



*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



First Sunday after Christmas News & Notes for December 28-29 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; Ingrid Marhanka; Terry McCann; Shirley Niewald; Donna Nordmeyer; Don Otto; Debbie Parks; 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)
Darlene Barr-Walag (Peggy Kuerschner)
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)
Norma Cooper (Wendy Tentschert)
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)
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)

WE PRAY for those who mourn: for the family of **Deborah S. Smith**, who entered the Church Triumphant on Dec. 19. Her funeral was held Sat., Dec. 28, at Baue O'Fallon.

Holy Cross Weekly Calendar

Saturday, December 28, 2024

3PM Holy Communion

Sunday, December 29, 2024

First Sunday after Christmas

8AM Worship Service — No Communion

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:45AM Worship Service — No Communion

Monday, December 30, 2024

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

PRESCHOOL CLOSED UNTIL JAN. 6

9:30AM TOPS

11AM Line Dancing

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

New Year's Eve

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON

No Service

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

New Year's Day

PRESCHOOL & CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, January 2, 2025

8AM News& Notes Deadline

9AM HOPE Seeds (gym)

6:30PM 20s&30s Bible Study (?)

Friday, January 3, 2025

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM TO NOON

7PM Middle School Late Night (off-site)

Saturday, January 4, 2025

9AM Undecorating the Church
from Christmas

3PM Holy Communion

+ Installation of Church Officers & Boards

Sunday, January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Installation of Church Officers & Boards

At all services

8AM Holy Communion

9:30AM Education Hour

10:45AM Holy Communion

1:30PM Board of Elders

Church Attendance for Dec. 21-22, 2024

Service	Attendance	Communion
SAT., 3PM	48	45
SUN., 8AM	111	87
SUN., 10:45AM	104	84
TOTAL	263	216

LESSONS & CAROLS DEC. 22 AT 3PM: 185

Christmas Worship Attendance for Dec. 24-25, 2024

Service	Attendance	Communion
12/24/2024 3PM	125	102
12/24/2024 5PM	187	132
12/24/2024 7PM	179	129
12/24/2024 11PM	69	54
Total Christmas Eve	560	417
12/25/2024, 9:30AM	102	84

**Bible Class Attendance
Week of Dec. 22, 2024**

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

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

**Weekly Offerings:
Dec. 16-22, 2024**

General Fund	\$	15,885.70
Endowment	\$	10.00
Building Fund	\$	120.00
Missions Weekly	\$	110.00
Missions Total Sept-Dec	\$	11,564.05

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. 23, 2024

Families: 60

Individuals: 204

Prayer List for Active Military:

Dominic Bisesi, **Andrew** Chema; **Timothy** Daniels, **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 January: canned beef stew, canned chili, sloppy joe sauce, ramen noodles, gravy. Place items in the box under the Mission Board display in the Welcome Center. No expired goods can be accepted.

Holy Cross Buy/Sell Facebook Group Now Available

A 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.

THIS WEEKEND is the fifth Sunday in December. As per our tradition at Holy Cross, the fifth Sunday service will not have communion. We will be using the Service of Prayer & Preaching instead. Thanks to Andy Goodman for playing the organ for us this weekend.

Remember that there **will not be a New Year's Eve service** this week.

INSTALLATION NEXT WEEKEND: Newly-elected and current officers of the Church Council, Board of Elders, and auxiliary groups (Altar Guild, Ladies Guild, Grace Guild) are welcome to participate in the Rite of Installation to begin the new year.



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS ALTAR

THANK YOU to those who purchased poinsettias for the altar: Verna Tucker, the Coopers, the Haffers, Donald Duncan, Sandra Semler, and Roger & Barb Grosch. Please pick them up, if you haven't done so already. The Altar Guild offers poinsettias which will decorate the altar for Christmas. Cost is \$11.

Weekly Flowers: 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!

FLOWER BOOK: The Flower Book is in the Church Office because it needs to be updated for 2025, If you want to schedule flowers for January or beyond, please contact the church office.

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.

HOPE SEEDS will meet Thurs., Jan. 2, at 9AM to NOON. Join the group to scoop up seeds for missions.

2024 CONTRIBUTIONS

The last day to submit contributions for Holy Cross for the 2024 calendar year is Tues., Dec. 31, 2024. All contributions received by end of business on that date (noon) will be included on the 2024 contribution statement. Donations hand delivered to the church by Tues., Dec. 31, or received via USPS with a postmark of 12/31/24 or before, will also be included on the 2024 contribution statement. Any contributions received on or after Wed., Jan. 1, 2025, will be on the 2025 contribution statement.

Decorating for Christmas

Help us **UNDECORATE** the church
January 4, 2025
9AM
 Bring the family!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

2025 Enrollment and Registration

TUITION STRUCTURE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM ENROLLMENT FORM

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.

