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HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE CROSS CONNECTION

Providing Strength for the Faith Journey

August 2019

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SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE THROUGH

THROUGH Labor Day Weekend

SATURDAY EVENINGS

Worship with Holy Communion 5:30 pm

SUNDAY MORNINGS Worship at 8 & 10 am Fellowship Hour at 9 am

Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays and on Festival Sundays.

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Church as Home ...

In his life and in his teachings, Jesus elevated the role of relationships above every other human responsibility. We were created out of love, and we were created for love. God's very nature is love. The ties that bind us together as individual families and as the family of Christ are sacred ties that are not to be severed except in the most extraordinary of circumstances. Our children may make all kinds of grievous mistakes in life, but they need to know that there is one place where they can always receive forgiveness, nurture, and love. That is at home. Part of our responsibility is to create a secure place to which they can return.

The following story came to me from someone who thought I might appreciate it...*



Patsy Clairmont's heart sank when she saw that she had been assigned a middle seat on her airplane flight. She hated the discomfort and inconvenience of squeezing into a middle seat between two people who would most likely hog the arm rests. But nothing good can come from a bad attitude, so she turned her attention to a polite young man on one side of her. His name was Michael.

Patsy guessed correctly from Michael's impeccable manners that he was a member of the armed forces. Turns out, he was just returning from a year and a half in Desert Storm. Michael was nervous about returning home, afraid that his family would be expecting a hero. He was afraid of crying in front of everyone. He had been away, in difficult situations, in the company of rough and tough men. He didn't know how much he had changed, or how much his family had changed. He was looking forward to two things when he got off the plane: telling his mother how much her letters had meant to him, and hearing his little nephews call him Uncle Michael.

Before the plane landed, Patsy informed a flight attendant about Michael's time in Desert Storm. The attendant informed the pilot, who announced over the intercom: "It has come to my attention that we have a VIP on board. He is a returning GI from Desert Storm and is in seat 12F. As a representative of this airline and a citizen of the United States of America, I salute you, Michael, and thank you for a job well done." The other passengers broke out into enthusiastic applause.

After the plane landed and the passengers filed off, Patsy lingered around the waiting area, hoping to see Michael reunited with his family. She spotted them immediately. It wasn't hard to tell who Michael's mother was. As soon as she spotted her son through the crown, she began to cry, and then to sob, til her tears spilled onto the floor. Michael went to the sobbing woman and wrapped his arms around her for a very long hug. After general hugs all around, Michael and his family headed down to the baggage claims area to wait on his luggage. A little boy scampered over to Michael and tugged on his slacks. Michael lifted him up in his arms. Someone asked the tyke, "Honey, who's got you?" And the child answered, "Uncle Michael."

Michael was very fortunate he had such a home to come back to. Everyone needs that. Everyone. That is why Jesus told a parable about a young man who went off to a far country and came back home, defeated and in disgrace. But his father welcomed him with open arms. Everyone needs a home like that. Everyone needs a home where they learn a healthy sense of their own identity. Everyone needs a home where they are taught principles and values that will last them a lifetime. Everyone needs to know that they can always go back home. My hope is that church might be one of those places of "home" for us where we grow in authentic Christian faith because of the love God has for us.

Peace,

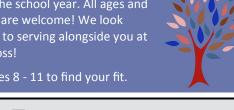
*Focus on the Family, July 1993, page 5.

Grow With Us

Various opportunities are available to participate in worship services, hands-on volunteer projects, serving within our community, and youth programs.

Commitments can be per event, on a flexible schedule or for a number of weeks during the school year. All ages and abilities are welcome! We look forward to serving alongside you at Holy Cross!

See pages 8 - 11 to find your fit.





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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 Roxanne (Rocky) Kupfer, Nursery Attendant 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 Dale Tippett Jr., Director of Contemporary Music Tom Zombolo, Property Beth Zupkus, Financial Administrator

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES

Kathy Pfister, Director of CrossWays Preschool and Celebration! Childcare

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, Daniela Wuerfel, 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) Volunteers requested, 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 for viewing in full color. Articles should be submitted by the 1st of the month to office@holycrosschurch.org

Fresh, actionable and inspiring leadership content from a world-class faculty at a convenient location near you.



August 8 - 9 Register: bit.ly/GLSHCLC



What if God created you on purpose, with a purpose, to make a difference in the world? How can you use these talents, skills, experiences, and passion you have been given to live into that purpose?

Come join us for the Global Leadership Summit at Holy Cross to discuss these questions, and how to learn how to maximize your influence with 405,000 of your peers.

What is the difference between attending the Global leadership Summit (GLS) onsite versus a Premier Host Site?

Attendance at the Willow Creek campus provides the energy of an expected 10,000 attendees experiencing programming and most of the faculty in person. The live stream of the Summit at a Premier Host Site is preferred by some attendees for convenience, affordability and connectivity to leaders in their local community.

2019 GLS Schedule at Holy Cross

Day 1: Thursday, August 8

7:30 am: Doors Open 8:30 am: First Session 4:45 pm: Day 1 Concludes

Day 2: Friday, August 9

8:00 am: Doors Open 8:30 am: First Session 3:30 pm: Day 2 Concludes

Build your leadership and give back.

"I encourage anyone, no matter what level of leader you are, to attend the Summit. Anyone can be a leader, whether it's in your 4H Club, Girl Scouts, church group, neighborhood association, your homes, or some big Fortune 500 company. It's not about being the boss. It's about leading by example in a way that people want to follow and join in. When leaders get better, we all get better!" - Chuck Surack, founder and CEO of Sweetwater Sound

> **Preview the Summit Experience:** globalleadership.org/summit





Outdoor worship, fellowship dinner and live music. Held rain or shine. All welcome!

