



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE CROSS CONNECTION

Providing Strength for the Faith Journey

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

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March 2024

MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

FIRST SATURDAY EVENING

March 2 at 5:30 pm
Sanctuary

SUNDAYS

March 3, 10, 17
8 & 10 am
Sanctuary & livestream

MIDWEEK LENTEN

Wednesdays
March 6, 13, 20
7 pm - *Sanctuary*

HOLY WEEK

Passion/Palm Sunday
March 24 at 7 pm
Sanctuary & livestream

Maundy Thursday

March 28 at 7 pm
Sanctuary & livestream

Good Friday

March 29 at 7 pm
Sanctuary & livestream

Easter Eve Festival

March 30 at 3 pm
Fellowship Area

Easter Sunday

March 31 at 8 & 10 am
Sanctuary & livestream

You Can't Get To Easter Sunday Without Having Good Friday

by Pastor Chris Neptun

For Christians, there is nothing like the joy of Easter. It's hard not to be surprised by the feeling of hearing *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*, with all the stops pulled out on the organ, the brass calling, and the choir singing. One can't help but feel light and alive!

Easter joy isn't a feeling like happiness. Happiness comes and goes. We can find happiness and lose it. Joy comes to us. It finds us and is beyond our searching. Resurrection joy finds us and outlasts us. It finds us even in the darkest times, which is vital for us to remember.

In the last 50 years, Palm Sunday has also come to be known as Passion Sunday. Passion Sunday was the 5th Sunday of Lent and the beginning of "Passiontide," a time when the church's focus would turn to the sufferings of Jesus. Palm Sunday was the same as today, falling within Passiontide on the 6th Sunday of Lent. By combining Passion Sunday and Palm Sunday, Passiontide was shortened. Of course, we don't like to focus on suffering. It is uncomfortable, sad, and miserable. Moving from the Hosannas of Palm Sunday to the Alleluias of Easter morning would be easier. It would be happier if we could skip the betrayal, arrest, denial, trial, sentencing, mocking, torture, death, and burial of Jesus.

Life would be easier if we could avoid all these things. Unfortunately, we experience suffering as part of life. As humans, we cannot avoid suffering entirely. Suffering is part of life. No one lives forever. We all experience and are affected by the loss of life and the grief of losing someone close to us.

Admittedly, being fixated on death is unhealthy. So is ignoring it. Being fixated on Good Friday and the crucifixion is unhealthy, but so is avoiding it. You can't get to Easter without Good Friday. There is no resurrection without the crucifixion and death of Jesus. There is no way around death. There is no way around grief. The only way to resurrection for us is through death.

Jesus is the first, but not the last. In Colossians 1:18, the Apostle Paul writes, "he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead," and in 1 Corinthians 15:20, "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died." Paul exclaims our hope later in verses 53-55; "For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

Do not resist the suffering and passion of Holy Week. Join us for every worship service you can. Jesus is with us through it all. Having journeyed through the valley of the shadow of death, the joy of the resurrection will astound us in ways we can't imagine!

God's peace to you.

Pastor Chris



1151 N. Saint Mary's Road
Libertyville, IL 60048

(847) 367 - 4060
office@holycrosschurch.org



HolyCrossChurch.org

PASTORS AND CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Christopher P. Neptun, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Robert A. Davis, Pastor Emeritus
Sarah Accettura, Administrative Coordinator
Edwin Andrade, Director of Youth and Family Ministry
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, Finance, Facilities, and IT
Ellie Rautenbach, Congregational Communications
Manny Rivera, Property
Darrin Rose, Choir Director
Dale Tippet Jr., Director of Worship Arts
Paul Vander Weele, Organist

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY

Samantha (Sam) Cooper-Tuttle, Director
Roxanne (Rocky) Lamont, Assistant Director
Tania Zombolo, Assistant Director

CHURCH COUNCIL

Darin Chartier, *President*
Ralph Freye, *Vice President*
Kathy Pritts, *Secretary*
Lori Fedyk, *Treasurer*
Ryan Young, *Financial Secretary*
Karla Boucek, Wendy Brewer, Lori Fedyk, Karen Karris,
Gail Kelly, Jeannine Phillips, Joe Taylor, Donna Thomey
John Villani, Joe Young

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Altar Care: Julie Luczkiw
Worship Volunteers: Therese Delli Paoli

Connecting With The Holy Cross Church Council

The newly established Church Council email address serves as a centralized communication platform for the congregation, providing an efficient and organized channel for members to connect with their leadership. This initiative aims to enhance transparency, enabling churchgoers to share their thoughts, concerns, and suggestions directly with the Council.

The following dedicated email address, council@holycrosschurch.org fosters a sense of community engagement and collaboration, as it facilitates open dialogue between the Church Council and its members.

