

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

# THE CROSS CONNECTION

*Providing Strength for the Faith Journey*

August 2021

CONGREGATIONAL  
LIFE  
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RELATIONAL  
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SUNDAY  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE  
AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

IN-PERSON  
SANCTUARY AT 8 AM  
*Pre-registration no  
longer required*

DRIVE-IN  
PARKING LOT AT 10 AM  
*Radio Frequency: FM 87.9*

VIRTUAL  
*View online on demand at  
HolyCrossChurch.org/  
sermons*

*A congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
in America*



## **Welcome Home...**

I have often thought that if we could see the journey whole, we might never undertake it, might never dare the first step that propels us from the place we have known toward the place we know not. Call it one of the mercies of life's journey. That we see it only by stages as it opens before us, as it comes into our keeping, and step by single step. By our going we discover certain life lessons that serve us well: to be faithful to the next step; to rely on more than our preconceived plans; to heed the signposts of intuition and dreams; to follow the path that only we will recognize; to keep an open eye for the wonders that we encounter along the journey; and, to press on beyond distractions, beyond fatigue, beyond what would tempt us from taking the next step.

These are lessons that we hopefully learn. The choice becomes whether to keep them, break them or make them all over again when the journey is revealed by turns we could not have foreseen. Since March 2020, we have individually and collectively been on a journey not of our choosing. These past 17 months have asked us to adapt, modify our expectations and practice sacrifice. Even our understanding of where "home" fits into the equation and what it will look like in the future is not the same. The last time I went through a fundamental shift in my sense of "home" was when I was considering the possibility of attending college. Once I started college I never lived at my parent's home for any extended period of time. I visited and stayed over summer breaks but I would never live there full time again. My understanding about "home" went through a transformation. I discovered that addresses do not define your sense of "home". Home is where you can be yourself with no pretense. Home is where you are welcomed, encouraged and loved. Home is a connection to values and beliefs that you continue to live into as you discover your own way. Home is a place of origin to which you return to be renewed.

Recently through conversations with many of you, I realize that it is time to come home. It is also time to reimagine what "home" may look like. I believe it is fair to say that the world has changed but our mission at Holy Cross remains the same. We hope that Holy Cross feels like "home" in a spiritual, emotional and physical sense. It is a place located on St. Mary's Road but as we have learned it is more than just the wood, brick and mortar. It is "home" where we don't need to pine for the past but are encouraged to reach for a future that God invites us to participate in. A future where everyone counts or no one counts.

There is no denying that the future will not look the same as the past because of the journey we have been on. That is the way it is supposed to be. We have learned the difference between what is necessary and what is essential. We have learned that change brings about transformation in ways that we may never have considered. We have been nimble in our decision making and discovered that there are some sacrifices for others that are worth our effort.

Holy Cross is a "home" for pilgrims on a faith journey. Holy Cross is a community of believers for people of faith since 1980 (41 years). It is time to reimagine what "home" at Holy Cross will be as we move forward. There will be constants like our core values and teachings, our vision and what we aspire to become. We will differentiate between mission and method. We are reimagining Sunday mornings to provide worship, faith formation and fellowship. We are reimagining how we will connect with one another in-person and remotely throughout the week. We are reimagining new ways of equipping people of faith to practice lives of faith wherever that may need to be: at home, school, work, part of community life and at church. We are reimagining what it means for us to serve and care compassionately for those who are forgotten or marginalized. Please read further in this month's newsletter for more details and ways for you to become involved and engaged in the work of God's kingdom. So, Welcome Home!

*Pastor Bob*

# Summer

## Sunday Worship Schedule

August 1- September 5

### In-person Sanctuary Worship at 8 am

*Pre-registration no longer required.*

### Drive-In Worship at 10 am

FM 87.9

### Virtual Worship

Pre-recorded video available on demand at

[HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons)



**HOLY CROSS  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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#### PASTORS AND CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Robert A. Davis, Senior Pastor  
Sarah Accettura, Administrative Coordinator  
Janet Carr, Congregational Activities  
Randall Casey, Director of Music  
Carmen & Abel Cervantes, Custodians  
Beth Fashimpaur, Handbell Choir Director  
Sarah Grayer, Director of High School Youth Ministry  
Beth Ann Koenemann, Financial Administrator  
Carrie Mack, Director of Youth Music Ministries  
Steve Oelschlager, Director of Operational Ministries  
Ellie Rautenbach, Congregational Communications  
Manny Rivera, Property  
Dale Tippet Jr., Director of Contemporary Music and  
Worship Technical Arts  
Tom Zombolo, Property

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY

Samantha (Sam) Cooper, Director  
Roxanne (Rocky) Kupfer, Assistant Director  
Tania Zombolo, Assistant Director

#### CHURCH COUNCIL

Harold Sargent (*President*), Andy Eidson (*Vice President*),  
Darin Chartier, Nicole Drake, Mick Garrison, Gail Kelly,  
Bill Miksch, Karl Nygard, Sonny Randall, Amy Sekili,  
John Villani, Martha Watt  
*Secretary*, Terry Berger  
*Treasurer*, Lori Fedyk  
*Financial Secretary*, Tom Miller

#### VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Altar Care: Julie Lucziw  
Greeters: Therese Delli Paoli  
Sunday School: Amy Becker-Perez

The Cross Connection, parish newsletter of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, is published monthly and is available online at [HolyCrossChurch.org/newsletters](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/newsletters). Articles should be submitted by the 1st of the month to Janet Carr at [janet@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:janet@holycrosschurch.org)

## You're Invited To Worship With Us

All three worship options feature the same sermon message each week.

