

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

# THE CROSS CONNECTION

Providing Strength for the Faith Journey

May 2022

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## MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### FIRST SATURDAY

MAY 7

5:30 PM - SANCTUARY

### SUNDAYS

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8 & 10 AM - SANCTUARY  
& LIVESTREAM

View at

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

## Is God's Gift of Grace Enough?

The concept of grace is central to the Christian faith. However, if you were to count up the number of times Jesus used the word "grace" compared to the amount of times grace is used in the rest of the New Testament, you might be surprised. What would you guess? Actually, there is not one time in any of the four gospels that record Jesus using the word "grace" in his earthly ministry. Surprised? The whole idea of "grace" appears multiple times in the other New Testament writings and it is there that we begin to flesh out the concept of grace. In fairness, Jesus did use the word "love" which is the foundation for living into the gift of grace.

Anne Lamott wrote: "Grace...is the help you receive when you have no bright ideas left, when you are empty and desperate and have discovered that your best thinking has failed you. Grace is the light or electricity or juice or breeze that takes you from that isolated place and puts you with others who are as startled and embarrassed and grateful as you are to be there."

Father Greg Boyle suggests: "God is so busy loving us that God doesn't have time to be disappointed in us." Grace is not quid pro quo. The good news about grace is that it finds us in those moments when we are the way we are and as messy as we are. The hard part of grace is the part about loving which is also the challenging part of life.

I wonder, what will it take for us to wake up and actually be about believing or trusting this gift of God's grace in our lives and world? Where does the gift of grace fit into a conversation that moves us from a perspective that demonizes others and obliterates the illusion that somehow we are on our own? What is the answer to these questions?

I think we are constantly choosing between being open to a new possibility or satisfied with the status quo. In every moment, we are choosing to close our heart or to open it. There's no once and for all here. It is exhausting. That's part of being awake and being aware that we somehow want to truly know and be aware of what afflicts us. Otherwise, we will be ruled by our afflictions. However, the more we can open our heart to grace, the more it may become the connective tissue. It's the thing that keeps judgment at bay. It's the choice that keeps our hearts opened to what people are really going through, to the brokenness and the damage, rather than dismissing them.

It is critical that when it comes to grace, we need to choose it and then practice it. The challenge is always before all of us: look again. Look harder. See freshly. Stand in the place that looks utterly ordinary, and regardless of how scared or jaded we may feel, cling to the possibility of a surprise that is God. Listen to the ordinary, and know that it is infused with divine mystery. Stand with the people you'd rather not stand next to, skin to skin, fates knitted together—because grace is in the spaces you'll create together. There is *one* gift of grace and *one* common hope for all of us. Listen. We are God's chosen. God's children. God's own. Even in the deepest, darkest moments God's grace is enough.

Peace,





View the outline of the pastoral transition process "A Path Forward" online on our website at [HolyCrossChurch.org/transition](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/transition)



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#### PASTOR AND CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Robert A. Davis, Senior Pastor  
Sarah Accettura, Administrative Coordinator  
Janet Carr, Congregational Activities  
Carmen & Abel Cervantes, Custodians  
Beth Fashimpaur, Handbell Choir Director  
Deaconess Katie Freund, Director of Early Faith Formation Ministries  
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

Andy Eidson (*President*), Harold Sargent (*Vice President*),  
Karla Boucek, Darin Chartier, Nicole Drake, Ralph Freye,  
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Amy Sekili, John Villani  
*Secretary*, Terry Berger  
*Treasurer*, Lori Fedyk  
*Financial Secretary*, Tom Miller

#### VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

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](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/newsletters). Articles should be submitted by the 1st of the month to Janet Carr at [janet@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:janet@holycrosschurch.org)

## A Path Forward Update

On Sunday, April 24 Holy Cross took another step forward in the pastoral transition initiative. A special congregational meeting was called by the church council according to the congregational constitution. The purpose of the special meeting was to vote on extending a letter of call to Rev. Chris Neptun to become the church's new senior pastor. 66.66% affirmative votes are needed to pass the resolution. The meeting was held in accordance with synodical guidelines. A quorum of 228 voting members (15% of confirmed membership as of 12/31/21) is required. We had 250 voting members in attendance. Following the formal resolution, presentations were provided by Jen Christensen, chair of the call committee and Harold Sargent, a member of the staff support team. An opportunity for discussion and questions was provided. A written private ballot was handed out. The result of the vote is: 247 Yes and 3 No. The resolution passed. A word of appreciation and gratitude to the members and leadership involved in this process. There was engagement on many different levels through a congregational survey, listening sessions, the staff support team, the call committee and the church council. We are very blessed with wonderful lay leadership at Holy Cross who represented the membership's thoughts throughout this journey.

Call paperwork is with the Bishop's office of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod. The current hope is that Rev. Neptun will begin responsibilities at Holy Cross on June 1, 2022. He and Pastor Bob will co-pastor for a period of time during the transition that will be mutually agreed upon. This period of transition is part of the larger vision of the "Path Forward" succession plan that was shared with the congregation. This is a journey that began with conversations initiated by Pastor Bob in 2019. We celebrate with Rev. Neptun and his family as Holy Cross moves into a new chapter of ministry. This is an exciting time and we offer prayers and support in the time ahead as we enter into the next phase of the transition plan "A Path Forward".



