

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE CROSS CONNECTION

Providing Strength for the Faith Journey

January 2020

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNINGS
8, 9:30 & 11 AM

FIRST SATURDAY
EVENINGS

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
OCTOBER - MAY

JANUARY 4 AT 5:30 PM
WORSHIP WITH
HOLY COMMUNION

We are Beloved...

In November 2019, I found myself wading in the waters of the Jordan River. Whether it is the actual site where Jesus was baptized or not, it is how I imagined it to be in my mind. It was a beautiful day. I was surrounded by friends and people of faith. We remembered the promises made at our baptisms, said a prayer, and sang some songs. It was perfect. However, I did not see the heavens part or hear a divine voice thundering through the clouds. Though I've professed belief in a self-revealing God all my life, I have not experienced revelation in any of the ways the Bible describes this moment when John the Baptist (Jesus' cousin) and Jesus stood there in the river.

The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek, "epiphaneia," meaning "appearing" or "revealing."

During this brief liturgical season of Epiphany, we're invited to leave miraculous births and angel choirs behind, and see the love, majesty, and power of God in seemingly mundane things.

According to Christian historian John Dominic Crossan, the baptism story was an "acute embarrassment" for the early Church, but for reasons very different from our modern ones. What scandalized the Gospel writers was not the miraculous, but the mundane. God's incarnate Son receiving a baptism of *repentance*?

Repentance for what? What was he doing in that murky water, aligning himself with the great unwashed? And why did God choose *that* sordid moment to part the clouds and call Jesus of Nazareth beloved? Every age, it turns out, has its signature difficulties with faith. When we're not busy flattening miracle into mirage, we're busy instead turning sacrament into scandal. After all, what's most incredulous about Jesus' baptism story? That Jesus threw his reputation aside to get dunked alongside hordes of sinners? Or that God looked down at the very start of his Son's ministry and called him Beloved—well before Jesus had accomplished a thing worth praising?

Or to ask the question more pointedly; what do *we* find most impossible to believe for our *own* lives? That God appears by means so familiar, we often miss God's presence? That our baptisms bind us to all of humanity- not in theory, but in the flesh - such that you and I are kin, responsible for each other in ways we fail too often to honor? Or, that we are God's Beloved - not because we've done anything to earn it, but because God's very nature, inclination, and desire is to love? To embrace Epiphany is to embrace the core truth that we are deeply, *deeply* loved.

Here's maybe the real issue with this liturgical season: we always, *always* have a choice—and most of the time, we may not want that. God has not insulted humanity with so little agency; we get to choose. We *have* to choose. No matter how many times God shows up, we're free to ignore God. No matter how often we reaffirm our baptismal vows to seek and serve Christ in all persons, we're still at liberty to reject each other and walk away. The freedom in which we live, move, and have our being is so vast, so all-encompassing, and so generous, it can feel overwhelming. But this is love. It doesn't impose. It doesn't coerce. It doesn't assume. It descends quietly and speaks in a voice so gentle, we're free to ignore it.

As we begin another year, we need to *choose*. Choose those moments this year where we experience God's love with resolute intention and diligence. The challenge is always before us: look again. Look harder. See freshly. Stand in the place that looks utterly ordinary and cling to the possibility of a surprise that is God. Listen to the ordinary, and know that it is infused with divine mystery. Jesus is the one who stands in line with us at the water's edge, willing to immerse himself in this world and in our lives. Do we hear God's voice telling us *who* we are and *whose* we are? Listen. We are God's own. God's children. Even in the deepest, darkest water, we are beloved.

Peace,

Peter Bob



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 26 at 10:15 am

All confirmed church members are encouraged to attend.

Worship at 8, 9:30, & 11:15 am

The meeting's agenda will include: Election of 2020 church council, 2019 ministry reports, pastoral acts, membership and financial reports plus the proposed 2020 ministry budget.

Ministry members:

Kindly submit your 2019 ministry reports by Friday, January 3 to office@holycrosschurch.org



**HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

29700 N. SAINT MARY'S ROAD
LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048

(847) 367 - 4060
OFFICE@HOLYCROSSCHURCH.ORG
HOLYCROSSCHURCH.ORG

PASTORS AND CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Robert A. Davis, Senior Pastor
Rev. Sally Hanson, Associate Pastor
Sarah Accettura, Receptionist & Office Support
Katie Bernabei, Congregational Activities
Randall Casey, Director of Music
Carmen & Abel Cervantes, Custodians
Carrie Mack, Director of Youth Music Ministries
Beth Malecha, Handbell Choir Director
Steve Oelschlager, Director of Engagement and Generosity
Mike Price, Business Director
Jennifer Radtke, Nursery Attendant
Ellie Rautenbach, Congregational Communications
Manny Rivera, Property
Dale Tippet Jr., Director of Contemporary Music
Tom Zombolo, Property
Beth Zupkus, Financial Administrator

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES

Kathy Pfister, Director
Sam Cooper, Assistant Director
Roxanne (Rocky) Kupfer, Assistant Director

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sonny Randall (*President*), Katie Ormson (*Vice President*),
Andy Eidson, Lori Fedyk, Mick Garrison,
Beth Ann Koenemann, Bill Miksch, Karl Nygard,
Maria Roberts, Jim Smalley, Rich Yocius
Secretary, Lisa Dunbar
Treasurer, Eric Ormson
Financial Secretary, Tom Miller

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Sunday School Coordinators:
Felicia Brandt, *age 3 - age 5/Kindergarten (Core Stories)*
Patty Moyer & Teri Chadd, *grades 1 - 5 (Deep Blue)*
Altar Care: Julie Luczkiw
Greeters: Therese Delli Paoli

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 office@holycrosschurch.org

Growing Artists

A free, family friendly event



Sunday, February 9

4 to 5:30 pm

Holy Cross basement

Register: bit.ly/GrowingArtists



Please join us for the 5th Annual Family Outreach Series sponsored by Holy Cross Lutheran Church, CrossWays Preschool, and Celebration! Childcare—Growing Artists!

When is the event? Sunday, February 9 from 4 to 5:30 pm.

Come and spend time together to kick off your week. A light snack will be served, and admission is free.

Who should come to this event? Any family at Holy Cross or non-member family in the community who wants to spend quality time together making art and having fun! CrossWays Preschool and Celebration! Childcare are the sponsors of this free family outreach series event, but you do not need to be a family from either one to attend. In fact, we hope to make new friends!

What will we do? Local artist, Beth McKenna, will give a demonstration of collage art and show families multiple samples of various renditions of collage art. Families will then have the opportunity to make their own piece of collage art or work together to make one larger family piece!

Where will this be? At Holy Cross in the basement.

Why should I attend the 5th Annual Family Outreach Series: Growing Artists? This is a time to slow down and spend time with your family, while enjoying creating and learning about art together.

