



*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 Parkway
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

Morgan Calcaterra
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



Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost News & Notes for November 16-17, 2024

WELCOME TO EVERYONE joining us for worship today.

WE PRAY for our members: Bob Aubertin, Brian Belter; Dennis Benassi; Barbara Benigno; Marie Benigno; Paul Bertram; Mary Kay Bethke; George Beyer; Kacey Booth; Nancy Caldwell; Teegan Cannon; Mike Dawdy; Shirley Day; Bob & Carolyn Delohi; Brenda Duncan; Renea Erickson; Larry David Ezell; Rich Franzer; Janice Fred; Peggy Gallagher; Connie Gamache; Phyllis Gronewald; Marie & Vernon Herrington; Lizzie Johansmann; Ron Kettler; Deborah Kiely; Sandra Kohrs, Debra Korte; Jim Kramer; Bob Kunz; Joyce Lang; Betty Lee; Terry McCann; Shirley Niewald; Don & Donna Nordmeyer; Debbie Parks; Dee Paoletti; Bill Price; Gloria Rariden; Zeita Reed; Eileen Reichert; Darlene Rhodes; Ron Rutledge; Carol Santoyo; Vita Sayers; Winnie Thornton; Mike Vesper; Charles Wardenburg; Ernestine Wilson.

WE PRAY for our family and friends:

Sue Adams (Bonnie Walkenhorst)
Jim (John Bertram)
Joanne Bonney (Greg Bonney)
Rachel Butkovich (Tom & Sue Haywood)
Elizabeth Cash (Heather Koepke)
Norma Jean Cecil (Alice Buehne)
Mark Chiodini (Nicholas Chiodini)
Charles Claxton Jr. (Matthew Claxton)
Debbie Collier (Ron Rutledge)
Gorman Cooper (Tina Morrison)
William Dafler (Wes Dafler)
John Darby (Rick Walkenhorst)
Teresa Doerr (frequent visitor)
Lowell Duncan (Don Duncan)
Wayne Edwards (Kari Spearman)
Sandra Fleak (Becky Edgar)
Jim Fowler (Lovisa Davison)
Patty Gunnufson (Chris Price)
Helen Ham (Verna Tucker)
Denise Heins (Becky Coomer)
Peter Hernon (Elaine Alton)
Sharon Hesse (Barb Krieger)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Arden Jepsen (Jayne Jepsen)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Catherine Loney (Nicole Alton)
Sandy Longo (Randy Jones)
Denora Lum (Darlene Wischmeyer)
Lisa Markel (Grace Randazzo)
Malu Martin (Dawn Kahler)
Darlene McCarthy (Elaine Howard)
Kenny & Lois Meyer
(Carla Cooper, Karen Copper)
Mike (Debbie Parks)
Shirley Moore (Judy Bonney)
Ginny Niewald (Niewalds)
Paul Palombi (Diane Palombi)
Virginia Pendley (Shawn Huber)
Vera Piazza (Robert & Sherry Piazza)
Cindy Preston (Maryanne McDaniel)

Loyce Sagez (Randy & Denise Sagez)
Sherrill Schlimpert (Loretta Ezell)
Ray Schmidt (Ron Doerr)
Rosemary Schreiber (Peggy Gallagher)
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)
Jim Smith (Jesse Smith)
Stanika Todorova (Paul & Juliana Frerichs)
Colleen West (Bob & Sue Williams)
Sandy Wischmeyer (Marilyn Mana)
John Allquist III, Duane Stuewe (Janet Allquist)
Abigail Chavez, Lindsay Jaco,
Penelope Karrenbrock (Amanda Alton)
Carson Aston, Chlaara Aston,
Sharon Staten (Lisa Aston)
Bruce Brown, Eddie Collier (Denise Collier)
Maureen King, Ryan Wells (Kathleen Day)
Lois Jobe, Ron Kasten (Jan Flentke)
Laura & Mark Gilson (David Gilson)
Tim Deppe, Rich Waiwood
~ (Kent & Janine Haffer)
Linda Elrod, Alicia Kleb, Jeanette
Kruse, Jane Redhage, Marian
Schwentker; Andy & Alicia Kincaid;
Cindy Kincaid (Michelle Kincaid)
George & Sandra Roberts (Elma Jane
Kramer)
Doris Lackey, Matt Lackey
(Denise & Steve Lackey)
John Bach, Rachel Long (Betty Lee)
Pat McCarty, Serena Whiteside
~ (Orion Melton)
Tim Colvert; Michelle Showe
~ (Neil & Cynthia Menscher)
David Oshia, Brian Rubar, Chase Russell,
Carol Sills (Barb Parson)
Pat Gunn, Susan Risinger
~ (Gloria Rariden)
Amy Mueller, Larry Schenk (Carol Santoyo)
Blake Schmalzer, Susan
~ (Rebecca Schmalzer)
Charlotte Gaines, Nisseem, Daniel,
Dr. Eric Semler (Sandra Semler)

WE PRAY for those who mourn:

For the family of Jim Coots, husband of Doris Coots, who died Thurs., Nov. 14, 2024. Funeral arrangements are listed on the Baue website with a service at noon on Fri., Nov. 22.