LENT

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Midweek Lenten Worship

Nurturing Our Mental Well-Being
Featuring mental health professionals

Wednesday, March 6

7 - 7:30 pm - Sanctuary

Sonia Rios, Advocate Trauma Recovery Center

Wednesday, March 13

7 - 7:30 pm - Sanctuary

*Tammy Burns, Director of Community Services
Zacharias Center*

Wednesday, March 20

7 - 7:30 pm - Sanctuary

Rev. Dr. Robert A. Davis, Pastor Emeritus

Holy Week

Passion/Palm Sunday

March 24 at 8 & 10 am - Sanctuary & livestream
*with procession of palms and Holy Communion.
Affirmation of Baptism*

Maunder Thursday

March 28 at 7 pm - Sanctuary & livestream
with Holy Communion and First Communion

Good Friday

March 29 at 7 pm - Sanctuary & livestream

Easter Eve Festival

March 30 from 3 - 5 pm - Fellowship Area
*Get ready for a family-friendly journey like no other this
Easter Eve! Take a walk through Holy Week on the way
to the Resurrection. All ages welcome.*

Easter Sunday Worship

March 31 at 8 & 10 am - Sanctuary & Livestream
*The Celebration of the Resurrection
with Holy Communion. Children's Message at 10 am*



Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers

March 6, 13 & 20



During Lent we are offering a family-friendly fellowship opportunity of gathering before our midweek Lenten worship services for soup suppers. **The soup suppers begin serving at 6 pm and wrap up by 6:45 pm with the midweek Lenten worship services beginning at 7 pm.**

To help provide this fellowship, we invite you to sign up to bring soup of any kind or to help with clean up. You will find a signup form at bit.ly/2024soup. Holy Cross will provide the bread and beverages.

We will gather in the fellowship area. Any questions may be directed to the church office at office@holycrosschurch.org or (847) 367-4060. All welcome, please join us!

Easter Baskets

Holy Cross is participating in the COOL Ministries Easter Baskets project again this year. This is both a fun and meaningful project that helps to bless the Easter tables of local families in Lake County.



To participate, shop for non-perishable food items of your choice or use the list below as a guide

- Boxed potatoes
- Canned vegetables
- Jell-O
- Juice and/or powdered milk
- Canned fruit
- Baking mix (such as Bisquick or cake mix with frosting)
- Easter candy and/or egg coloring kit
- Easter themed paper plates/napkins
- Card with Easter message

Place your donations in any paper grocery bag. Please do not overfill bags. Double bag heavy items or use multiple bags. If using multiple bags, please tie together. Filled bags should be **returned to Holy Cross by Sunday, March 10**. In lieu of an Easter Basket, monetary donations can be made online at donate.holycrosschurch.org (Suggested donation: \$25/basket)



Canned Hams

Additionally, we will be collecting donations to help COOL purchase canned hams. Please make checks out to Holy Cross with "COOL hams" in the memo or donate online at donate.holycrosschurch.org (Suggested donation: \$20/ham) **Donation deadline: Sunday, March 10**

Canned Hams



Easter Eve Festival

by Deaconess Katie Freund

Get ready for a family-friendly journey like no other this Easter Eve! Take a walk (literally) through Holy Week on the way to the Resurrection.

This year's family Easter event is a pilgrimage through Holy Week. There is so much packed into this sacred time of year, and it's coming to life with music, theatrical sets, costumed actors, and details using all our senses! We'll unpack it in ways that are appropriate for kids and engaging for all ages.

Jesus was traveling with his disciples, and so we'll journey in small groups through this immersive experience, moving from Palm Sunday through each day, finishing with the joy of Easter Sunday (Easter breakfast for dinner included!)



Date: Saturday, March 30

Time: 3 - 5 pm

Location: Fellowship Area

Cost: Free! All welcome



Register for timed entry tickets at bit.ly/EEftickets

Palm Sunday



It all starts with seeing (and hearing) Jesus' entry into the city of Jerusalem and praising Jesus as God's king.



Maunder Thursday

We'll learn how Jesus washed his disciples feet and imagine eating with Jesus at the last supper before going to the garden of Gethsemane to pray.



Good Friday

Participants will hear the story of Jesus being put on trial and his resulting crucifixion.



Holy Saturday

There's a sacredness to waiting, even when we're sad. We'll talk about Jesus being put into the tomb and being buried.

Alleluia!
Christ is Risen!



Easter Finale

Joy comes in the morning! We'll have an Easter breakfast-for-dinner, songs, and crafts for the miracle of resurrection.

Learn more at HolyCrossChurch.org/sundayschool

Easter Flowers

to decorate the Sanctuary



on March 31, 2024

Quantity	Flower Type	Cost	Total
	Single Stem Lily	\$13	
	Begonias	\$13	
	Daffodils	\$13	
	Hyacinths	\$13	
	Daisy Mums	\$13	
	Azaleas	\$25	
	Hydrangea	\$25	
Order Total:			

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Donations will be listed in Easter bulletin as follows:

Given by

In celebration of

or

In memory of

Please attach payment to this order form **no later than Monday, March 4, 2024** and return to the church office or place in the offering plate. (Checks payable to Holy Cross with "Easter Flowers" in memo line.) Or order online at bit.ly/EASTERflowers24

Flowers will be available for pick-up after the 10 am worship service on Easter Sunday.