Eastern Europe Crisis Response

UKRAINIAN REFUGEES ARRIVING IN JORDAN. PHOTO CREDIT: REV. ZACH COURTER, ELCA

## Lutheran Disaster Relief Eastern Europe Crisis Response

Lutheran Disaster Response continues to accompany our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis in Ukraine. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Gifts to "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries.

Our prayers abound for the loss and devastation experienced in Ukraine and Eastern Europe. Donate online at: [bit.ly/EUcrisisELCA](http://bit.ly/EUcrisisELCA)

Make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" in the memo line. Checks or money orders may be sent to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
ELCA Gifts Processing Center  
P.O. Box 1809  
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009





## Welcome Baby Freund!

We congratulate Deaconess Katie, her husband Patrick and big sister Maggie on the arrival of Jakob Eoghan on March 30, 2022 at 5:18 am weighing 8 lbs 7 oz.

Deaconess Katie will be on leave until the end of May. We wish them all well.



**Journey** faith, discipleship, generosity

### PASTORAL ACTS

#### BAPTISM

**Hudson Thomas Weber**  
son of Chester and Emily Weber  
April 24, 2022

#### FUNERAL

**David Elson**  
April 12, 2022

#### FIRST COMMUNION

The following young people received Holy Communion for the first time on Maundy Thursday. We pray that you will forever feel the love and presence of the Lord as you come to the Lord's table.

Kevin Allen	Ryder Evans
Kiersten Craven	Graham LaBrie
Caleb Cynkar	Julia Reiner
Reagan Cynkar	Ana Lucia Thomas
Charles Evans	Kylee Wechselberger

## Keeping the Lights On

by Steve Oelschlager

Within Christian spirituality, you may have noticed that the metaphor of light regularly suggests the positive implications of Jesus and faith. For example, John's Gospel proclaims that Jesus illuminates God's truth, and therefore Jesus is a light to the world who overcomes darkness. In turn, the Gospel of Matthew records Jesus saying that his followers are the light of the world and that we should let our light shine like a city on the hill as a way to glorify God. Another example is in Luke's Gospel, where Jesus says we will be bright when we are full of his light, and we will radiate that light outwards.

I like the use of light as an analogy for goodness, truth, and well-being connected to faith in Jesus. Lately, however, I've been a little curious about how all of this works. In particular, I'm wondering about the relationship between generating light and the fuel required to produce light in the first place.

We know from experience that light needs energy, and the longer the light shines, and the brighter it shines, the greater the power required. Another way to say this is that being a light source is "draining." It isn't easy to live into Jesus' call to be a light to the world; following Jesus can be exhausting. Have you noticed that? I point this out because I guess we should fully expect to need a strategy for reenergizing ourselves before our light grows dim or even flickers out. When Jesus nudges us to love, forgive, be selfless, generous, hospitable, work for justice, practice kindness and humility, get ready to feel our internal meters record some outbound power spikes.

It's helpful to recall then all the times Jesus went off to pray for hours on end, which seems to me was his way of plugging into a more significant energy source. Most likely, Jesus also renewed himself through relationships with his disciples and their efforts to do ministry together. I think Jesus is an excellent example that all of us need strategies to recharge if we want to help Jesus illuminate a bit of the darkness in our world.

At Holy Cross, we try to bring all these ideas together. We want the community of Holy Cross to keep us all inspired to be the brightest lights we can be, to be a force for good in the world as individuals and a congregation. But, we also hope to aid in the process of recharging and renewal, through prayer and relationships and following Jesus, so we can all stay effective in Jesus' lighting ministry. Thank you for sharing your light here and in the world.



## MEMBERSHIP

Are you interested in becoming a member of Holy Cross? To learn more about membership, please contact the church office at [office@holycrosschurch.org](mailto: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, May 14 at 8:30 am**

RSVP to the church office by Monday, May 9

### NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

**Sunday, May 15 during 10 am Worship**



**BOOK CLUB**  
THURSDAY, MAY 26  
7 PM VIA ZOOM

 [holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94321824417](https://holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94321824417)

The Holy Cross Book Club, open to anyone who is interested in reading and discussing books, routinely meets the fourth Thursday of every month.

In May we will discuss *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. In June 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the work farm where he has just served a year for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank. Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother and head west where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future.

Our discussion host will be Felicia Brandt. If you have any questions, please email Melanie Houser at [housermd@comcast.net](mailto:housermd@comcast.net) View the list of our 2022 Book Club selections at [holycrosschurch.org/virtualmeetings](https://holycrosschurch.org/virtualmeetings)



**WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP**  
TUESDAYS, MAY 10 & 24  
9:30 - 11 AM  
IN-PERSON, FELLOWSHIP AREA

Please join us as we finish the last two sessions of our study series begun during the Lenten season.