For any questions related to this event, please email Diane Gaines at pdgaines@sbcglobal.net

We are collecting new art supplies such as construction paper, crayons, markers, glue, colored pencils, etc. to donate to Lutheran Social Services of IL. Please bring something with you the night of the event or we will have a drop box in the gathering space starting mid January. There will also be collection boxes at CrossWays Preschool and Celebration! Childcare. Thank you in advance.



**CrossWays
Preschool**



**Celebration!
Childcare**

Cozy in Christ

by Rev. Sally Hanson



Hygge (pronounced Hue-guh) is a Danish concept that cannot be easily described in one English word, but instead encompasses a feeling of cozy contentment through enjoying the simple things in life. If you've ever sat and simply watched it snow while you read a book or sipped from a warm mug, you've experienced hygge without even knowing it. If I had to put the concept of hygge into one English word, I would probably use cozy.

This national obsession with all things cozy is credited as one of the reasons why Denmark is always at the top of the list of the world's happiest countries, despite their infamously miserable winters. And recently, the rest of the world has begun to catch on to this wonderful way of life.

So how does one go about creating hygge spaces? Things like candles or relaxing scents. No wonder candle sales are a huge gift giving item at Christmas leading into a long winter! It's fireplaces and cozy blankets. It's people. It's homemade sweets, or winter comfort foods and a warm drink. It's board games, puzzles, cards or that book you've been meaning to read but haven't had the time. It's about people gathered in small groups for a deeper connection. It's allowing yourself to be. It's about simple. It's a deep appreciation for the simple things that bring joy to your life. It's feeling cozy inside and out but also spiritually.

As we move into the stillness of the winter months in the aftermath of the hustle and bustle of the holidays, where is it that we can seek coziness of hygge for our spirit? As Epiphany comes and wisemen finally reach the house where the child was, I wonder if what they experienced when they arrived was a feeling of cozy contentment as they reveled in the miracle that is Christ. When they laid their gifts before the child, was there tea and a comfort meal after their long journey? Was there a retelling of their experiences of God and their call to this place? Was there scripture?

How about our own hygge? How can we find that cozy contentment that we long to feel during holidays that turned into "work?" Where do we pursue cozy this winter season in terms of our faith? I invite you in this new year to seek out moments of simple joy that bring you closer to your treasured people but also closer to Christ. Can doing the work to become closer to Christ really feel like being spiritually cozy? I wonder...

Blessings,

Pastor Sally

Women's Retreat

Sabbath & Solitude: A Time of Renewal



Date: Friday, February 28 at 6 pm
to Sunday, March 1 at 12 pm.

Location: Lutherdale Bible Camp,
Watson Retreat Center (Elkhorn, WI)

Cost: \$200 per person

Non-members and friends are welcome to join.

Sabbath and solitude. Time alone sounds refreshing! Or does it? We all function a little different. Some need plenty of time to rest and recoup through time alone. Others do this best in the company of others by letting our hair down and being silly. It can also be diving into a book that stirs your mind and emotions to dwell with God in a new way. And for others still, it is a time of quiet stillness of simply looking out the window with a warm mug to drink from or a walk with a friend where your hearts talk but not your mouths. Some need a little of all of these.

So what is Sabbath and is it different than solitude? By definition, solitude is the lack of input outside yourself. This is thinking or reflection in your own head or heart time. This can be done alone or with a friend without external input from conversations, screen time, books, radio, etc. Sabbath, on the other hand, is a time of rest and renewal of mind, body, and soul in the arms of God.

Just as God made each of us as unique as a snowflake, so too do we each have unique needs in finding Sabbath and solitude. As women, we are always on the go from one thing to another. While it might not always be our bodies on the move, our minds seem to constantly be going. As we look toward winter, we can see around us nature's need for this kind of Sabbath and solitude to renew and recoup before the next growing season. As we are part of creation, so do we.

Join other unique women of faith as we journey together toward exploring the need for Sabbath and solitude in our lives. What we each need in our own context will be remarkably unique, and we will learn from each other as we journey toward Sabbath and solitude as a community.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Sally at pastorsally@holycrosschurch.org

Journey faith, discipleship, generosity

Anchoring Our Lives in a Larger Story of Meaning

by Steve Oelschlager

David Brooks is an opinion columnist for the New York Times, and an author of several books. In his 2019 New York Times bestseller, *The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life*, Brooks proposes that our culture has been moving away from one unhealthy extreme only to end up at another, that of hyper-individualism. Brooks asserts the pathway back to well-being in making commitments to big-picture sources of meaning like belief systems, vocation/calling, family, and community.

Brooks writes: *It is a stunning fact of our age that, despite all we have learned about the brain, mental health problems, including depression, are rising, not falling. And things seem to be deteriorating quickly. In 2012, 5.9 percent of young people suffered from severe depression. By 2015, it was 8.2 percent.*

This is, in part, because of the smartphone, but also because so many people have lost a sense of purpose in their lives. When you take away a common moral order and tell everybody to find their own definition of the mystery of life, most people will come up empty. They will not have a compelling story that explains the meaning of their life in those moments when life gets hard. In a study for his book The Path to Purpose, William Damon found that only 20 percent of young adults have a fully realized sense of purpose.

Many people have lost faith in the great causes and institutions that earlier generations relied on to give life a sense of purpose and meaning. They have lost faith in faith. Actual church attendance has declined by almost half since the early 1960s. They have lost faith in country. In 2003, according to the Gallup organization, 70 percent of Americans said they were "extremely proud" to be Americans. By 2016, only 52 percent of Americans said that, and only 34 percent of millennials agree. All of these suggest people do not feel they are part of some larger story that they can believe in and dedicate their lives to.

As Christians, we believe Jesus calls us to dedicate ourselves to a larger story, God's story, and to commitments beyond ourselves. Jesus' intention is not to make us miserable by restricting our freedoms. Instead, Jesus knows his way—the road less traveled—is a pathway to well-being. I hope that in 2020 Holy Cross can help each of us grow in our engagement with that path.

Inspiration & Curiosities

Please see the Inspiration & Curiosities lending library in the gathering space for copies of *The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life*.



MEN of PURPOSE PRINCIPLE & PRAYER

Date: Monday, January 27

Time: 6 - 8:30 pm

Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church
fellowship area

Theme: "Values... keeping us real & relevant"

Register: bit.ly/MP3JAN27

The men (21+) of Holy Cross and the community are invited to an evening of fellowship, food, and conversation. We encourage you to bring your appetite not only for dinner, but also for a rich conversation on the theme of "Values... keeping us real & relevant."

Why are values essential? Our values inform our thoughts, words, and actions. Our values are important because they help us grow and develop. They help us create the future we want to experience. When we use our values to make decisions, we make a deliberate choice to focus on what is important to us and those we love.

Individual Values reflect how you show up in your life and your specific needs - the principles you live by and what you consider fundamental for your self-interest. These include: *enthusiasm, creativity, humility, and personal fulfillment*.

