



HOLY CROSS

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ENCOURAGING THOSE WHO HUNGER
to be nourished by God.

April at a Glance

Check out what's happening in worship, growth, service, and community at Holy Cross this month.

Shepherd and Sheep

Acts 20:28 *Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.*

I am blessed to be Called by God through you, the congregation, to be your Pastor and an under shepherd of Jesus Christ our Good Shepherd! I especially thank you for a wonderful Installation service and your generous hospitality that day and to my whole family.



During this last month a few big questions have frequently surfaced from members and I thought I would try to answer as best I can. Know that all of these questions are being deliberated over by myself and the BoLM as they are important to you and to the congregation.

When will we go back to “normal” services? The BoLM went to one service at the beginning of Advent for a number of reasons. One reason was to unify the congregation into one worship service where members could worship, study and fellowship all together. The other reason was to provide time and togetherness to heal from the difficult traumas you have had in the last few years. We are evaluating the congregation as a whole and individual members along these lines to better decide when we should all go to two services (full Traditional and full Contemporary) with a dedicated education hour in between. When we get to that time it will be planned, advertised and celebrated!

When are we going to Call an Associate Pastor and/or new DCE? The BoLM is evaluating ministry gaps at Holy Cross. An Associate Pastor Call might be coming up next spring after I have had some time to “nest” as your Senior Pastor. A new DCE Call is more likely to precede this as there are gaps in ministry for High School, College and Young Adult ministries at Holy Cross. Be aware, though, that Calling a Pastor or DCE might take some time as there is a shortage of Called workers and, as you know from Calling your Senior Pastor, it might take a few attempts before getting someone to accept.

What is a Sunday morning Pastor Bible study? In the past it was a rarity that your Pastors could have a steady Bible study on Sunday morning as you had three services back-to-back. Because of the current worship

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format, I am blessed to be able to teach you as your Shepherd! My first Bible study will look at the analogy God uses in Scripture about a Shepherd and Sheep. Please stay for the Bible study in the Sanctuary to learn more about Jesus our Good Shepherd!

Have you found a new home yet? Thank you for your prayers concerning this. Because of our unique timing situation and also our housing situation we have to completely sell our house before we can buy a new house. This makes timing a bit tricky but we are hoping to be able to be in our new home by August this year if not sooner. We will for sure invite you all to a house blessing to celebrate with us!

I know there are many other questions you might have and I encourage you to reach out to me (or even the BoLM) with any question you might have. I will try to answer as best and as lovingly as I can. I want to have a close relationship with you my flock!

Your Shepherd in Christ,
Pastor Zillinger

Holy Cross, a community that's transformed through genuine **WORSHIP** so all may follow him.

Worship Schedule

We continue to have **ONE blended worship service at 9 a.m.** followed by classes for all ages at 10:30 a.m.

April Worship

April 7: Second Sunday of Easter; Special Anniversary Recognition

"Boldness," Acts 4:22-35, 1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31

April 14: Third Sunday of Easter

"Sins Blotted Out," Acts 3:11-21, 1 John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36-49

April 21: Fourth Sunday of Easter

"The Good Shepherd," Acts 4:1-12, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:1-18

April 28: Fifth Sunday of Easter

"Counterfeit Christians," Acts 8:26-40, 1 John 4:1-21, John 15:1-8

Prayer Room in Room 223

Our congregational focus this year is on prayer. Come in to our new prayer room anytime during business hours to find a quiet place to pray. Gail Neal would like to invite you to join her on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. **(New Time)** to pray for our call process, our community, country, and others.



Special Anniversary Recognition (Delayed to) April 7th

If you have celebrated a special anniversary (1,5,10,15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years or more) in **January, February, or March**, we invite you to be recognized during worship on **April 7th**. We usually celebrate on "5th Sundays," but since our 5th Sunday is Easter, we are celebrating a week later. Please contact Christine at 719-596-0661 or christineb@holycrosscs.org with your name by **April 4th**.



