

THIRD SUNDAY IN *Advent*

*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



Third Sunday in Advent

News & Notes for December 14-15, 2024

WELCOME TO EVERYONE joining us for worship today.

WE PRAY for our members: Karen 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; 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; Donna Nordmeyer; Don Otto; Debbie Parks; Dee Paoletti; Bill Price; Gloria Rariden; Zeita Reed; Darlene Rhodes; Ron Rutledge; Carol Santoyo; Vita Sayers; Winnie Thornton; Charles Wardenburg; Larry Williams, 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)
Carolyn Hayes (former member)
Helen Ham (Verna Tucker)
Denise Heins (Becky Coomer)
Peter Hernon (Elaine Alton)
Sharon Hesse (Barb Krieger)
Jan Hilton (Zeita Reed)
Jeff Johns (Denice Johns)
Bill Knehans (Bob & Barb Knehans)
Keith Lindsay (Ralph & Renea Erickson)
Catherine Loney (Nicole Alton)
Sandy Longo (Randy Jones)
Denora Lum (Darlene Wischmeyer)
Lisa Markel (Grace Randazzo)
Elaina, Ian & Megan Martin (Helveys)
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)
Blake Schmalzer (Rebecca Schmalzer)
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)
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)
Charlotte Gaines, Nisseem, Daniel,
Dr. Eric Semler (Sandra Semler)
Sara, Laila, and Cameron McKisson
(Carla Wiese)

Join the Prayer Chain. We have so many to pray for, and we need more prayer warriors! You are notified by email when new names are added to the prayer listing. Send your request to join to: secretary@hcross.com

Holy Cross Weekly Calendar

Saturday, December 14, 2024

9:30AM TEC MEETING
10AM Quilting Fellowship
3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, December 15, 2024

Third Sunday in Advent

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Adult Bible Class
9:30AM Birthday Party for Jesus (Sunday School)
10:45AM Holy Communion
4PM Gateway Handbell Ringers

Monday, December 16, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
JANUARY KOINONIA DEADLINE!!!

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

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

9AM Preschool Chapel
10AM Women's Bible Study
12:30PM Staff Lunch
6:30PM Adult Bible Class
Holy Cross Celebration of Lights: HC GATE NIGHT

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO 11AM

9AM Preschool Chapel
9:30AM Adult Bible Class
11AM Midweek Advent 3 Service
5:30PM to 6:45PM; Advent Meal
6:15PM LYF, Confirmation, Midweek
7PM Midweek Advent 3 Service
8PM Choir

Thursday, December 19, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON, 1 TO 3:30PM

8AM News & Notes Deadline
10:30AM Preschool 3s Christmas Party (gym)
6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Study

Friday, December 20, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON
JANUARY 2025 KOINONIA PRODUCTION

10:30AM Preschool 4s Christmas Party (gym)

Saturday, December 21, 2024

3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Advent

8AM Holy Communion
9:30AM Adult Bible Class
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30AM Midweek Teacher Training (Sanctuary)
10:45AM Holy Communion
3PM Lessons & Carols

Church Attendance for Dec. 7-8, 2024

Service	Attendance	Communion
SAT., 3PM	161	Family Christmas Service
SUN., 8AM	124	108
SUN., 10:45AM	98	73
TOTAL	383	181
PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE, DEC. 8, 3PM: 80		
ADVENT 2 MIDWEEK WORSHIP, DEC. 11: 34 (11AM) + 79 (7PM) = 113		

**Bible Class Attendance
Week of Dec. 1, 2024**

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

Little Lambs, Sunday	3
Sunday School: PreK to Gr 5	6
Sunday School: Gr. 6-12	8
Sunday Adult Bible Class	48
TLC/BASICS	NA
Tuesday Women's 10AM	13
Tuesday Evening, 6:30PM	NA
Men's Breakfast & Bible	NA
Wednesday AM	34
Wednesday Nights	40
20s&30s Thursday	10

**Weekly Offerings:
Dec. 2-8, 2024**

General Fund	\$	24,363.96
Endowment	\$	150.00
Building Fund	\$	190.00
Missions Weekly	\$	3,352.25.00
Missions Total Sept-Dec	\$	11,104.05

Year to Date as of 11/30/2024

Income	\$	679,220.38
Expenses	\$	669,277.13
Surplus	\$	9,943.25

H.O.P.E. FOOD MINISTRIES

Weekly Totals: Dec. 11, 2024
Families: 87
Individuals: 305

Prayer List for Active Military:

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

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 January-March 2025 & *The Lutheran Witness* 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.