Holy Cross Weekly Calendar

Saturday, November 16, 2024

10AM: TEC (Rms 1&2)
3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, November 17, 2024

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
+ Midweek Teacher Training (Sanctuary)
10:45AM Holy Communion

Monday, November 18, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1PM TO 4PM

Voters' Assembly Reports Due to Church Office

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

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9AM Preschool Chapel
9AM Quilting
11AM Bylaws Committee (Rm 3)
12:30PM Staff Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 2 TO 4PM

9AM Preschool Chapel
9:30AM Adult Bible Class
5:30PM Open Gym
6PM Children's Choir
6PM Beginning Bell Choir
6:30PM LYF/High School
6:30PM Confirmation
6:30PM PreK—5th Grade
6:45PM Adult Choir
7:15PM Elementary games (gym)
7:30PM Middle School, High School (gym)

Thursday, November 21, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 8AM TO NOON, 12:30PM TO 3PM

8AM News & Notes Deadline

6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Class

Friday, November 22, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1PM TO 4PM

Koinonia Production

Saturday, November 23, 2024

3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, November 24, 2024

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Education Hour
10:45AM Holy Communion
Noon: Voters' Assembly with potluck

Church Attendance for November 9-10, 2024

Service	Attendance	Communion
SAT., 3PM	61	58
SUN., 8AM	128	100
SUN., 10:45AM	103	84
TOTAL	292	242

**Bible Class Attendance
Week of Nov. 10, 2024**

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	3
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	17
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	55
TLC/BASICS	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	C
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	C
Men's Breakfast & Bible	17
Wednesday AM	41
Wednesday Nights	40
20s&30s Thursday	12

**Weekly Offerings:
Nov. 4-10, 2024**

General Fund	\$	9,300.23
Endowment	\$	100.00
Building Fund	\$	50.00
Missions Weekly	\$	410.10
Missions Total Sept-Dec	\$	6,169.80

Year to Date as of 10/31/2024

Income	\$	622,597.99
Expenses	\$	603,495.29
Surplus	\$	19,102.70

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES

Weekly Totals: Nov. 13, 2024
Families: 95
Individuals: 318

Prayer List for Active Military:

Dominic Bisesi, Andrew Chema; Timothy Daniels, Nathaniel Einfeldt, Isabella Huber, Zackary Huber, Cody Kieffer, Josh Linn Justin Quinn, Joshua Rainwater, Jackson Redfield, Jesse Smith, and Matthew Thornton.

HOPE Ministries requests these items from Holy Cross for November: Pancake mix, syrup, Rice or Rice-a-Roni, Dry Potatoes, Gravy, Toilet paper. Place items in the box under the Mission Board display in the Welcome Center. No expired goods can be accepted.

MISSION BOARD brings **fresh fruits and vegetables** to the Seminary. 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.

HOLY CROSS LADIES GUILD collects packaged and canned **food** and all types of **soap** for the Concordia Seminary Food Bank.

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 on the shelf above the coatrack by the downstairs kitchen.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for October-December & *The Lutheran Witness* (October edition) are available on the Welcome Center table.

Holy Cross Buy/Sell Facebook Group Now Available

A new Facebook group for Holy Cross members allows member-to-member selling of large goods (not household rummage sale items) as a Stewardship Board fundraiser to support Holy Cross ministries. Selling members are urged to donate a minimum of 10% of the sell price to Holy Cross Stewardship Board: stewardship@hcross.com

UPDATES NEEDED: Please take time today to review the prayer lists. Keep our lists updated! Let us know if prayers have been answered. Some family and friends have been on the list for several years, and we do not know their current status. Use a prayer card, or call or email the church office by Wednesday.

LITTLE LAMBS is a class in Room 6 for parents and children ages 0-3 to gather on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30AM. Our time together fluctuates between unstructured play time and group activities, including fellowship, toys, prayer time, and children's books. Join us!

THANKSGIVING EVE: Communion services at 11AM and 7PM on Nov. 27. Church Office is closed Nov. 28-29.