Pastor's Page

We have a [new page](#) on our website with information about Pastor Z, the new Bible study beginning this month, and a link to a daily devotion video he creates, Monday through Friday.

- Mondays - A recap of Sundays sermon
- Tuesdays - Dig deeper into the Psalms
- Wednesdays - A look at *Luther's Small Catechism*
- Thursdays - Open Topics
- Fridays - A preview of Sundays texts

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Education

Wednesday Night Classes 6-8 p.m.

- **Youth (6th-12th grade)** - Youth Room
- **Aging With Grace** - Room 102 and Zoom
- **Women's Bible Study** - Fireside Room

Sunday Morning

Classes for all ages 10:30-11:30 a.m.

- **(Nursery** (available for those under 4) - nursery
- **Preschool-Kindergarten** (must be 3 AND potty trained) - Room 213
- **1st-3rd Grade**—Room 202
- **4th-5th Grade**—Room 222
- **1st/2nd Year Affirmation Classes**—Room 225
- **3rd year Affirmation Class**—Room 210
- **High School Youth Bible Study**—Youth Room
- **"Shepherd and Sheep" | Starting April 7 in the Sanctuary AND LIVESTREAMED | 10:30 a.m.**

Pastor Zillinger is leading an adult Bible study in place of all the current adult Bible studies (unless you have been informed otherwise by your teacher) beginning April 7.

Class Description: *The Lord relates with people through the Scriptural picture of Shepherd and Sheep. Jesus points to Himself as our Good Shepherd and pastors are considered "under shepherds." Come learn more in Pastor Z's class about this Shepherd and Sheep analogy.*

PLEASE NOTE: New Members' Class was supposed to begin after Easter. If you would like to join/transfer to Holy Cross, please reach out to Christine for new information. christineb@holycrosscs.org or 719-596-0661.

Midweek

- **Adult Bible Study** - every Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Fireside Room
- **Sarah Circle** - (women's group) 2nd Mondays at 10 a.m. in the Fireside Room or Zoom.
- **Deborah Circle** - (women's group) 3rd Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room or Zoom.
- **Joy Circle** - (women's group) 3rd Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Hiller Hall.
- **Theology on Tap** - (men's group) 4th Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m. at various venues. Call Carl Miedich for information about the next meeting. 618-780-3139. April's meeting will be on 4/22 at Trinity Brewing Company, 4630 Forge Rd.



Bear One Another's Burdens

- Mites Sunday is the third Sunday of each month (April 21). All are welcome to drop off donations at the Ministry Center.
- RADA Knives will be available again at the Ministry Center April 14-May 19. You can also order through the catalog. Think Mothers' Day or wedding gifts. These knives are great. Use one & believe it. Be sure to click the Holy Cross Women's Ministry. Sales support missions. Link. <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=4848357.7c0f32>
- **Mother-Daughter Tea** will be **April 13th** at 2 p.m. with the theme "Teddy Bear's Picnic. Tickets will be on sale April 7th at the Ministry Center.
- Beginning in May - the **Baby Bottle Boomerang** for Life Network Save the date--Tuesday May 7th, 6pm. **LWML annual gathering.** Hiller Hall. Looking for officers. The board is a fun group.

Input Needed: Summer Sunday School?

DCE Lizz is looking at interest for providing Summer Sunday School at Holy Cross this summer. Summer Sunday School is for those 3 AND potty trained through ENTERING 5th Grade for the 2024-2025 school year. Those entering 6th grade for the 2024-2025 school year may either attend as a participant or as a helper.

DCE Lizz is still working on the plans for how Summer Sunday School will look and that **will be determined by the number of kids and volunteers**. Please contact DCE Lizz if your child is planning on attending Summer Sunday School this summer and if you, or older children (6th grade and older) are willing to volunteer by **April 30**. Thank you!



VBS is coming

June 10-14 | 9:30-noon

VBS Registration opens April 1. Click on the link to sign up as a participant or volunteer. <https://vbspro.events/p/events/536210> You can also sign up to volunteer by the mailboxes. We hope to see you there!