Mark your calendars to save the date for the last event in the Around the Cross Concert Series. Free admission. No tickets or reservations are required. Learn more about the Around The Cross Concert Series at HolyCrossChurch.org/atc

Mz Shon Mo

Date: Saturday, March 9

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Fellowship Area



A Soul/Blues/ R&B/ Funk singer, with a unique style, that keeps you wanting more.

2024 HOLY CROSS CHURCH COUNCIL

The following Holy Cross Church Council members and Holy Cross Officers were installed during the worship services on Sunday, February 4:

Darin Chartier, *President*

Ralph Freye, *Vice President*

Kathy Pritts, *Secretary*

Lori Fedyk, *Treasurer*

Ryan Young, *Financial Secretary*

Karla Boucek

Joe Taylor

Wendy Brewer

Donna Thomey

Karen Karris

John Villani

Gail Kelly

Joe Young

Jeannine Phillips

A special thank you to Nicole Drake, Andy Eidson and Harold Sargent for their service on council.

PASTORAL ACTS

WE WELCOMED NEW MEMBERS

Sunday, February 11

Nick Huffman

Allan and Judy Trautman

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM/CONFIRMATION

On Palm Sunday, March 24 at the 10 am worship service, we will celebrate with the following young people who have completed their Confirmation coursework, had their faith interviews, and prayerfully decided to affirm the faith of their baptisms.

Molly Granfeldt

Bella Moraw

Savanna Joyce

Kylee Wechselberger

Connor Lovejoy

Lia Wechselberger

Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars from 2023 have until March 31, 2024 to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Please check your account as Choice Dollars need to be directed annually.

There are two easy options for directing Choice Dollars:

- Online at thrivent.com/thriventchoice
- Call (800) 847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt

Questions? Please contact a representative from the Member Connection Center at (800) 847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" or email fraternal@thrivent.com. For faster service, have your member ID or contract number available.

For more information on the Thrivent Choice Dollars program, please visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice



Lutheran Campus Ministry Dinner



**LUTHERAN
CAMPUS MINISTRY
AT NORTHWESTERN**

Wednesday, April 17

**Carpool at 4 pm
Dinner at 6 pm**

2204 Orrington Avenue, Evanston

Holy Cross members will be returning to Evanston on Wednesday, April 17 to host our popular "Breakfast for Dinner" meal for the college students who attend the Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northwestern. All are welcome to attend or contribute part of the meal for the students.



We will meet at Holy Cross at 4 pm, carpool (or drive separately) to Evanston, and serve dinner at 6 pm for LCMNU's Wednesday night supper worship. Join us for a fun dinner with the students and a short, student-led worship service at the end of the meal.

If you are interested in volunteering or donating food for the meal, please contact Patty Moyer at patty@concertedsystems.com or (847) 502-3196.



Women's Ministry News

by Beth Ann Koenemann



A big thank you to all of the LIFT members, youth groups, and Holy Cross members who helped turn hunger into hope by packing meals at Feed My Staving Children on Saturday, February 3.



Ladies, save the date below for our next event.

Bingo, Bunco, and Bites

Date: Friday, April 26

Time: 6:30 - 9 pm

Location: Fellowship Area

Cost: Free

RSVP: bit.ly/LIFTbbb



We will be playing Bingo and Bunco, and sharing our favorite appetizer "bites" with each other. Bunco (and Bingo) will be taught—no prior experience is necessary. Please bring your favorite appetizer to share. If you would like to come but would prefer not to drive at night, please let Beth Ann know at (847) 997-9937 and we will make arrangements for a ride. We hope you will join us, it is sure to be a blast! Please RSVP to help us plan for the evening.



Mission Endowment Scholarships

Applications Due April 30

Through the Holy Cross Mission Endowment Fund, Holy Cross provides scholarships to assist and encourage post high school education for its members.

These scholarships may be used at an accredited college, university or vocational technical school. Requirements are that you be an active member of Holy Cross and that you submit an application form including a thoughtful faith statement.

The Mission Endowment Fund was established in 1999 and it provides resources to enhance the ministry of Holy Cross, apart from the general operations of the congregation.

These resources, divided equally three ways, are allocated annually in the following areas: music ministry opportunities within the congregation; ministry opportunities beyond the congregation/pastoral discretionary fund; and in scholarship support for members of Holy Cross.

Applications are available online at HolyCrossChurch.org/resources





MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

TUESDAYS, MARCH 5, 12, 19 & 26 AT 7 - 8 AM

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

Begin the day with coffee, breakfast, fellowship, and thought-provoking and stimulating conversation. All men are welcome to join us.