In her book and video series titled *Witness at the Cross*, author Amy-Jill Levine shows how the people at the cross each have distinct roles to play. Each Evangelist presents a distinct picture of the death of Jesus. Each portrays different individuals and groups of people at the cross, each offers different images and dialogues, and so from each, we learn how those meanings and messages cross the centuries to any who would come to the cross today. Each Gospel has its own story to tell, all the witnesses have their own memories, and every reader comes away with a new insight. The story of Jesus's death is not something we just read: we think about it, and we experience it; we hear the taunts of the soldiers, the priests, and the passersby even as we hear the famous "seven last words" from the cross. The witnesses at the Crucifixion watch Jesus die, and we watch with them, and we watch them. And we come away transformed.

Experience Holy Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die: Mary his mother; the Beloved Disciple from the Gospel of John; Mary Magdalene and the other women from Galilee; the two men, usually identified as thieves, crucified with Jesus; the centurion and the soldiers; Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Jews and Romans, friends and strangers, the powerful and the powerless, the hopeful and the despairing.

The videos for *Witness at the Cross* are available on Amplify media for free through our congregational subscription. See the February newsletter for details.

Please reach out to Pastor Bob at [pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org) with any questions.



**PROJECT HEALING WATERS (PHW) FLY FISHING NORTH CHICAGO**

DAY SESSIONS: WEDNESDAYS, MAY 11 & 25  
11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

LOCATION: CENTURY PARK/HOLY CROSS

EVENING SESSIONS: WEDNESDAYS, MAY 11 & 25  
4 - 7 PM

LOCATION: CENTURY PARK/HOLY CROSS

We always welcome more volunteers to help with hospitality. If you would like to help in this way, please contact [office@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:office@holycrosschurch.org) See page 9 for a note about volunteer registration.

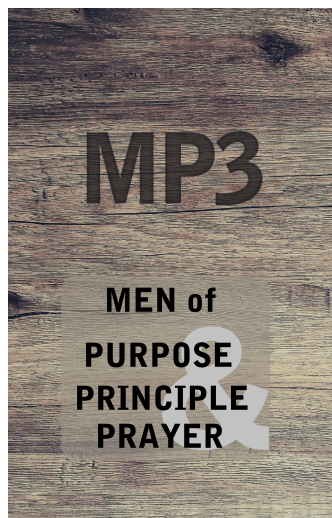


**MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP**  
TUESDAYS, MAY 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 FROM 7 TO 8 AM  
LOCATION: THE LIBERTY RESTAURANT, 419 S. MILWAUKEE AVE, LIBERTYVILLE

This is a wonderful way to begin the day with coffee, breakfast, fellowship and thought-provoking and stimulating conversation. All men are welcome to join us.

Questions? Contact Pastor Bob at [pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org)





**MP3: MEN OF PURPOSE, PRINCIPLE, & PRAYER**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 10**  
**6 - 8:30 PM**  
**IN-PERSON, FELLOWSHIP AREA**  
**THEME: SEEKING ALIVENESS**

*Seeking Aliveness*, is a four-session video curriculum. We will journey with renowned author and emergent Christian leader Brian McLaren as we seek out this new path for our faith. We will meet four times in 2022 for an evening of fellowship, food, music and conversation. We will provide copies of McLaren's book *"We Make the Road by Walking: a yearlong quest for spiritual formation, reorientation and activation"* as a resource and gift for everyone. Drawing on the themes from his book we will offer up some fresh insights for how we go about composing a life of faith. Men (21+) are invited to attend. **To help us plan for food, please RSVP at: [bit.ly/MP3MAY](https://bit.ly/MP3MAY)**

Save the date: The next session of MP3 will be on Tuesday, June 14



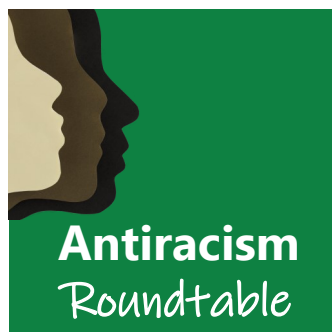
**SATURDAY MEN'S GROUP**  
**SATURDAYS, MAY 14 & 28**  
**7 AM**  
**IN-PERSON (FELLOWSHIP AREA) OR VIA ZOOM**

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

*This group is for men of faith to come together throughout the year to share their faith and thoughts about challenging topics. All welcome.*

In May, we will start a new book by Diana Butler Bass, titled *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*. Join us as we explore the question Jesus asks all of us, "Who do you say that I am?" Books are available in the Gathering Space.

Questions? Contact Pastor Bob at [pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org) or Steve Oelschlager at [steve@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:steve@holycrosschurch.org)



**ANTIRACISM ROUNDTABLE & WORK GROUP**

**On hiatus until September 2022**

Over the past two years, this group has had many deep discussions leading to a collective desire to share our passion for exploring antiracism and intersectionality concepts with more members of Holy Cross. To shape and frame those ideas takes time, so the roundtable is taking a brief hiatus from holding monthly meetings while we develop and bring forth some new plans. Please contact Carol Dikelsky at [carol@dikelsky.org](mailto:carol@dikelsky.org) if you would like to learn more. We plan to reconvene in September—watch this space for announcements.