ADVENT MEALS: Three groups will sponsor Advent meals in December: Grace Guild host on Dec. 4; Missions & Stewardship Boards host on Dec. 11; and Board of Elders host on Dec. 18. Thanks for your service! Dinner is served from 5:30pm to 6:45pm on those Wednesdays in the gym.

ADVENT SERVICES: For our Midweek Advent services this year, we will turn to the three angel visitations recorded in the Gospel of Luke. Whenever angels showed up in the Old Testament, they almost always terrified whoever they appeared to! But while the angels encountered in Luke are no more cute and cuddly than before, they all bear wonderful news and point to the birth of the Christ child. Join us as we reflect on their messages together!

HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS: Keep our building tidy!

Please take personal coffee and water cups and other dishes home with you. Put used bulletins in the ushers' basket or take them home, but do not place them randomly in the building. Pick up jackets, coats, umbrellas, and other items left on the coat racks in the Welcome Center and by the downstairs kitchen.

Ushers and acolytes, please sign up either online or on the paper sheet (on the Information Desk) at least a week in advance of your chosen time of service. Bulletins are prepared on Mondays, and it would be helpful to have a full Together We Serve list each week. PLUS, we need extra hands for Advent service and special Christmas services.

Lutheran High School News:

Lady Cougars Cross Country placed 5th in state, and Boys Cross Country took 8th. Milo & Nathan achieved All-State, and Grace became a 4-time All-State runner, 1 of only 2 in Cougar Cross Country history to hold this distinction.

Girls Volleyball Team placed 3rd at State.

Boys' Swim Team competed at State this past Friday.

It's that time of year again! The Cheer Team is hosting its annual **Poinsettia Fundraiser!** Support the team and bring some holiday cheer to your home with these beautiful blooms. Available for purchase now through Nov. 25—don't miss out! <https://form.jotform.com/242965716723061>

We're calling on our amazing community to help our wrestling team reach new heights this season! Your generous donations can make a huge difference! Every contribution, big or small, goes a long way in supporting these dedicated athletes as they train, compete, and represent our school with pride. Visit the link here: <https://tinyurl.com/supportcougarwrestling>

PILL BOTTLES: Empty pill bottles can be cleaned and reused at local veterinary hospitals. If you would like to recycle your used pill bottles, place them in the box under the coat rack in the gym lobby. Please be sure that the bottles are clean and empty, and remove the labels with your personal information. Please do not put any other items in this box. Thanks. See page 2 for other items collected by Holy Cross members.

CANDY & NUTS If you didn't get to order candy and nuts from the Ladies Guild sale, extras are available! Orders are in and you can pick yours up in the Welcome Center this weekend before or after services. We also have a selection of delicious items for sale. Thanks for your support.

MISSIONS BOARD is collecting donations for The Lutheran Home in Wisconsin until the end of this year. The goal is to support the widows who reside at the home and depend on their many services. Many of the widows are on Title 19 assistance and some have no family support. Your generous donations will go to support The Angel Fund, which helps provide for hair and beauty appointments and other outside excursions that are an additional cost to their regular care. For these women, being able to leave the home and spend time in fellowship with others means the world, as they would normally not be able to do so. Many of the women have lost access to social security and other pensions and need help covering the Medicare reimbursement gap. We ask you to please pray for these widows and consider donating to this MOTQ so we can bless these women as they navigate this new and possibly difficult season in their lives.

TREATS FOR SEMINARIANS The Missions and Stewardship Boards will send Treat Bags to first-year seminarians for finals week. Help us fill the Treat Bags by donating **pre-packaged and snack/travel sizes** of the following items: *candy, chips, fruit snacks or dried fruit, pretzels, peanuts, caffeine drinks, hot cocoa mix, cookies, granola bars, sandwich crackers, etc.* The Treat Bag donation drive will run from now **until Nov. 24**. A box to collect donated items and labeled for Seminary Treat Bags will be in the Welcome Center under the Mission Board table. Bags will be assembled the weekend of Nov 30, at 10AM in the gym. If you wish to help us with the task of filling the 60 bags, talk to Liz Belter. Our hope is to also write the students encouraging letters to include in the bags, so we could use your help!

**HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL**

2024-2025 Enrollment and Registration

2024-2025 TUITION STRUCTURE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM 2024-2025 ENROLLMENT FORM

We hope to hear from you soon!

Holy Cross Voters' Assembly

Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024

after the 10:45AM worship service
In the gym

All Holy Cross Voting Members are encouraged to attend.

Attendance counts!

Contact Council Secretary Barb Grosch
(councilsecretary@hccross.com or 314.368.8142)

if you are unable to attend to get an excused absence.

Agenda Items Include:

- ◆ Officer & Board Elections
- ◆ 2025 Budget Approval
- ◆ Council Board Reports

Sign in when entering the meeting. Only a physical signature records attendance.

