

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE CROSS CONNECTION

Providing Strength for the Faith Journey

July 2021

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

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RELATIONAL MINISTRY

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EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY

PAGE 8

YOUTH MINISTRY

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BEYOND THE CONGREGATION

PAGE 15

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JULY 4, 11, 18, 25

IN-PERSON

SANCTUARY AT 8 AM

**Pre-registration no
longer required**

DRIVE-IN

PARKING LOT AT 10 AM

Radio Frequency: 87.9

VIRTUAL

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

Do Not Lose Heart...

I wonder sometimes what it takes for us to become discouraged. How do we sort through what lies in the shadows of our own souls, our society, and our world? How do we listen for the voice of God and receive the revelations that Christ has for us there? How do we bring to light what we find in the shadows? Who or what helps us navigate the connections between the inner and outer realms? How does God call us to bear witness to, "tell in the light," what we find there? Are we ever tempted to lose heart?

The world and our experience of living within it, gives us all sorts of causes and reasons to be discouraged and disillusioned. We experience the temptation to 'lose heart' in our lives, in our communities, large and small. Our world view is altered when that which we see; that which we have come to rely on; that which has guided and governed our living; yes, that which the world says matters most, begins to erode. It becomes easier to despair and begin to believe the headlines. When the reality comes home to us whenever and wherever there is decay, corruption, or 'wasting away,' we may move into the habit of losing heart.

"I hope to be a Christian..." Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote these words in a letter from a prison cell. He lamented the situation and the atrocities taking place in Germany. He questioned where was the Christian witness and why wasn't it using its prophetic voice. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor who attempted to speak a hopeful word during WWII to the people of Germany and the world. When the world was falling apart at the seams, Bonhoeffer used his voice and his pen to proclaim 'good news' into the brokenness of his day. The authorities did everything possible to silence him and prevent him from lifting up the themes of God's presence and the work of Christ for the sake of the world. Bonhoeffer was one of the early architects for the ecumenical movement bringing different Christian structures together in one voice to address the atrocities of their day.

I have always appreciated Bonhoeffer for his clarity and curiosity about who Jesus Christ is for us in our world. He wrote the words above in a letter later in his life. They capture the idea that it is not so much what we have done in the past but what we are willing to pursue in the present moments that we live in. Bonhoeffer was executed at the concentration camp near Flossenbürg, Germany on April 9, 1945 several weeks before WWII ended on May 8, 1945. Bonhoeffer questioned..."How do we resist the evil forces of fate while submitting to the good providence of God?" Bonhoeffer's voice reminds us that the cause for our 'not losing heart' cannot be in what was. And at the same time, I can't imagine Jesus giving up on us or on this world either.

I was invited into a conversation through a mutual acquaintance to talk with their friend who was struggling with a recent development involving their daughter. The daughter was diagnosed with an eating disorder. This person admitted they had no church involvement or religious experience. During the worst of her daughter's illness, she had to be hospitalized for both her physical and mental health. On the morning of her admission, she shared that after the doctors explained that she would not be able to see her depressed, malnourished child for several days, she walked out of the hospital, got into her car, and started driving without aim or purpose. She ended up in the parking lot of a religious gift shop. Shaking, she walked in and wandered the aisles until a person with a kind face approached. "Can I help you find anything?" she asked. The mom burst into tears and said nothing. The store person gave the mom a hug and said, "Wait here." After disappearing for a minute, she returned with a small velvet box. Inside it was a tiny silver cross on a chain. Pressing the necklace into the mother's hands she said, "Hold this. Keep it with you. Only a suffering God can help." This mom wanted to know where in the Bible that is written. I explained it isn't. I told her that those are words from Dietrich Bonhoeffer that I have never forgotten.

Considering all that we have been through, I don't see the world going back to what it was. Nor do we need it to. At the same time, I don't see Jesus giving up on us or on this world either. On the cross, Jesus bears the violence, the contempt, the pain, and the humiliation of the entire world and absorbs it into his own body. He declares solidarity for all time with those who feel lost, abandoned, colonized, oppressed, accused, imprisoned, beaten, mocked, and murdered. He bursts open like a seed so that new life can grow and replenish the earth. He takes an instrument of torture and turns it into a bizarre vehicle of hospitality and communion for all people, everywhere. Jesus was and is many things: teacher, healer, companion, and Lord, and it is essential that we experience him in all of these ways. But the center, the *heart* of who he is, is revealed at the cross. Only a suffering God can help. Only a suffering God can help us bear our own burdens. Only a suffering God can show us the Way and lead us home. Only a suffering God can teach us how to love and not to lose heart.

As always, peace!

Pastor Bob



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906 - 1945

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



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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[HOLYCROSSCHURCH.ORG](https://HolyCrossChurch.org)

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. Articles should be
submitted by the **1st** of the month to Janet Carr at
janet@holycrosschurch.org

You're Invited To Worship With Us

Through August 2021 our plan is to continue offering an in-person sanctuary worship, drive-in worship and virtual worship on Sundays. All three of these worship options will 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 for the most current information and any changes to the schedule or protocols.



Are you ready for some Fellowship?

Illinois has relaxed the COVID-19 restrictions and Holy Cross is celebrating and looking forward to socializing again! We have six events planned on Sundays during July and August. Our kick-off event is a Tailgate Party in the parking lot on July 11! More information to come at HolyCrossChurch.org/welcomeback but save the dates and we look forward to seeing you there!