**Please note the following changes to Covid-19 protocols that reflect CDC, IDPH and LCPH guidance, effective July 1.**

As we begin to host more in-person events at church during the week, we will follow guidelines and check in with each group as to their comfort level regarding masks. If participants are fully vaccinated, then masks will be optional. We recognize that vaccines are not currently available for our youngest members and guests and encourage you to consider their safety as well in making your mask choices.

The 8 am in-person sanctuary worship opportunity no longer requires you to RSVP. We will continue to offer social distance seating. Anyone who is fully vaccinated is no longer required to wear a mask but may do so. If you are not vaccinated, we require you to wear a mask. We will still ask attendees to sign-in. We are utilizing liturgy and hymnody as part of this service.

The 10 am drive-in worship service is outdoors and masks will no longer be required. Again, if a mask is your choice we respect that decision. You may remain in your vehicle or bring a lawn chair and enjoy the outdoors. We are utilizing liturgy and hymnody as part of this service. When Holy Communion is offered we will continue with the individual communion kits. Holy Communion is being offered on the first and third Sundays of each month. Offerings may be made in person, through traditional mail delivery, or on-line at the church's website.

Please continue to watch our website [HolyCrossChurch.org](http://HolyCrossChurch.org) for the most current information and any changes to the schedule or protocols.



## You're Invited to Fellowship

Illinois has relaxed the COVID-19 restrictions and Holy Cross is celebrating and looking forward to socializing again! We have three additional family friendly outdoor events planned on Sundays during August. To help us plan for food quantities, please RSVP at [HolyCrossChurch.org/welcomeback](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/welcomeback)

In case of inclement weather we will move indoors to the fellowship area. All welcome! We look forward to seeing you there!

#### • August 1: Tailgate Party at 10:45 am

While it's not quite football season, this will be a fun way to get together and enjoy each other's company. We'll provide tailgate food favorites like hot beef and smoked pork sandwiches after the 10 am drive-in worship service. The only things we ask you to bring are chairs, and lawn games if you'd like to share. **RSVP by Friday, July 30**

#### • August 15: Breakfast on the Lawn at 8:45 & 10:45 am

We provide breakfast after the 8 & 10 am worship services. **RSVP by Friday, August 13**

#### • August 22: Pastries on the Patio at 8:45 am

We provide pastries between the 8 and 10 am worship services. **RSVP by Friday, August 20**

Volunteers are needed to help with prep, serve and cleanup. If you'd like to help at any of these events, please contact the church office at [office@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:office@holycrosschurch.org) or (847) 367 - 4060.



## Reimagining “Sunday Morning at Holy Cross”

We are all anxious to return to experiences and expressions of life that we have missed since March 2020. We have been willing to try different approaches while still honoring certain traditions and practices. As we hopefully move beyond Covid-19, we are discussing what life after the pandemic might look like. We are “reimagining” worship options and new approaches to faith formation/education other than the traditional Sunday School format. On this page are the beginnings of us reimagining what the future holds for us. We hope you will plan on joining us as we reimagine Sunday mornings at Holy Cross. As we have done for the past 17 months, we will follow CDC IDPH guidelines regarding safety protocols in all worship formats and gatherings. Beginning Sunday, September 12 our Sunday morning schedule will look like this:



- 8 & 10 am In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary

- Fellowship and Faith Formation (Sunday School) will be offered between worship services at 8:45 - 9:45 am. The starting date for the Faith Formation component is yet to be determined.

## Reimagining “Worship”

Worship is one of the foundational moments in the Christian faith. It is the opportunity for people of faith to pause, reflect, wonder, celebrate and be renewed to practice a life of faith in our everyday lives. It is the Biblical equivalent to “sabbath” time. At Holy Cross we utilize different liturgical resources to promote interest and variety in the act of worship. Confession, music, prayer, scripture and the sacraments provide the liturgical movements. Sabbath has never been limited to a certain time, day, style or format. We enjoy a worship approach that encourages participation and an opportunity for individuals and families to bring and offer their spiritual needs where they feel supported and encouraged. In addition to the in-person worship on Sunday mornings beginning in September we will continue to provide the following worship opportunities:

- Virtual Worship pre-recorded video each week available on demand at [HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons](https://HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons)

Beginning in October, we will be offering a worship service on the first Saturday of each month:

- First Saturday In-person Worship at 5 pm. This service may be held in the sanctuary, patio or even in the parking lot as a drive-in worship service.

## Reimagining “Faith Formation”

Faith formation occurs on many different levels. It may be a personal journey, a family centered conversation or a multigenerational experience. Holy Cross believes it involves all three. In the fall our goal is to “*celebrate the expansive image of God in everyone, through open and inclusive language, diverse imagery, and thoughtful theology.*” The launch of this reimagined faith formation will begin later in September on Sunday mornings between worship services. It is our goal to provide a Sunday morning resource event that will enable individuals and families to feel confident and comfortable talking about faith and spirituality with their kids and with other adults. These Sunday morning resource events will be scripturally based, involve conversations for reflection/discussion, provide a spiritual micro-practice, prayer, music and fellowship. There will be shareable social media material available to continue exploring faith with others at home.