Date: Saturday, August 24

Time: 5:30 - 8 pm

Theme: Southern Comfort

Entrée: Beef Brisket

A casual worship service with Holy Communion starts at 5:30 pm on the patio followed by dinner and fellowship. In case of inclement weather, the event will move indoors. Invite family, friends and neighbors to join!

The evening's main entree is provided as well as water and lemonade. BYOB.

Val Maxwell and Manny Flores are our lead volunteers. If you are able to assist with hospitality, please email Val at vmaxwell48@aol.com or contact the church office at (847) 367-4060 or office@holycrosschurch.org



Inserted in this newsletter you will find the 2019/20 edition of the Holy Cross Milestone Ministries brochure and calendar. Through Milestone Ministries we celebrate and mark important events and times in the faith journeys of children, high school youth and adults.

Updating the Fellowship Area

Twenty years ago, furnishings were purchased for the gathering space. About a year and a half ago, as a result of a memorial gift in memory of Art Schmieding, the island and hospitality welcome center furnishings were commissioned and added. This prompted conversation on how else we can better use our space, and how we can update different aspects of it.

A small committee is working on updating this area, to make it more inviting and usable for when groups use the space. Currently, we are in phase 1 of the update of the fellowship area. This phase will be completed by September 8. You may notice that there is new conversational seating already in the space, and the rest of this phase will include ten new tables, forty chairs, and five high boy stations. We created three conversation areas, for use by both small and large groups. There will also be red cubes for children to use, and accent colors added to help define different use of the space.

The old tables and chairs have served us well for 20 years, and are being donated to COOL Transitional Housing Ministries.

The Why of Sharing Stories

by Rev. Sally Hanson

Why do you do what you do? What is your motivation? These are core questions that we as humans often grapple with, yet sometimes we fail to ask the deeper questions to really understand what we are getting at. In recent conversations with a variety of age groups, I asked a question around motivation, faith, and storytelling. Why do you behave or share the stories the way you do? The overwhelming answer was because I want to be a good person. Great answer! But why? Why do you want to be a good person? This is where the puzzled looks began. We had hit the point where we hadn't dug any deeper because this answer had always sufficed. Why? No really, why? Why do you want to be a good person, and what does being a Christian have to do with being a good person? Sure, we want to imitate Christ, but how can we imitate Christ's behaviors and actions if we can't articulate His why, let alone our why? So why do you do what you do?

Our Lutheran theology tells us that we don't have to do things to earn salvation - that is a free gift. But with this gift comes responsibility and response. Our response to the gift of faith is to respond as Christ did to the world - with love. Love is our motivating force that fills our why. It's the sharing of our experiences of God's love that motivates us to share our stories. Why do we strive to be good people? To show Christ's love to the world through word and action. If we are just good people who don't attach our motivations and why to our faith, then why do we claim the title of Christian? If God is not a part of our why or a part of our story, what's the point? This level of depth is something we all strive for - to understand God more fully, to pray for God to be revealed to us, and to attach our motivation of existence to our why of faith, and then respond out of love.

So what's your why? What's your story? Love can look a variety of ways; compassion, social justice, peacemaking, humility, mercy, etc. How does your why influence your behaviors, actions, and attitudes? If you aren't sure what your why is, I invite you to spend some time discerning what that might be. I am happy to ponder this with you and will be praying for you. Spend time in the scripture; spend time in prayer; spend time exploring different spiritual practices... spend time discovering your why.

Blessings,

Pastor Sally

Prayers for Churchwide Assembly

Every three years, the greater church body meets to conduct the business of the church at a denominational level. Please pray for all delegates of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly taking place in Milwaukee, WI from August 5 to August 10. These delegates will help to provide direction for the ELCA through social statements and by electing a bishop to provide leadership for the church for the church for the next six years. Pastor Sally is attending this assembly as part of the Metro Chicago Synod's delegation.

Journey faith, discipleship, generosity

Bryan Stevenson on Justice & Redemption

by Steve Oelschlager

At the Global Leadership Summit two years ago, fellow Christian Bryan Stevenson told his powerful story of representing people unjustly put on death row or given life sentences. Here is an excerpt from his New York Times bestseller *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*.

"It took me a while to sort it out, but I realized something sitting there while Jimmy Dill was being killed at Holman

prison. After working for more than twenty-five years, I understood that I don't do what I do because it's required or necessary or important. I don't do it because I have no choice.

I do what I do because I'm broken, too.

My years of struggling against inequality, abusive power, poverty, oppression, and injustice had finally revealed something to me about myself. Being close to suffering, death, executions, and cruel punishments didn't just illuminate the brokenness of others; in a moment of anguish and heartbreak, it also exposed my own brokenness. You can't effectively fight abusive power, poverty, inequality, oppression, or injustice and not be broken by it.

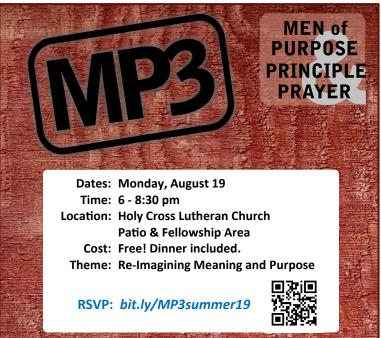
We are all broken by something. We have all hurt someone and have been hurt. We all share the condition of brokenness even if our brokenness is not equivalent. I desperately wanted mercy for Jimmy Dill and would have done anything to create justice for him, but I couldn't pretend that his struggle was disconnected from my own. The ways in which I have been hurt – and have hurt others – are different from the ways Jimmy Dill suffered and caused suffering. But our shared brokenness connected us.

