holy Cross Blood Drive on Sept. 10. See American Red Cross information on page 4.

Explanation of Theme:

FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

In July 2025, the Called Staff and representatives from the Boards of Education, Youth, Stewardship, Evangelism, and Missions gathered to discuss the theme and focus for the next three years at Holy Cross. The overall theme is "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made," and each year focuses on one part of the Apostles' Creed:

2025/26: The Things God has made ~ Genesis 1:31

2026/27: The New 'Person' God has made ~ 2 Cor. 5:1

2027/28: The People God has made ~ 1 Cor. 12: 12-27

Notice an intentional focus through the lens of Worship, Service, Fellowship, and Education. A well-rounded Christian life is lived through these four areas. We want our church family to have the opportunity to discover even more about the great God we serve in as many ways as possible.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDATE NEEDED: As we start our Year 2 theme at Holy Cross, *The "New" Person God Has Made*, our focus will be on the relationship we have with God through our baptism. As a church, we want to remember and celebrate this gift God has given us. Therefore, we need your baptismal birthdate. Contact the church office.

WELCOME TO THREE SEMINARIANS who will be with us this year. Returning is Jacob Bode, now in his second year. New to us are Kyle Beckstrom and Matthew Diercks, both first-year seminarians.

THE SEVEN W'S OF WITNESSING Beginning Sun., Sept. 13, we will offer a 6-week Bible study on witnessing. It will include the what, why, where, when, who, and to whom of witnessing. More importantly, we will discuss different approaches to being faithful witnesses to our faith.

THE GRACE GUILD CRAFT EXPO is 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.

Grace Evening Guild: AUGUST BIBLE & RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS DRIVE — Last Weekend

Grace Guild will sponsor the collection of old Bibles, devotion books, and other religious materials starting this weekend **until Aug. 23** in the Welcome Center. Love Packages is the recipient of these donations that will be shipped throughout the world. Read more about their organization on their website. This is the third year we have sponsored this collection.

CPH LSB SALE EXTENDED! Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the *Lutheran Service Book*! Stock up on pew 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 Aug. 31. Go to cph.org

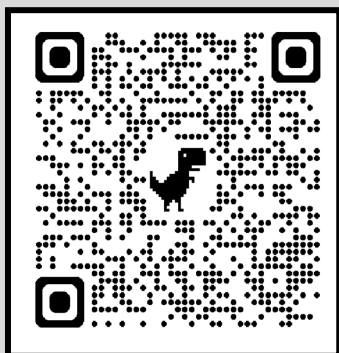
USHERS: Sign up today if you plan to serve next weekend or in the near future, at the Information Table in the Welcome Center (near the windows). Thanks!

GOLF FOR SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

September 7, 2026 at The Fall Golf Club at Turtle Creek
Brochures available on the Welcome Center table

Player Registration is through Eventbrite.

- ♦ Scan QR Code below



- ♦ Or search Eventbrite.com for "Annual Holy Cross & COGLCS Golf Scramble 2026"

Avoid Eventbrite fees: register early (by 8/24/2026) through the Early Bird Registration Option. Signup deadline is Aug. 31, 2026.

After registering through Eventbrite:

- ♦ print the confirmation page, and
- ♦ mail the confirmation page **with** the registration fee (cash or check) to Child of God Lutheran Church & School to complete your registration.

No registration payments will be accepted at the tournament.

The only payment accepted at the tournament will be cash for games, mulligans, or skins.

For questions, contact Jason White at 713.859.0244 or Neal Menscher at menschmi@yahoo.com.

MISSOURI DISTRICT NEWS: It's time to celebrate!

Next Sunday, Aug. 29 & 30, congregations throughout Missouri will pray for and support *Tomorrow's Teachers & Preachers* with a special offering. Collected funds will be added to the Missouri District Church Worker Student Aid Endowment. For more than 40 years, this endowment has blessed college and seminary students from our state who are preparing for vocations within the church. To all of you who support this effort, thank you for your forward-thinking ways and for caring for generations to come. It's truly an investment with an eternal impact!

Lutheran High is kicking off the school year with a brand-new Cougar tradition! Our **first-ever Back-to-School Dance** is bringing middle school students together for an evening of music, fun, and friendship.

Saturday, September 12

7:00-9:00 PM

LHS Commons

\$10 at the door — cash or card accepted

Come kick off the school year, make new friends, and enjoy a fun night at the Den!

Questions? Contact **Micah Braddy** at mbraddy@lhssc.org.

ANNUAL PICNIC

SUNDAY SEPT. 13
STARTING AT 1:00 PM

FOOD • FELLOWSHIP • FUN

HOT DOGS AND HAMBURGERS
will be provided!

POTLUCK ON SIDE DISHES AND DESSERTS!

A-L
BRING A SIDE DISH

M-Z
BRING DESSERTS

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!

FUN FOR ALL AGES!

CORN HOLE

WASHERS GAMES

BINGO

BINGO PRIZES for all ages!

WEAR YOUR **Holy Cross Merchandise** AT THE PICNIC!

Come hungry and enjoy a great afternoon together! ♥

HELLO KITTY AND FRIENDS x American Red Cross

Giving blood is super kind!

Blood Drive Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Gym
8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway
O Fallon, MO 63366

Thursday, September 10, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: HolyCrossLC to schedule an appointment.

The American Red Cross and Hello Kitty are releasing exclusive NEW merch! Come give blood Sept. 1-20 for a super-cute Red Cross x Hello Kitty collectible item, while supplies last!



1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App