Questions? Contact Pastor Chris at pastorchris@holycrosschurch.org



SATURDAY MEN'S GROUP

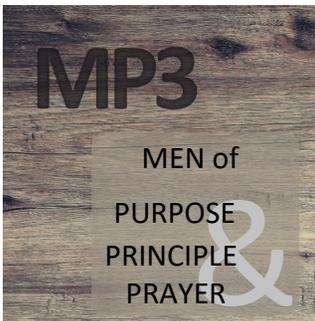
SATURDAYS, MARCH 9 & 23 AT 7 - 8:30 AM

LOCATION: IN-PERSON (ROOM 208) OR VIA ZOOM

holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/301891517

David Brooks has been a favorite author of the group. We are beginning his latest book, *How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen*. David Brooks is one of the nation's leading writers and commentators. An op-ed columnist for The New York Times, he appears regularly on PBS NewsHour and Meet the Press. He is the bestselling author of *The Second Mountain*, *The Road to Character*, *The Social Animal*, *On Paradise Drive*, and *Bobos in Paradise*. Please feel free to purchase a copy or let Pastor Chris know if you would like a copy. Please join us.

Questions? Contact Pastor Chris at pastorchris@holycrosschurch.org



MP3: MEN OF PURPOSE, PRINCIPLE, & PRAYER

MONDAY, APRIL 15 AT 6 - 8:30 PM

LOCATION: FELLOWSHIP AREA

THEME: SACRED MOMENTS

COST: FREE

To help us plan for food, please RSVP at bit.ly/MP341524

Men (21+) are invited to attend for an evening of fellowship, food, music, and conversation. The April session will cover discussion of **R** for relational from our theme "*SACRED moments.*" Questions?

Contact Pastor Chris at pastorchris@holycrosschurch.org



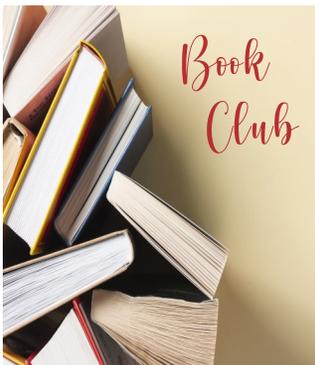
HELP TURN HUNGER INTO HOPE BY PACKING MEALS

THURSDAY, MARCH 7 AT 9 - 10:45 AM

LOCATION: 742 E PARK AVE, LIBERTYVILLE

Volunteers age 5 and over and any ability levels can make a difference, as standing, heavy lifting, and seated jobs are all needed to pack and ship meals. You're invited to join Emily Young and other volunteers on one or more days ahead to serve together!

To sign up for one or more group packing sessions, please contact Emily Young at emily.young@allstate.com



BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 AT 7 PM

VIA ZOOM

holycrosschurch.zoom.us/j/94321824417

In March we will discuss *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olivia Ann Burns. On July 5, 1906, scandal breaks in the small town of Cold Sassy, Georgia, when the proprietor of the general store, E. Rucker Blakeslee, elopes with Miss Love Simpson. He is barely three weeks a widower, and she is only half his age and a Yankee to boot. As their marriage inspires a whirlwind of local gossip, fourteen-year-old Will Tweedy suddenly finds himself eyewitness to a family scandal, and that's where his adventures begin. *Cold Sassy Tree* is the undeniably entertaining and extraordinarily moving account of small-town southern life in a bygone era.

Our discussion host will be Heidi Dinter. If you have any questions, please email Felicia Brandt at felicia.s.brandt@gmail.com



STRENGTH & CORE

MONDAYS, MARCH 4, 11, 18 & 25 AT 6 PM

LOCATION: CELEBRATION! CHILDCARE ATRIUM

To join this exercise group, please contact Jodi Zombolo at (224) 595-8573.

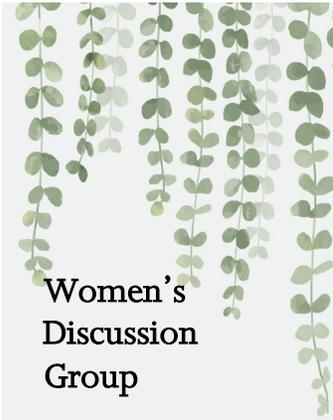


HOLY CROSS CHOIR

REHEARSALS: TUESDAYS, MARCH 5, 12, 19 & 26 AT 7 PM

LOCATION: SANCTUARY

We welcome singers of all ages to join the choir. For more information about joining, and to be added to the choir email list, contact Choir Director, Darrin Rose at darrin@holycrosschurch.org



Women's Discussion Group

WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP
TUESDAYS, MARCH 12 & 26 AT 9:30 AM
LOCATION: ROOM 208

The Women's Discussion Group at Holy Cross meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.

The ongoing discussion topics are being taken from 'A' is for Alabaster: A Preacher's Alphabet by Anna Carter Florence, the Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. She is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and holds degrees from Yale University and Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Div. and Ph.D.). Before joining the Columbia faculty in 1998, Dr. Florence served as an associate pastor for youth and young adults at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis.

Copies of the book are available on the welcome center in the Fellowship Area. All women welcome.

Contact Pastor Chris at pastorchris@holycrosschurch.org with any questions.