- **July 11: Tailgate Party after the 10 am drive-in worship service**
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 burgers, brats and salads. The only things we ask you to bring are chairs, and lawn games if you'd like to share. Corn hole anyone? **RSVP by July 6 at HolyCrossChurch.org/welcomeback**
- **July 18: Breakfast on the Lawn**
We provide breakfast after the 8 & 10 am worship services.
- **July 25: Pastries on the Patio**
- **August 1: Tailgate Party #2**
- **August 15: Breakfast on the Lawn #2**
- **August 22: Pastries on the Patio #2**

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 or (847) 367 - 4060.



"A Path Forward" Update

The call committee has been convened and met twice in June. The congregational profile of materials has been developed. This profile includes information gleaned from our focus groups as well as the Holy Cow! survey that was completed in February and March, as well as historical and statistical information about our congregation. A representative from the Office of the Bishop met with the call committee in June. Candidates are beginning to be identified and future interviews will be scheduled.

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.

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 to obtain the most current information available about "A Path Forward".

PASTORAL ACTS



BAPTISMS

Hadley D. Cronin

daughter of Thomas and Ally Cronin
June 4, 2021

Theodore Robert Davis

son of Christopher and Lisa Davis
June 5, 2021

Elizabeth Joan Beasley

daughter of Theodore and Cynthia Beasley
June 6, 2021

WEDDINGS

Katelyn Burke and Jon Kaplan

June 5, 2021

Mary Sargent and Carl Foltz

June 19, 2021

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sharon Pastorino

June 12, 2021

FUNERALS

Lilli Taraschewsky

June 18, 2021

Doris Johnson

June 22, 2021



Journey faith, discipleship, generosity

Knowing God Through Nature and the Cosmos

by Steve Oelschlager

Before the Bible existed, nature was the original Bible, or the only source of revelation of God and the mysteries of the Divine. It's no wonder then that the connection between creation and its Creator permeates our sacred scriptures. In her book *Grounded: Finding God in the World*, Diana Butler Bass writes:

"Since human history began, people have wondered how the world came to be—and how we came to be on it. Our ancestors told stories about creation, the ground under our feet, and the animals, birds, and humans that make their home upon the earth. These stories cross all cultural boundaries, and they share similar characteristics and themes. One of the dominant motifs is the relationship between soil and our souls. Whether it is the Maori tale of shaping a woman from the scarlet soil, the Navajo story of man and woman journeying through the worlds to find a home on the land, or a dedicated humanist's case that life crawled out of the sea to the shore, through the centuries we human beings have tried to make spiritual sense of the obvious link between the ground and our very existence.

Jews, Christians, and Muslims share a creation story from the Bible, found in the early chapters of the book of Genesis. Like many such stories, it begins with sky and earth intertwined in darkness. God first brings forth light, then separates what is above from what is below, thus making oceans, land, and sky. Although some people insist that Genesis 1 is a literal scientific account, it is best understood as what Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann calls a 'liturgical poem,' a form for use in worship that invites a community 'to confess and celebrate the world as God has intended it.' In the opening pages of the Bible, a cosmic vision of creation unfolds with the making of plants and forests, the stars and suns and moons beyond, all the fishes and birds and animals, and finally human beings. At each juncture, God proclaims blessing on what has been made, declaring it good, and with the creation of humankind the whole of the universe is pronounced 'very good.' At the end of the poem, God sends human beings out to till and keep the soil and to work on behalf of the earth, delighting in all its gifts."

Even today amid modernity, nature remains a profound way to see and understand God at work, but we have to make an effort to notice. Holy Cross has two new opportunities to explore this sacred connection between God and creation, including the myriad implications. We hope you can join us starting in mid-July (see pages 4 and 7.)



Antiracism Roundtable

Antiracism Roundtable & Work Group

by Carol Dikelsky

I'd like to thank everyone who has made time and space to be a part of the past few months' discussions of this new group at Holy Cross. Whether you've attended one or all of the sessions we've had so far, your presence has been tremendously inspiring to me as we discover personal and collective ways to put our Christian faith into both words and actions and as we find renewed purpose in loving all of our neighbors as ourselves.

For anyone who hasn't attended a session yet, but who might be curious about what we are doing, please drop in – you are welcome to join us any time. If you are curious, you might be wondering what this roundtable idea is all about, or you might wonder, if I spend some of my time on this, will it leave me feeling frustrated and powerless?

For me, the answer is no, completely the opposite. Our discussions leave me feeling positive, having had open dialogue about difficult topics, and powerful, by talking through new ideas and resources. I sense that those of us who are meeting have gained a great deal of energy, making us think and allowing us to strategize about how we can influence others and share what we are learning and unlearning with others at Holy Cross.

Since we began meeting in March, we've covered a number of topics that inspired meaningful and productive conversations about how to create a faith-based, action-oriented group to bring awareness, resources and action to Holy Cross.

We generally start with a specific theme, but the conversations take a life of their own and extend beyond antiracism, although the principle of being antiracist (that is, acting against racism) is what anchors all our discussions. We've shared a bit of our personal race histories, discussed what's in the news (racism against black and brown people, anti-Asian hate, fair housing and policing issues), clarified definitions (intersectionality, equality, equity, diversity, inclusion), talked about imagery used (or not used) in scripture and worship, and reviewed Holy Cross' work and collaborative efforts toward achieving social justice in our community.