**GROUNDING IN GRACE: FRIDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S GROUP**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 13**  
**6:30 - 8 PM**  
**IN-PERSON AT TIGHTHEAD BREWING COMPANY**  
**161 N. ARCHER AVENUE, MUNDELEIN**

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

There is no set agenda or RSVP needed for this May gathering. Join us as you can for fellowship and fun. Questions? Contact Terry Berger at [terryberger.08@gmail.com](mailto:terryberger.08@gmail.com) or (224) 775-1479.



**PILATES**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 3 & MONDAYS, MAY 9, 16 & 23**  
**6 PM**  
**IN-PERSON, CELEBRATION! CHILDCARE ATRIUM**

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



# CrossWays Preschool



# Celebration! Childcare

by Samantha Cooper

Director of CrossWays Preschool & Celebration! Childcare

## Let's Celebrate!

May marks the last month for our CrossWays Preschool school year. Time really has gone so fast! Our students have so much to be proud of this year. They made it through a year of pandemic hardships, classroom changes, and restrictions. Through it all, they have learned so much from being a good friend to the skills they need to go to kindergarten. The CrossWays Preschool staff helped to keep this year running smoothly and successfully.

To celebrate a year well spent, our classrooms will be hosting an end of the year party! Our parents will join us for a pizza party to celebrate with the staff and students on the patio. In addition to a year-end celebration, our Ladybug students will be graduating from our program. Graduates moving on to kindergarten will have a small ceremony with their families to congratulate them on all that they have achieved before moving on to the next chapter of their lives.

## Summer Camp

Our Little Sprouts summer camp will return this year beginning June 7. Students may sign up by month and enjoy all the fun things we have planned Tuesday through Thursday. From water days to in-house events, our students LOVE attending our camp! For more information, please see our website or email us at [crossways@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:crossways@holycrosschurch.org)

## Fall 2022/23 School Year

We have open spots for our 2022/23 school year beginning after Labor Day. We are enrolling 2 - 5 year olds to enjoy a year of fun, learning, and growing. Our teachers are excited to see returning students and are hoping to see some new faces as well! If you or someone you know is interested in a preschool program, please let them know about CrossWays. You can find more information on our website at [cpreschool.org](http://cpreschool.org)

### CrossWays Preschool Important Dates

May 25: End of the Year Party  
May 26: Last Day of Enrichment Classes  
May 27: Last Day of School & Preschool Graduation Party  
June 7: First Day of Little Sprouts Camp

## Rolling into Summer

We are rounding out the last month before summer camp begins with some outdoor play and learning. Our students had a great time planting seeds for the garden. This year, we are adding more vegetables, herbs, and textured plants for an additional sensory experience. The garden is a wonderful place for the children to read, play, and learn about the outdoors. Students have also been enjoying outdoor walks and buggy rides!

Our students will be transitioning to new classrooms in the beginning of June. This includes students from our Green Room who will be joining the School Age Summer Program before moving off to Kindergarten in the Fall. Summer transitions are one of our smoothest transitions as it occurs during a more relaxed scheduling period. Students will learn the new class schedules and routines and be introduced to new friends and teachers. We have some new students beginning in June as well. Many of them will be joining our infant room! We are looking forward to meeting some new families moving into the summer.

## Summer Camp Enrollment

We have available space in our School Age Summer Program. Our school-agers get lots of outdoor time and exercise. They follow a loose routine that allows for student-led activities and fun. The school-agers participate in all the in-house activities and events. We offer special crafts each week as well as a weekly water play day. Our school age class has openings for students to join us for the fun! If you, or someone you know has a child 5 years of age or older and is looking to enroll them in a fun, engaging program please refer them to Celebration! Childcare.

## Fall Enrollment

Currently, Celebration! Childcare has limited enrollment availability heading into the Fall. We have a few full-time and part-time spots open in our pre-k classrooms and two-year-old room. Our program does offer a free of charge waitlist for families looking to enroll with us. We are offering in-person tours to any families who are interested!

### Celebration! Childcare Important Date

May 30: Closed for Memorial Day Holiday

## Libertyville Days Parade!

This year, CrossWays Preschool and Celebration! Childcare will be participating in the Libertyville Days Parade. Normally, we have a booth set up for marketing our programs, but we thought we would try something new and more engaging. Student families and staff are invited to be a part of our marching unit on Saturday, June 18 from 10 am to noon. The parade will start at the Libertyville Metra Train Station and head south on Milwaukee Ave to Rockland Rd. Families and staff will wear either blue or purple to represent our school colors. We would also love to have supporters on the side of the parade route cheering for our us as we walk in the parade!