Paul Farmer, the renowned physician who has spent his life trying to cure the world's sickest and poorest people, once quoted me something that the writer Thomas Merton said: We are bodies of broken bones. I guess I'd always known but never fully considered that being broken is what makes us human. We all have our reasons. Sometimes we're fractured by the choices we make; sometimes we're shattered by things we would never have chosen. But our brokenness is also the source of our common humanity, the basis for our shared search for comfort, meaning, and healing. Our shared vulnerability and imperfection nurtures and sustains our capacity for compassion.

We have a choice. We can embrace our humanness, which means embracing our broken natures and the compassion that remains our best hope for healing. Or we can deny our brokenness, forswear compassion, and, as a result, deny our own humanity."

To learn more about Bryan Stevenson and his work, please see the Stewardship Lending Library for copies of *Just Mercy*. Also, consider the Global Leadership Summit hosted at Holy Cross on August 8 and 9 for ideas and inspiration about making a difference through your life. Men, please join us for the MP3 event on August 19 as we reimagine meaning and purpose.





The men (21+) of Holy Cross and the community are invited to the last installment of our summer series of fellowship, food, live music and conversation. We encourage you to bring an appetite not only for dinner, but also for rich discussions with lasting impact on the series theme of "Re-Imagining Meaning and Purpose."

While we might think our greatest challenge is to make it through the busyness, to survive its frenetic pace and never ending dilemmas, below the surface there is an even more critical task—finding meaning and purpose in life. In other words, why bother? The reality is that nothing makes us want to live more than feeling that we have something important to do, while nothing makes life seem as worthless as the feeling we do not.

How then, might our faith inform how we think about meaning and purpose in our life? Is it helpful to sense God has a purpose in mind for our lives, that God created us on purpose, with a purpose? Can our faith be helpful by giving us a road to follow, and hope that the road is going somewhere we want to go? Our conversation for the two remaining evenings will be framed along these lines:

August 19: Endurance...Meaning and Purpose for a Lifetime How do our choices and behaviors in the short run affect the long run? Is it true that how we do anything is how we do everything? If we want to live lives of significance instead of importance, to focus on eulogy virtues rather than resume virtues, how might we persist? What and who helps strengthen our resolve to stay the course? How might a life of faith make a difference?

Come join the conversations and enjoy fellowship, live music, and time around the table for a meal. We will be meeting at 6 pm in the gathering space or the patio (weather permitting) at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. 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 or colleagues. Registration is optional, but it will help us plan the food for the evening. Contact Pastor Bob at pastorbob@holycrosschurch.org with any questions.

Save the date for the next MP3 event this fall.

Tuesday, October 22 from 6 - 8:30 pm

Ministry Moments

"And Holy Cross was There"

by Lori Fedyk, Council member

One of the amazing aspects at Holy Cross is our commitment to supporting the work of the greater ELCA church. I want to take a moment to share some of the ways that Holy Cross participates in the work of the church outside of Lake County.

ELCA World Hunger During 2018, ELCA World Hunger received \$23.6 million in gifts, the largest annual amount in the ministry's 44 year history. Today, 1 in 10 of our global neighbors experience chronic hunger. From health clinics to microloans, food pantries and community meals to advocacy, water wells to malaria education, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. Holy Cross contributed over \$13,000 in 2018, and over the past 14 years contributed more than \$141,000 toward a just world where we are all fed. That is truly amazing generosity. Those gifts were used to make a difference in the lives of some of the most vulnerable of God's children in over 60 countries of the world. And Holy Cross was there.

<u>Lutheran Disaster Response</u> During 2018, over \$11.5 million in gifts were received to support Lutheran Disaster Response, which brings God's hope, healing, and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United Sates and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. Last year we responded to 79 emergencies in over 33 countries, including 19 states here in America. And **Holy Cross was there** as members contributed nearly \$16K in 2018.

<u>Global Mission</u> The ELCA supports more than 220 missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission serving in over 40 countries working to spread the Gospel through partnerships with companion churches and the Lutheran World Federation. **And YOU are there** as a portion of the offerings received at Holy Cross are shared with the Metropolitan Chicago synod and the churchwide headquarters to support this international work.

<u>Domestic Mission</u> The national church is also present here in the United States, helping to form new congregations and increase congregational vitality, supporting our Lutheran colleges and universities, campus ministries, outdoor ministries, providing faith resources, advocating for justice, the environment and raising new leaders to name just a few. And once again, **Holy Cross is there** providing financial support through our offerings and in providing leadership for others in sharing some of the amazing work that we do.

This is a just a small piece of the work that the ELCA does thanks to the generosity of millions of members like those at Holy Cross. I invite you to take a look at the ELCA website (elca.org) to learn more or better yet, to stop by the Churchwide organization offices someday. Four members of Holy Cross including Christina Jackson-Skelton, Steve Oelschlager, Andrea Young and I work there. Amazing people like you at Holy Cross make these ministries across the world possible. Thank you for being a congregation committed to participate in this amazing work in the world.

Thank you for being there!

Thoughts from Europe

by Randy Casey

There is a church in Schwabisch Hall, Germany that is elegant yet simple, modern yet uplifting, and Roman Catholic yet not garish. One of my hopes for the Holy Cross Choir trip to Germany was to take our group therein, and for them to get a sense of its wonder, to think that here was a place where one might experience inner peace. We did indeed walk and sit within its walls, and left this sacred space different people for having done so.

I do not claim to be a tour guide. Rather, I assert that I have developed enough contacts and know enough places in this great European country so that I can lead a group of people, for example, to an otherwise totally unknown house of God and see them have a completely "non-touristy" experience.