Each month we've prayed for victims of racism and prejudice. We've prayed for the strength to examine our own biases, privileges, experiences, words, and actions. We've listened to each other, and we've gained new perspectives.

All of this sharing has led us to want to reach out to you. As a place to begin, here are some suggestions to consider adding to your reading list this summer. We'll offer new resources each month.

- **Short, faith-based activity resource:** *The Anatomy of a Christian: A Zine on Privilege and Solidarity* – a five-part, 26-page series of scripture readings and activities, designed for adults or teens (email carol@dikelsky.org for a free pdf)
- **Website:** *National Museum of African American History & Culture—Talking About Race* nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race (Source: Smithsonian Institution)
- **Nonfiction:** *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi
- **Fiction:** *The Book of Unknown Americans: A Novel*, by Cristina Henriquez

Note: If you purchase resources online, consider ordering from Semicolon, a Chicago-based, Black woman-owned bookstore and gallery space at semicolonchi.com

We are also looking 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. To learn more about this group, visit www.lakecountyunited.org

Another idea we would like to try out soon is to gather together to view and discuss films on culturally rich, potentially difficult topics. Watch for dates and details in weekly bulletins—in the meantime, these films are on our list: *The Hate You Give* and *McFarland*.

On behalf of the Antiracism Roundtable, please consider joining our sessions. We will be happy to welcome you! Mark your calendar and reach out to carol@dikelsky.org with any questions.

Dates: Sundays, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19

Time: 11 am - 12:15 pm



holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/93144150662



NATURE

Our First Way of Knowing God

New 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 this seven-week discussion either through the Saturday morning men's group starting on July 10 or Tuesday nights at 7 pm from July 13. Holy Cross member Leo Karris will be facilitating the conversation and video-based adult study. Leo is currently working on a Master of Arts in Public Ministry at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, focusing on ecological regeneration. Questions? Contact Leo at leockarris@gmail.com

NATURE: Our First Way of Knowing God

Tuesdays, July 13 - August 24

7 pm via Zoom



holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94348088877



**MEN of
PURPOSE
PRINCIPLE
PRAYER**

Date: Monday, July 26

Time: 6:30 pm In-person including dinner

RSVP: bit.ly/MP3JULY

or 7 pm virtually via Zoom

holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/91777491849

Topic: The Conscience 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 July is **The Conscience Question: Is there a tension that needs my attention?** Decision: I will explore rather than ignore my conscience.

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 dates for the next MP3 events in the 2021 series. As we move to the other side of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will experiment with in-person and virtual options.

Tuesday, September 21 at 6:30 pm

The Maturity Question: What is the wise thing to do?

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

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.

**THE GLOBAL
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**
Thursday-Friday, August 5-6, 2021

Attend in-person/virtually

Register for GLS 2021

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.

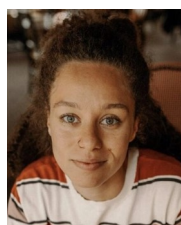
What is the turning point for positive change? Your capacity to thrive and help rejuvenate the best in those around you, both personally and professionally, is dependent on your leadership health.

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.

To be a part of the GLS experience at a discounted host site rate, register online at: **bit.ly/GLS2021atHC**

Priority code: HSFAMILY

Full faculty list: globalleadership.org/global-leadership-summit



“I’m thankful for the Summit helping me realize that I still have a life to lead and people to love. God made my calling clear to me all over again. He granted me a story to tell and not telling it would be a waste. Thanks to God speaking to me through the Summit, I decided to keep sharing my story and being a voice for the vulnerable.”
- Tori Petersen, Advocate for Foster Youth

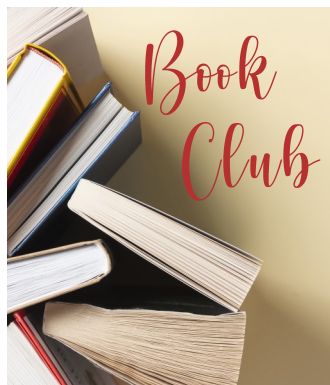
New Positions Available

Holy Cross plans to expand our intergenerational faith formation ministry and is looking to fill the following part-time position(s):

- Director of Middle School Confirmation and Family Ministry
- Director of Elementary and Family Ministry

(We would also consider one, full-time position encompassing both roles.) These positions will be involved in the redesign of the church’s youth and family ministries, driving engagement in ministry and milestone programs, and creating an enhanced sense of family within the church community.

Please share with people you know and have anyone interested complete our online form (to apply for the position(s), to request a copy of the job descriptions, or to receive additional information) at: bit.ly/YFMjobs



BOOK CLUB
TUESDAY, JULY 27
7 PM VIA ZOOM

 holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94321824417

This month we will discuss *Reason for Hope* by Jane Goodall and Phillip Berman. Jane Goodall explores her deepest convictions in a heartfelt memoir. Here, thoughtfully exploring the challenges of both science and the soul, she offers an inspiring, optimistic message as profound as the knowledge she brought back from the forests, and that gives us all... reason for hope. Our discussion host for the evening is Kay Meyer. If you have any questions, please email Felicia Brandt at felicia.s.brandt@gmail.com

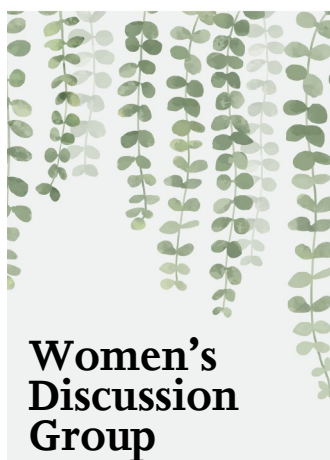


SATURDAY MEN'S GROUP
SATURDAYS, JULY 10, 17, 24 & 31 (NO MEETING ON JULY 3)
7 AM VIA ZOOM

 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 July, we will be starting a new series on nature as our first way of knowing God (see page 5).