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



CrossWays  
Preschool



Celebration!  
Childcare

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





## Sunday School: Faith Formation

Sundays, May 1 & 8  
at 9 am  
Fellowship Area  
All ages welcome!

by Amy Becker-Perez

Sometime this month, the ground will be warm enough to begin planting most vegetable and flower seeds. Some of us may know when to plant what, how to prepare the soil, and care for seedlings, when to prune, when to harvest—producing wonderful results. Others of us (ahem—like this writer), rely on others' wisdom and expertise through books, family and friends or online, and then through trial and error try the best we can (which may only produce 2 meals worth of green beans at 10x the cost of what beans would cost at the grocery store).

One of the beloved parables we hear Jesus tell in three of our Gospels is the parable of the sower—in which a farmer scatters seed everywhere, whether or not the farmer is assured the environment is perfect for it. I read this as a promise that our generous God is always planting seeds of faith and love—with the hope that something will catch and take root.

When we think about our own faith lives, we may be able to think about the events and people who have helped enrich the soil in which our faith has taken root. Some may have offered their experience, a consistent practice or some structure to learn. Some may have given us community to practice faith, or opportunities to ask questions. Some events and people may have made us feel a little uprooted, but we can now see we were replanted into more nourishing soil.

As adults fostering the faith of kids, I wonder if our goal can be imagined as that novice gardener—sometimes knowing how to best tend the seeds, and at other times needing to rely on others and prayer. Helping others grow in faith may mean practicing certain aspects differently than you first attempt. As I seek to nurture faith in my own family, one of my consistent faith practices—bedtime prayer—has not been helpful (yet) for my kids. So, we pray at other times during the day. And, sometimes I'll sing "He's Got the Whole World..." with verses with our loved ones names and events for which we pray.

My point—each little seedling of faith, which is planted by God, may be best nurtured with different nutrients. Some kids do well with listening to stories or prayer. Others may best connect through serving others. Some may love singing or asking questions or even rebelling as a method of learning about God's love (or, perhaps that's what I tell myself to then try to communicate God's love and grace even as I set boundaries). There is not one right way to nurture a child's faith.

As we look forward to summer months, I pray for the ways God is blessing your work of tending to and nourishing the faith of kids, so that those seeds of faith may grow in love.

We continue to celebrate Christ's resurrection with our final two Sunday School gatherings on May 1 and May 8. Please join us! See page 8 for summer camp opportunities.



## CONFIRMATION

Save the date: June 26 - July 1, "Campfirmation" retreat dates at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. More details to come!

## Milestone Ministries



Support for their faith journey...

### 2022 High School Graduation Recognition Sunday, June 12 during 10 am worship

Graduation from high school is an important milestone and a time of transition for students and families. This year we will celebrate this milestone during the 10 am worship service with prayer and a blessing of all those who graduated and their families. **Seniors, please submit the following to [office@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:office@holycrosschurch.org) by Monday, May 23:**

1. Graduation/senior photo (or similar photo)
2. Your full name and the name(s) of your parent(s)
3. Name of your high school
4. A note about your post-graduate plans

Dear Holy Cross Kids,

While the break in our regular online children's sermons continues in the month of May, we hope that you have had a chance to check out our prerecorded videos of children's storybooks to help us stay engaged.



A new children's book video is posted every Sunday following themes of the lectionary and the liturgical season.

We also have copies of each of these books at our *Inspiration & Curiosities* lending library bookshelf (located next to the *Holy Grounds Cafe*) available for you to borrow.

So read along with us either online or with a good old fashioned book!

May 1: **The Friend Who Forgives** by Dan DeWitt (Reinstatement of Peter)

May 8: **Mother God** by Teresa Kim Pecinovsky

View the Storybook Series videos online at  
[HolyCrossChurch.org/kids](https://holycrosschurch.org/kids)



## High School Youth Group

Please watch for future meeting dates to be announced.

## Lutherdale Summer Camp Opportunities for Youth and Families



Did you know that one of the largest common denominators of the faith lives of people in ministry is time spent with outdoor ministries (like *Lutheran Summer Camps*) in their youth? That's one reason we're encouraging our families to sign up their kids for "water weekend" at Lutherdale this summer!

For generations Holy Cross has been affiliated with Lutherdale, in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. Lutheran outdoor ministries are a great opportunity for our young ones to not only have fun but also develop socially and in their faith. Our hope is for the kids of Holy Cross to make and strengthen connections with peers from our congregation by getting to spend time together beyond worship. We know that competition for scheduling is fierce in the summer, so rather than only offer one large program we're working hard to make sure we connect you to resources to meet your needs and nurture the spiritual lives of your family. We'll even be able to send a member of our ministry team up to Lutherdale to be with our congregation's youngest members while they're at camp.

Here are two weekends we particularly want to highlight for our members:

### Water Weekend Summer Camp

Dates: July 15 - 17,  
Ages: Grades K - 6

From Friday to Sunday, campers will develop new friendships and stay cool with a variety of waterfront activities, from the water slide to canoeing. Splash in the water and enjoy extra water activities all weekend! While the full cost of a weekend is \$400, register before June 13 for the pre-summer discounted price of \$250 for weekend programs!