Relationship Values reflect how you relate to other people in your life, be they friends, family, or colleagues in your organization. These include: *openness, trust, generosity, and caring*.

Organizational Values reflect how your organization shows up and operates in the world. These include: *financial growth, teamwork, productivity and strategic alliances*.

Societal values reflect how you or your organization relates to society. These include: *future generations, environmental awareness, ecology, and sustainability*.

As we consider our MP3 theme for 2020, "Our Journey from Scarcity to Abundant Living," please join us for a deeper conversation about why values matter starting at 6 pm in the fellowship area. We will serve dinner by 6:45 pm and will wrap up the evening by 8:30 pm. You are welcome to invite other men who are friends and/or colleagues.

Please consider joining us for these future MP3 events to enjoy each other's company, share a meal, be uplifted with live music and, reflect upon some relevant themes and what they might look like as we weave them into the fabric of our life.

March 16	Intimacy...fully alive
June 15	Work/Vocation...a call to meaning
July 20	Self-Care...recharged & restored
August 24	Community...bigger than ourselves
October 19	Hope...walking the way

Live Music

by Randy Casey

I have just returned from a stunning concert given by a Chicago musical organization called the Music of the Baroque, conducted by Nicholas Kraemer from the harpsichord. Pieces by Domenico Scarlatti, Antonio Vivaldi, Alessandro Marcello, and Francesco Geminiani were on the program, but the real stars of the evening were the Bach Concerto for 3 violins and the Bach Concerto for 2 Violins. Both pieces were amazing, to say the least. I am reminded of the absolute wonder of live music. For me, there is nothing that can beat it. This past summer, for example, I heard a very fine performance of a keyboard concerto by Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach at the Nikolaikirche in Leipzig. The harpsichordist was someone I had never heard of named Kristian Bezuidenhout. He was born in South Africa, but grew up in Australia, and then went to the Eastman School of Music in New York. Now I have ordered the piece he played and am planning to play it next year on our concert series along with the Brandenburg #5.

Of course, it almost does not matter how fine any piece by Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach is because there is no way he can ever surpass or even match his father. In terms of music history, C.P.E. Bach is regarded as an important bridge from his father to Mozart. So, either coming or going C.P.E. stands in the shadows of greatness. One of the reasons I enjoy going to Europe so much is because concerts of live music are a daily affair. That having been said, I will probably skip going to Europe this year so my sister and I can go to Ravinia and hear, for example, all six of the Brandenburgs on one concert. Carolyn pointed out to me recently that she had not been to Ravinia since I started going to Germany so I decided curtailing my travel was in order. I hasten to add that I am already hoping to be in Leipzig from May 13 to May 24, 2021 for a festival devoted to the music of Gustav Mahler.

Of course, one of the delightful aspects of being in the Holy Cross Choir is that its purpose for being is to present music live. (Believe it or not, some choral pieces come with their own “canned” accompaniment.) The singers realize the live music aspect of their purpose and depend on me to select the right music and prepare them accordingly in order to offer it successfully. The bonding that goes on between singers, with a section and between sections, in order to sing “live” together is incredible. Acapella singing really promotes this “all for one and one for all” sense of unity.

(By the way, if you want to witness two people communicating while making music in front of God and everybody else, come to the two piano program my friend Anca and I are giving this coming April 26.)

I will have had another birthday between the time I am writing this column and you are reading it. My goal is to make my every day as one-of-a-kind as was the concert I attended this evening. Music is usually my catalyst in that endeavor. May God help you find your key toward unlocking your own future so that your days, weeks, and months may be as “live” as they can be.



**AROUND
THE CROSS**
CONCERT SERIES

CHICAGOLAND VOICES
Jason Krigas, Director
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
7:30 PM

COFFEEHOUSE CONCERT
LUCIANO ANTONIO
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15
7:30 PM

Born in southern Brazil, Luciano Antonio is a guitarist, singer, composer, and percussionist who performs throughout the Midwest and has sung at Holy Cross previously for this annual fundraising event for our youth. Luciano will have a fellow

percussionist with him and the results promise to be dazzling and soothing all at once. Although his early training came from his mother and grandparents, Luciano holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. His advanced education notwithstanding, Luciano's repertoire focuses on the Brazilian folk music and jazz traditions.

Light refreshments and snacks will be served as people come together in an informal setting to hear Luciano perform.

This concert is a benefit for the youth of Holy Cross Lutheran Church who will be traveling to Chattanooga, Tennessee for a mission trip. There is no admission fee, but free will donations will be accepted.



The Cross Connection: Now In Full Color

At the end of 2019, Holy Cross was able to enter into a new contract with our printer company to replace our aging printing equipment. This new contract allows us to have more color print copies at no additional cost, and therefore, we are now able to print this monthly parish newsletter in full color! We hope you enjoy the full color version as it has been designed.



MEMBERSHIP AT HOLY CROSS

Are you interested in becoming a member of Holy Cross? To learn more about membership, please contact the church office at office@holycrosschurch.org or (847) 367-4060.

Individuals and families who are interested in joining Holy Cross are invited to our next New Member Breakfast and Reception.

NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST

Saturday, February 8 at 8:30 am

RSVP to the church office by Monday, February 3

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Sunday, February 9 during 9:30 am worship



PASTORAL ACTS

**WE WELCOMED NEW MEMBERS
DECEMBER 15, 2019**

Justin & Sarah Grayer

Robert & Joyce Twardock

BAPTISM

Evelyn Fay Weber

Daughter of Chester & Emily Weber
December 29, 2019

FUNERAL

Donald I. Borgwardt

November 26, 2019

FIRST SATURDAY WORSHIP

First Saturday evenings of every month during the months of September through May.

Worship at 5:30 pm with Holy Communion.

These are relaxed services—please join us as you are.

January 4, February 8, March 7, April 4, May 2

Help Undecorate the Sanctuary!

It takes a village to decorate (and undecorate) the church for Christmas! Please check your calendars and sign up to help when you can. Sign up at the link below:

bit.ly/Christmashelp19


Sunday, January 5 and Monday, January 6

12 - 5 pm - Undecorate the sanctuary, pack up decorations

Tuesday, January 7

12 - 5 pm and 6:30 - 8 pm

Undecorate the sanctuary, pack up decorations, and heavy lifters to move everything to storage.



Worship Participant Openings

We are grateful for everyone who volunteers to participate during worship services at Holy Cross. In February, it will once again be time to sign up for a volunteer slots in a six month rotation, from April through September.

Have you thought about joining a worship participant roster to enhance your worship experience? Please contact the staff in the office if you would like to be added, or if you have any questions. You can email office@holycrosschurch.org or call (847)3674060.