New Members to Holy Cross:

Contact your Elder or the church office about becoming a Voting Member of Holy Cross.

Sign in at the meeting and identify yourself to the Council Secretary as a person wanting to become a member (you have to sit through the meeting before voting approval).

MENU: A Potluck will be held before the meeting.

Fried chicken and drinks will be provided. Voters are asked to bring side dishes:

Last names A-K: bring side dish & dessert

Last names L-Z: bring side dish & salad

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

Ladies of all ages are invited to join in an evening of worship, conversation, refreshments, and so much more, on **Sat., Nov. 23 at Our Savior Lutheran Church for a Girls' Night Out.** The night begins with worship at 6PM, and tickets are now on sale.

It's a night to be reminded of "Who You are and Whose You are" as we reflect on our identity in Christ no matter our age and stage in life. A panel of women from various stages in life will share their testimonies, and time for conversations with guests will be included.

Tickets can be purchased on line at <https://oslcecc.square.site/girlsnightout> or at Our Savior's Gathering Grounds Cafe on Sunday mornings. Tickets are \$10 per person and \$5 for 'Little Ladies' (through 12th Grade). Please specify if you are sitting in a group. Contact Cari Hannon at cari.oslc@yahoo.com for more information.

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS: Holy Cross will participate in the Celebration of Lights (COL), sponsored by the City of O'Fallon, to spread the good news of the true meaning of Christmas.

Participation includes setting up our nativity scene and providing volunteers for three gate nights. Setup begins Nov. 9. Volunteers are needed to do the setup! Young muscle will be appreciated! Gate night duties include directing traffic at the front and rear gates and scanning entry tickets. **Holy Cross' gate nights are Dec. 9, Dec. 17, and Dec. 23 from 5:30 to 9PM.**

For More Information about volunteer opportunities for Celebration of Lights: Contact Don Wischmeyer, Joe Snyder, Ed Belter, and Chris Price

TICKETS for the Walk-Through Nights or any other Celebration of Lights nights must be purchased online: ofallon.mo.us/celebration-



HOLY CROSS' OPEN HOUSE FOR CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS: WALK THROUGH THE PARK: The City of O'Fallon will host 3 nights for people to walk through Zumwalt Park and view the Christmas lights and displays. They expect 5,000 people each evening. Holy Cross will offer free parking, hot drinks, cookies, and Christmas music in our gym. This is a great opportunity for us to share Jesus and Holy Cross with people from our community. If you are interested in helping with this endeavor, check out the sign-up sheets on the Welcome Center table. You can:

- *Help park cars in our lots one or more nights
- *Donate several dozen cookies
- *Serve refreshments in the gym

Walk-through nights are: Sun., Dec. 8; Mon., Dec. 9; and Tues., Dec. 10.

Cookies can be dropped off in the kitchen downstairs the weekend of Dec. 7-8. PLEASE **label** your cookie contribution for Celebration of Lights since Family Christmas is Dec. 7 and Preschool Christmas service is Dec. 8 at 3PM.

Cookies can also be dropped off in the kitchen during business hours on Dec. 9-10.

Are you starting to think about taxes as we near the end of 2024?

Below are two tips you might want to consider:

- 1) Through the Missouri District MOScholars program you can direct up to one-half of your state taxes to support students in Lutheran schools. This will not save you tax money but will allow you to direct where it is spent. For details check out the "Support Our LCMS Schools" flyer on the middle table in the Welcome Center.
- 2) If you are over 70 and must take an RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) from your investments, consider donating it to charities so that it does not count as income on which you will be taxed. If you have additional questions, feel free to talk with David Schlesselman about either or both programs.

Lutheran Resale Shop invites you to its annual **Black Friday Sale** when everything in the shop will be 50% off on **Fri., Nov. 29.** If you like to hunt for vintage or collectibles, furniture, clothing, or anything else found in your home, this is your chance. We accept cash only. We are Lutheran volunteers trying to raise funds for Lutheran Family and Children's Services and Lutheran Senior Services. They are open at **10AM TO 3PM.** If you have questions, please call 314-389-9970. Address: 6701 W. Florissant, St. Louis, MO.

BE A YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER! Apply now to serve with hundreds of LCMS Young Adults in Orange Nation at the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA, July 19-23, 2025. Volunteers aged 19-25 at the time of the Gathering will serve at Bible Study, Sessions, Interactive Center, Servant Events, Stadium Events. Applications to serve as a YAV close Dec. 31, 2024 at www.lcmsgathering.com/volunteer

DECORATE THE CHURCH
for

Christmas
Nov. 30
9AM



Bring the family!
Signup sheet in Welcome Center