For details and to register, visit  
[lutherdale.org/event-details/water-weekend-1](http://lutherdale.org/event-details/water-weekend-1)



### Camp 24 Family Camp

Dates: July 30 - July 31  
Ages: Family

If "Water Weekend" in mid-July doesn't work for you, there's also the option for the whole family to go to camp together! "Camp 24 Family Camp" is twenty four hours together playing and praying together in God's creation! Families of all sizes welcome, the cost is \$75 per person.

For more details and to register, visit  
[lutherdale.org/event-details/camp-24-family-camp-2](http://lutherdale.org/event-details/camp-24-family-camp-2)



## CrossWays Preschool & Celebration! Childcare



Thank you to our generous congregation for all the WISHES of Crossways Preschool and Celebration! Childcare that were granted in April!

While most of our individual Wishes items were selected in April, we still have a need for play sand, soil and mulch for our playground and children's garden areas. To contribute in any amount, checks may be made payable to Holy Cross with "Wishes" in the memo line or donate online at [donate.holycrosschurch.org](http://donate.holycrosschurch.org)



Thank you for making wishes come true!

## You can help! It takes a village



- **Worship Volunteers:**  
Communion Assistants  
Readers  
Greeters & Ushers
- **Audio/Visual/Livestream Volunteers**

As we move throughout the Easter season, the liturgy for the church year calls for the celebration of Holy Communion throughout the 40 days of Easter. If you were a communion assistant, usher, reader or greeter prior to Covid, you have received an email inviting you to schedule yourself for a date/time that works for your schedule.

We also welcome new volunteers. No experience needed as training will be provided. If you would like to connect to serving in this way, please contact the office at [office@holycrosschurch.org](mailto:office@holycrosschurch.org) or (847) 367-4060 and we will be happy to assist to get you started.

 **THE GLOBAL  
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**  
Thursday-Friday, August 4-5, 2022



## Registration Now Open

Holy Cross is once again committed to hosting the Global Leadership Summit (in person) on **August 4 - 5, 2022.**

Register using the following link and priority code by June 15, 2022 to take advantage of the reduced \$159 Host Site & Summit Partner rate.

**[bit.ly/GLSatHCLC](http://bit.ly/GLSatHCLC)**  
**Priority code: GLS22TEAM**





## Annual COOL Plant and Flower Sale

**Volunteers Needed for Plant Pick-up  
on Saturday, May 7**

Thank you for all the flower orders that our Holy Cross family submitted for the COOL Plant and Flower Sale! If you did not place an order, you may wish to stop by the plant sale pick-up on Saturday, May 7 from 11:30 am to 2 pm at Bethel Lutheran Church, 5110 Grand Ave, Gurnee, and see the selection of plants that will be available for cash and carry. We always have extra hanging baskets, flowering plants, vegetables, and herbs available.

We also need volunteers! No gardening knowledge is needed, and volunteers have a good time working together to benefit the ministries of COOL. We will have multiple shifts on Saturday, May 7 between 6 am and 3 pm, all taking place in the Bethel parking lot. Benefits of volunteering include early plant pick-up (late morning), fellowship, service, and light refreshments.

To volunteer, please contact Patty Moyer, Jeri Powers, or Diane Rammelsberg at [plantsale@coolministries.org](mailto:plantsale@coolministries.org)

Flowers make great gifts for Mother's Day!

## Attention Project Healing Waters Volunteers

by Jeff Reinke,  
Midwest Regional Coordinator and Program  
Lead—North Chicago for Project Healing  
Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF).



A friendly reminder to all PHWFF volunteers to please register online as a volunteer in the program.

It is important for PHWFF to have all volunteers registered for insurance reasons. Also, large volunteer numbers will help in order to apply for large grants, both nationally and locally.

The registration link will be resent to those on the current email list, but should you have any questions, please contact Jeff by email at [jeff.reinke@projecthealingwaters.org](mailto:jeff.reinke@projecthealingwaters.org)

## Willow House Remembrance Grief Retreat Save the date: June 4



The Willow House Donna Panfil Remembrance retreat for adolescents (ages 11-17) and adults coping with the death of a parent, sibling, child or spouse will be held on Saturday, June 4 from 9 am to 4:30 pm at Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods, 21850 Riverwoods Rd, Riverwoods. This is a day to find support, comfort, connection and spaces for healing through a day of nature and creativity. Participation is free, and breakfast snacks and lunch will be provided. Register at: [bit.ly/2022griefretreat](http://bit.ly/2022griefretreat)

Questions? Contact Program Director Lauren Raney at 847-236-9300 or [info@willowhouse.org](mailto:info@willowhouse.org)



## World Bee Day

by Leo Karris

Have you heard the Buzz? The news is sweet! The United Nations designated May 20 as World Bee Day giving us all a chance to celebrate the pollinators in our lives and all the wonderful things they do for God's creation.

Pollination is a fundamental process for the survival of our ecosystems. Nearly 90% of the world's wild flowering plant species depend on animal pollination, along with more than 75% of the world's food crops and 35% of global agricultural land. Not only do pollinators contribute directly to food security, but they are key to conserving biodiversity. (Source: [un.org](http://un.org))

Bees and other pollinators, such as butterflies, bats and hummingbirds, are increasingly under threat from human activities. Their decline impacts the global food supply and world hunger.