Just this afternoon, as I am writing this, I was in Wittenberg and saw a couple with very fine artistic taste from our group who were just randomly walking down the sidewalk. I said to them, "Come with me," and we went to one of the most distinctive places to buy art in the town. They were enchanted, and I just chuckled because I knew the not large, one-of-a-kind shop was made for them.

Or I think of the town of Schwabisch Hall which not many foreign tourists even think to visit. I was looking for a town in which to study German in Germany, and read that Schwabisch Hall, with a population of 25,000 people, is the smallest town in the country with a Goethe Institute. So I went there for a month in 2015 and learned enough about the town to want to bring friends to see it. Happily our group found Schwabisch Hall, with its topography and architecture, completely charming.

I bring the same mindset to hunting for music for the Holy Cross choir that I bring to finding experiences for them to have on a trip. Some music I already know so I just schedule it based on past experience. The Vaughan Williams "Five Mystical Songs" we are singing in May of 2020 is such a work. Otherwise, I just thumb through reams of music in appropriate stores in a variety of cities in Europe and the United States until I find worthy pieces I believe the singers would like. The Bob Chilcott "A Little Jazz Mass" was such a discovery that we presented this past May.

I have strengths and weakness as a choir director, the latter of which I shall mercifully not enumerate. However, a strength of mine, happily, is that I enjoy searching wherever I go for choral music. Believe it or not, my favorite town in the U.S. to look for music is Toledo, Ohio. A friend advised me of a store there called Musical Resources, so about once a year I I drive over, stay a few hours, and then drive back. My favorite European city for finding music is Berlin. The Berlin equivalent of Barnes & Noble is called Dussmann's, but the German store has an entire floor dedicated to musical items such as scores, CDs, instruments, and books. I could stay there for days, not just hours.

I have no idea how many days I have left on the Earth, but I hope to travel as long as time, health, and finances allow. My thinking in this regard is admittedly Eurocentric, and Belgium is on my bucket list for a summer soon to come. Then again, I may return to Freiburg for more German study. Who knows what the future holds? I just delight that I have Holy Cross Church to call home, and even now as I am writing, I look forward to returning to the American side of the pond.

High School Mission Trip to Rosebud Recap June 22 to 28, 2019

What's THE Story?

"What's the story? At first, this was a joke as people would read our shirts that had the question printed on them. The story of this trip is a tale of community with strong ancient history, that has been stripped of everything and put through adversity time and time

Our week out at Two Strike was once again transformative for our youth and chaperones. It is always exciting to get reacquainted with friends from Two Strike when we are able to visit. Our theme this trip was around "What's THE story?" and how we each have an important story to share. In our prep work, we discussed how history is written by the winners, but the losers still have a story and a perspective worth sharing. We encouraged the youth to deeper engage with the Lakota story and into the individual stories of the people at Two Strike. As they reflected on their time at Two Strike, they were able to begin to articulate the impact of their experiences. Below you will find excerpts from their reflections, along with photos.

again." - Camden Edmunds



"This trip let me see that money or things do not equal happiness, but having someone to talk to is so important. Some of the stories will break your heart, but you need to know that just listening to them helps a lot." - Derek Matthei



"I saw a loving community this week as they cared for one another. They showed this connection by calling each other "auntie" or "uncle" even without any blood relationship." - Trevor Miksch

"I felt grace when I was making bracelets for several kids and the beads kept falling off. Instead of getting mad, one kid offered to help hold the other end and help me put the beads back on." - Zoe Boileau



"I learned a lot about the Lakota culture and how our consumerist culture clashes with theirs..." - Loren Semler (Grace Lutheran)

"This week was full of appreciation, love and sharing. The people were all filled with joy and this helped me feel more connected with God and see God in this community." - Katelyn Jacobs



"Many of the children struggled to get things like food or toothpaste on a day to day basis. These are things I took for granted before this trip." - Max Lindsey



- "This week has shown me how lucky I am..."
- Amber Semler (Grace Lutheran)

"...my eyes were opened to the poverty they live in. Yet, while these people have so little, they have each other..." - Ana Boucek



The high schoolers had a wonderful time learning about the Lakota culture and getting to know the Two Strike community. The presence of God is truly felt while we were serving. This gift of service would not be possible without the generosity of the congregation.

Thank you for helping to make this experience possible for our youth!



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, August 24 at 9:30 am RSVP to the church office by Monday, August 19.

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION
Sunday, August 25 during 10 am worship

PASTORAL ACTS

WE WELCOMED NEW MEMBERS

on Sunday, July 14, 2019

William & Susan Dittman

Matthew & Robert

Beth & Dave Johnson Nathan

Alex & Crystal Johnson

Mabel

Marshall & Kathryn Jowers

Karen Meyer

Doug & Taryn Placko
Connor

BAPTISMS

Owen Thomas Casale Son of Daniel & Stephanie Casale July 21, 2019

WEDDINGS

Libby O'Dell & Jason Kosowski June 21, 2019

Kristen Meyer & Brandon Beardsley July 19, 2019



Various opportunities are available to participate in worship services, hands-on volunteer projects, serving within our community, and youth programs. Commitments can be per event, on a flexible schedule or for a number of weeks during the school year. All ages and abilities are welcome! We look forward to serving alongside you at Holy Cross!

Worship Participant Ministries

We are grateful for everyone who volunteers to participate during worship services. Thank you for giving your time and your talents to help during the service – it is much appreciated!

The sign-up for the next sixth month period, for the months of October through March is now open. Please sign up by September 1 to select your dates. Any open spaces will be filled at random.