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

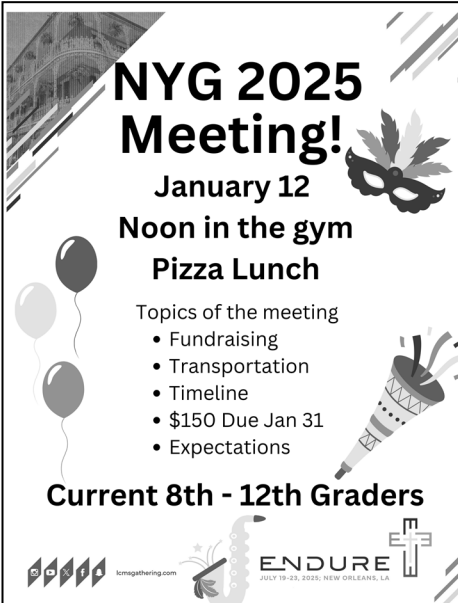


NYG 2025 Meeting!
January 12
Noon in the gym
Pizza Lunch

Topics of the meeting

- Fundraising
- Transportation
- Timeline
- \$150 Due Jan 31
- Expectations

Current 8th - 12th Graders



ENDURE
JULY 19-24, 2024, NEW ORLEANS, LA

DOOR PRIZES ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH HARVESTER \$10 PER YOUTH

LATE NIGHT
Middle School
JANUARY 3
7-11PM

BRING FOOD DONATIONS FOR ST. TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

PIZZA

RSVP DUE DEC 29

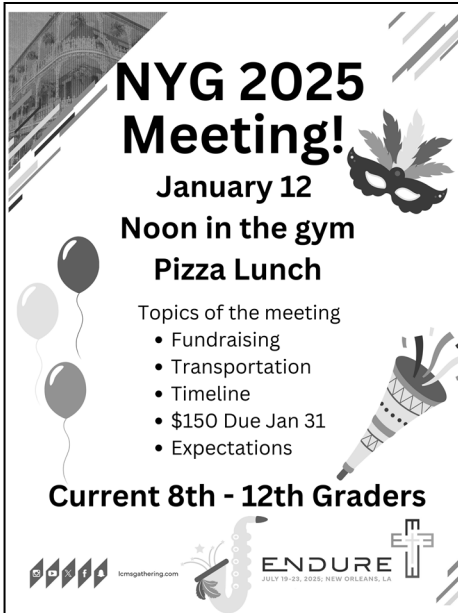


NYG 2025 Meeting!
January 12
Noon in the gym
Pizza Lunch

Topics of the meeting

- Fundraising
- Transportation
- Timeline
- \$150 Due Jan 31
- Expectations

Current 8th - 12th Graders



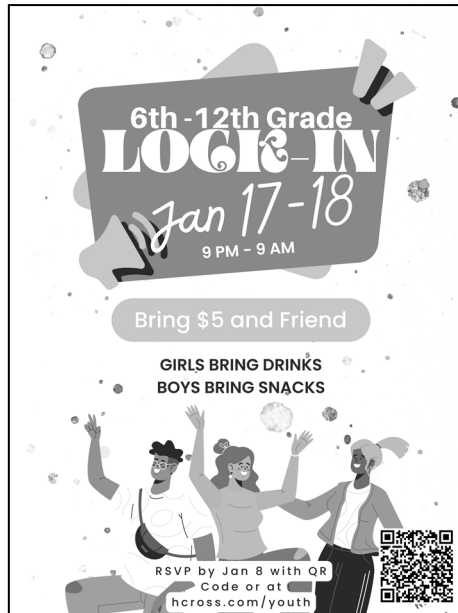
ENDURE
JULY 19-24, 2024, NEW ORLEANS, LA

6th - 12th Grade LOCK-IN
Jan 17-18
9 PM - 9 AM

Bring \$5 and Friend

GIRLS BRING DRINKS
BOYS BRING SNACKS

RSVP by Jan 8 with QR Code or at hcross.com/youth



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
8945 VETERANS MEMORIAL HWY

GAME DAY

1.18.2025

BRING GAMES | BRING FOOD | HAVE FUN

Doors Open from 9-2 pm

[HCROSS.COM/YOUTH](https://hcross.com/youth)



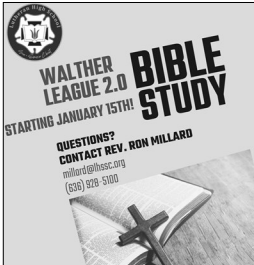
LUTHERAN HIGH NEWS:

The December Cougar Connection is here, packed with updates, celebrations, and exciting plans for the future of Lutheran High School! Check it out on our website: <https://lutheranhighstcharles.com/2024/12/12/check-out-the-latest-edition-of-the-cougar-connection/>

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

WALTHER LEAGUE 2.0 BIBLE STUDY
STARTING JANUARY 15TH!
QUESTIONS? CONTACT REV. RON MILLARD
ronm@lhsc.org
(504) 278-5100



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>