## Reimagining “How We Stay Connected”

Relational groups exist at Holy Cross around study themes, Bible studies, book clubs, activities involving service to others, and for a myriad of different reasons. Holy Cross is making the commitment to provide in-person opportunities, remote opportunities and hybrid opportunities. We have learned as a result of the past 17 months that technology provides a totally different kind of access and involvement for different needs. In-person participation is still preferable. However, there may be times when personal and work schedules may preclude your involvement in a meeting, a relational group, a special event or even worship. Holy Cross has made an investment in equipment and social media resources to make additional resources available to individuals and families in different contexts. These digital opportunities will involve our congregational Zoom subscription and our new “live streaming” capabilities. Each event will dictate what technological options may be utilized and may not be available for every event.

## Reimagining “Fellowship”

We will resume our coffee hours on Sunday mornings after each of the worship services starting in September. We hope you will plan on joining us as we reimagine fellowship at Holy Cross. We also have plans to provide special “catered breakfasts” on the following Sundays: September 26, October 24, November 28 at 9 am.

Please follow the church’s monthly Cross Connection newsletter and emails, Sunday bulletins and website at [HolyCrossChurch.org](https://HolyCrossChurch.org) for more details and instruction as it become available.



## "A Path Forward" Update

We are identifying candidates and starting initial conversations with them. The call committee has crafted interview questions and planned different stages of the interview process.

Should you have questions about the call process, please feel welcome to speak to one of the call committee members or please refer to our website [HolyCrossChurch.org/transition](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/transition) to obtain the most current information available about "A Path Forward".

The call committee is comprised of Jenifer Christensen (chair), Amy Becker-Perez, Carol Dikelsky, Nicole Drake, Mark Fedyk, Dave Kenney, David Klein, Matthew Sargent, Phil Kirschbaum (non-voting) and Pastor Bob (non-voting). We are grateful to these individuals for their leadership and service.

### PASTORAL ACTS



#### BAPTISMS

**Jonathan Randal Hawver**  
son of Daniel and Kristen Hawver  
July 18, 2021

**Olivia Wren Grayer**  
daughter of Justin and Sarah Grayer  
July 25, 2021

## Piles of Dirt and Other Cool News

If you have been wondering about the machinery, excavating, and piles of dirt next to the sanctuary along St. Mary's Road, here is the story. A few months ago, our neighbor to the north in Terre Fair noticed part of their backyard was like a swamp. After getting Lake County Public Works involved, the prevailing theory was that



Holy Cross had an underground leak in our freshwater supply line. After some detective work, digging around, and a few false starts, we thought the problem had been identified in early July, but work is still ongoing at this time to resolve the leak.

In other building-related news, Holy Cross has ordered two new HVAC units to replace heating and cooling systems used in the sanctuary and the "West Wing." We are expecting to receive the equipment and have it installed in the last half of August. As our buildings age, it is a natural consequence that portions of our mechanicals will need replacement. Financially we can cover the expenses through money set aside for capital replacement and building repairs. Thank you for your understanding if you should find yourself warmer than desired during worship until the new equipment is installed.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Oelschlager at [steve@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:steve@holycrosschurch.org)



## 2021 Mission Endowment Fund

Please join us on **Sunday, August 1**. Scholarships will be awarded during the 10 am drive-in worship service.



## THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

**Thursday, August 5 - Friday, August 6**

**Attend virtually or in-person (small group setting)**

**Register: [bit.ly/GLS2021atHC](http://bit.ly/GLS2021atHC)**

**Priority code: HSFAMILY**

### You Have Influence... And Your Leadership Health Matters

Holy Cross is committed to hosting The Global Leadership Summit (GLS) again in 2021 on **August 5 - 6, 2021** and we would like you to join us. As a Holy Cross member, you can view the event online or watch informally with others from Holy Cross in the Gathering Space (details to come). Whether you're a business leader, CEO, pastor, teacher, nurse, student, artist, soldier, parent, doctor, volunteer, entrepreneur, or simply finding your place, *you have influence*. Every day you impact those around you through your influence—for better or worse, in both big and small ways. During a season that may have depleted your energy, stunted your growth or left you in the dark, it's time to rediscover a new hope for your future in order to amplify the positive difference you can make.

What is the turning point for positive change? Your capacity to thrive and help rejuvenate the best in those around you, both personally and professionally, is dependent on your leadership health.

Your leadership matters. When you invest in developing your leadership skills, you also give back to everyone around you. You strengthen your relationships, build trust on your team, innovate toward a better future and face challenges head-on with fresh perspective—not only do you thrive, but your family, your business, your church and your community thrives.

### GAIN INSIGHTS FROM A WORLD-CLASS LEADERSHIP FACULTY

Experience high-impact sessions to help you forge ahead with clarity of vision and new energy. Areas of expertise our faculty explores includes: Cultivating Innovation, Building Trust, Maximizing Productivity, Overcoming Fear, Influencing Change, Managing Conflict, Improving Workplace Civility, Casting Vision *and so much more!*

Full faculty list: [globalleadership.org/global-leadership-summit](http://globalleadership.org/global-leadership-summit)

### What's included with your GLS21 ticket purchase:

- 15+ High-Impact Leadership Talks
- 2 Days of Insight, Inspiration & Entertainment
- Networking Opportunities
- Video-on-Demand Access of ALL talks for 7 Days
- Opportunity to receive a Certificate of Completion





## NATURE

Our First Way of Knowing God

### Discussion Opportunity

Long before there were synagogues, churches, or even the Bible, God made God's self known through creation. The Scriptures are packed full of examples of people coming to understand God through the fig tree, the sparrow, violent storms, and of course, Living Waters.