Grounded in Grace

GROUNDING IN GRACE: FRIDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S GROUP
FRIDAY, MARCH 15 AT 6:30 - 9:30 PM
LOCATION: TONALITY BREWING COMPANY, 169 N. SEYMOUR AVENUE, MUNDELEIN
RSVP required to Terry Berger: (224) 775-1479 or terryberger.08@gmail.com

Grounded in Grace is a social opportunity for women to connect together in fellowship.

Please join us at Tonality Brewing—Mundelein's newest craft brewery and restaurant. They have a full bar and restaurant so there are options for everyone. Space is tight so RSVP to Terry Berger is a must!

Contact Terry at terryberger.08@gmail.com with questions or to be added to the Grounded in Grace Messenger group.



PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING

PROJECT HEALING WATERS (PHW) FLY FISHING NORTH CHICAGO

DAY SESSION: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 AT 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
LOCATION: HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVENING SESSION: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 AT 7 - 9 PM
LOCATION: HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Quilting GROUP

QUILTING GROUP
WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 6, 13, 20 & 27 AT 9 AM - 12 PM
LOCATION: ROOM 404

We gather on Wednesdays to sew as a group. Completed quilts are donated to COOL Ministries for families residing in the Family Housing program or to Project Linus, an organization that provides blankets to comfort children who are seriously injured, traumatized, or in need.

Questions? Contact Deb Sherrock at debs695@aol.com or (630) 267-7802.



Common Threads

COMMON THREADS
MONDAY, MARCH 11 AT 1 PM
LOCATION: FELLOWSHIP AREA

We meet on the second Monday of most months to knit, crochet and visit. No prior crafting experience necessary. Each blanket or shawl created is dedicated at a worship service and then presented to the prayer recipient. These pieces offer the healing power of prayer, crafted as an expression of God's love. Request a prayer blanket or shawl for a loved one by contacting the church office at office@holycrosschurch.org Questions? Contact Judy Luplow at (847) 367-0242.



HANDBELL CHOIR

HANDBELL CHOIR
REHEARSALS: THURSDAYS, MARCH 7, 14 & 21 AT 7 PM
LOCATION: BASEMENT

We welcome all to join the Holy Cross Handbell Choir. If you can read music, you are in! Rehearsals are in the church basement on the first three Thursdays of each month.

Questions? Contact Beth Fashimpaur at elizabeth.malecha@gmail.com

Sunday School

by Deaconess Katie Freund

GOD LOVES YOU...

INSIDE OUT

This Lent our kids are looking at our emotions and how God loves us in and through all of our feelings. We're using the framework of the familiar Pixar movie "Inside Out" to remind kids of God's love for them, inside and out. Come join us as we follow the lectionary stories and tie them to different emotions each week. The recurring theme is assuring kids of God's love no matter what they are feeling.

March starts off strong with the story of Jesus cleansing the temple, showing us that even Jesus got angry! We'll keep affirming that God loves us no matter how big our feelings get.

Lenten Schedule:

March 3: John 2:13-22 - **ANGER**

March 10: John 3:14-21 - **FEAR**

March 17: John 12:20-33 - **SADNESS**

March 24: Palm Sunday - **No Sunday School**

March 31: Easter - **JOY** - **No Sunday School**
Children's Sermon during 10 am worship

Don't miss the **Easter Eve Festival on Saturday, March 30 from 3 to 5 pm**. This year's family-friendly Easter event is a pilgrimage through Holy Week. There is so much packed into this sacred time of year, and it's coming to life with music, theatrical sets, costumed actors, and details using all our senses! We'll unpack it in ways that are appropriate for kids and engaging for all ages. See page 3 for more details and a link to register for timed entry tickets.

If you haven't registered your child(ren) aged 3 - 5th grade for Sunday School, please use this link: bit.ly/sundayschool2324



Spring Shepherds

We are truly blessed with a vibrant community, and we're continuing to ask parents to come join us for a few Sundays this spring as Shepherds. We have great kids, fun games, and clever crafts with all the supplies provided.

The spring Sunday School season will continue through April 28. Some people can give a single Sunday, others sign up for a whole month at a time. Whatever works for your schedule, we'd love to have you join us as we shepherd kids on their journey through Lent.

Sign up at this link: bit.ly/shepherdsF23



CONFIRMATION

by Deaconess Katie Freund

Confirmands who successfully complete instruction will affirm their baptism on Palm Sunday, March 24, at the 10 am worship service.