Questions? Please contact Steve Oelschlager at steve@holycrosschurch.org



WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP
TUESDAY, JULY 13
9:30 AM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

We are planning another in-person gathering for this session. We will either be meeting on the patio (weather permitting) or in the gathering space. We will continue to follow the recommended protocols of Lake County Public Health. We will provide individual wrapped refreshments with coffee. The plan is to offer time for conversation and fellowship. There will be a one-time Bible study on a book to be chosen by Pastor Bob. We hope you will be able to join us. We may offer a remote option if there is interest in one.

This group will not meet during the month of August, but will reconvene in September. Questions? Contact Pastor Bob at pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org



QUILTING GROUP
WEDNESDAYS, JULY 7, 14, 21 & 28
9 AM - 12 PM
ROOM 404

The Quilting Group gathers in-person on Wednesdays to sew as a group. Completed quilts are donated to COOL Ministries for families residing in their Family Housing program or to Project Linus, an organization that provides blankets to comfort children who are seriously injured, traumatized, or in need. If you have quilt tops that you no longer want or need, or have sewn a quilt top that you would like to be donated to a good cause, consider giving it to the quilting group. Donations of 100% cotton fabric, either scrap pieces or yardage, are always welcome. Contact Deb Sherrock at debs695@aol.com or (630) 267-7802 with any questions.



PILATES
MONDAYS, JULY 5, 12, 19 & 26
6 PM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

To join this group, please contact Jodi Zombolo at (224) 595-8573. Pilates will meet in person in the Fellowship Area or Room 402 in the basement when scheduling conflicts arise. Please note that the July 26 session will be held in Room 402.



GROUNDING IN GRACE: FRIDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S GROUP


Grounded in Grace is an opportunity for women of faith to gather together in fun, fellowship, and learning.

Grounded in Grace is taking a hiatus in July and August, but will return in September.

ANTIRACISM ROUNDTABLE & WORK GROUP

SUNDAY, JULY 18

11 AM VIA ZOOM

 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. We are currently meeting monthly via Zoom to continue exploring antiracism themes and resources and to find ways to apply what we learn, unlearn, or relearn to our faith journeys. See page 4 of the newsletter for more details.

**Antiracism
Roundtable**

NATURE: OUR FIRST WAY OF KNOWING GOD

TUESDAYS, JULY 13, 20, 27

7 PM VIA ZOOM

 holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94348088877

Holy Cross member Leo Karris will be facilitating the conversation and video-based adult study over seven weeks in July and August. Leo is currently working on a Master of Arts in Public Ministry at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, focusing on ecological regeneration.

See page 4 for more details. Questions? Contact Leo at leockarris@gmail.com

NATURE
Our First Way of Knowing God

MP3: MEN OF PURPOSE, PRINCIPLE, & PRAYER

MONDAY, JULY 26

6:30 PM IN-PERSON - FELLOWSHIP AREA

RSVP: bit.ly/MP3JULY

7 PM VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM  holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/91777491849

TOPIC: THE CONSCIENCE 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 July is The Conscience Question: Is there a tension that needs my attention? Decision: I will explore rather than ignore my conscience.

See page 5 of the newsletter for more details.

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MP3



CrossWays Preschool



Celebration! Childcare

by Samantha Cooper
Director of CrossWays Preschool & Celebration! Childcare

Summer Camp Events

Our Little Sprouts have an array of fun and learning ahead of them. The classrooms will begin the month with a theme all about pirates! Sack races, a treasure hunt, and of course, "Dress like a Pirate Day" are all included in this adventurous week! We will be enjoying a lot of outdoor fun by playing in the sprinklers on water day, tending to the garden, and enjoying bikes on the blacktop.

July also brings Vacation Bible School week! The VBS theme this year is "Adventure Island." Little Sprouts Summer Camp will be discussing a bible story each day along with a special craft and snack. To end the month, our campers will be exploring "Frozen Adventures." We will complete the icy week with a frozen treat!



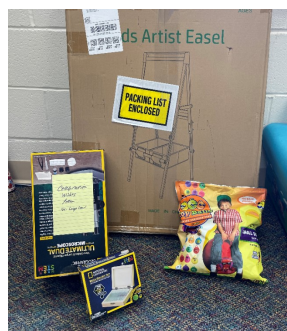
Adventures in July!

Nothing makes a warm, summer day better than exploring the outdoors looking for bugs! In the second week of July, our educational theme is "Creepy Crawlies." Our teachers and students will explore the world of insects both indoors and outdoors. Each child will receive a special butterfly bracelet craft to decorate and take home. In addition to creepy crawlies, students will be learning about pirates and be exposed to a "frozen" curriculum. Vacation Bible School will be occurring the third week of July. Included in our VBS week are daily games, stories, songs, crafts, and themed snacks!