Today, we live primarily separate and disconnected from the Earth and its ecological processes. Yet, this knowledge of God in and through God's creation is still embedded deep within us. We experience it in a sunrise or a sunset, an awe-inspiring mountain range, or a gentle stream. And we grieve together for the role we have played in the precarious state of the creation today.

Join us for the remainder of this seven-week discussion facilitated by Holy Cross member Leo Karris either through the Saturday morning men's group or Tuesday nights at 7 pm. Questions? Contact Leo at [leokarris@gmail.com](mailto:leokarris@gmail.com)

**NATURE: Our First Way of Knowing God**

**Tuesdays, August 3 - August 24 at 7 pm via Zoom**

 [holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94348088877](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94348088877)

## Antiracism Roundtable & Workgroup

by Carol Dikelsky

Join us for ongoing discussions of how the work of antiracism and inclusion intersects with our Christian faith and how we can apply what we've learned within the community of Holy Cross and beyond. In the upcoming months, we will welcome guest speakers, view and discuss films and select resources to read individually and as a group—watch for more details to come.

Each month we pray with each other—for those wounded by racism and prejudice as well as for the strength to examine our own biases, privileges, experiences, words, and actions.

By listening to each other, we gain new and renewed perspectives. We plan to add our voices and energy to represent Holy Cross in support of Lake County United, a community organizing group that seeks ways to improve the quality of life of Lake County residents. If you'd like to learn more about this group, visit [lakecountyunited.org](http://lakecountyunited.org)

On behalf of the Roundtable, please consider joining our discussions. We will be happy to welcome you. Our voices are stronger together. Mark your calendar and reach out to me at [carol@dikelsky.org](mailto:carol@dikelsky.org) with any questions.

**Dates: Sundays, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19**

**Time: 11 am - 12:15 pm**

 [holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/93144150662](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/93144150662)




**MEN of  
PURPOSE  
PRINCIPLE  
PRAYER**

**Date: Tuesday, September 21**

**Time: 6:30 pm In-person including dinner**

**RSVP: [bit.ly/MP3SEPT](https://bit.ly/MP3SEPT)**

**or 7 pm virtually via Zoom**

 [holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/92830435447](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/92830435447)

### Topic: The Maturity Question

Andy Stanley has published a new book entitled "Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets." the premise being that our decisions determine the direction and quality of our life. Our choices create the story of our life. The book raises five questions, and these questions will provide us with the themes for the 2021 MP3 series.

Our topic for September is **The Maturity Question**: What is the wise thing to do?

Decision: I will take the past, present and future in consideration.

Stanley writes: "Every decision you make becomes part of the story of your life. Every relational, financial, and professional decision and the outcomes of those decisions become permanent parts of your story. We've all lived long enough to have a few chapters we wish we could erase. No doubt you have a few stories you wish you could rewrite. We all do. We call it regret. But chances are, the decisions that led to your greatest regrets could have been avoided if you had paused to ask yourself, "What story do I want to tell?" From here on out, write a story worth telling. Write a story you're proud to tell. If you're in the middle of making a decision right now, stop and ask yourself: Of the available options, which one do I want as a permanent part of the story of my life?"

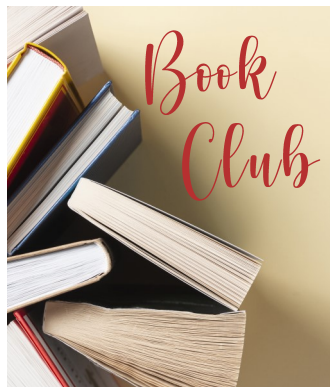
Men (21+) please RSVP to join us in-person for fellowship and conversation and dinner. No RSVP needed for virtual attendance.

Save the date for the final MP3 event in the 2021 series. As we move to the other side of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will continue to experiment with in-person and virtual options.

**Tuesday, October 26 at 6:30 pm**

**The Relationship Question**: What does love require of me?

Decision: I will decide with the interests of others in mind.

**BOOK CLUB****TUESDAY, AUGUST 24**7 PM IN-PERSON AT HOME OF NANCY JOINER, 1318 VINEYARD LANE, LIBERTYVILLE  
OR VIA ZOOM**[holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94321824417](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94321824417)**

This month we will discuss *The Bookish Life of Nina Hill* by Abbi Waxman. The only child of a single mother, Nina has her life just as she wants it: a job in a bookstore, a kick-butt trivia team, a world-class planner and a cat named Phil. If she sometimes suspects there might be more to life than reading, she just shrugs and picks up a new book.

If you have any questions, please email Felicia Brandt at [felicia.s.brandt@gmail.com](mailto:felicia.s.brandt@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY MEN'S GROUP****SATURDAYS, AUGUST 7, 14, 21 & 28**

7 AM IN-PERSON (FELLOWSHIP AREA)

OR VIA ZOOM

**[holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/301891517](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/301891517)**

This group is for men of faith to come together throughout the year to share their faith and thoughts about challenging topics. All welcome. In August, we will continue the series on Nature As Our First Way Of Knowing God (see page 5 for more information).

