Saint Luke, the Evangelist

News & Notes for October 17 & 18, 2026

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: **Bob** Aubertin**, Jim** Bastian; **Dennis** Benassi; **Carolyn** Bertram; **Mary Kay** Bethke; **Kacey** Booth; **Logan** Day; **Bob** & **Edna** Deubel; **Sandy** Dietz; **Sherien** Duello; **Brenda** Duncan; **Renea** Erickson; **Rich** Franzer; **Julianna** Frerichs; **Ken** & **Sandie** Fussner; **Peggy** Gallagher; **Connie** Gamache; **Iris** Hackbarth; **Deb** Heim; **Dianne** Helvey; **Marie** Herrington; **Mark** Hoemann; **Lizzie** Johansmann; **Mike** Kahler; **Frieda** Karl; **Edna** Kee; **Ron** Kettler; **Judith** Kirby; **Bob** Knehans; **Sandra** Kohrs; **Debra** Korte; **Joyce** Lang; **Betty** Lee; **Roger** and **Sadie** Liefer; **Steve** Mabry; **Albert & Ingrid** Marhanka; **Terry** McCann; **Maryanne** McDaniel; **Mabel** McKinney; **Matthew** McKinney; **Barb** Parsons; **Cathy** Poindexter; **Bill** Price; **Gloria** Rariden; **Zeita** Reed; **Darlene** Rhodes; **Carol** Santoyo; **Roger** Sawall; **Vita** Sayers; **Betty** Schroeder; **Marion** Schwentker; **Wayne** Walkenhorst; **William** Wichern; **Larry** Williams; **Ernestine** Wilson.

WE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Diane Coppolo Bralies (Liz Rasche)
Ralph Burroughs (Nancy Brazee)
Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Ben Carlton (Bill Price)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
Gina Chitwood (William Wichern)
Mark Chiodini (Nicholas Chiodini)
Charles Claxton Jr. (Matthew Claxton)
Gorman Cooper (Tina Morrison)
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)
Todd Heigert (Sol & Jenny Conrad)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
Al Ketsenburg
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Joyce Kroll (David Schlesselman)
Sandy Lockwood (David Gilson)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Mike Niewald, **Ida** Kosten (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)
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)
JoAnn Cooper, Brian and,**Scott** Ottinger ~ (Steve & 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)
JoAnn Bane**, Penni** Gronewald, **Kathy** Dore Jepsen ~ (Jayne Jepsen)
Christine Flandermeyer, **Gail** Hahn, **Debbie** Hendricks (LWML St. Charles Zone Officers)
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)
Ken Anderson Family; **Donna** Fleischacker-Maheras, Lea Holste; **John** Schaefer Sr & Family; **Duane** Rahe, **Nelda** Schmidt (Peggy Kuerschner)
John Bach, **Rachel** Long (Betty Lee)
Kim Clark & Family, **Susan** Maag (Menschers)
Mark Frankenbach**; 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, **Dexter** Stiles, **Nisseem**, **Daniel**, Dr. **Eric** Semler (Sandra Semler)
Cecilianna Wilbur, **Tim** (Charity Smith)
Scott Steinbruegge, **Marcia** Sheppard (Bob & Karen Steinbruegge)
Michelle DeMercurio & Family (Bob & Sue Williams)

—Prayer requests continue on page 3—

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

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
LCMS • O'Fallon, Missouri

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

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

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

SATURDAY, October 17, 2026
3PM Holy Communion

SUNDAY, October 18, 2026
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
+Midweek Teacher Training
10:45AM Holy Communion + Baptism (Hart)

MONDAY, October 19, 2026
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM TOPS
11AM Line Dancing
6:30PM Handbells

TUESDAY, October 20, 2026
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11:15AM
9AM Preschool Chapel
6:30PM Boards of Youth & Education

WEDNESDAY, October 21, 2026
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
9AM Preschool Chapel
6:00PM Beginning Bells + Children's Choir
6:30PM Confirmation
+ Midweek: PreK to 6th Grade
6:45PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY, October 22, 2026
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
8AM NEWS&NOTES DEADLINE
6:30PM 20s&30s&40s Bible Study

FRIDAY, October 23, 2026
NOVEMBER KOINONIA MAILING
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

SATURDAY, October 24, 2026
REFORMATION (OBSERVED)
10AM TO 3PM: Belter Family/Pavilion
3PM Holy Communion + Confirmation
5PM Trunk or Treat

SUNDAY, October 25, 2026
REFORMATION (OBSERVED)
8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Church Family Sunday School
9:30AM New Member Orientation (Rm 1&2)
10:45AM Holy Communion
+ Confirmation

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: October 10 & 11, 2026

Service	Attendance	Communion
5PM	100	61
8AM	116	94
10:45AM	74	68
TOTAL	290	223

Bible Class Attendance
Week of October 11, 2026
NA=not applicable; NR=not reported; C= cancelled

Little Lambs, Sunday	1
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	16
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	69
Baptism Birthdays	11
BASICS	13
Tuesday Women's 10AM	14
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	NA
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM Bible Class	43
Wednesday Nights	36
20s&30s Thursday	6

Offerings: Oct. 5-11, 2026

General Fund	$	15,293.95
Endowment	$	100.00
Building Fund	$	50.00
Missions Weekly	$	240.02
Missions Total Fiscal Yr Pt 1 2026-2027	$	4,588.63

Year-To-Date: 08.31.2026

Income	$	511,416.01
Expenses	$	536,567.75
Deficit	$	(25,151.74)

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 (*NEW*) **October to December 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: Pancake mix, Oatmeal, Rice, Jelly, Pasta Roni.

