



### 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](http://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](http://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 8 & 9, 2026 Christian Education Sunday

The Eleventh 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:** 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; Verna Tucker; 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)  
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)  
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)  
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)  
Ina Guethle, Dale Stumpf, Larry Zuhone (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 Haeffner, 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)  
Len Cox, David Steinbacher (Ernestine Wilson)

**REVIEW THE PRAYER LIST** — Please review the names listed on the prayer lists. Let the church office know if prayers have been answered or if circumstances have changed. Help us keep the list updated. **Join the Prayer Chain at [secretary@hcross.com](mailto:secretary@hcross.com)**

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

### **SATURDAY, August 8, 2026**

5PM Holy Communion

### **SUNDAY, August 9, 2026**

#### **BACK TO SCHOOL BASH**

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

+ Preschool Playground Blessing

+ Adult Bible Class in Sanctuary

+ Back to School Bash in gym

10:45AM Holy Communion

### **MONDAY, August 10, 2026**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM**

9AM TOPS

11AM Line Dancing

6PM Executive Council

7:30PM Church Council

### **TUESDAY, August 11, 2026**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM**

#### **PRESCHOOL TEACHER WORK DAY**

9AM Quilting

10AM Women's Bible Study

12:30PM Staff Meeting

6PM PS 3s: Meet Your Teacher

6:30PM Adult Bible Class

### **WEDNESDAY, August 12, 2026**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM**

#### **PRESCHOOL TEACHER WORK DAY**

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

1-7PM Rummage Sale Dropoff (gym)

5-8PM Circuit-Wide High School

Backyard Bash

6PM PS 4s: Meet Your Teacher

6:45PM MidSchool Photo Scavenger Hunt

### **THURSDAY, August 13, 2026**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM**

#### **8AM NEWS&NOTES DEADLINE**

#### **PRESCHOOL TEACHER WORK DAY**

1-4PM Rummage Sale Dropoff (gym)

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

### **FRIDAY, August 14, 2026**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:30AM**

#### **KOINONIA DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER**

10AM Ladies Guild & Rummage Sale Setup

### **SATURDAY, August 15, 2026**

7AM TO NOON: Ladies Guild Rummage Sale

9AM to 11AM: Petting Zoo

5PM Teacher Appreciation BBQ (PAVILION)

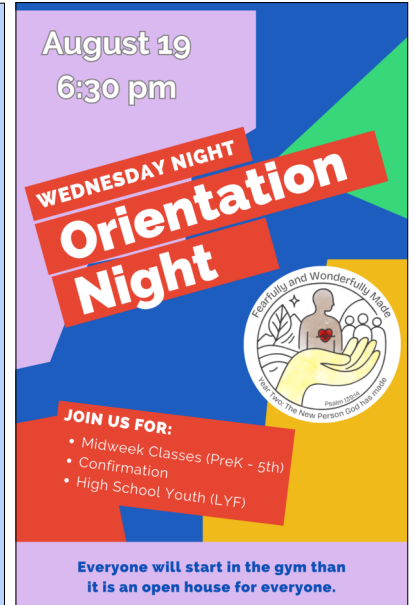
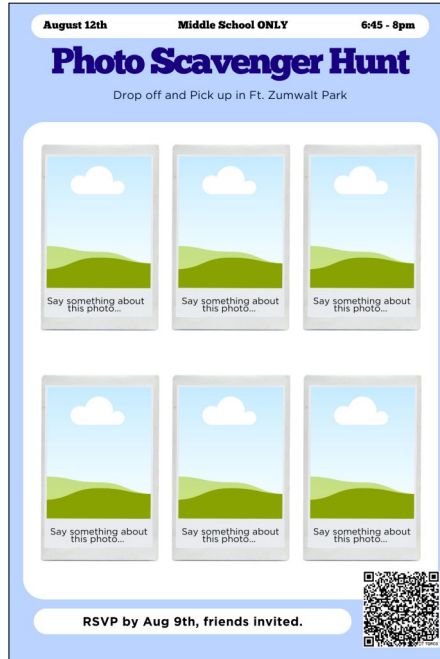
5PM Holy Communion

### **SUNDAY, August 16, 2026**

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion



## CHURCH ATTENDANCE: August 1 & 2, 2026

| Service | Attendance | Communion |
|---------|------------|-----------|
| 5PM     | 69         | 64        |
| 8AM     | 101        | 89        |
| 10:45AM | 110        | 89        |
| TOTAL   | 280        | 242       |