Questions? Please contact Steve Oelschlager at [steve@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:steve@holycrosschurch.org)

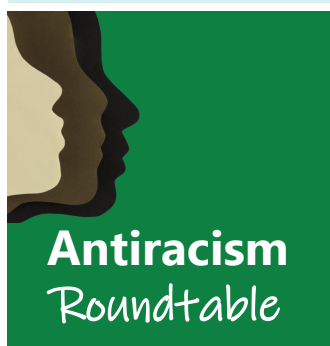
**NATURE: OUR FIRST WAY OF KNOWING GOD****TUESDAYS, AUGUST 3, 10, 17 & 24**

7 PM VIA ZOOM

**[holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94348088877](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94348088877)**

Holy Cross member Leo Karris is facilitating the conversation and video-based adult study over seven weeks that started in July and will continue for four sessions in August. Join in the discussion on Tuesday evenings or during Saturday Men's Group (above).

See page 5 for more details. Questions? Contact Leo at [leockarris@gmail.com](mailto:leockarris@gmail.com)

**ANTIRACISM ROUNDTABLE & WORK GROUP****SUNDAY, AUGUST 15**

11 AM VIA ZOOM

**[holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/93144150662](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/93144150662)**

As follow-up to last fall's book discussions of *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to Whitest Denomination in the US* (by Pastor Lenny Duncan) and *Dialogues on Race* (Augsburg Fortress), all are invited to participate in this relational group, led by Holy Cross member Carol Dikelsky. See page 5 of the newsletter for more details and additional dates.

**QUILTING GROUP****WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 4, 11, 18 & 25**

9 AM - 12 PM

IN-PERSON, ROOM 404

The Quilting Group gathers in-person on Wednesdays to sew as a group. Contact Deb Sherrock at [debs695@aol.com](mailto:debs695@aol.com) or (630) 267-7802 with any questions.

**PILATES****MONDAYS, AUGUST 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30**

6 PM, IN-PERSON, CELEBRATION! CHILDCARE ATRIUM

To join this group, please contact Jodi Zombolo at (224) 595-8573. Pilates will meet in person in the west wing.





# CrossWays Preschool



# Celebration! Childcare

by Samantha Cooper  
Director of CrossWays Preschool & Celebration! Childcare

## The Last HOORAH!

August marks the last month of Little Sprouts Summer Camp for CrossWays Preschool! It is a short session, with only three weeks of camp. The students will be studying mythical creatures, sharks, and music for the camp themes. We have had so much fun this summer with water play, garden time, and all of our in-house activities. We will be finishing up the summer with a trackless train ride, ice cream day, and limbo. Each child will also be making a stuffed animal bear during mythical creatures week!



## Gearing Up for Fall

As summer comes to an end, our staff are beginning to prepare for the fall school year. Fall curriculums have been updated for the new year and classroom move ups are scheduled. We are tentatively preparing for an Open House Night in October. Students and teachers are soaking up the last few weeks of summer! Our garden is in full bloom. We have pumpkins, watermelons, and tomatoes in our vegetable beds ready for picking. Students have enjoyed outdoor reading not only in the garden area but also at the Spark of the Spirit Fire Pit near the parsonage.



## Introducing... Classroom Names!

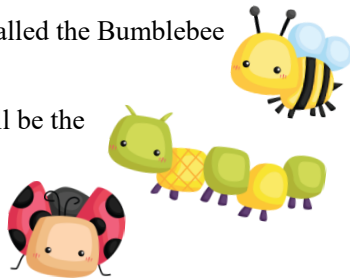
We are very excited to announce CrossWays Preschool has adopted classroom names for each of the age groups!

Our two year old room will be called the Bumblebee Room.

The three year old classroom will be the Caterpillar Room.

Finally, the four year old room will be the Ladybug Room.

Our staff is thrilled about the positive change!



## Fall Enrollment 2021/22

CrossWays Preschool currently has availability in each of our classroom programs. We are looking forward to seeing past friends and new friends this upcoming year.

You can reach out to CrossWays Preschool for more information!



## Before and After School Program

As families begin to think about the upcoming school year, keep in mind we have a before and after school care program that caters to the Oak Grove school district. We have availability for these programs! Our after school program offers a space for students to work on homework, relax after a busy day at school, and participate in fun crafts and activities. Please see our website at [cchildcare.org/programs](http://cchildcare.org/programs) for more information or reach out to our Celebration! Childcare administration staff to enroll.



## A Note from the Director

We have wonderful news to share for the beginning of August! With the suggestions from CDC, DCFS, and the local health department, the COVID-19 procedures for our programs are easing back. Parents will now be allowed back inside the building to pick up and drop off their children. Masks will still be required for any individual 2 years of age and older including children, staff, parents, and visitors. Self-certifying health screenings will be documented within our Brightwheel App for both staff and students. We are excited to have our families back in the building! We have come a long way in the last year and are looking forward to some normalcy again.

[crossways@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:crossways@holycrosschurch.org)  
(847) 367-4367  
[cpreschool.org](http://cpreschool.org)



CrossWays  
Preschool



Celebration!  
Childcare

[celebration@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:celebration@holycrosschurch.org)  
(847) 367-6208  
[cchildcare.org](http://cchildcare.org)

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Ages 3 - 5th Grade**

*In-person Sunday School will resume in September*

## Back to School

*by Amy Becker-Perez*

While it may feel like summer has just begun, August has arrived. If you haven't already, you will probably begin preparing for the upcoming school year. Unless you purchased one of the school sponsored supply kits, you may be working on gathering supplies for your elementary student's new school year. Perhaps you'll be adjusting bedtimes and getting up earlier. You'll soon be finding out what teacher your child has and maybe they (or you) will be comparing notes with friends to find out who else is in their class.