Here are some fruits and veggies that rely on and benefit from bee pollination: Almonds, Apples, Blueberries, Cucumbers, Onions, Pumpkins, Strawberries and Coffee Crops.

How can we do more? Be Part of The Pollinator Pathway.

What is a Pollinator Pathway?

Pollinator pathways are public and private pesticide-free corridors of native plants that provide nutrition and habitat for pollinating insects and birds. Even the smallest green spaces, like flower boxes and curb strips, can be part of a pathway. You can help:

- Rethink your lawn (does it protect and feed bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds)
- Avoid pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides in the gardens
- Plant native plants and wildflowers
- Buy raw honey from local farmers
- Protect wild bee colonies and biodiversity

Bee engaged. Just imagine what the world would look like without bees and other pollinators.

Please email me your thoughts and questions at [leoekarris@gmail.com](mailto:leoekarris@gmail.com)



[pollinator-pathway.org](http://pollinator-pathway.org)

## Save The Date Hidden Gems Garden Walk

The Town & Country Garden Club of Libertyville is hosting a "Hidden Gems Garden Walk" on Saturday, June 25 from 10 am to 3 pm. Proceeds from the Walk fund community plantings, Libertyville Food Pantry, and scholarships for Lake County students studying Horticulture. See [towncountrygardenclub.com/gardenwalk](http://towncountrygardenclub.com/gardenwalk) or [fb.com/TownCountryGardenClubLibertyville](http://fb.com/TownCountryGardenClubLibertyville) for details.



## LSSI Virtual Spring Fling Fundraiser

Spring Fling  
Buzzin'  
in the Kitchen

Join Global Chef Jessica Dawson—Cooking Instructor and Former America's Test Kitchen Host—for a virtual cooking class on May 12 from 6 to 8 pm! Pour yourself a glass of wine, and cook a meal with friends and family from anywhere. Chef Jessica will teach you how to make a professional four-course meal with impressive, delicious dishes. Once registered, you will receive the ingredient list a week before the event, as well as a special key ingredient sent to your home.

Tickets are \$40. Spring Fling is presented by the Women's Network of LSSI and all proceeds will support LSSI's Therapeutic Foster Care Program. Learn more and register at [LSSI.org/SpringFling](https://LSSI.org/SpringFling)

If you have questions about the event, please contact Mariah Heinz at [Mariah.Heinz@LSSI.org](mailto:Mariah.Heinz@LSSI.org)

## Save The Date! 18th Annual COOL Golf Outing



Friday, July 16  
Bonnie Brook Golf Course  
2800 N. Lewis Avenue, Waukegan



\$175 per golfer or \$600 for a foursome. \$675 for a foursome plus a Tee sign sponsorship. Fee includes green fees with a power cart, lunch and dinner, entry into prize drawings. Tee sign sponsorship is \$125. Dinner only \$40. Dinner starts at 4:30 pm and includes 50/50 raffle prizes and a silent auction.

Registration forms available at: [coolministries.org](https://coolministries.org)  
Questions? Contact Jill McKeon at (847) 331-7908

COOL Ministries Food Pantry patrons pick up already packaged food. The number of patrons has grown, and our monetary help is needed more than ever. To continue to help, you may donate on our website at [donate.holycrosschurch.org](https://donate.holycrosschurch.org)



## PADS Support

by Peg Chartier

Thanks to your continued support, the PADS ministry has more good news to share! In March, we delivered \$1,000, yes, \$1,000 worth of diapers, pull-ups, and wipes for families served by PADS of Lake County. In April, we delivered 300 sets of sweatpants and sweatshirts! That should give each adult in the PADS system something new to wear. While the season of hosting PADS in community churches has ended, the need never does. So again, we thank you for continuing to support this very important ministry. Here at Holy Cross, we hope to grow our involvement in the PADS community. If you have ever thought about serving the homeless, we would love to hear from you. Here is a link for you to use to let us know if you are interested: [bit.ly/PADShost](https://bit.ly/PADShost)

Monetary donations for PADS may continue to be made online on the Holy Cross website at [donate.holycrosschurch.org](https://donate.holycrosschurch.org)



**PADS**  
LAKE COUNTY  
Helping the Homeless Find a Way

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Join in virtual education opportunities hosted by CYN Counseling Center surrounding mental health concerns of all ages and with various areas of focus throughout the month of May. Programming includes, Mental Health 101, Mental Health in Youth and Teens, Trauma & Youth as well as a session about Marijuana & Vaping. All sessions are free of charge.

For schedule, further information or to register, please visit [holycrosschurch.org/events](https://holycrosschurch.org/events)



In light of current CDC recommendations, FMSC has rolled back COVID-19 restrictions and are gradually bringing all packing rooms back to full capacity.  
Plan a packing session at [fmsc.org/get-involved/volunteer](https://fmsc.org/get-involved/volunteer)

## LCMNU Showcase 2022 & 75th Anniversary Celebration

LCMNU will be holding its first in-person "fellowship" night since February 2020 on Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Parkes Hall, Northwestern University, 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL.