March 2024 Confirmation Classes

Sundays, March 3, 10 & 17, 5 - 8 pm (dinner provided)

Confirmation Service

Rehearsal: Saturday, March 23 at 8:30 am

Celebration & Affirmation of Baptism: Sunday, March 24 at 10 am

Details about our confirmation program schedule can be viewed at HolyCrossChurch.org/confirmation

For those with scheduling conflicts for this spring, here's a look ahead to the dates for Fall 2024:

Fall 2024 Registration & Orientation: Sunday, September 8

Sessions 1-6: Sundays, September 15, 22 & 29; October 6, 13 & 20

Celebration and Affirmation of Baptism: Sunday, October 27

Questions? Contact Deaconess Katie at deaconesskatie@holycrosschurch.org

Milestone Ministries

Our faith journey occurs from birth through life eternal. Along the way, there are important events, rituals and milestones that mark the passage of time through our lives. Through Milestone Ministries we celebrate and mark these important events and times in the lives of children, youth and adults. Each milestone becomes an opportunity to proclaim that God is with us.

Confirmation: Affirmation of Baptism

Spring Session Rehearsal: Saturday, March 23 at 8:30 am

Spring Affirmation of Baptism: Sunday, March 24 at 10 am

See above for more details.

First Communion: Second Grade & up

Workshop: Saturday, March 23 at 9:30 - 11 am

Celebration: Maundy Thursday, March 28 at 7 pm worship

In this milestone, we learn about the mystery and gift that is Holy Communion. Class includes making bread, learning about the Passover, the events surrounding Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper, what happens in Holy Communion and the general "how-tos" of receiving the sacrament. Two sessions are offered each year with the fall class celebrating First Communion on World Communion Sunday (first Sunday of October) and the spring class celebrating First Communion on Maundy Thursday. Sign up by contacting Deaconess Katie at deaconesskatie@holycrosschurch.org

Contact Deaconess Katie at deaconesskatie@holycrosschurch.org with any questions. Learn more about Milestone Ministries at HolyCrossChurch.org/milestoneministries

EMERGE



Middle School Youth Group

Fueling Curiosity, Nurturing Faith

Here's what's coming up for our **weekly events** in March. Each week will be focused on one of the following types of events:

- INVITE:** Join us for a fun event or outing and *INVITE* a friend!
- NURTURE:** These are faith-formation events. We'll check in, explore a Bible story and pray.
- SERVE:** We'll roll up our sleeves for a service project.

Here are some dates to mark on your calendar:

- Sunday, March 3 at 10 - 10:45 am - **Nurture Event**
Faith Formation (Fellowship Area)
- Saturday, March 9 at 7 pm - **Invite Event**
Chicago Wolves Faith & Fellowship Night
Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont
- Sunday, March 17 at 10 - 10:45 am - **Nurture Event**
Faith Formation (Fellowship Area)

As always, we'll share some snacks, check in with each other and with God! Friends are always welcome at any event! View more information at HolyCrossChurch.org/emerge

EMERGE & Crossroads Youth News

by Edwin Andrade

Middle and high school youth are invited to join us for a night of hockey, faith and fellowship at the Allstate Arena. The Invite Event includes both Emerge and Crossroads youth groups. If you would like to attend the Wolves game, please RSVP to me at edwin@holycrosschurch.org no later than March 3, as I will be purchasing tickets before the event. We will need chaperones for the event, if parents are interested in being a volunteer driver, please let me know.

Youth volunteers are welcome to join us on Saturday, March 23 from 12 - 2 pm in the Holy Cross kitchen as we bake and make candy for our March Youth Gathering Fundraiser. Supplies will be provided. All that's needed is volunteers for mixing and baking.

If you have any questions about the Emerge Middle School Youth Group, or the Crossroads High School Youth Group, please email Edwin at edwin@holycrosschurch.org

Youth Group Fundraising Update

by Edwin Andrade

I want to thank everyone at Holy Cross Lutheran Church! I appreciate the generosity and donations made towards helping our youth raise funds for the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering. We were just short of selling all 100 squares on the grid, we sold a total of 91 squares. When the game went into overtime, it required an additional drawing winner. The winners from the drawing are as follows:

- 1st Quarter: Carol Kenney
- 2nd Quarter: Eric Phillips
- 3rd Quarter: Mike Dikelsky
- 4th Quarter: Karen Karris
- Grand Prize Winner: Caroline Rawa

Bake Sale

To support the Youth Gathering fundraising efforts, the youth will be selling baked goods and candy on Palm Sunday, March 24 and on Easter Sunday, March 31, after both worship services on both mornings.



CROSSROADS HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Hey Crossroads! Here's what's coming up for our **weekly events** beginning in March. Each week will be focused on one of the following types of events:

- INVITE:** Join us for a fun event or outing and *INVITE* a friend!
- NURTURE:** These are faith formation events. We'll check in, explore a Bible story and pray.
- SERVE:** We'll roll up our sleeves for a service project.

Here are some dates to mark on your calendar:

- Sunday, March 3 at 11 - 11:45 am - **Nurture Event**
Faith Formation (Fellowship Area)
- Saturday, March 9 at 7 pm - **Invite Event**
Chicago Wolves Faith & Fellowship Night
Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont
- Saturday, March 23 at 12 - 2 pm - **Fundraising Preparation**, Holy Cross Kitchen

As always, we'll share some snacks, check in with each other and with God! Friends are always welcome at any event!