Celebration! Childcare students and staff have enjoyed our "themed" dress up days. This month, we will be having pajama day, dress like a pirate day, Hawaiian day, and mismatched day. We have a variety of scheduled in-house activities coming up such as pony rides, giant connect 4, sack races, and a second visit from Kona Ice.

A "Wishes" Thank You

Thank you to those who donated to our "wishes" Amazon List! We appreciate the support from our families and church members who contributed and donated to our programs. The purchased items will benefit the classrooms in need of updated and new material. Our teachers are grateful for the wonderful generosity!



Our Classroom Garden

Students have been hard at work planting, weeding, and watering the garden. We have successfully planted beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, pumpkins, watermelons, and a variety of flowers. It has been exciting for the children to see the plants start as seeds and begin growing into actual plants! They have also enjoyed taking their learning outdoors with story reading and songs.

crossways@holycrosschurch.org
(847) 367-4367
cpreschool.org



CrossWays
Preschool



Celebration!
Childcare

celebration@holycrosschurch.org
(847) 367-6208
cchildcare.org



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Ages 3 - 5th Grade

Weekly Sunday School program resumes September 2021

Baptism

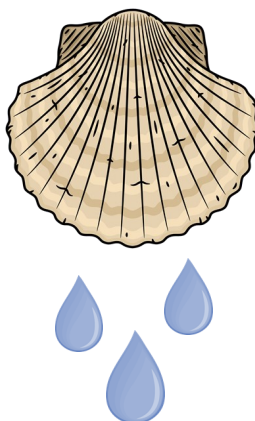
by Amy Becker-Perez

Summer months often allow for frequent opportunities to get wet and play in water. From running through a sprinkler or watering a garden, to spending the day at the beach or a water park or a water day at daycare or summer camp, we are much more likely to walk around wet during these hotter months.

July's focus for us (and our kids) to connect faith with everyday life is baptism. While the day of baptism is an important event, we can explore our faith more deeply by regularly remembering the promises that God makes to us, and the promises that we adults make for a child's development as a child of God. Some refer to this as "walking wet."

There are a lot of possible opportunities for helping kids remember God's promise of new life for them (and us) and what it means to be baptized.

- When we're rinsing sand off our feet after a day at the beach, or wiping a face after a delicious ice cream cone, we might note how baptism washes away our sin. Baptism helps us know that even when we make messes of things, God forgives us.
- As we travel or see people we haven't seen for a while we can talk about how through baptism we know we are part of God's family. We sometimes refer to God as a parent—and that means that we are connected as siblings in Christ to people all around the world. And, even when we can't be with people for a while, we know that God is with them, loving them, just as God is with us, loving us.
- As we explain why we need to turn off the sprinkler or hear about changing weather patterns, we might also discuss how we are given responsibility to care for the earth. (In the baptismal liturgy, those who bring a child to baptism are entrusted with teaching the newly baptized to do many things, including "care for others and the world God made.")



See the next column for a fun activity from the website vibrantfaith.org called "Walking Wet."



Walking Wet

by Christy Huffman from vibrantfaith.org

It's summer—time for spending time in the water at the pool, the beach, the river, the sprinkler, or the bathtub. Take some time to remember your baptism when you are playing in the water.

Needed

Permanent marker or gel pen, colorful washable markers, spray bottle with plain water, poster board, glue stick

Activity Plan

1. Offer this prayer as the family gathers for a water moment:
We give you thanks, O God, for the wonders of water and are ever grateful you have claimed us as your children in the waters of Baptism. Bless our fun today in the water you continue to give us. Amen.
2. Invite family members to tell something they remember about the baptism of another family member and/or about their own baptisms.
3. Encourage children to splash and play in the water. As they pour water over their own heads, invite them to shout, "I am a child of God!"
4. Invite the children to pour water over the heads of the adults as they shout, "I am a child of God!"
5. Tell how church leader Martin Luther once said, "When you wash your face, remember your baptism." After spending time in the water, use a permanent marker to write this quote on a piece of plain paper.
6. Invite family members to work together to draw around the words with washable markers. Lightly spray the paper with water and watch the colors run together.
7. After your artwork dries, glue it to a piece of poster board. Display it near a sink in your home, to serve as a reminder of your baptism.





CONFIRMATION

6th - 8th Grade Confirmation

Our Confirmation electives program has begun building a lending library that students and families may use for completing requirements within that program, but we would like to make the films available to all for summer viewing. If you are interested in borrowing one of our DVD's, please contact the church office to do so. Films can be loaned for up to two weeks. Should you have any DVD's that you would like to consider donating to our Family Film Lending Library, please contact the church office at office@holycrosschurch.org or (847) 367-4060.

Family Film Lending Library Titles

- Different Drummers
- Facing the Giants
- Luther (2003)
- Soul Surfer
- Brooklyn Castle
- Akeelah and the Bee
- War with Grandpa
- Freedom Writers
- Coach Carter
- Uncle Nino
- Chronicles of Narnia; The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe



2022 ELCA Youth Gathering Save The Dates

"I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is." - Ephesians 3:19

Attention all 2021/22 8 - 12th graders! The next ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota July 24 - 28, 2022. These gatherings typically are scheduled every three years, but due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2021 Gathering was postponed until 2022. The theme remains *"BOUNDLESS: God beyond measure."* Learn more about the theme at elca.org/YouthGathering/About/Theme

30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the ELCA gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. The anticipated cost for the Gathering is \$750/youth and \$500/adult.

