



*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](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*

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](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



## Last Sunday of the Church Year News & Notes for November 23-24, 2024

**WELCOME TO EVERYONE** joining us for worship today.

**WE PRAY for our members:** 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; 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; Albert Marhanka; 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:**

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)  
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)  
Bonnie Schaffer (David Weseman)  
Sara Shroth (choir accompanist)  
Jim Smith (Jesse Smith)  
Stanika Todorova (Paul & Juliana Frerichs)  
Frank Wachter (Elaine Howard)  
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)

*Join us for a Thanksgiving Eve Service*

Wednesday, November 27,  
At 11AM & 7PM.

**Holy Cross Weekly Calendar**

**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**

**Monday, November 25, 2024**

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

9:30AM TOPS

10:30AM Preschool Thanksgiving (gym)

6:30PM Handbells

**Tuesday, November 26, 2024**

**OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON**

**8AM News& Notes Deadline**

9AM Preschool Chapel

10:30AM Preschool Thanksgiving (gym)

12:30PM Staff Meeting

4:30 to 8:30PM: FZN Orchestra Boosters

Jingle Bell 5K (use of HC parking lot)

**Wednesday, November 27, 2024**

**OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON**

**PRE-SCHOOL CLOSED**

11AM Thanksgiving Eve Service / Communion

7PM Thanksgiving Eve Service / Communion

**Thursday, November 28, 2024**

**Thanksgiving Day**

**— Church Office & Preschool Closed**

**Friday, November 29, 2024**

**Church Office & Preschool Closed**

**Saturday, November 30, 2024**

9AM Church Decorating for Christmas

10:30AM Missions: Bagging Treats for Seminary

3PM Holy Communion

**Sunday, December 1, 2024**

**First Sunday in Advent**

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

12:30PM Missions & Stewardship Boards

1:30PM Board of Elders

2PM Altar Guild Christmas Party (offsite)

**Tuesday, December 3, 2024**

Preschool Fundraiser at Chick-Fil-A

Dine to Donate Spirit Night

4 to 8PM

1918 Wentzville Pkwy, Wentzville, MO

Dine in or Drive-Through!

Just mention "Preschool Spirit Night"

**Wednesday, December 4, 2024**

Midweek Advent Services at 11AM, 7PM

Advent Meal at 5:30PM to 6:45PM

**Church Attendance for November 16-17, 2024**

Service	Attendance	Communion
SAT., 3PM	61	58
SUN., 8AM	126	102
SUN., 10:45AM	98	79
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>259</b>

**Bible Class Attendance  
Week of Nov. 17, 2024**

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	6
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	18
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	53
TLC/BASICS	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	12
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	NA
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM	41
Wednesday Nights	38
20s&30s Thursday	9

**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.**

**Weekly Offerings:  
Nov. 11-17, 2024**

General Fund	\$	14,880.74
Endowment	\$	10.00
Building Fund	\$	0.00
Missions Weekly	\$	547.00
<b>Missions Total Sept-Dec</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,716.80</b>

**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. 20, 2024

Families: 108

Individuals: 379

**HOPE Ministries** requests these items from Holy Cross for December: Corn meal mix, syrup, Tuna Helper, Spaghetti Noodles, Jelly. 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](mailto: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.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Timothy Kettler, son of Ron & Linda Kettler.

**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.

**MIDWEEK 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! Services are Dec. 4, Dec. 11, and Dec. 18.

**Portals of Prayer (October to December) and The Lutheran Witness (October 2024)** are available on the Welcome Center table.

If you are unable to get to church and would like a copy, call or email the church office, and one will be mailed to you.

**Lutheran High School News:**

Boys Swim set a NEW School Record in 200 Med Relay!! The Cougars placed 20th overall!

LHS has teaching opportunities in Theology and Social Studies for passionate educators who align with our mission to help students Grow and Serve in Christ, both inside and outside the classroom. If you have a heart for guiding students in their faith and academics—and are enthusiastic about engaging with extracurricular activities—apply on our website under "Work at LHS." Questions can be directed to [careers@lhssc.org](mailto:careers@lhssc.org). The **deadline to apply is Dec. 9.**

Last chance to get your Poinsettias and support the Cheer team! Bring some holiday cheer to your home with these beautiful blooms. Available for purchase now through Nov. 25. <https://form.jotform.com/242965716723061>

Help support LHS Wrestling. 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>

**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 Nov 30, at 10:30AM 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!

**SAUSAGE:** The Usher's Club at Trinity Lutheran Church in Orchard Farm will be making another batch of their famous smoked and unsmoked pork sausage in December! Sausage is sold in five-pound increments and **must** be picked up on Sat., Dec. 14, 2024, between 9am to noon at the Trinity Lutheran Church garage (4795 N Hwy 94, St. Charles, 63301). To place an order, call or text Alan at 636-899-0004.

**Chick-fil-A**  
Holy Cross Lutheran Preschool  
Dine to Donate Spirit Night

December 3rd, 2024 - 4pm to 8pm  
1918 Wentzville Pkwy, Wentzville, MO 63385

Dine in AND Drive Through!  
Just Mention "Preschool Spirit Night"

EAT MOR CHIKIN

**BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE:** At the blood drive on Nov. 14, 16 donors registered, including a first-time donor. Sixteen productive units of blood were collected. These units will help up to 48 patients in need at area hospitals!  
**The next blood drive is on Thurs., Jan. 16 from 10AM-3PM.**

*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@hcross.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

**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.

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** 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-of-lights](http://ofallon.mo.us/celebration-of-lights)



**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.**

**DECORATE THE CHURCH**

for Christmas  
Nov. 30  
9AM



Bring the family!  
Signup sheet in Welcome

**CHILDREN'S OFFERING ENVELOPES:**

Special offering envelopes created for children are available in a basket on the Welcome Center table. Take a few home so your children can have the offering ready before they come to church. The Breeze record-keeping system used by Holy Cross allows offerings to be credited to the child's name, giving them the opportunity to see their total giving to the church.

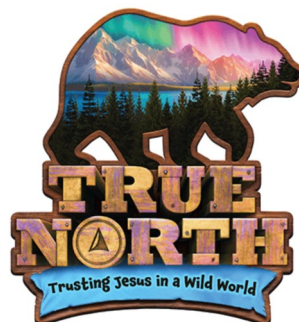
**USHERS:** Please sign up before the weekend you serve so that *Together We Serve* calendar is accurate. More volunteers are needed for ushering. See Elder Ralph Erickson for information.

**VBS 2025 IS COMING!**

**PLEASE SAVE THE FOLLOWING AT YOUR HOMES TO BE TURNED IN WHEN WE GET CLOSER TO VBS.**

- OLD ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREES (LIGHTS NOT NECESSARY)
- LARGE GIFT WRAP TUBES

**VBS**  
**JUNE 16-20**



**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](http://www.lcmsgathering.com/volunteer)