If you are not on the office's list for a worship participant ministry, and you would like to be, please contact the office at (847) 367-4060 or office@holycrosschurch.org

Descriptions for each position can be found in our *Worship Participant Ministries* booklet, located in the kiosk near the church entrance or online at *bit.lv/WPatHC*

The following worship participant ministries can be signed up for at bit.ly/WPS1920

Assisting Ministers Counters

Coffee Hosts Prayer Assistants

Communion Assistants Readers
Communion Bread Bakers Ushers

You can sign up to be a greeter at this case-sensitive link: bit.ly/GreetersHCLC

To sign up for altar care, please use this link: bit.ly/AltarCare

Acolytes and Assistant Acolytes

Voluntary scheduling for the Fall/Winter Acolyte and Assistant Acolyte schedule is now open, and will close on **Sunday, September 1**. We will schedule your child/ren after September 1 if they have not been signed up for two spots. This period covers our worship services from October to March 2020.

At Holy Cross, we schedule students grades 3 - 5 as Assistant Acolytes, and students grades 6 - 8 as Acolytes. Acolyte training is offered in the fall on Friday, September 13.

Sign up online here: bit.ly/WPS1920

Join the Holy Cross Handbell Choir

We welcome all to join the Holy Cross Handbell Choir. If you can read music, you can play! Our first rehearsal for the year will be held **Thursday, September 5.** The handbell choir rehearses on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm. Throughout the year, we will provide music at 5 to 6 Sunday morning worship services. In the handbell choir, we are able to share in an unique musical experience as we collaborate together to learn and play each selection.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Beth Malecha at *elizabeth.malecha@gmail.com* or come to our first rehearsal in the church basement (west wing.)

Backpacks for LSSI - Packing Day

Help Pack Supplies into Backpacks!

All ages welcome to assist in packing pre-purchased supplies into backpacks - assembly line style.

Sunday, August 4 starting at 9 am

Can't attend packing day? Come help at these other times:

- Backpack pre-assembly setup Friday, August 2 from 1 to 4 pm
- Load backpacks onto the LSSI trucks Monday, August 5 at 12:30 pm



Please let the church office know if you're able to assist at *office@holycrosschurch.org* or (847) 367-4060.

Thank you for helping in these ways!



Love in a Glovebox Service Project

Luke 10: 29 says, "And who is my neighbor?" This is the question that Jesus responds with the parable of the Good Samaritan. Figuring out what it means to be a person of faith may be challenging. When we are going about our daily routines and notice a person in need at an intersection, do we wonder about the circumstances that have led them to that moment in their life. And, the questions that inevitably come up are "What am I able to do about it" and "Do I see this person as my neighbor?"

Holy Cross is excited to announce a new council initiative, which is designed to help create care kits for the homeless. Inspired by a discussion during a meeting, council members were excited to develop an opportunity for packing care kits that could be kept in a vehicle glove box and then given to those in need and to let people know they have been seen and to offer a moment of God's mercy.

Donations of \$10 may be made by check (made out to Holy Cross, with "Love in a Glovebox" in the memo line) or online at donate.holycrosschurch.org

Holy Cross will purchase supplies in bulk with your donations and you're invited to come assist in assembling these care kits on Sunday, August 18 at 9 am.



Sunday, September 8, 2019 Independence Grove 16400 Buckley Rd, Libertyville

Remember and Honor Loved ones
Support Grieving Children and Families

Help Willow House reach its goals by volunteering or participating in the Walk & 5k Run to Remember. Sign up as an individual or as a team. There are prizes for the top individual and team fundraisers, as well as a prize for the team with the largest number of participants.

Can't make it to the event? You can still **create your own fundraising page**, and **donate** to help us reach our goal! Visit *willowhouse.org/walk-and-5k-to-remember-2019* for more information.

Schedule of Events

8:00 am 5K Run

9:30 am Memorial Walk

10:00 am Awards & Post Race Party

10:30 am Closing Ceremony



SCREEN AGERS THE NEXT CHAPTER

UNCOVERING SKILLS FOR STRESS RESILIENCE

Save the date for our showing of the next Screenagers movie – Screenagers The Next Chapter: Empowering Youth with Stress Resilience. This movie focuses on helping youth thrive in our screen and stress-filled world. As in Screenagers, filmmaker and physician Delaney Ruston uses a personal lens and professional eye to help parents flip the script on stress, anxiety, and depression.

Holy Cross will host a free screening on October 20, 2019 at 4 pm in the sanctuary. Open to Holy Cross members and the community.



- Pasta and rice are the non-perishable food items of the month in August. COOL Ministries food pantries also accept fresh produce if your garden produces more than you can eat. Contact COOL food pantries at (847) 662-1230.
- Help Veterans through COOL Ministries Food stamp eligible veterans who visit COOL Ministries food pantries receive food, but also each qualified veteran family receives a large box loaded with soap, paper goods, toiletries, and more. Toiletry items for veterans in need may be brought to Holy Cross and placed in the COOL carts outside the church office.

Volunteer at FMSC



Wednesday, August 28 from 12 - 2 pm Location: 742 East Park Avenue (Hwy 176)

Register here: bit.ly/packFMSC



Feed My Starving Children's permanent packing facility in Libertyville offers volunteers a year round, one-of-a-kind experience. You'll hand-pack rice, soy, dried vegetables and a nutritionally complete blend of vitamins and minerals into bags which are then sealed, boxed, placed on pallets and shipped to reach the neediest children around the world. Pre-register to pack meals with other Holy Cross members on this particular Wednesday or on other days using the link above. Minimum age to volunteer is 5 years. Student/adult ratio applies. For more information, visit *fmsc.org*



Sunday School at Holy Cross

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





Ages 3 - 5/Kindergarten

A New Sunday School Year

by Rev. Sally Hanson

Sunday school is just around the corner! Why do we do Sunday School?