Watch for more information and updates on the 2022 Gathering in the coming months both in the newsletter and on the Crossroads High School Youth group page at HolyCrossChurch.org/crossroads



Summer Calendar 2021

Saturday, July 10

Feed My Starving Children Volunteer Day

3 - 5 pm

742 E Park Ave, Libertyville

Sunday, July 25

Water Wars with the United Methodist Church of Libertyville Youth Group

6 - 7:30 pm

429 Brainerd Ave, Libertyville

Sunday, August 8

Six Flags and Tailgate

11 am - TBD

Sunday, August 22

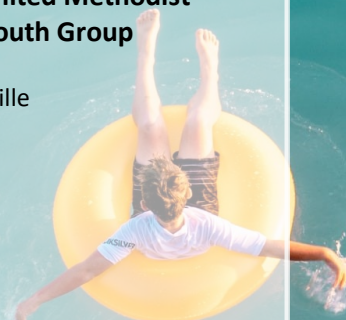
Crossroads on the Patio & Personalities Chat

6:30 - 7:30 pm

Sunday, September 5

Labor Day Weekend

No Crossroads—Go enjoy the weekend!



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!

Congratulations senior graduates! You did it! We hope you have amazing experiences in your next chapters, make an impact in God's kingdom that is yours alone, and that you continue to develop a closer relationship with our savior. We will be thinking of you often and are so very proud of you!

The Crossroads Youth Group recently had an awesome event painting the garden boxes for Early Childhood Ministry. The youth had lots of fun playing games for a while after the project was done as well. We also had fun virtual get-togethers on our Crossroads Zoom and Quick Chats, where we talked about how and why we may be able to find a deeper connection with God and others through nature, as well as through art and music.



Parent Series: Faithful Families

Sundays, July 11, July 18 & July 25, (Skipping July 4) from 5 - 5:45pm

 holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/98703655550

A 5-week discussion series all about faith practices for families! We'll watch a short video from great thought leaders and hear from parents about their struggles, successes, and ideas that have shaped lasting faith in their own families. Each week is a new theme which all ties together in the end. Join us for great conversation and insights for some new ideas that may be integrated into your own family routines. Join me, Steve Oelschlager, and other Crossroads parents for some great conversation and insights for some new ideas that can potentially be integrated into your own family routines.



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?

In July we'll be getting together for more Crossroads Youth Events and Quick Chats, including a Feed My Starving Children volunteer day on July 10 and "Water Wars" with the United Methodist Church of Libertyville Youth Group on July 25. Please visit our Crossroads Youth webpage at 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



Mission Endowment Fund

2021 Mission Endowment Fund Scholarship Awards

The Holy Cross Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund, established in 1999, provides resources to enhance the ministry of Holy Cross, apart from the general operations of the congregation. These resources, divided equally three ways, are allocated annually in the following areas: music ministry opportunities within the congregation; ministry opportunities beyond the congregation/pastoral discretionary fund; and in scholarship support for members of Holy Cross. Please feel free to contact Pastor Bob or Steve Oelschlager about making a gift to the fund.

Sixteen of our college-bound and currently-enrolled college students will be presented with scholarships. **We will honor these recipients on Sunday, August 1 during the 10 am drive-in worship service.** As a congregation, we should be very proud of them as they are exemplary, having received recognition in many areas—not only here at Holy Cross—but at their schools and within the community. Let us join in congratulating them as they pursue their endeavors. The Review Committee was very impressed with the sincere and personal responses of these young women and men as they completed the “Faith Statement” portion of the Mission Endowment Scholarship Application. Here are selected thoughts from the Faith Statements:

Alec Berger

Valparaiso University

“... my affiliation with Holy Cross has had a profound impact on my outlook on life. ...I am still very attuned to the sense of morality, grace and justice that Holy Cross has instilled in me.... My hope is to continue making a difference in the world around me, as I study engineering at Valparaiso University this coming fall.”



Ryan Berger

Elmhurst College

“Like many people, the past year has tested my faith, both in God, and in myself. I am happy to report that my faith in both has not only prevailed but strengthened ... God was providing me the opportunity to step back and improve my skills, so I can be even more successful in the future.”



Robert Delatorre

Butler University

“I am proud to say that I have been raised in a Christian home since birth and that I can’t remember a time in my life that I did not believe in God. My faith journey is still in progress, and will never end. The journey so far has been both a joy and a struggle, but every challenge has led to the strengthening of my faith and of His presence in my life.”



Camden Edmunds

University of Tennessee

“No matter what is going on around me or who I am with, I remember to remain steadfast to my faith. I know that my faith might falter from time to time, but what always helps me remain grounded in it is to remind myself what exactly I am being faithful towards. He is not some world leader, celebrity, politician, etc. He is our creator. He loves me unconditionally.”



Jason Edmunds

Carnegie Mellon University

“Faith has played a major role in all aspects of my life. This past year I have relied heavily on my faith to guide me through my Junior year of college at one of the most rigorous universities in the country during a global pandemic.”



Katherine Haidvogel

Iowa State University

“There were times where I questioned whether or not I made the right choice in terms of where I was supposed to go to college or if I should move back home. Ultimately, I looked to God to the answers to my questions and asked that he watch over me while beginning college.”