As you prepare for the new school year, perhaps you can also prepare to go deeper in faith with your student in one (or more) of these ways:

- One of the ways Holy Cross will be supporting you and your student will be by providing a backpack tag and a blessing on Sunday, August 22. We believe that God goes with us wherever we go and a backpack tag can help our kids remember that God is with them and loves them in any of the situations they find themselves in this year. When you receive your tag, help your student put it on their bag and remind them that God is with them as they head off to school each day.
- Perhaps you might start a new ritual like introduced through Faith 5, (which you may recognize as a focus from Holy Cross in previous years). The steps for Faith 5 are:  
STEP 1: **SHARE** your highs and lows  
STEP 2: **READ** a Bible verse or story  
STEP 3: **TALK** about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows  
STEP 4: **PRAY** for one another's highs and lows  
STEP 5: **BLESS** one another  
You can find more about Faith 5 here:  
[faithink.com/the-faith5-steps](http://faithink.com/the-faith5-steps)
- As you talk with your student about their new year, perhaps you can help them pray for the various people who will surround them this year. Talk about those they know: other students, the teachers they've had before (like those who teach specials classes), their principal and other administrators, after school caregivers. Talk about those they don't yet know: their main classroom teacher, new students, or students they just haven't met yet. Pray for each of these people, and pray for your student and the situations they will be in this year.

Finally, you can remind your students that you are praying for them. This not only helps them know that you're supporting them, but it also models how you practice your faith—giving them a path they can follow.

### Blessing of the Backpacks

**Sunday, August 22 at 8 & 10 am worship**

Hey kids! Bring your school backpack to in-person sanctuary worship or drive-in worship for a special blessing. See more information about Milestone Ministries at [HolyCrossChurch.org/milestoneministries](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/milestoneministries)



## Milestone Ministries

*Support for the faith journey...*

Our faith journey occurs from birth through life eternal. Milestone Ministries serve as an important way of connecting, supporting, and equipping families and the congregation to pass on the faith, to live out the promises that are made when someone is baptized and to provide strength for their faith journey.

### First Communion

**Saturday, October 2, 9 - 11:30 am in the Fellowship Area**

This class is for anyone who is currently in second grade or above who would like to explore the significance of this sacrament of the table. The "milestone ministry experience" includes participation by a parent with their child. We watch a video, talk about the significance of certain meals and foods associated with family traditions, make a loaf of bread, explore a Seder plate, take a tour of the altar area in the sanctuary, and, taste and practice the wine and bread of Holy Communion.

### Bible Bootcamp

**Saturday, October 23, 9 - 11:30 am in the Fellowship Area**

Young people in third grade or above will receive a Bible on Sunday, October 24 during worship. This Bible is a student study Bible. On Saturday, October 23 we walk through the Old & New Testaments to begin to frame all the wonderful pieces that are part of the written resource.



## CONFIRMATION

**The confirmation ministry at Holy Cross will resume in-person on Sunday, October 3, 6:30 - 8 pm.** Confirmation is offered to 6 - 8 grade youth. Confirmation sessions will be comprised of a large group learning moment, worship and music experience and small relational groups for sharing and conversation. There will be activities and snacks as appropriate.

### 9th Grade Confirmation

The three years of confirmation culminates with the "Affirmation of Baptism" worship service. **We will celebrate with our 9th grade confirmands on Reformation Sunday, October 31 at the 10 am worship service.** There are two final pieces to this faith journey: writing a faith story and a retreat experience.

Faith Stories will be shared in conversation with a one-on-one conversation with Pastor Bob. The schedule for these conversations has been set. Additional information is available at the following link to help schedule a 30 - 45 minute conversation time: [HolyCrossChurch.org/confirmation](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/confirmation)

The 9th grade retreat has three components. There will be two Sunday evenings on Sunday, September 12 & 19. These two sessions will provide time for dinner conversation and activities that will offer a deeper dive into the next transition in the confirmands' faith journey. There will be an all-day retreat on Saturday, September 25 at Lutherdale Bible Camp near Elkhorn, WI. We will leave at 8 am and return by 5 pm. There will be outdoor challenge course activities weather permitting, lunch and worship moments throughout the day. More details available at [HolyCrossChurch.org/confirmation](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/confirmation)



## Crossroads High School Youth Group

for 9 - 12 Grade Youth



### The Crossroads Youth Group Vision & Values

#### Our Vision:

Crossroads is a flourishing and vibrant High School Youth Group where the students are well connected to each other, the rest of the church community, and to God, and where each person feels at home, is shaping their personal truths, has a growing sense of fulfillment, and is living out their values.

#### Our Values:

- Honest & sincere conversations
- Service to others
- Fun, adventure & new experiences
- Learning
- Parent involvement

### Connecting & Thriving!

In the beginning of the summer we had an awesome kick-off volleyball game and BBQ! There is word now of starting up a volleyball league; everyone was so good! Finally, we had a relaxing and chill campfire night with games, s'mores, and sparklers for the fun of it. Nothing says a perfect summer night like a campfire!