The LCMNU Showcase 2022 & 75th Anniversary Celebration will include student talks, musical entertainment, appetizers and desserts.

General admission is \$50 and youth/student admission (with ID) is \$20. All proceeds support LCMNU. For additional information, contact the LCMNU office at [lutherancm@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:lutherancm@u.northwestern.edu) or (847) 864-7849.

Purchase tickets at: [bit.ly/showcase22and75th](https://bit.ly/showcase22and75th)



**LUTHERAN**  
CAMPUS MINISTRY  
AT NORTHWESTERN





# May Calendar

**Sunday, May 1****ELCA World Hunger Sunday**

- 8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream  
 9 am Sunday School: Faith Formation  
 9 am WISHES display, Fellowship Area  
 10 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream

**Monday, May 2**

- 6:30 pm Willow House, Fellowship Area

**Tuesday, May 3**

- 7 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402  
 6 pm Pilates, Celebration! Childcare atrium

**Wednesday, May 4**

- 9 am Quilting Group, 404  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402

**Saturday, May 7**

- 11:30 am COOL Plant Sale Pick-up, Bethel Lutheran, Gurnee  
 5:30 pm First Saturday Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary

**Sunday, May 8****Mother's Day**

- 8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream  
 9 am Last Day of Sunday School: Faith Formation  
 10 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream

**Monday, May 9**

- 6 pm Pilates, Celebration! Childcare atrium  
 7 pm BSA Troop 194 meeting, 404

**Tuesday, May 10**

- 7 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant  
 9:30 am Women's Discussion Group, Fellowship Area  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402  
 6 pm MP3: Men of Purpose, Principle & Prayer, Fellowship Area  
 7 pm BSA Committee Meeting, 207

**Wednesday, May 11**

- 9 am Quilting Group, 404  
 10 am ECM Staff Appreciation Luncheon, Fellowship Area  
 11:30 am PHW Morning Program, Century Park  
 4 pm PHW Afternoon Session, Century Park  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402  
 8 pm Church Council, Fellowship Area

**Friday, May 13**

- 6:30 pm Grounded in Grace, Tighthead Brewing Company

**Saturday, May 14**

- 7 am Saturday Men's Group, Fellowship Area  
 8:30 am New Member Breakfast, Fellowship Area  
 12 pm Lake Michigan Lodge group, Fellowship Area

**Sunday, May 15**

- 8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream

- 10 am Worship with Holy Communion & New Member Reception, Sanctuary & Livestream

**Monday, May 16**

- 6 pm Pilates, Celebration! Childcare atrium  
 7 pm BSA Troop 194 meeting, 404

**Tuesday, May 17**

- 7 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402

**Wednesday, May 18**

- 9 am Quilting Group, 404  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402

**Sunday, May 22**

- 8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream  
 10 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream

**Monday, May 23**

- 6 pm Pilates, Celebration! Childcare atrium  
 7 pm BSA Troop 194 meeting, 404

**Tuesday, May 24**

- 7 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant  
 9:30 am Women's Discussion Group, Fellowship Area  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402

**Wednesday, May 25**

- 9 am Quilting Group, 404  
 10 am CrossWays Preschool End of Year Party, Patio and Fellowship Area  
 11:30 am PHW Morning Program, Century Park  
 4 pm PHW Afternoon Session, Century Park  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402

**Thursday, May 26**

- 7 pm Book Club, Zoom

**Friday, May 27**

- 9:30 am CrossWays Preschool Graduation, Patio or Sanctuary and Last Day of School

**Saturday, May 28**

- 7 am Saturday Men's Group, Fellowship Area

**Sunday, May 29**

- 8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream  
 10 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & Livestream  
 10 am Placko Baptism

**Monday, May 30****Memorial Day****Church Office closed****Celebration! Childcare closed****Tuesday, May 31**

- 7 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant  
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402

## HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### ***Worship Schedule***

Sundays, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
8 & 10 am - Sanctuary & Livestream  
view at [HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/sermons)

First Saturday Evening  
May 7 at 5:30 pm  
Sanctuary



*See the latest update to  
the pastoral transition  
process on page 2.*



Hey kids, check out our videos of children's storybooks. A new video is posted every Sunday following themes of the lectionary and the liturgical season. More info on page 7.

View at [HolyCrossChurch.org/kids](http://HolyCrossChurch.org/kids)



## MP3

**MP3: Men of Purpose, Principle & Prayer**

**Date: Tuesday, May 10**

**Time: 6:30 pm, In-person (Fellowship Area)**

**Theme: Seeking Aliveness**

*See page 5 for details*



## MEMBERSHIP

**NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, May 14 at 8:30 am**

**NEW MEMBER RECEPTION**

**Sunday, May 15 during 10 am Worship**

*See page 3*



## Sunday School: Faith Formation

**Sundays, May 1 & 8 at 9 am**  
**Fellowship Area**

*Details on page 7*