Daniel Koenemann*Carthage College*

"Once summer had concluded I took my faith with me to college, where I prayed God would help give me strength to put myself out there, as not knowing anybody was a daunting prospect to me. Even though the future was ambiguous, I knew I wasn't alone because I had God and my faith to help guide me."

**Evan Leden***Concordia University of Wisconsin*

"Since being reintroduced to faith I have started attending semi-weekly bible reading with guys that live in my dorm as well as attend chapel when I can. Faith has put me where I am today and has given me the motivation to be the best teacher I can be for myself and the kids of the world."

**Max Lindsey***University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

"I always try to perform to the best of my abilities, although never at the expense of needing to utilize deceit or to harm others to do so. I have learned to take my failures and defeats as opportunities to improve as I will be accepted by God regardless of them. I have demonstrated throughout my years at high school that I always challenge myself to compete, take courses, and learn new topics at high levels."

**Derek Matthei***Purdue University*

"The truth is we do not know our future. However, I do know that we are guided. We are put on a path to find ourselves and sometimes that involves making poor mistakes, but in the end we find our footing. We find our placement in the world. We find how we can make a difference."

**Taryn Murphy***University of Wisconsin-Madison*

"Growing up with the belief that I can make a difference, even if it's small, and it can change lives for the better gave me a lot of motivation to do just that. Also, learning the ways that Jesus cared for others unconditionally inspired me to try my best to do the same."

**Andrew Oelschlager***University of Notre Dame*

"When I think about Holy Cross and my years growing up, I can't help but think that I have a good foundation in many aspects of my life... By attending Notre Dame, I hope the community's dedication to faith and service will further blossom within me so I, too, will live a life of value, meaning, and authenticity in which I share my gifts with the world."

**Anna Randall***Eckerd College*

"My faith is a product of my relationship with God. I perceive God as a kind and loving figure that wants to have a relationship with me. I do not perceive God as being judgmental or requiring me to 'jump through hoops' to be worthy of grace and love."

**Sarah Rosten***University of Tampa*

"My faith has always been a part of me. From when I was in elementary school to now. Through all different times of struggle it was always there backing me up... my faith was a safe place for me to run to."

**Jason Sekili***Northwestern University*

"One of my favorite verses is Proverbs 3:5-6: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths.' These words are a source of comfort to me. There is something so reassuring about knowing that Christ loves each one of us and has a wonderful plan for each of our lives."

**Grace Towson***Purdue University*

"Growing up, faith has been very influential in my life. Having parents who encouraged my sister and I to have faith is something that I am very grateful for. I have always felt that God was present in my life and he has always guided me through the most challenging situations. Throughout high school and the college decision process, I have felt the comfort of God knowing everything would be okay."



During Difficult Days

by Randy Casey

Listeners of WFMT learned from Carl Grapentine this morning that today was the birthday anniversary of Dietrich Fischer-Diskeau (1925-2012), the most acclaimed male singer of German Lieder during the second half of the 20th century. Carl also remarked that Fischer-Diskeau served in the German Army during World War II, was captured, and sang for two years to homesick German troops in an American prison camp. Probably the most famous story of a musician in a prison camp during World War II is that of the French composer Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992). He was captured by the Germans and while incarcerated composed probably the most distinctive piece of chamber music of the 20th century. Entitled "Quartet for the End of Time," the piece is scored for piano, violin, cello, and clarinet because Messiaen's compatriots with him played those specific instruments. Perhaps most remarkably the piece was premiered in the prison camp, supposedly with some 4,000 soldiers as the audience. I have heard the work live three times and to term it "haunting" is a huge understatement. Knowing the circumstances of its first performance adds dramatically to the aura of Messiaen's composition.

I do not claim to know more about what has been happening throughout the world during the past 18 months than anyone reading these words. However, I would contend that the arts have done their fair share of helping people cope with the challenges before them. Of course, thousands of musical performances were cancelled, but I am thinking of more intimate endeavors. Surely within families, for example, stories were written and told, paintings were created and shared, instruments were played and heard, clothes were sewn and worn, games were contrived and played, dances were imagined and performed. The panorama of human accomplishment easily exceeds my ability to even imagine its scope.

I feel almost guilty about what I have done during the pandemic for I have hardly missed a day of practice the whole time. When people were supposed to be homebound, I drove to church where I was alone and played the piano for many an hour. I felt better than otherwise for having done so. To be sure I put together a program and even memorized it, but at this point I do not know that I will give a concert, if only because I am ready to move on to other pieces. To try to compensate for this focus on self I have followed other pursuits which I shall not enumerate here.

Being an accompanist has been the foundation of my musical career. One helpful trait for a good accompanist is to set aside one's ego and think along, for example, with a singer like Dietrich Fischer-Diskeau. In a musical sense this is almost the epitome of considering someone else. I take consolation in this necessary quality for my profession and hope post-pandemic that I will leave behind a thing or two that I do not enjoy seeing when I look in the mirror.

When I am driving down the road I recite the 23rd Psalm, the King James version, more often than you can imagine. Whoever composed the original had an amazing mind and whoever translated it into the English language of 1611 was brilliant and sensitive, too. The human spirit is a marvel of God's creation that throughout time has helped us meet many challenges. I sincerely wish everyone well who has lost loved ones during the pandemic. And I ask God's blessing upon all of us as we face the different days ahead.