Worship participant ministries include:

- Acolyte and Assistant Acolyte
- Altar Care
- Assisting Ministers
- Coffee Hosts
- Communion Assistants
- Communion Bread Bakers
- Counters
- Greeters
- Prayer Assistants
- Readers
- Ushers

More information on each role may also be found in our Worship Participant Ministries Brochure, which is available in the office or online at holycrosschurch.org/resources

During the Season of Epiphany, Sunday, January 12 - February 23 we will be using the *Mass of Light* liturgy at all Sunday morning worship services.

We are looking for volunteers to help us on Thursday, January 9 at 10 am to switch the liturgy books in the hymnal. If you are available, please contact the office at office@holycrosschurch.org

Altar Flowers

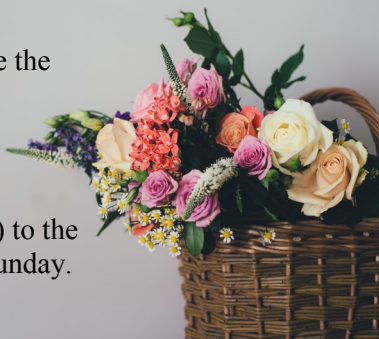
The altar flowers were given today by...

Everyone who worships at Holy Cross may commemorate a happy occasion or the memory of a loved one by purchasing flowers to decorate the altar each Sunday.

Note your request on the Altar Flowers calendar located on the bulletin board across from the church office or send an email to office@holycrosschurch.org. A donation of \$35 per arrangement can be made by check payable to Holy Cross with "Altar Flowers" in the memo line or online at donate.holycrosschurch.org

You are most welcome to take the arrangement home to enjoy following the last service the Sunday you sponsor.

Please return the clean vase(s) to the church office the following Sunday.



Early Childhood Ministry Announcement

It is with sadness that we have accepted the resignation of Kathy Pfister as Director of our Early Childhood Ministry (CrossWays Preschool & Celebration! Childcare). Kathy has made the decision to retire.

Kathy has been in a director position for fourteen years. She provided invaluable assistance beginning in March 2006 as the west wing construction project came to completion. Kathy was instrumental in establishing our protocols, curriculum development, hiring of staff and recruiting families. We opened Celebration in October 2006. Our early childhood ministries have thrived under her leadership. There have been many advancements within the everyday operations. However, the most amazing gift is her love for the children. She treats them, their parents, and her staff with respect and grace while encouraging each of the children to discover their unique gifts and become the individual God created them to be.

Kathy concludes her responsibilities in February 2020. A search task force is in place and will oversee the process of identifying and hiring a new director of our early childhood ministry. A position description is posted online at holycrosschurch.org/job-opportunities

Questions and inquiries may be directed by email to ecmdirectorsearch@holycrosschurch.org



"I Love to Tell the Story..."

by Judy Frank-Gonwa

Happy New Year from Early Childhood Ministries! We are excited for the year ahead of us, but would like to reflect on some of the special ways that CrossWays Preschools and Celebration! Childcare made 2019 a little happier for many children and adults. During last year, our students and their families reached out beyond our four walls and shared love and support to others, most of whom we do not know! The two schools were joined by many members of Holy Cross, who also offered a helping hand.

During 2019, the students brought canned goods and staples to school to add to the food drives (two or three a year) for the COOL Food Pantry. Children counted cans and helped pack up the food to get it ready for delivery. Vegetables from the garden were also harvested and taken to the pantry. This past year, the children raised tomatoes and onions—and a few green peppers—for COOL and harvested enough for six deliveries. In the process, the children learned about how they were sharing with others who needed their help.

In addition to the food drives, the two schools participated in a diaper drive, organized by Catholic Charities. 125 packages of diapers were donated and distributed to families in the inner city. Church members participated as well to make the drive a success! The schools also collected toiletries for the military to be given to the men and women in our armed services.

Our students also experienced giving to others by donating books. With points earned from our Scholastic Book Fair, we were able to purchase 130 books which were sent to a small town in Mexico for their library. The children who received the books wrote thank you letters to our students, and our students wrote back to the children in Mexico. Scholastic also offered us another way to reach out to those in need by asking us to have a pajama drive. Through this drive, we collected 161 pairs of pajamas, donated by ECM and Holy Cross families. But it gets better! Scholastic added a book to each pair of pajamas and then distributed these gifts to two local childcare centers who were in need.

Near the end of 2019, advent calendars were given to children in the pediatric unit at Condell Hospital. Our students wrote personalized cards to include with the calendars. Each child in our two schools also received an advent calendar. The calendars were purchased with a stipend that was received from our school photographer when class pictures and holiday pictures were taken.

In 2019, the children of CrossWays Preschool and Celebration! Childcare reached out to others in many ways and experienced the acts of kindness and giving. Support from the ECM families and the Holy Cross families enhanced many of the activities and for this, we are very grateful. 2019 was a generous year and 2020 will be no different! Blessings to you and your family.

Cookie Walk Update



The Cookie Walk Committee appreciates your participation and outreach to benefit our Lakota friends on the Two Strike Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

We would like to give a special thank you to...

- All of our cookie bakers and candy makers who generously donated their time and talents for this year's Cookie Walk.
- Kris DeGregor, for once again creating her beautiful and fun gingerbread house!
- Everyone who purchased ornaments, which helped us provide warm quilts for our Lakota friends.
- Everyone who purchased raffle tickets.

And the biggest thank you to all of you who came on December 7th to join in on our 11th annual Cookie Walk festivities.

Watch for the final details in the February newsletter.

With sincere appreciation,
The Cookie Walk Committee

ELCA World Hunger

Every first Sunday of the month, your bulletin includes an offering envelope for ELCA World Hunger. ELCA World Hunger walks alongside their partners and companions in the United States and more than 60 other countries to generate unique solutions to local challenges by working together with communities that need food assistance in order to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty.



The world itself provides more than enough food for all, but more than 800 million people around the world face chronic hunger. This offering once a month helps support the work ELCA World Hunger does across the globe. If you would like more information about where this work is done and how, please visit elca.org/hunger

Scouting Sunday

On Sunday, February 8, we will celebrate scouting during the 9:30 am worship service which will include a special blessing for all involved in scouting. If your scout is interested in participating in the worship services as a reader, acolyte, or greeter, please contact office@holycrosschurch.org



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®



Snowbirds and Monarchs

by Marge Stueckemann

Do you know any snowbirds? Snowbirds are the people who leave our frosty area for someplace much warmer, maybe Florida or Arizona or perhaps Mexico. While many people do that, it is actually also an apt description of monarch butterflies.

Monarchs leave our area to migrate to central Mexico, and they begin this journey in September. This migration can be as many as 3,000 miles depending on how far north they have chosen to live. There are a number of butterflies that live in Canada—we are not the northernmost area for the butterflies. They use the sun for directional cues as they travel.

As of late, their population has decreased, and this is because of the poisoning of the milkweed plant, which is the only plant monarchs will eat. However, people have realized the importance of protecting milkweed and creating a monarch-friendly habitat, so we are seeing results—monarch numbers are going up!