For more information about the Crossroads High School Youth Group, visit HolyCrossChurch.org/crossroads

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

Every three years, thousands of high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.



The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will take place July 14 - 21 in New Orleans, Louisiana for youth currently in grades 8 - 12. Thank you for your support with our fundraising efforts.

For any questions, please reach out to Edwin Andrade at edwin@holycrosschurch.org or (520) 370-9572.

A New Perspective

by Peg Chartier

Normally in March we would be talking about the end of the PADS season approaching. While we all know homelessness does not have a season, moving from the church host model to the new hotel model, we are being asked to continue the good work of providing meals and pantry items year-round. This means all of your generosity will be used year-round to address a variety of needs. Meals, pantry items, diapers, gas cards, clothing, car seats (new) and humidifiers have all been requested. My hope in this new season of PADS is to continue to provide meals and address more of the needs referenced above. Would you consider helping us? You can join the Holy Cross PADS Ministry Team and volunteer your time and talents or you can drop off food items in the PADS bin outside the church office or by making a donation, you will enable us to provide the food and non-food items as the needs arise in real time. To join the PADS Team, contact the church office at office@holycrosschurch.org or (847) 367-4060.

High protein, shelf stable, microwavable meals are requested including meals by Hormel such as Dinty Moore and Completes. These are usually found in the same aisle as the boxed mac and cheese.



I'd like to thank everyone on the PADS Ministry Team for their generosity and commitment. Your efforts are appreciated by all the PADS clients receiving them.

Please visit donate.holycrosschurch.org or use the QR code to support the PADS ministry at Holy Cross.



PADS
LAKE COUNTY

Grief Support



Willow House provides free grief support groups to families who have lost a spouse/child and are actively parenting children ages 3 - 28. They also offer a Survivors of Suicide loss group (this group includes people with varying relationships to the person they lost to suicide). All family members are required to complete an intake process before attending a group. Willow House is available for consultation, as well as to offer additional resources depending on the individual/family's needs. For details on specific programming, meeting dates and more information about Willow House, visit willowhouse.org or email info@willowhouse.org

Save The Date Fundraiser



Melodies of Hope
A Willow House Dueling Pianos Benefit

Join Willow House for its *Melodies of Hope Dueling Pianos* fundraiser on Saturday, April 27 from 6 - 10:30 pm at Loft 24 in Lincolnshire. Open bar, hors d'oeuvres and dinner, raffle tickets and prizes! Visit willowhouse.org for more information.

25th Annual COOL Plant & Flower Sale



Orders Due Monday, April 1

It's time to think spring! We are looking forward to the COOL Plant Sale and all the beautiful flowering plants coming our way! This sale is a wonderful opportunity to purchase annual plants for your yard while supporting COOL Ministries at the same time. The plants are delivered directly from a greenhouse the morning of the pick-up, and the sale provides financial support to the COOL Ministries Food Pantry and Transitional Housing programs, which serves many hungry and homeless families in our area.

Please share the COOL Plant Sale order forms with your friends and neighbors and encourage them to order too. Looking for great Mother's Day gifts? Order beautiful hanging baskets and patio pots that are perfect for gift giving, and pick them up the day before Mother's Day!

To order plants, please pick up a COOL Plant Sale order form at church during a worship service, in the church office during office hours, or download the order form from the church's website at holycrosschurch.org/resources



Orders are due to Holy Cross on Monday, April 1, and plants will be available for pick up at Bethel Lutheran Church in Gurnee on Saturday, May 11 (the day before Mother's Day!). The plant pick-up will occur outside in the Bethel parking lot from 11:30 am to 2 pm. To order, return your order form to Holy Cross by April 1 with a check payable to COOL, or order online by going to holycrosschurch.org/resources

Interested in volunteering? We have a great team from Holy Cross and would love to have your help! Sign up online at: bit.ly/COOLplanthelp

Questions? Contact Terry Berger, Patty Moyer, Jeri Powers, or Diane Rammelsberg at plantsale@coolministries.org

Help Turn Hunger Into Hope

by Emily Young



Our Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) ministry is back in action, with monthly packing sessions for our congregation and guests! FMSC provides a fantastic ad hoc volunteer and fellowship opportunity for people of all ages! Please join us for any of the upcoming packing sessions listed below and participate in one of three volunteer activities—whether you prefer to sit, stand, or move around, you will be in good company with our rotating group of volunteers. Please contact Emily Young at emily.young@allstate.com if you'd like to join us for an upcoming session. New to Feed My Starving Children? Learn more about their mission at fmsc.org

Upcoming Meal Packing Dates

Location: 742 E Park Ave, Libertyville

- Thursday, March 7 from 9 - 10:45 am
- Friday, April 2 from 5 - 6:30 pm

**Saturday, March 2**

5:30 pm First Saturday Evening Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary

Sunday, March 3

8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 9 am Fellowship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Area
 9:45 am Sunday School, Celebration! Childcare Atrium
 10 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 10 am Emerge Middle School Youth Group, Fellowship Area
 11 am Crossroads High School Youth Group, Fellowship Area
 5 pm Confirmation, Fellowship Area