Sunday school is an excellent way to introduce children to the stories of the Bible, the importance of healthy relationships, how to serve and support a community, and to build faith-based experiences. In order for this ministry to flourish, it is grounded in the relationships that students have with those teachers and mentors of faith. The relationship and learning alongside another Christian is part of growing up in faith. Did you know what the best teachers of faith are those that a child lives with?

Children are excited to share their world with you, their favorite adults, especially parents. Remember how excited they get to show you their work at a school open house or to be the special person whose parent was able to chaperone the school field trip? For many students, this same excitement is shared when their parent joins them at Sunday school as a teacher or as a helper.

Please consider joining us this program year to teach or help for at least one Sunday school session. Training and information materials are provided! Some of the available opportunities include:

Core Stories (Preschool/Kindergarten Sunday School):

Teachers, class helpers, classroom prep people (pulling together materials for the upcoming lessons, etc.

Deep Blue (Grades 1-5 Sunday School): Rotation Coordinator(s) of Deep Blue, rotation classroom teachers,

Coordinator(s) of Deep Blue, rotation classroom teachers, guides, and helpers. Classroom material prep (pulling together material for the upcoming lessons, etc.), special events leaders.

You may sign up at bit.ly/SSschedule1920

This year our Sunday school will begin at the beginning - creation! Did you know there is more than one creation story in the Bible? What does God have to say about all these things that God made? Come and learn alongside your child as they explore their faith with you!

Sunday School Coordinators: Ages 3-5/K: Felicia Brandt (847) 362-0924 Grades 1-5: Volunteer Requested



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.

Inserted in this newsletter you will find the 2019/20 edition of the Holy Cross Milestone Ministries brochure and calendar. Through Milestone Ministries we celebrate and mark important events and times in the faith journeys of children, high school youth and adults.

Welcome to Sunday School: 3 years old and up Saturday, September 7 at 9:30 am

At this Milestone, we welcome 3 year olds (age 3 by 9/1/19) and others new to Holy Cross to walk though what a Sunday morning looks like. Older children new to HCLC are welcome! RSVP by Tuesday, September 3 to office@holycrosschurch.org

Rally Day and Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, September 8 at 9:30 am worship

The Sunday School year begins with a *Blessing of the Backpacks* during worship and a welcome of students. Come with your backpack, and get a special blessing to start out your school year!

Introduction to Confirmation/Acolyting (Grade 6)

Friday, September 13 at 7 pm

In September, all incoming sixth graders beginning Confirmation participate in an introduction night based around relationship building, Confirmation life, and acolyte training. Students are reminded why we worship, the role and important of the acolyte, and how to be a leader in a worship service.

Commissioning Blessing of the Teachers Sunday, September 29 at 9:30 am worship

A time is set apart during worship to lift up and bless all those called to live out their faith by serving as a teacher and mentor for our young people. We honor and lift up the service of teachers, coordinators, helpers, shepherds, substitutes, directors and staff in our Sunday School, Confirmation, and early childhood education programs.

9th Grade 2019 Confirmands

If your paper work has not been turned in yet, it is **past due**. Please contact the church office at (847)367-4060 or at *office@holycrosschurch.org* to make an appointment to meet with either pastor as you prepare for your Affirmation of Baptism in October.

Important Upcoming Dates

September 8 Parent/Student night at Confirmation

(6:30 pm)

September 28 – 29 9th grade Retreat

Lutherdale Bible Camp

October 26 Confirmation dress rehearsal and

pictures (8:30 am)

October 27 Confirmation worship service (11 am)

If you have any questions, please contact the office at *office@holycrosschurch.org* or (847) 367-4060.

Confirmation Band

Are you a Confirmation student who also has some musical gifts they could share with us?

The Confirmation Band helps lead worship during Confirmation sessions. Contact Carrie Mack for more information (mack.carrie@gmail.com) or sign up at Parent/Student night of Confirmation on Sunday, September 8 at 6:30 pm.

Confirmation Small Group Leaders Needed

Confirmation small group leaders are needed for grades 6 - 8. We strive to have at least two adults per group to have leadership rotated or tag-teamed. There are 20 small group sessions per program year, and Confirmation meets on Sundays from 6:30 - 8 pm. Training and support is provided. Please contact Pastor Sally if you are interested in sharing your faith with our young people in this way. pastorsally@holycrosschurch.org

Confirmation Small Group Leader Safety and Curriculum Training

Sunday, August 25 at 6:30 pm

This is a time to meet and cover safety and security at Holy Cross, as well as train leaders into the new topics of the fall.

Winchester House Worship Sunday, August 25

Did you miss the Sunday you were supposed to assist with Winchester House worship? Don't worry – we could use your help this month. Join us on **Sunday, August 25 at 2 pm** to help us lead worship with the residents of Winchester House. Your family is invited to join you.