It took some time for the Mexican officials to realize the tourist potential of the fir forest where the monarchs have chosen to spend the winter. It is now protected as the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve. It is located about sixty miles north of Mexico City in Michoacan. There are guides for tours of the area and other tourist amenities. There have been big changes in yearly populations, but in 2019, the spring migration was very robust with about 140% larger numbers of insects heading north from Mexico. Now they are seeing a similar large amount of butterflies on their way south.

Normally, the migration hits about its peak numbers on All Saint's Day (November 1) or All Soul's Day (November 2). Folklore of this area teaches that these beautiful flying creatures are the souls of their ancestors, coming to check out the little altars set up on their grave sits in local cemeteries.

While monarch numbers are rising, they still need your help, and you can help right at your home! Butterfly and pollinator gardens are easy to build right in your own backyard. Visit fws.gov/savethemonarch/individual/html for more details.

Holiday Cork Collection

After January 5, we will no longer be collecting natural wine corks. Please bring in your corks before then. You can continue saving them in your home until November when our collection starts again, or we invite you to recycle them at a ReCORK drop off location. Those locations can be found at recork.com/us/locations

Winchester House 2020 Worship Dates

The fourth Sunday of every month, from January through October, Holy Cross pastors, confirmation students, and other volunteers bring a worship experience to the residents of Winchester House in Libertyville. (Just west of the intersection of Milwaukee/Route 21 and Winchester Road.) This is a great way to volunteer as a family. Please arrive at 2 pm at the entrance from the parking lot. We assist residents to and from the worship space and hold a worship service from 2:30 - 3 pm.

If you are a pianist and would be willing to accompany our hymns, or if you know a young musician who would enjoy playing pieces to enhance our worship, please contact the church office at office@holycrosschurch.org

Questions about what volunteering entails? Please contact the office at office@holycrosschurch.org

2020 Winchester House Worship Service Dates

January 26	June 28
February 23	July 26
March 22	August 23
April 26	September 27
May 24	October 25



PADS
LAKE COUNTY
Helping the Homeless Find a Way

PADS is a shelter ministry that operates in Lake County. Every evening beginning in October through April, there are two PADS sites operating around the county. Most of the time they operate out of a church building. The PADS guests are provided three meals, a warm place of shelter for the evening, and hospitality. These PADS nights are staffed exclusively by volunteers.

Holy Cross members will once again provide breakfast and lunch food items for guests of the PADS shelter at Shepherd of the Lakes in Grayslake on the fourth Monday of every month, October through April. Watch for the sign up board in the gathering space this month for the opportunity to donate food items by **Sunday, January 26 at noon.**

Thank you for your generosity!



- **Peanut Butter** is the non-perishable food item of the month in January. Please place your contribution in the COOL collection cart outside the church office or in baskets during the children's message.
- **Veterans Assistance Boxes** Each month, COOL also assists 75-100 veterans who need extra month. COOL is looking for donations of the following toiletries to help with this: razors, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry soap, body soap/wash, toothpaste/mouthwash/ shave cream, denture cleaner, cleaning supplies, deodorant, lotion, depends (both men's and women's), washcloths/shower loofa and shampoo.
- **Holiday Meal Boxes** As of this writing, Holy Cross members contributed over \$900 towards Holiday Meal Boxes for Thanksgiving and Christmas, which is the equivalent of at least 45 families receiving holiday meals.
- **Volunteer at COOL** To volunteer at the food pantry or help with COOL Family Housing or other opportunities at COOL please call the Volunteer Manager at (847) 662-1230.
- **Paper and plastic grocery bags** are needed by COOL. They use these bags to give out food pantry items. We also use them when we deliver our donations to COOL. Bags may be dropped off in the COOL carts next to the church office.
- **Please check expiration dates!** COOL Food Pantry will not dispense expired food to their clients.
- **Giving Tree** Thanks to your generosity, COOL family housing received 153 family gifts and LSSI received 70 pairs of boots. Thank you!

Quilts Delivered to COOL

The Quilting & More Group dropped off their handmade quilts for COOL's Family Housing guest families. COOL is so thankful for this gift of warmth and love.



Pictured from left to right: Felicia Brandt, Melanie Houser, Deb Sherrock, Amanda Williams (COOL Housing Manager), Nancy Joiner & Sharon Pierluissi

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School at Holy Cross

We feature open enrollment - your child may enroll year-round.

Core Stories

Ages 3 - 5/Kindergarten



Grades 1 - 5

God is with Us

We are starting our third rotation on January 12, and we will be learning about David & Goliath through art, drama, missions, and science!

Who or what are the Goliath's in your life? We all have things that we need to overcome in our lives that can be daunting or scary. What does God have to say about that?

The story of David and Goliath is a well-known Bible story. Even people without a religious background know the basic outline of the story. Painters, sculptors, musicians, poets, and videographers have used this story as subject matter. The tale of defeating David, a young shepherd boy, defeating Goliath, a mighty warrior, has become a metaphor for hope for the underdog. When people are faced with seemingly overwhelming opposition, this story is a reminder that there is a way to overcome.

David is the first Israelite who appears to be willing to fight Goliath. David is also the first one in the story to describe the situation in a theological context. To David's way of thinking, Goliath did more than simply challenge Israel's army; Goliath insulted God. It is this framing of the situation that gave David the courage to face Goliath. David was confident that God was on his side. David remembered God was with him. When we feel overwhelmed, we can remember God is with us, too.

No matter what we are faced with, just like David, God is always with us!

Sunday School Volunteers

Come join the fun in our Sunday School program by teaching or helping on a flexible schedule. Teachers, class helpers, prep people and special event helpers are needed. Training and all materials provided. See a list of opportunities/dates and sign up online at: bit.ly/SSschedule1920 or contact a coordinator to find the best fit for your schedule.



Sunday School Coordinators:

Ages 3-5/K: **Felicia Brandt** (847) 362-0924

Grades 1-5: **Patty Moyer** (847) 502-3196

Teri Chadd (570) 594-3387

Milestone Ministries



Support for their 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.

Fifth Grade: Discipleship

Saturday, February 8 from 9:30 - 11 am

What is a disciple and what does that mean for today? How does being a disciple of Christ impact your relationships or how you interact with the world? We'll explore these and more in this parent/child milestone class. RSVP by **Monday, February 3** to office@holycrosschurch.org

2 years old and under: First Word

Saturday, February 22 from 9:30 - 10:30 am

At this milestone, families with children age 2 and under will have an opportunity to explore the First Words of faith by introducing Bible stories and stories of faith in to their child(ren)'s life. How do we begin talking to our children about faith before they can even talk? Participants will receive a children's Bible and an opportunity to get to know others at Holy Cross with children the same age. RSVP by **Monday, February 17** to office@holycrosschurch.org

Fourth Grade: Ten Commandments

Saturday, March 14 from 9:30 - 10:30 am

The Ten Commandments are one of the things that parent(s), sponsors, and the congregation promise to place in each baptized person's hands. What are the Ten Commandments really all about? How does that apply to your family or the life of a fourth grader? Join us as we explore these questions and dive deeper into scripture. RSVP by **Monday, March 9** to office@holycrosschurch.org

Upcoming Sunday School Dates

January 5	No Sunday School
January 12	Sunday School Resumes
January 19	Rotation 3
January 26	Rotation 3
February 2	Rotation 3
February 9	Rotation 3

6-8 Grade Confirmation Prayer Retreat



Date: January 24 - 25

Location: Lutherdale Bible Camp in Elkhorn, WI

Cost: \$105 per person (both students and chaperones)
Registration due by ASAP

This year's retreat is centered on the theme of prayer. Confirmation students and chaperones will have the opportunity to spend time in the word, exploring different kinds of prayer and diving into the Lord's Prayer. The retreat will include games, fellowship, and lots of fun!