Holy Cross Smartphone App

by Steve Oelschlager

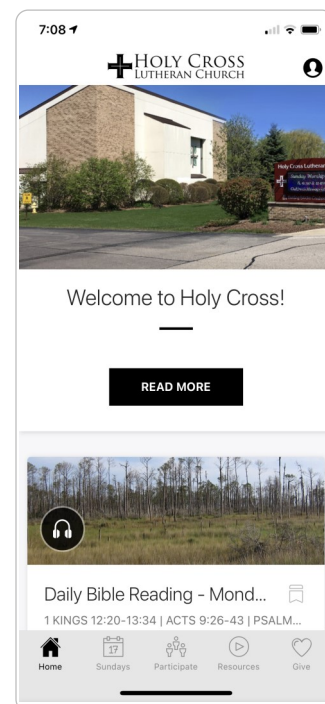
Check out the Apple and Google app stores for the new Holy Cross smartphone app. The app provides many conveniences and efficiencies, from the latest worship videos, access to the church calendar and upcoming events, information about your Holy Cross groups, links to Church Community Builder, online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

Apple App Store:



Google App Store:



Backpack & School Supply FUNDRAISER

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) has asked Holy Cross members to once again contribute to their back to school backpack and school supply collection for the elementary and middle school students they serve. Due to the ongoing pandemic we will not be purchasing any supplies in bulk as in past years and therefore won't be hosting a packing event. Instead we will be collecting monetary contributions to donate directly to LSSI. Suggested donation: \$35 per backpack and the required school supplies. Please make checks out to Holy Cross with "LSSI Backpacks" in the memo line, or give online at donate.holycrosschurch.org



Plastic Cap Project Completed

A big thank you to all our friends and members that helped with our Early Childhood Ministry project of collecting plastic caps to turn into upcycled furniture. **We are no longer able to accept any additional plastic caps.** Please refer to your local recycling facility if you have any leftover caps.



Pandemic Waste

by Marge Stueckemann

How do we deal with all the added waste from the pandemic?

America has been emphasizing the 3 "R"'s for some time - reduce, reuse, and recycle. Unfortunately, so many aspects of life in the pandemic have made this mantra very difficult to apply. Perhaps it is because people are just tired of dealing with the scare of illness, being isolated, worrying about getting ill or losing your job—there are plenty of things to make people nervous. When we are so immersed in all of this, throwing a disposable mask on the ground instead of in the trash doesn't seem so bad—although I guess we aren't thinking of who will have to pick it up! And think of the amount of trash those blue masks will make as they are discarded, even if that is in your garbage pail!

In the beginning, March 2020, it was thought reusable bags might be bringing the virus into the supermarkets and they were banned. The everlasting thin plastic bags we had been trying to suppress came roaring back. Goodness knows how many my family amassed for just two people's groceries! Supposedly they can be recycled at the supermarkets, but the oil, production, transportation and additional waste all add up. I am glad to say that all the Libertyville food stores plus Vernon Hills' Mariano's and Aldi are now accepting reusable bags again, so round them up and start bringing them to the store!

Online shopping, too, is adding so much waste—all the cartons, paper to fill up the box, pellets (which can be taken to the UPS store), plus the pollution caused by the delivery trucks—it surely all adds up. This is also true of the food containers, plastic forks, packets of condiments, etc., that are part of DoorDash and Grubhub meals - convenient but not good for the earth.

We rejoice in the vaccines but need to realize how much discarded material comes with inoculating billions. There really is no way to reduce this, but it should make us aware of the cost to God's creation.

Of course, we know that the Bible tells us, "Do not worry about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God." (Philippians 4:6) So turning this problem over to God is what we are to do, but surely God expects us to exercise whatever control we can have over not wasting the resources of our marvelous planet.



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

17th Annual COOL Golf Outing

Friday, July 16

Bonnie Brook Golf Course,
2800 N Lewis Ave, Waukegan

11:00 am - Check-in

11:30 am - Straight Tee Start

Proceeds provide funding needed to help COOL with the important work of Feeding the Hungry and Housing the Homeless. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no dinner option this year. For more details or to register online, visit their website: coolministries.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

Willow House Walk & 5K Run

Willow House will be hosting their 13th Annual Walk & 5K Run to Remember on Sunday, July 18 from 7:30 am to 12 noon at Busse Woods, Elk Grove Village. Your participation either in-person or virtually helps Willow House continue to offer free programs and services to youth and their families grieving from the death of a loved one. For more details or to register, go to raceroster.com/events/2021/48183/willow-house-walk-and-5k-run-to-remember

Willow House offers free virtual support groups for all ages, grief consultation, education and resources. A dedicated email, griefsupport@willowhouse.org is available for families to contact them during this time for extra support. Additionally, their team is available by phone at (847) 236-9300 during our normal office hours, 9 am - 4 pm.

For more information on available services, see their website at willowhouse.org



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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

Details on page 2


NATURE
Our First Way of Knowing God

New Discussion Group
Tuesdays, July 13 - August 24
7 pm via Zoom *See page 4*



Antiracism Roundtable

Date: Sunday, July 18
Time: 11 am - 12:15 pm
via Zoom *See page 4*



- July 11: Tailgate Party
- July 18: Breakfast on the Lawn
- July 25: Pastries on the Patio

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


MP3: Men of Purpose, Principle & Prayer
Date: Monday, July 26
Time: 6:30 pm In-person or 7 pm via Zoom
Topic: The Conscience Question
See page 5 for more information.