## Bible Class Attendance Week of August 2, 2026

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

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Little Lambs, Sunday        | 1  |
| Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5 | 8  |
| Sunday School: Gr. 6-12     | 4  |
| Sunday Adult Bible Class    | 58 |
| New Member Orientation      | NA |
| Tuesday Women's 10AM        | C  |
| Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM     | NA |
| Men's Breakfast & Bible     | NA |
| Wednesday AM Bible Class    | 40 |
| Wednesday Nights            | 7  |
| 20s&30s Thursday            | 12 |

## Offerings: July 27 to Aug. 2, 2026

|                       |           |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| General Fund          | \$        | 14,499.10       |
| Endowment             | \$        | 602.54          |
| Building Fund         | \$        | 0.00            |
| Missions Weekly       | \$        | 51.02           |
| <b>Missions Total</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>4,264.12</b> |

## Year-To-Date: 06.30.2026

|          |    |            |
|----------|----|------------|
| Income   | \$ | 394,658.59 |
| Expenses | \$ | 401,556.43 |
| Deficit  | \$ | (6,897.84) |

## H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES:

**Weekly Totals:** August 5, 2026  
Families: 92 New Families: 7  
Individuals: 291

**THIS WEEKEND** we will celebrate Christian Education, the opportunity to teach the faith we have in Jesus Christ. This gift is not only available to us in great abundance in our free and affluent society, but it is affected by the Holy Spirit of God Himself! Let us pray that everyone here will take the opportunity to grow in faith and in the knowledge of salvation. May God grant us grace to make Christian Education a valued priority for all. In today's service, backpacks will be blessed, Bibles will be given to third graders and catechisms to sixth graders, and teachers for Sunday School, Midweek, and Preschool will be installed. In all services, we celebrate Holy Communion.

### SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE

**At 9:30AM, please meet at the new Preschool Playground for a public prayer of blessing.**

After the Playground Blessing:

- \* Adult Bible Class will be held in the Sanctuary
- \* Sunday School's Back to School Bash will be held in the gym

### 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. Please stop by the table in the Welcome Center before or after services this weekend to confirm your baptismal birthday, or email Trudy Belter at [youth@hcross.com](mailto:youth@hcross.com) or Ashleigh Lacey at [stewardship@hcross.com](mailto:stewardship@hcross.com)

Bible  
Book  
Club



Come and learn  
about one  
Bible book  
each week

Tuesdays this Summer  
at  
10:00 AM

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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.

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

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:** Alissa (Holthe) and Matt Schneider were blessed with the birth of a baby boy on July 28. Alissa is the daughter of Jean Holthe, member of Holy Cross.

#### WE PRAY for Active Military Members & Relatives

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

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God in memory of Teresa Doerr, a frequent visitor to Holy Cross before she entered the Church Triumphant on Sept. 4, 2025. Her husband Ron Doerr is remembering their 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, which would have been Thurs., Aug. 6, and Teresa's birthday on Sun., Aug. 9.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

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!

Drop off items 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:

Also 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.

**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.

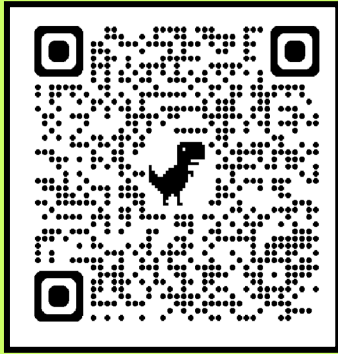
**KOINONIA DEADLINE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 14**

## 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.

**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.

**Grace Evening Guild: AUGUST BIBLE & RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS DRIVE** 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://cph.org)

## Order Merchandise for the Church Picnic THIS IS THE FINAL WEEKEND TO ORDER

Holy Cross merchandise is back! An assortment of items with the printed or embroidered Holy Cross logo will be available for purchase before and after all worship services in the Welcome Center.



Some of these items were available last year, but new items will be for sale also. This sale of Holy Cross merchandise is not a fundraiser, so prices are very affordable. Items will only be sold **August 1&2 and Aug. 8&9.**

**ONLY ONE WEEKEND LEFT TO ORDER!**

Items will be delivered on Labor Day weekend so that they are available for you to wear to the church picnic on Sept. 13 (see below).

Cash or check will be accepted, and you **must pay at the time of purchase.**

**REMEMBER —**  
**you only have THIS FINAL WEEKEND**  
**to place an order!**

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# 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!**

|                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>A - L</b><br>BRING A SIDE DISH | <b>M - Z</b><br>BRING DESSERTS |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|

**Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!**

**FUN FOR ALL AGES!**

**CORN HOLE** **WASHERS GAMES** **BINGO**

**BINGO PRIZES for all ages!**

**SECOND CHANCE TO PURCHASE**  
**Holy Cross Merchandise**  
**BEFORE THE PICNIC!**

*Come hungry and enjoy a great afternoon together! ♥*