Chaperones and drivers are needed. We will be departing at 6 pm on Friday, and returning at 9 pm on Saturday.



CONFIRMATION

*All sessions are from 6:30 - 8 pm
and start in the sanctuary, unless otherwise indicated.*

January 5	No Confirmation session
January 12	Session 11
January 19	No Confirmation session (MLK)
January 24-25	Confirmation Retreat
January 26	No Confirmation session (Retreat recovery)
February 2	No Confirmation Session (Superbowl)



GOD - GAMES - GIGS - GRUB - GRACE

Sunday, January 26 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm Fellowship Area

Come with a New Year's resolution to share and we will talk about how to support each other as we reach for new goals in the new year.

Contact Pastor Sally with any questions
pastorsally@holycrosschurch.org

High School Winter Retreat: Peer Ministry Leadership Training

For students in grades 9 - 12

Friday, January 10 at 6 pm
to Saturday, January 11 at 9 pm
Lutherdale Bible Camp, Elkhorn, WI

Cost: \$100 per person. **Registration due ASAP.**

Registration forms are in the church office and gathering space.

Peer Ministry Leadership Training is an opportunity to learn more about the art of caring conversation as a ministry tool. As a peer minister you will...

- **Become the one who welcomes.** PML helps you work on specific skills to welcome and include others, especially those often excluded.
- **Discover a new kind of friendship.** Deep friendships come from knowing and being known, understanding, not judging, and from experiencing trust. You will discover new levels of friendship, even with people you thought you already knew.
- **Learn how to share faith without manipulating others.** PML will help you learn ways to share faith that are mutually respectful and never adversarial.

Contact Pastor Sally at pastorsally@holycrosschurch.org with questions or for more information.



High School Mission Trip



Ages: Grades 8 - 12
Location: Chattanooga, TN
Cost: \$600/person
Dates: July 11 - 18

An opportunity to put your faith into action! Join us as we serve alongside YouthWorks in Chattanooga, TN. We will travel two days on each end of the trip with exciting and creative stops along the way.

Our first meeting is on January 19 at 12:30 pm, following the 11 am worship service. Our fundraiser dates will be announced as time goes on.

Pick up a brochure in the church office to register or visit holycrosschurch.org/resources to download.

Questions about the trip? Contact Pastor Sally at pastorsally@holycrosschurch.org



CrossWays Preschool



Celebration! Childcare

A New Year, and New Service Projects!

by Kathy Pfister

Director of CrossWays Preschool & Celebration! Childcare

What a wonderful holiday season we had! In December, we were busy crafting, singing, playing with our friends, learning about the birth of Jesus, and enjoying the wonders of the season. We had a restful winter break, but are now ready for 2020 and all the fun that a new year brings. Our classes will be enjoying Children's Chapel, as well as exploring exciting new topics in our classrooms.

The new calendar year also brings about the time for registration for the 2020/21 school year. **We will open registration to current CrossWays families and Holy Cross congregation members on Friday, January 10. On Monday, January 20, we will open registration to the general public.** You will find a registration form online at cpreschool.org as well as paper copies in the church building. This coming school year, we will have a variety of traditional and enrichment classes for children ages 2 - 5, including extend-the-day options. You may contact us with any questions about our offerings for next year. We can be flexible and build a program to suit your needs!

Starting this month, CrossWays Preschool will be collecting goods for troops stationed overseas through Operation Support Our Troops. We will be collecting a variety of items that make serving overseas a little bit easier for the brave men and women who serve there.



Please visit osotamerica.org/get-involved/itemsneeded/ to see the complete list of what we are collecting. Some example items are:

- breakfast bars/pop tarts/Rice Krispy bars
- jerky
- trail mix/snack nuts/raisins
- snack crackers/snack cookies
- Tums/Roloids/antacids
- anti-itch cream/nasal spray/ vitamin C drops
- body wash/lotion/shampoo
- travel mouthwash/travel hand sanitizer/travel toothpaste
- shaving gel/razors
- foot powder/dryer sheets/Tide pods

Please place your donations in the collection box in the CrossWays Preschool space by Monday, February 5. Thank you in advance for your generous hearts!

The children of Celebration! Childcare will be collecting boxed breakfast items of food for the COOL Ministries Food Pantry during the months of January and February. Holy Cross members and Celebration! Childcare students are invited to bring in as many items of cereals, oatmeal, and breakfast bars as they can.



Donations can be dropped off at the Celebration! Childcare wing in the west end of the building. At the end of February, the items will be packed up and delivered to the COOL pantry to help them restock their shelves.

Pajama Drive Update



The 11th Annual Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive for Pajama Project was a great success!

CrossWays Preschool and Celebration! Childcare are so thankful for your support. Together with Holy Cross families, we collected 161 pairs of pajamas! As part of the program, Scholastic Book Club donated the same number of brand new books to Pajama Program to give to kids who are affected by instability.



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

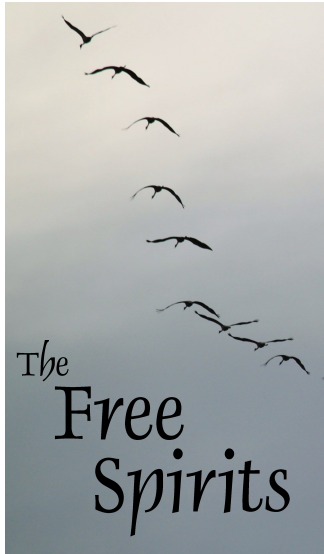


CrossWays
Preschool



Celebration!
Childcare

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



THE FREE SPIRITS FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 AT 11 AM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

The Free Spirits are a group of retirees and others age 55 and more who enjoy participating in outings together.

You are invited to our annual potluck on January 17 at 11 am. Bring your calendar, ideas for events, and your favorite dish to share. Beverages are provided.

We will be planning for 2020 activities, and are in need of individuals to assist in planning monthly events. Each year, we repeat some activities and add new ones. Please bring your ideas and specific information about suggested activities. Accessibility, travel distance, and cost are factors to consider.