GOD - GAMES - GIGS - GRUB - GRACE

Sunday, August 18 from 6:30 - 8 pm Fellowship Area

- Interactive games
- Contemporary music
 - Team building
 - Good food
- Faith-based grace conversations

5G High School Youth Group is a new ministry at Holy Cross Lutheran Church designed specifically for 9th – 12th grade students including students who will be entering 9th grade in the fall of 2019. The goal of **5G High School Youth Group** is to create a positive group dynamic while establishing the foundation for youth and adults, walking alongside each other in relationship, as both grow and mature in their faith in Christ. **5G High School Youth Group** is based on Ephesians 2:8 *"For by grace you have been saved through faith. This is not your own doing but is a gift from God."*

Facilitated by Dale Tippett, Jr., each evening's schedule is fast-paced and interactive:

- 6:30 pm Opening group game
- 6:45 pm Good food* and introductions (*complimentary)
- 7:00 pm Contemporary pop music (led by Dale and the **5G High School Youth Group** band)
- 7:15 pm Grace Moment: Facilitated sharing related to how God's grace is apparent in our lives.
- 7:30 pm Team building/challenge activity
- 7:45 pm Contemporary pop music (led by Dale and the **5G High School Youth Group** band)
- 7:55 pm Closing prayer: Hopes and concerns

RSVP via phone: (847) 367-4060 (church office), email: office@holycrosschurch.org or

GroupMe text message for youth: bit.ly/5GHSYG

GroupMe for parents: bit.ly/5GHSYGPA

For event updates, visit HolyCrossChurch.org/5g-hsyg



Celebration! Childcare

August Brings...

by Kathy Pfister Director of CrossWays Preschool & Celebration! Childcare

... A New School Year!

August brings the close of summer camp, and the beginning of a new school year. Over fifty children attended camp this summer at CrossWays Preschool. We explored the classroom garden, and learned about how things grow. We sang, hiked, played games, and made crafts.

But, the start of a new school year is right around the corner. CrossWays Preschool will open its doors for the 2019/20 school year for an open house on Friday, August 23 at 9 am. On Monday, August 26, classes start. While some of our classes are full, there are a few spots left, so don't delay in signing your child up! We have may options and can build course offerings that will fit your needs.

The theme for the 2019/20 school year is *The Apple of God's* Eye. Don't be surprised to see all kinds of apples sprouting up around the CrossWays Preschool space in the coming weeks!

If you have any questions about enrolling in our programs, or other day to day activities at CrossWays Preschool, please contact us.



Date: Tuesday, September 10 Time: 5 - 8 pm Location: 803 E Park Ave, Libertyville

Join us for our first dine and donate fundraiser of the school year. Enjoy food and fellowship, and a chance to feel good eating for a cause! A portion of the sales will benefit CrossWays Preschool and Celebration! Childcare to help with the upkeep of our playground and garden areas.

Please mention CrossWays Preschool or Celebration! Childcare when placing your order. Our teachers will be present to serve orders to tables or to vehicles in the drive-thru lane.

Don't miss this fun event!

... A Garden Harvest

As July turns to August, our staff at Celebration! begins to prepare for a new school year with buying school supplies, and preparing new lessons and crafts for the children to engage in. We are excited, but sad to see the summer go.

Even though it rained more than we had expected this summer, we still had a blast with ice cream days, water days, the trackless train, and more as we spent time learning and growing inside and outside.

We have had so much fun this summer in our outdoor classroom garden. Our new raised beds gave us a full yield of tomatoes, onions, and squash that we will deliver to the COOL Food Pantry. This year, we also added vine trellises. These helped keep our beans off the ground.





School Supply Collection

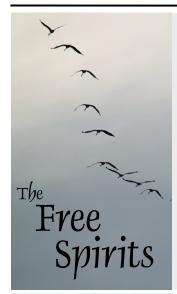
As fall gets closer and you get ready for a new school year. please keep Celebration! Childcare in mind. In past years the congregation and friends of Holy Cross have been generous in donating much-needed school supplies to Celebration! Childcare classrooms. We always have use for extra markers, glue, crayons, and colored pencils.

A collection box inside the Celebration! Childcare wing will be available for dropping off supplies.

Thank you!







THE FREE SPIRITS FRIDAY, AUGUST 23 AT 10:30 AM MORKES CHOCOLATES, 1890 N RAND RD, PALATINE

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

Let's gather at Holy Cross by 9:30 am to car pool to Morkes Chocolates. Our "Dip & Decorate" candy making activity starts at 10:30 am! If you would like to meet us there, feel free.

The experience is \$14 per person, and includes all the supplies to make (and eat or take home) your special treats. Then we'll stop for lunch on the way home.

RSVP to Felicia Brandt at felicia.s.brandt@gmail.com or at (847) 362-0924.

We welcome drop ins to The Free Spirits group at anytime! Let us know if you'd like to be on our reminder list.



PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 AT 4 PM, ROOM 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 more information, please contact Terry Berger (224) 775-1479 or Lisa Dunbar (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 SESSIONS: AUGUST 14 & 28 AT 11:30 AM, CENTURY PARK OR FELLOWSHIP AREA EVENING SESSIONS: AUGUST 14 & 28 AT 7 PM, CENTURY PARK OR 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*



Grounded in Grace: Friday Night Women's Group Friday, September 6 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Gathering Space

"... and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." - Ephesians 3:17-19

Grounded in Grace is an opportunity for women of faith to gather together in fun, fellowship, and learning. We are taking a break for the summer, but mark your calendars for **Friday**, **September 6** as we start up again for the year.

Please contact Pastor Sally with any questions at pastorsally@holycrosschurch.org



PILATES

MONDAYS, AUGUST 5,12, 19 & 26 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, AUGUST 27 AT 7 PM

LOCATION: HOME OF NANCY JOINER, 1318 VINEYARD LANE, LIBERTYVILLE

This month we will discuss *Fly Girls* by Keith O'Brien. The untold story of five women who fought to compete against men in the high stakes national air races of the 1920s and 1930s - and won... celebrates a little-known slice of history in which tenacious, trail-blazing women braved all obstacles to achieve greatness.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAYS, AUGUST 13 & 27, 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 August we will continue the conversation with Luke's gospel.



COMMON THREADS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 AT 1 PM, FELLOWSHIP AREA

This group of our congregation knits or crochets blankets and shawls. We are taking the summer off from meeting, but please drop off any completed prayer shawls and blankets at the church office. To request a prayer shawl for a loved one, please contact the church office at *office@holycrosschurch.org*.



WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, August 20 from 9:30 - 11 am, Fellowship Area

Living in a digital world, we are constantly bombarded with information. We spend most of our waking time processing this information. What would the world look like if we could pause or unplug even for a brief period of time? Join us as we explore *Digital Minimalism: Choosing a Focused Life in a Noisy World* by Cal Newport.



MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

TUESDAYS, AUGUST 6, 13, 20, & 27 FROM 6:30 TO 7:30 AM

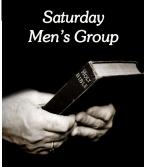
LOCATION: THE LIBERTY RESTAURANT, 419 S. MILWAUKEE AVE, LIBERTYVILLE

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.



SATURDAY MEN'S GROUP

Saturdays, August 10 & 24 at 7 am, Fellowship Area

Please join us for videos and conversations on contemporary social issues. In September, we will be going through the book *Digital Minimalism: Choosing a Focused Life in a Noisy World* by Cal Newport.



Thursday, August 1 September newsletter content due

Friday, August 2

1:00 pm LSSI backpack assembly set up, fellowship area

Saturday, August 3

5:30 pm Saturday Evening Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, August 4

8 & 10 am Worship with Holy Communion 9:00 am LSSI backpack assembly,

fellowship area

Monday, August 5

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

Tuesday, August 6

6:30 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant

Wednesday, August 7

9:00 am Quilting & More Group, 404

Thursday, August 8

Global Leadership Summit 8:00 am (GLS at Holy Cross), fellowship

area and sanctuary

7:00 pm BSA 194 Committee, 207

Friday, August 9

8:00 am Global Leadership Summit (GLS at Holy Cross), fellowship

area and sanctuary

Saturday, August 10

7:00 am Saturday Men's Discussion,

fellowship area

5:30 pm Saturday Evening Worship with

Holy Communion

Sunday, August 11

Mission Endowment Fund Scholarships Awarded

8 & 10 am Contemporary Worship

Monday, August 12

1:00 pm Common Threads, fellowship area

6:00 pm Pilates. Celebration! atrium

7:00 pm BSA Troop 194, 402

Tuesday, August 13

6:30 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant 10:00 am Adult Bible Study, fellowship area

Wednesday, August 14

9:00 am Quilting & More Group, 404 11:30 am PHW Day Program, Century Park or fellowship area

7:00 pm PHW Evening Session, Century 8:30 am Park or fellowship area

Thursday, August 15

Friday, August 16

Saturday, August 17

5:30 pm Saturday Evening Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, August 18

8 & 10 am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

9:00 am Love in a Glovebox packing, fellowship area

4:00 pm Parents of Children with Special Needs, 208

6:30 pm 5G High School Youth Group, fellowship area

Monday, August 19

6:00 pm MP3: Men of Purpose,

Principle, & Prayer, fellowship area & patio

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

Tuesday, August 20

Men's Breakfast Group, 6:30 am The Liberty Restaurant

9:30 am Women's Discussion Group, fellowship area 7:00 pm Church Council, fellowship area

Wednesday, August 21

9: 00 am Quilting & More Group, 404 ECM Marketing Meeting, 9:30 am

fellowship area

Thursday, August 22

Friday, August 23

Saturday, August 24

7:00 am Saturday Men's Discussion,

fellowship area

8:30 am New Member breakfast,

fellowship area

5:30 pm Saturday Night Live on the Patio:

worship with fellowship dinner

Sunday, August 25

8 & 10 am Worship

10:00 am New Member reception 2:30 pm Winchester House worship Confirmation Small Group 6:30 pm Leader training & orientation,

fellowship area

Monday, August 26

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

Tuesday, August 27

Men's Breakfast Group, The 6:30 am

Liberty Restaurant

Newsletter assembly,

fellowship area

10:00 am Adult Bible Study,

fellowship area

7:00 pm Book Club, Nancy Joiner's home

Wednesday, August 28

Quilting & More Group, 404 9:00 am 11:30 am PHW Day Program, Century Park or fellowship area

12:00 pm Feed My Starving Children

Pack, FMSC Libertyville

7:00 pm PHW Evening Session, Century

Park or fellowship area

Thursday, August 29

Friday, August 30

Saturday, August 31

5:30 pm Saturday Evening Worship with

Holy Communion

2019 Mission **Endowment Fund Scholarship Awards**

Please join us on **Sunday, August 11**. Scholarships will be awarded during both 8 am and 10 am worship.

All are welcome to join us in celebration. Cake and coffee served during the fellowship hour at 9 am.



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THE GLOBAL

Everyone has influence.



GOD - GAMES - GIGS - GRUB - GRACE Sunday, August 18 6:30 - 8 pm

Details on page 11.

CURRENT EVENTS

August 2019

- 2 LSSI Backpack Set Up
- 4 LSSI Backpack Assembly
- 8-9 2019 Global Leadership Summit
- 11 Mission Endowment Fund Scholarship Awards
- 18 Love in a Glovebox Assembly 5G High School Youth Group
- 19 MP3: Summer Series
- 24 Saturday Night Live on the Patio
- 25 Reception of New Members

September 2019

- 1 Worship at 8 & 10 am
- 7 Milestone Ministry: Welcome to Sunday School, age 3+ First Saturday Worship
- 8 Fall Worship Schedule Resumes
 Worship at 8, 9:30, & 11 am
 Rally Day Sunday School &
 Confirmation Resume
 Blessing of Backpacks
- 13 Milestone Ministry: Intro to Confirmation/Acolyting
- 14 Milestone Ministry: First Communion Prep
- 22 5G Youth Group