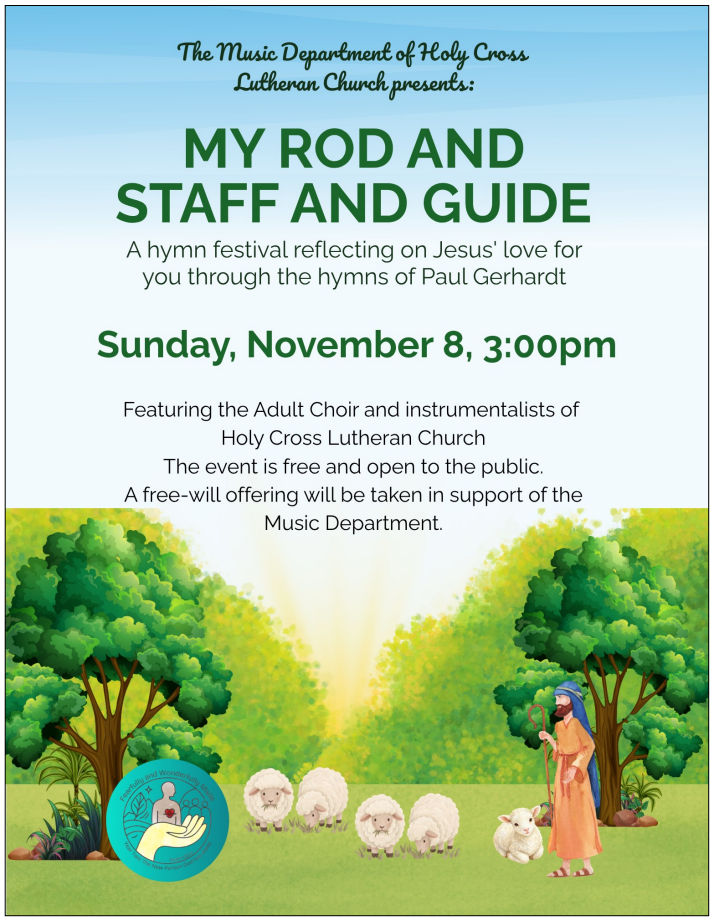
H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES: *Weekly Totals*: October 14, 2026
Families: 99 Individuals: 314 New Families: 4

ALTAR FLOWERS are placed to the glory by Susan & Doug Mays, who celebrate their 42nd wedding anniversary on Sun., Oct. 18.

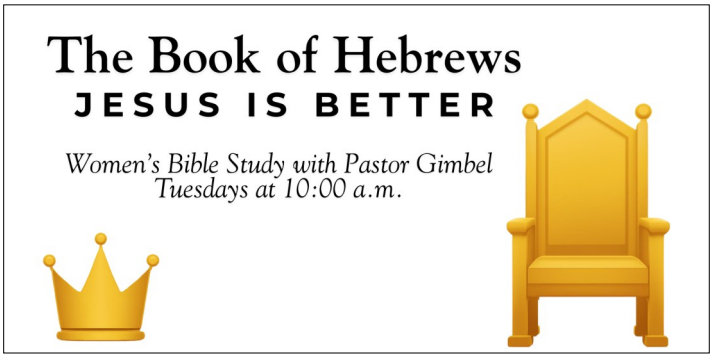
HOLY BAPTISM: Grace Elizabeth Hart, daughter of Colin & Paige Hart, will be baptized at the 10:45AM service on Sunday, Oct. 18, by Pastor Gimbel. Grace was born Oct. 8, 2026, in St. Louis. She joins siblings Henry and Nora. Her baptismal sponsors are Nathan and Caroline Maichel. *Welcome to God's Family, Grace!*

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:
Nancy Caldwell entered the Church Triumphant on Sun., Oct. 11. Her funeral will be Sat., Oct. 31, at 11AM at Holy Cross with a luncheon following the service.
Also, ***Gary Wells*** died Oct. 15; he is the father-in-law of Robert Korte, son of Debra Korte.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Evangelism
The 6-week Bible study on witnessing concludes this Sunday. Discussion will include different approaches to being faithful witnesses to our faith. **Next week's topic can be found on page 4 of *News&Notes*.**



HYMN FESTIVAL - Join us on **Sun., Nov. 8**, at 3PM for our Fifth Annual Hymn Festival! As part of our church's theme, "The New Person God Has Made," the event, entitled "My Rod and Staff and Guide," will use beloved hymns by Paul Gerhardt to reflect on who we are through Jesus. Led by the Holy Cross choir and instrumentalists, the event is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken in support of the Holy Cross Music Department.