Questions? Contact Felicia Brandt at Felicia.s.brandt@gmail.com or at (847)362-0924.



PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 AT 4 PM, 208

This small group is for parents who have children with any special need (whether or not formalized by 504 or IEP). They typically meet once a month to offer ideas, guidance or prayer. Open to all members of the community regardless of religious affiliation. For December, our group meeting will occur offsite. If you are interested in joining, please contact Terry Berger at (224) 775-1479 or Lisa Dunbar at (847) 309-6035. Snacks are furnished by the Lexi Kazian Foundation for the members who attend.



PROJECT HEALING WATERS (PHW) FLY FISHING NORTH CHICAGO DAY SESSION: JANUARY 8 AT 11:30 AM, FELLOWSHIP AREA EVENING SESSION: JANUARY 8 AT 7 PM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

We always welcome more volunteers to help with hospitality. If you would like to help in this way, please contact office@holycrosschurch.org



GROUNDING IN GRACE: FRIDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S GROUP FRIDAY, JANUARY 3 FROM 6:30 - 8:30 PM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

Grounded in Grace is an opportunity for women of faith to gather together in fun, fellowship, and learning. Come and join! Bring a snack or a beverage to share, and don't forget a friend and your curiosity!

"An Evolving Faith" from the DVD series, Painting the Stars: Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith.

"Stress is the only thing that creates evolution." - Elisabet Sahtouris

Big changes or stresses in our lives where there is a clearly a before or an after, are evidence that we are in the process of evolving in response to shifting life conditions. Our places of faith do this too. The last time there was a big before and after event in the life of the church was the Reformation. Could it be possible that Christianity is too small to capture the vast wonder and mystery of God? How do we reach those who claim they are spiritual but not religious? Is the world is evolving faster than our views and understanding of God?

The January Grounded in Grace visits this topic for a second month in a row as the session was so rich in conversation that the group asked to do it again to continue thinking about an evolving faith in our everyday world. Come join our conversation as we look at the role an evolving faith has in our ever-evolving lives and communities. Next Grounded in Grace: February 7 "Evolving Christianity"



PILATES MONDAYS, JANUARY 6, 13, 20, & 27 6 - 7 PM, CELEBRATION! ATRIUM

We will meet each Monday starting at 6 pm. Not sure if pilates is for you? Try one class for free. Questions about pricing may be directed toward the organizer, Jodi Zombolo, at (224) 595-8573.

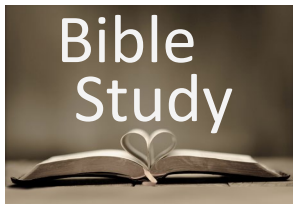


BOOK CLUB

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28 AT 7 PM

HOME OF JERI POWERS, 1401 RUIDOSO CT, LIBERTYVILLE

This month we will discuss *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann. This book investigates a series of murders of wealthy Osage people that took place in Osage County, Oklahoma in the early 1920s—after big oil deposits were discovered beneath their land. Officially, the count of the murdered full-blood wealthy Osage native Americans reaches at least 20, but Grann suspects that hundreds more may have been killed because of their ties to oil.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14 & 28 FROM 10 - 11:30 AM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

Throughout the year, this Bible study meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Biblical scholarship is not required. All you need to join the conversation is an open heart and any translation of the Bible. In January, we will begin the book of Genesis.



COMMON THREADS

MONDAY, JANUARY 13 AT 1 PM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

This group of our congregation knits or crochets blankets and shawls. Each blanket or shawl is then dedicated at a worship service and presented to the prayer recipient. These prayer blankets offer the healing power of prayer, crafted as an expression of God's love. To request a prayer shawl for a loved one, please contact the church office at office@holycrosschurch.org.



WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

TUESDAYS, JANUARY 7 & 21 FROM 9:30 - 11 AM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

Is the Bible a rulebook of absolutes, or a guide to navigating the tensions of life? Join us for discussion on Peter Enns's book, *How the Bible Actually Works*, and on this question. Enns makes the case that the Bible is not an instruction manual or rule book. Instead, it is a powerful learning tool that nurtures our spiritual growth. The Bible refuses to provide us with easy answers, but instead forces us to acquire wisdom. On January 7, we will be discussing Chapter 4, and we will cover Chapter 5 on January 21.



MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

TUESDAYS, JANUARY 7, 14, 21, & 28 FROM 6:30 TO 7:30 AM

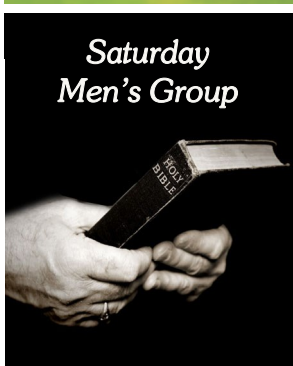
LOCATION: THE LIBERTY RESTAURANT, 419 S. MILWAUKEE AVE, LIBERTYVILLE

This is a wonderful way to begin the day. We promise to provide you with thought-provoking and stimulating fellowship and conversation. All men are welcome to join us.



CARE OF CREATION

Focused on caring for God's wonderful creation, our goal is to inspire our congregation by providing information on environmental issues. We share pertinent articles on the 3-sided kiosk in the gathering space and on Sunday mornings throughout the year. Through our email list, we share environmental news with each other. If you would like to subscribe to our email list, please email CreationCare@holycrosschurch.org with "subscribe" in the subject line. Please see page 8 for more information about the end of our holiday cork collection, and for an article about helping preserve monarch butterfly habitats.



SATURDAY MEN'S GROUP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 & 25 FROM 7:00 TO 8:30 AM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

Please join us for conversation and fellowship as we discuss the book *Stillness is the Key* by Ryan Holiday. Holiday draws on a wide range of history's greatest thinkers, from Confucius to Seneca, Marcus Aurelius to Christian monks, to show us what stillness is and how it might be achieved.