Every three years the ELCA puts on the National Youth Gathering. It is an incredible experience, to be on everyone's faith journey! Those entering 8th-12th grades this fall are eligible as youth participants, and we'd LOVE for other college-age young adults as well as parents to make the journey to Minneapolis with us as leaders, to make for a richer experience for everyone!

Come to the pool party and info meeting on August 22 to learn more.  
Randalls' house - 1086 Polo Dr, Lake Forest  
12 - 2 pm

### The Fuller Youth Institute: Living a Better Story

Holy Cross was chosen to participate with 13 other churches in the wider Chicagoland area in the Fuller Youth Institute (FYI) two-year cohort called "Living a Better Story". The FYI is a research trailblazer and great thought leader related to all things youth and family ministry. The Holy Cross team consists of 3 adults and 2 youth, who meet along with these other churches to learn and share best practices, and develop and apply new and more meaningful approaches to ministry in our own church community. We are excited to introduce some amazing new elements to our ministry this year!

### What's coming up?

Please visit our Crossroads Youth webpage at [HolyCrossChurch.org/crossroads](https://HolyCrossChurch.org/crossroads) for the latest information on upcoming events.



Hi, I'm Sarah! I'm the Director of High School Youth & Family Ministry. When I was a teenager my youth group was huge in helping me develop my faith. Because of that, I am now passionate about developing great ministry opportunities with high school youth and their parents. In addition to serving on the church ministry staff in this part-time role, I also work full-time with a wealth management & financial planning group, and enjoy family life with my wonderful husband, Justin, and baby girl, Olivia. In my spare time I like to do yoga, read, and play outside with our Australian Shepherd, Chloe.

Connect with me any time about your ideas or questions at [sarahgrayer@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:sarahgrayer@holycrosschurch.org)

## What We Sing

by Randy Casey

"Randy" is a diminutive form of my middle name, which is "Randall." When a telemarketer or some other stranger calls and uses my first name, I hang up instantly because I know they don't know me.

We have a book in our church that we call out of habit a hymnal. In truth, however, this "hymnal" is actually an anthology of different kinds of vocal music. We sing these different kinds of music as a community, even though some of these pieces are not hymns at all. Interestingly enough the official name of our hymns is Evangelical Lutheran Worship or ELW. This title lacks the word "hymnal." Without being too pedantic, I shall attempt to wade through the somewhat tricky terrain of musical nomenclature.

At the start, however, I shall name some familiar pieces that are truly hymns: "Holy, Holy, Holy," "Lift High the Cross," "Lead On, O King Eternal," "For All the Saints," "All Glory, Laud, and Honor," and "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing." In the 1960s this last hymn, whose text was written by Charles Wesley, appeared on page 1 of the Methodist hymnal and proudly covered a full page in 3/2 time. In the ELW this same hymn is at the back, is presented in 3/4 time, and occupies only half a page. Wesley would probably have preferred that the editors of the ELW have not included this virtual Methodist theme song at all if they were going to treat it so shabbily.

The many German chorales we sing are hymns, but they were German chorales first and remain so. "O Sacred Head" (#351) is perhaps the consummate example of this genre.

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (#773) is a very popular representative of black gospel music. "Amazing Grace" (#779) is a white spiritual which appeared in a songbook entitled *Southern Harmony* in 1835. By the way, "Amazing Grace" is also pentatonic, meaning that it consists of only five notes and can be played entirely on the black notes of the piano.

Another type of music we sing in church is a carol as at Christmas. These are so popular that I need not offer examples. A carol has a sacred text. We also sing many pieces of music at Christmas that are not carols, but are songs, "White Christmas," for example. One can also think of other Christmas songs, most of which are secular, and know that they are certainly not in our hymnal.

And speaking of songs, the ever popular "On Eagle's Wings" (#787) is a song, not a hymn. Accordingly, it is more suited to a soloist than a congregation and can be played on guitar.

The presentation in our hymnal of the ubiquitous children's song "Jesus Loves Me" (#595) is quite strange. If one did not know the tune and saw it in our hymnal, one would likely sing it much too fast. This is because this song is presented in 2/4 time with a grouping of eighth notes, when it should be presented in 3/4 time with quarter notes. I play it from memory and would not dream of looking at the music in our hymnal for fear of being confused by what is there.

The Taize pieces in our hymnal are more chant than hymn.

There are probably other genres of music to be identified in our hymnal that I have overlooked. I should mention that the front of our hymnal is occupied with service music, i.e., setting of the Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei, that we sing because we are a liturgical church. Far and away the finest piece of service music

we sing is "Thanks Be To You," the post-communion canticle in the Haugen setting of the liturgy, found in what is called the Hymnal Supplement.

Although predominantly containing hymns, the ELW is actually a cornucopia of varying musical styles. It might be satisfying or even fun to know when you are singing therein something other than a hymn. When someone does not call me "Randy," I know they don't know me. The good news is that you can sing something and perhaps enjoy it, even if you don't know what genre of music it is at all.

## Randy Casey News and Thank You...

Randy Casey has been Holy Cross' Director of Music for almost 30 years. The Church Council regrettably accepted Randy's letter of resignation on Thursday, July 15. A separate letter was mailed to the membership of Holy Cross informing them of Randy's decision. Sunday, August 8 will be Randy's last Sunday with us. On Sunday, August 1 members of the choir will perform one last piece under his direction during the 10 am drive-in worship service. On Sunday, August 8 there will be receptions following both the 8 am in-person worship service and the 10 am drive-in worship service that will afford people the opportunity to offer their appreciation for his time with us.