Monday, March 4

6 pm Strength & Core, Celebration! Childcare atrium
 6:30 pm Willow House, Fellowship Area

Tuesday, March 5

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

Wednesday, March 6

9 am Young Life Capernaum Meeting, Fellowship Area
 9 am Quilting Group, 404
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402
 6 pm Midweek Lenten Soup Supper, Fellowship Area
 7 pm Midweek Lenten Worship, Sanctuary

Thursday, March 7

9 am Monthly Meal Packing Session at Feed My Starving Children, Libertyville
 7 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 402

Saturday, March 9

7 am Saturday Morning Men's Group, 208
 7 pm Emerge and Crossroads Chicago Wolves Faith & Fellowship Night, Allstate Arena, Rosemont
 7:30 pm Around The Cross Concert Series: Mz Shon Mo

Sunday, March 10**Easter Baskets Due. Daylight Saving Time begins.**

8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 9 am Fellowship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Area
 9:45 am Sunday School, Celebration! Childcare Atrium
 10 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 5 pm Confirmation, Fellowship Area

Monday, March 11

1 pm Common Threads, Fellowship Area
 6 pm Strength & Core, Celebration! Childcare atrium
 7 pm BSA Troop 194 Meeting, 402

Tuesday, March 12

7 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant
 9:30 am Women's Discussion Group, 208
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402
 7 pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 13

9 am Quilting Group, 404
 11:30 am PHW Day Session, Fellowship Area
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402
 6 pm Midweek Lenten Soup Supper, Fellowship Area
 7 pm Midweek Lenten Worship, Sanctuary
 7 pm PHW Evening Session, 208
 8 pm Church Council, Fellowship Area

Thursday, March 14

7 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 402

Friday, March 15

6:30 pm Grounded in Grace, Tonality Brewing, Mundelein

Sunday, March 17

8 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 9 am Fellowship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Area
 9:45 am Sunday School, Celebration! Childcare Atrium
 10 am Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 10 am Emerge Middle School Youth Group, Fellowship Area
 5 pm Confirmation, Fellowship Area

Monday, March 18

6 pm Strength & Core, Celebration! Childcare atrium
 7 pm BSA Troop 194 Meeting, 402

Tuesday, March 19

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

Wednesday, March 20

9 am Quilting Group, 404
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402
 6 pm Midweek Lenten Soup Supper, Fellowship Area
 7 pm Midweek Lenten Worship, Sanctuary

Thursday, March 21

7 pm Book Club, Zoom
 7 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 402

Saturday, March 23

7 am Saturday Morning Men's Group, 208
 12 pm Crossroads High School Youth Group, HCLC Kitchen

Sunday, March 24**No Sunday School**

8 am Passion/Palm Sunday Worship with procession of palms & Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 9 am Fellowship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Area
 Youth Bake Sale, Fellowship Area
 10 am Passion/Palm Sunday Worship with procession of palms, Affirmation of Baptism & Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 11 am Youth Bake Sale, Fellowship Area

Monday, March 25

6 pm Strength & Core, Celebration! Childcare atrium

Tuesday, March 26

7 am Men's Breakfast Group, The Liberty Restaurant
 9:30 am Women's Discussion Group, 208
 4 pm Red Rose Choirs, 402
 7 pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 27

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

Thursday, March 28

7 pm Book Club, Zoom
 7 pm Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion and First Communion, Sanctuary

Friday, March 29

7 pm Good Friday Worship, Sanctuary

Saturday, March 30

3 pm Easter Eve Festival, Fellowship Area

Sunday, March 31**No Sunday School**

8 am Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 9 am Fellowship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Area
 9 am Youth Bake Sale, Fellowship Area
 10 am Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary & livestream
 11 am Youth Bake Sale, Fellowship Area

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
 1151 N SAINT MARY'S RD
 LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048 -1575

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

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



Mz Shon Mo

Date: Saturday, March 9

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Fellowship Area

A Soul/Blues/ R&B/ Funk singer, with a unique style, that keeps you wanting more.

Details on page 4.

LENT *The Seven Last Words of Christ*

Midweek Lenten Worship
 Nurturing Our Mental Well-Being

March 6, 13, 20
 Soup Suppers at 6 pm
 Worship at 7 pm

Details on page 2.

Easter Eve Festival

Date: Saturday, March 30
Time: 3 - 5 pm
Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church
 Free family-friendly event! See page 3 for details and to register for timed entry tickets.

HOLY WEEK

Passion/Palm Sunday
 March 24 at 8 & 10 am
with procession of palms and Holy Communion.
Affirmation of Baptism

Maundy Thursday
 March 28 at 7 pm
with Holy Communion and First Communion

Good Friday
 March 29 at 7 pm

Easter Eve Festival
 March 30 from 3 - 5 pm

Easter Sunday Worship
 March 31 at 8 & 10 am
The Celebration of the Resurrection
with Holy Communion. Children's Message at 10 am