Service of Lessons & Carols:
The Marvel of This Night
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
December 22, 2024: 3PM

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS are in the Welcome Center on the table by the whiteboard. **PORTALS OF PRAYER** for January—March 2025 are also available on the centered table.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES:

The final angel visitation for the Midweek Advent services is the one recorded in the Gospel of Luke when angels appeared to the shepherds. Whenever angels showed up in the Old Testament, they almost always terrified whomever they appeared to! The angels encountered in Luke all bear wonderful news and point to the birth of the Christ child. Join us as we reflect on their messages together! Final service is Wed., Dec. 18, 11AM and 7PM.

ADVENT MEALS: The Board of Elders will sponsor the final Advent meal this Wed., Dec. 18. They will serve hamburgers and hot dogs. **from 5:30PM to 6:45PM.**

MISSIONS BOARD: Donations for The Lutheran Home in Wisconsin until the end of this year will support the widows who reside at the home and depend on their many services. Your generous donations will 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.



HANDBELL CONCERT
AT HOLY CROSS
THIS SUNDAY! Dec. 15, at 4PM

THANKS - THANKS - THANKS

Our service to people from our community for the Walk-Through nights would not be possible without the help of so many wonderful volunteers here at Holy Cross. A huge appreciation of gratitude to all the ladies who served the receptions in the gym, the many members who donated cookies, the men who helped to park the cars, and the musicians who provided Christmas music for listening. In the three nights together, we parked over 600 cars, provided refreshments for over 700 people, and handed out hundreds of books about Jesus. None of this is possible without help from all of you. May God bless the seeds we sowed.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING to Shut-in Members:



On Monday evening, Dec. 23, Holy Cross members will be Christmas Caroling to some of our shut-in members. We will meet in the parking lot at 6PM and carpool in groups. We have extra drivers if you are concerned about driving. Words to Christmas carols will be provided. No musical talent is required: just a joy to share Jesus. The

elderly really enjoy young children. Sign up on the Welcome Center sheet so we can plan groups.

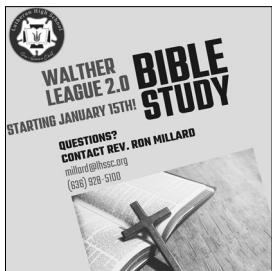
JANUARY KOINONIA DEADLINE IS MON., DEC. 16!
 Have photos or articles from the past month's activities that you would like to share with our members?
 Send them to secretary@hcross.com

LUTHERAN HIGH NEWS:

Last chance to order **2024 LHS Christmas Ornaments!** All proceeds will be donated to charity. All ornaments are \$5 a piece with new colors this year! Choose from wooden or acrylic. **Order here: <https://form.jotform.com/243264303676053>**. Pick up at LHS by Wed., Dec. 18.

It's an exciting time at Lutheran High as **applications** are now being accepted for new students to join Cougar Nation! Re-enrollment information for our current students for the **2025-2026 school year** will be sent out in February. Please keep an eye on your email for details about the process, important dates, and any updates for the new school year.

Lutheran High School is excited to announce the launch of **Walther League 2.0**, an intergenerational Bible Study that will take place every 3rd Wednesday of the month, beginning Jan. 15. Held in the LHS Library, this unique gathering offers a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, spiritual growth, and connection across generations as we explore the Book of Revelation together. The morning will begin with fellowship from 8:00-8:30 AM (coffee and snacks provided by LCEF), followed by Bible Study from 8:30-9:15 AM. From 9:15-9:30 AM, there will be a time for interaction with LHS students, and the morning will conclude with Chapel at 9:45 AM. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors, and join us in growing together in faith and community. We look forward to seeing you there!



LHS Cookbook! Over 65 delicious recipes submitted by the community! Perfect as a Christmas gift or a valuable addition to your recipe collection. Pricing: Printable PDF: \$10. Printed Recipe Book: \$15. All proceeds support LHS Prom! You can get your copy soon while supporting a great cause! Order here: <https://form.jotform.com/243234143735048>

Buy a Kokomo Joe's gift card!

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift? Support the LHS Class of 2025 and snag an awesome deal at the same time!

- Purchase a **\$20 gift card for ONLY \$15**
- Available now through **Dec. 21**
- A portion of sales goes to **Project Graduation** for the Senior class!



How to buy: Scan the QR code at the right to purchase your gift cards today! Give the gift of fun while supporting a great cause!

www.lhsc.org | 4105 N. Cloverleaf Dr. St. Peters, MO 63376 | 646-447-5566

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

2024-2025 Enrollment and Registration

2024-2025 TUITION STRUCTURE

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

2024-2025 ENROLLMENT FORM

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**



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS ALTAR

The Altar Guild offers poinsettias which will decorate the altar for Christmas. Cost is \$11.

Sign up in the Flower Book in the Welcome Center. Write checks to "Holy Cross Lutheran Church" and put "Altar Flowers" on the memo line. Put checks in the blue envelopes and in the wooden box on the Flower Book table between the restrooms. Flowers can also be paid by using the online giving site. Flowers can be picked up after Christmas services to enjoy at home!