There is a special gift being planned that will provide you with the opportunity to leave your name on a piece of artwork on Sundays, August 1 & 8. If you are unable to attend either of those Sundays, you may stop by the church office that week and participate in that way.

Church office hours:  
MTRF: 9 am - 4:30 pm  
W: 12:30 - 4:30 pm

## Holy Cross Smartphone App

by Steve Oelschlager

Check out the Apple and Google app stores for the new Holy Cross smartphone app. The app provides many conveniences and efficiencies, from the latest worship videos, access to the church calendar and upcoming events, information about your Holy Cross groups, links to Church Community Builder, online giving, and more.

The app is free to download and use. Give it a try and let us know what you think. Please contact Steve Oelschlager ([steve@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:steve@holycrosschurch.org)) with any questions or suggestions.

Apple App Store:



Google App Store:







## Lutherdale Fest

### QUILT AUCTION

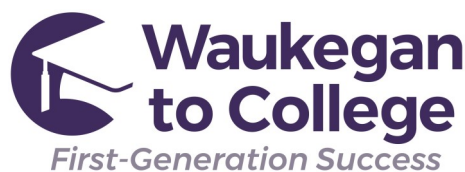


**Saturday, August 14 from 9 am - 3 pm**

This is Lutherdale's largest fundraiser of the year. The live auction will begin at 10 am. Enjoy the beauty, workmanship, and creativity of the 200+ quilts expected in this year's auction with your friends, neighbors, and families. The auction raises funds that help young people experience the life-changing outdoor ministry of Lutherdale in Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

Don't miss the live auction, fabric sales, gift gallery, silent auction baskets, baked goods and delicious foods. More details about the event and special quilt preview opportunities are available at [lutherdale.org/upcoming-events-1](http://lutherdale.org/upcoming-events-1)

LUTHERDALE | N7891 US HWY 12 ELKHORN, WI 53121



## Save the Date:

### Celebration of First Generation Success

**Saturday, October 16**  
**5 - 8 pm**

Help celebrate 12 years of guiding first-generation college bound students from Waukegan on the pathway to college graduation at this annual fundraising reception and auction at the Glen Flora Country Club in Waukegan, Illinois. Auction items would be greatly appreciated. There is a 25% discount on all tickets purchased prior to September 15. Tickets may be purchased online at [W2C2021.givesmart.com](http://W2C2021.givesmart.com)

For more information about this organization, go to [waukegantocollege.org](http://waukegantocollege.org)

The need for assistance to individuals and families is ongoing and growing. As the number of patrons has grown, the need for monetary help has also grown.



To continue to help, you may donate online on our website at [donate.holycrosschurch.org](http://donate.holycrosschurch.org)



With our support, PADS has continued to provide shelter and other life-saving services to individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis during the global pandemic. PADS has shared with us that since March 2020:

- 307 people have moved into permanent housing.
- 9,700 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) have been distributed.
- 61,000 nights of individual accommodations were provided to keep our most vulnerable neighbors safe.
- 95,000 hot meals have been provided to their clients.

If you would like to continue to help, please donate online on our website at [donate.holycrosschurch.org](http://donate.holycrosschurch.org)

## Call for Volunteers



Willow House provides support to children, teens, and their parents coping with grief and the death of their person—mom, dad, sister, brother, spouse, or child.

Once a year, Willow House offers comprehensive training for individuals to join their team and become a volunteer facilitator for Children and Teens Support Groups. In-person facilitator training will be held at their Bannockburn, IL office on the following dates, and VOLUNTEERS MUST ATTEND ALL TRAINING SESSIONS:

Saturday, September 18 from 9 am to 4 pm  
Wednesday, September 22 from 6 pm to 9 pm  
Saturday, September 25 from 9 am to 4 pm

The training includes:

- An experiential and instructive, guiding framework for understanding the grief and loss experience of children, teens, and families
- Reviews of educational information and research regarding children and grief
- Instruction on how to be an effective peer support group facilitator

Volunteer Facilitators are asked to make a commitment to co-facilitate at least one group monthly for one year (September - May).

To apply, please visit [willowhouse.org/volunteer](http://willowhouse.org/volunteer)

For additional information about Willow House or becoming a Volunteer Facilitator, please contact the Program Director at [info@willowhouse.org](mailto:info@willowhouse.org) or (847) 236-9300

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*Summer*  
**Sunday Worship Schedule**

**In-person Sanctuary Worship at 8 am**  
*Pre-registration no longer required.*

**Drive-In Worship at 10 am**  
FM 87.9


**Virtual Worship**  
Pre-recorded video available on demand at  
[HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons)

*Details on page 2*

  
**NATURE**  
Our First Way of Knowing God

**Discussion Group**  
**Tuesdays, August 3 -24**  
**7 pm via Zoom**

*See page 5*

  
**Antiracism Roundtable**

**Date: Sunday, August 15**  
**Time: 11 am - 12:15 pm**  
**via Zoom**

*Full details on page 5*

  
**WELCOME Back!**

- August 1: Tailgate Party
- August 15: Breakfast on the Lawn
- August 22: Pastries on the Patio

Save the dates for family friendly outdoor fellowship events in August. We look forward to welcoming you back to fellowship! *Details on page 2*

**Blessing of the Backpacks**  
**Sunday, August 22 at 8 & 10 am**

Hey kids! Bring your school backpack to worship for a special blessing!

*See page 8*