Wednesday, January 1

February newsletter content due
CrossWays Preschool, Celebration!
Childcare & Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

7:00 pm Handbell choir rehearsal, 402

Friday, January 3

6:30 pm Grounded in Grace, fellowship area

Saturday, January 4

5:30 pm First Saturday Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 5

8:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
 9:30 & 11 am Contemp. Worship with Holy Communion
 2:00 pm Red Rose meeting, 404

Monday, January 6

6:00 pm Willow House meeting
 6:00 pm Pilates, Celebration! atrium

Tuesday, January 7

6:30 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant
 9:30 am Women's Discussion Group, fellowship area
 3:30 pm Red Rose choirs, 402 & 404

Wednesday, January 8

9:00 am Quilting & More group, 404
 11:30 am PHW Day Program, fellowship area
 3:30 pm Red Rose choirs, 402 & 404
 7:00 pm PHW Evening Session, fellowship area
 7:30 pm Holy Cross Choir, sanctuary

Thursday, January 9

7:00 pm BSA Troop #194 Committee, 207
 7:00 pm Handbell choir rehearsal, 402

Friday, January 10

6:00 pm Peer Ministry Retreat departs

Saturday, January 11

7:00 am Saturday Men's Discussion, Fellowship area
 8:00 pm Peer Ministry retreat returns

Sunday, January 12

8, 9:30, & 11 am Worship with Holy Communion
 9:30 am DeMarco Baptism
 9:45 am Sunday School, west wing
 6:30 pm Confirmation Session 11

Monday, January 13

1:00 pm Common Threads, fellowship area
 6:00 pm Pilates, Celebration! atrium
 7:00 pm BSA Troop 194, 402

Tuesday, January 14

6:30 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant
 10:00 am Adult Bible Study, fellowship area
 3:30 pm Red Rose choirs, 402 & 404

Wednesday, January 15

9:00 am Quilting & More Group, 404
 3:30 pm Red Rose choirs, 402 & 404
 7:30 pm Holy Cross Choir, sanctuary

Thursday, January 16

7:00 pm Handbell choir rehearsal, 402

Friday, January 17

11:00 am Free Spirits potluck, fellowship area

Saturday, January 18

Sunday, January 19

8:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
 9:30 & 11 am Contemp. Worship with Holy Communion
 12:30 pm HS mission trip participant meeting, fellowship area
 4:00 pm Parents of Children with Spec. Needs, 208

Monday, January 20

6:00 pm Pilates, Celebration! atrium
 7:00 pm BSA Troop 194, 402

Tuesday, January 21

6:30 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant
 9:30 am Women's Discussion Group, fellowship area
 3:30 pm Red Rose rehearsal, 402 & 404
 7:00 pm Church Council, fellowship area

Wednesday, January 22

9:00 am Quilting & More Group, 404
 9:30 am ECM Marketing meeting, fellowship area
 3:30 pm Red Rose choirs, 402 & 404
 7:30 pm Holy Cross Choir, sanctuary

Thursday, January 23

Friday, January 24

6:00 pm Confirmation retreat departs

Saturday, January 25

6:30 am NYLT & BSA staff development, 402 & kitchen
 7:00 am Saturday Men's Discussion, fellowship area
 8:00 pm Confirmation retreat returns

Sunday, January 26

PADS Donations due by noon

8, 9:30, & 11:15 am Worship
 9:45 am Sunday School
 10:15 am Annual Congregational Meeting, sanctuary
 10:30 am 8th grade boys, PADS lunch pack, kitchen
 2:30 pm Winchester House Worship
 6:30 pm 5G Youth Group, fellowship area

Monday, January 27

6:00 pm MP3: Men of Purpose, Principle, and Prayer, fellowship area
 6:00 pm Pilates, Celebration! atrium
 7:00 pm BSA Troop 194, 402

Tuesday, January 28

6:30 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant
 9:00 am Newsletter Assembly, fellowship area
 10:00 am Adult Bible Study, 208
 3:30 pm Red Rose choirs, 402 & 404
 7:00 pm Book Club, home of Jeri Powers

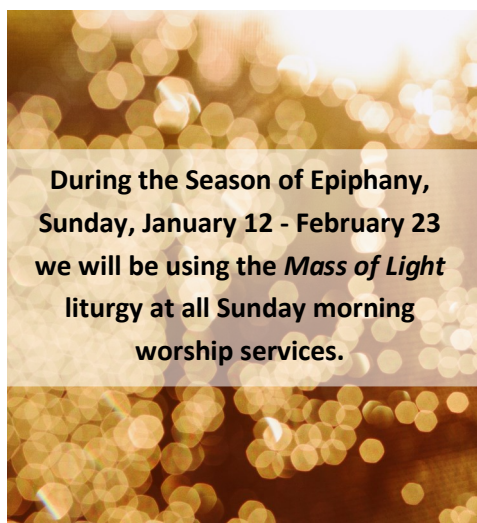
Wednesday, January 29

9:00 am Quilting & More Group, 404
 3:30 pm Red Rose choirs, 402 & 404
 7:30 pm Holy Cross Choir, sanctuary

Thursday, January 30

7:00 pm Handbell choir rehearsal, 402

Friday, January 31

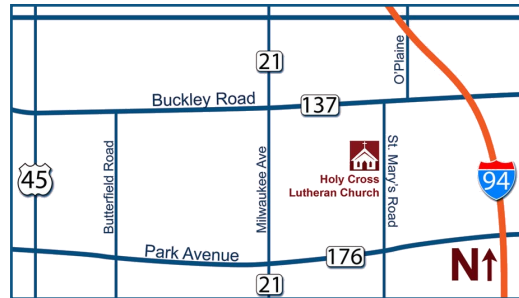


Newsletter Assembly

Assist with preparing next month's newsletter for mailing. Join us on **Tuesday, January 28 at 9 am**. Fellowship included.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
 29700 N. SAINT MARYS ROAD
 LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048-1575

Postmaster: Request in home by **January 1**



Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Libertyville, IL
 Permit No. 14

Growing Artists



A free, family-friendly event!



Sunday, February 9
 4 to 5:30 pm

Holy Cross basement

Register
bit.ly/GrowingArtists

All families welcome.
Details on page 2

CURRENT EVENTS

January 2020

- 4 First Saturday Worship
- 5, 6, & 7 Christmas décor packing
- 10/11 Peer Ministry Retreat
- 10 Confirmation Resumes
- 24/25 Confirmation Retreat
- 26 PADS Donations due
- Annual Congregational Meeting
- 5G High School Youth Group
- 27 Men of Purpose, Principle & Prayer

February 2020

- 1 First Saturday Worship
- 8 Milestone Ministry: Discipleship
- Around the Cross Concert Series: Chicagoland Voices
- 9 Family Outreach Series: Growing Artists
- Around the Cross Concert Series: Coffeehouse Concert: Luciano Antonio
- 22 Milestone Ministry: First Word
- 23 PADS Donations due
- Winchester House Worship
- 26 Ash Wednesday worship



**MEN of
 PURPOSE
 PRINCIPLE
 PRAYER**

Date: Monday, January 27
Time: 6 - 8:30 pm

Location: Fellowship Area

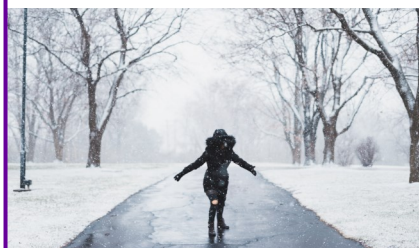
**Theme: "Values... keeping us
 real & relevant"**

Register: bit.ly/MP3JAN27

See page 4 for more information.

Women's Retreat

Sabbath & Solitude: A Time of Renewal



Friday, February 28 - Sunday, March 1
 Lutherdale Bible Camp
 Watson Retreat Center
 (Elkhorn, WI)
 Friends welcome to join!

Details on page 3