THE CALLED WORKERS SUPPORT TEAM would like to remind our Congregation that October is ***Pastor Appreciation Month***. We hope EVERY family will drop a note, card, or letter in the church mailbox located in the Welcome Center to encourage, support, and thank our Pastors for all they do. The mailbox will be available throughout the month, so please join this appreciation effort. *cwst*

Did you know... in the next two weeks, our pastors will officiate a baptism, two confirmations, a wedding, and a funeral? Plus, they plan Bible studies, teach Midweek classes, visit our members at home or in hospital, and write newsletter articles. They stay busy reading, teaching, preaching, but they are always ready to walk with you in whatever life is throwing at you! We are blessed! *jan*

Nominations are now open for positions in this November's Voters Assembly elections. We invite you to consider serving as a Board Coordinator or a member of the Executive Committee. Executive Committee positions include President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Board Coordinator positions include Congregational Life, Facilities, Preschool, and Service. A full description of all positions is available in the new Bylaws. Copies are available on the Welcome Center table. Please submit nominations to president@hcross.com or vicepresident@hcross.com.

FUNERAL MEAL HELP NEEDED: The Holy Cross Ladies Guild provides a funeral luncheon for Holy Cross members when the family requests it. If you are occasionally willing to provide a food item for a funeral meal, contact Sandy Dietz at 314-570-4961 or sjndietz@hotmail.com. Your help will be appreciated.

USHER MEETING: Usher training and review will be held on **Sun., Nov. 1,** for anyone currently or interested in helping as an usher. Meet in the sanctuary after the 8AM service.

TOGETHER WE SERVE—USHERS, ACOLYTES, ALTAR GUILD: 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). Elders are already signed up for their service for next month. Altar Guild members can just send the church office a schedule of their teams.

TRUNK OR TREAT Signups due Oct. 17. Event is October 24, 2026, 5-7PM. Everyone invited. Holy Cross East Parking Lot.



At Holy Cross, we choose to observe traditional, historical elements of Christian faith life and worship, like the paraments, architecture, and the church calendar. Designed to help teach the Christian faith, these elements keep the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ at the center of congregational life. Rather than relying on cultural trends, the historic liturgical calendar provides a structured rhythm that routinely proclaims God's work among His people.

Since Holy Cross values these expressions of faith and worship, the congregation should understand these teaching tools as an active instruction in the faith that can easily be brought home. We'll show you how.

Over the next two years, please join us as we walk through our liturgy and church calendar to learn more about the teaching tools we have come to love at Holy Cross. This year, we will follow the year's theme and focus on the ministry of Jesus for us.

Our first Church Family Sunday School will be Oct. 25 from 9:30-10:30AM. Please note there will be no regular Adult Bible Study or Sunday School. This will be for our entire church family, all generations together, where everyone is a learner. An email was sent out that explained how this will take place next Sunday. Printed copies are available on the table underneath the white board in the Welcome Center.

Planning Ahead for November Congregation Lunches

The *New Member Luncheon* will be held **Sun., Nov. 15**, starting at noon. The Evangelism Board will purchase the meat, and congregation members are asked to bring side dishes, salads, and desserts. New members— just come and eat! Grace Evening Guild will serve in the kitchen.

Names ending in A-L should bring:
Side dish and salad
Names ending in M-Z should bring:
Side dish and dessert

****

On **Sun., Nov. 22,** the *Voters' Assembly* will serve chicken prior to the meeting. Voters are asked to bring side dishes, salads, and desserts to fortify them before the actual meeting begins. Holy Cross Ladies Guild will serve in the kitchen.

Names ending in A-L should bring:
Side dish and dessert
Names ending in M-Z should bring:
Side dish and salad

****

From the Church Council:

Individuals with food allergies, celiac disease, or other dietary restrictions are encouraged to notify Holy Cross Lutheran Church in advance. We will make reasonable efforts to accommodate disclosed needs; however, we cannot guarantee that food served will be free from allergens or cross-contact. Attendees should use their own judgment when choosing whether to consume food provided.

Signs will be posted in the gym and Welcome Center regarding the food served at Holy Cross in regards to allergens. If you bring a dish that is sugar-free or gluten-free, contains nuts or shellfish, or any other allergen, we will ask that you list it on a card and have it near your dish on the serving table.

TENTH ANNUAL

Craft Expo

SPONSORED BY GRACE EVENING GUILD

November 7, 2026

9:00 – 3:00

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway
O'Fallon, MO 63366

40 CONFIRMED VENDORS

Featuring Custom Art, Woodworking, Handcrafted Jewelry, Christmas Items and so much more…

LWML ST. CHARLES ZONE OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN: Join us for a New Connection Group: Sweeter Than Honey, aimed at women who are not able to join a church LWML. Please join us for a short Bible Study, Fellowship, and a simple service project that shares God's Love with our Community. The First Gathering is Sat., Oct. 31, 10AM to 11:30AM at the Spencer Road Library, Community Room A. Together, we will create appreciation packages for Veterans at Breeze Park. All supplies will be provided. Questions?
Please contact: connectwithsweeterthanhoney@gmail.com

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Update your contact information:
secretary@hcross.com