Never Alone | March 9, 10 a.m.

Any women looking for Christian fellowship are invited to attend gatherings in the Fireside Room. We will share a devotion followed by fellowship time. Those attending may bring their own food or beverage if desired. If you have any questions please call Lorrie at 719-360-2272.



Holy Cross Lutheran School

Growing Together in Jesus!

Happy Easter from all of us in the school! The children are having fun with Easter activities and lessons that point toward the cross and empty tomb. He is Risen! With spring upon us, we would like to spruce up the garden and sandbox out on the playground; the children are ready to plant items in their garden. **We are in need of fresh potting soil to get started and new play sand. If you would like to donate or help us please contact me.**

The school is seeking eligible candidates to serve with preschool and elementary in all aspects. We are especially in need of help with our elementary program. With a couple more leaders, we could double the program attendance. Interested persons may send a resume or questions to hcls@holycrosscs.org.

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is still open. To register for next year please visit the Holy Cross website. There is a waitlist for elementary and we are praying for more staff to be able to include all these children. Thank you for telling others about our Christ-centered program serving children age 2.5 through 5, not in kindergarten with half day and full day preschool and after school care serving Thomas MacLaren Charter School. The events hosted at Holy Cross are an important part of the school mission. Events like the Fall Festival and Vacation Bible School draw in families from our community and several of those families end up back here to enroll their child in our school. Please continue to share the school with families in the community. Your continued prayers are always welcome too.

Mona Book, School Director

Holy Cross, a community that's transformed through genuine **SERVICE** so all may follow him.

Honduras News

Honduras Mission Trip 2024

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The Giving Tree tags are gone! We will now have the supplies we need to conduct the 2024 trip as well as the funds to ship the mission materials to Honduras. We are SO blessed by the faithful support of our Holy Cross members.

Honduras Coffee: The 2023 supply of coffee is nearly gone. About 15 bags of ground coffee remain. On March 11 we were saddened to hear that one of the coffee fields was set ablaze. As of this writing we don't know the full extent of the damage but surely much of the planting has been destroyed. Praise God that this year's beans had been harvested. We will provide updates as we get them. We ask for your prayers.

Honduras 2024 Special Project(s): Each year we gather donations to support key needs in Lepaterique and Tegucigalpa. Housing is the focus for the 2024 special project in Lepaterique. Pastor Omar currently has six old homes he would like to repair/rebuild following recent damage from rains. Two of these homes are for pastors of the village churches in El Espino and El Naranjo. These homes are very humble to start so further damage makes daily life that much more difficult. Your donation will go toward the purchase of the materials needed to make these homes more livable.

The first special project in Tegucigalpa will support the "Lead a Child" program at Good Shepherd Lutheran. The program provides Christ-centered education support to neighborhood children. Praise be to God that they have 80 children in the program. We would like to take a donation for much-needed supplies and a small stipend for the teachers. Last year we were able to bring \$1,250. We would like to exceed our previous donation. Can you help? What an encouragement we can be to God's faithful servants at Good Shepherd.

Finally, Compassion Project 223 in Tegucigalpa is considering offering vocational training to neighborhood children. Like Good Shepherd, Project 223 works in a dangerous area of the city where the lure of gangs is

ever-present. We would like to bring a donation towards their efforts as well. We will continue to provide updates as we gather more information. We will take donations from **March 1 - April 30**. Contact Jeff Faunce or Kevin and Cassie Hein if you have further questions.

Lepaterique Clinic Update. The construction of the clinic continues. What an amazing gift this will be to the church and community. The foundation and walls of the first floor are nearly complete; however, much work remains before it can open. You can view a 6 minute video update on our youtube page.

In the meantime, Pastor Omar has organized mobile clinics to reach out to Lepaterique and outlying areas. These are staffed by volunteers who assess the health of the people and distribute common medications as appropriate. Nursing students that are, in part, supported by fund raisers such as the **Honduras Bowl-a-Thon**, serve at these sites. Holy Cross will participate in these mobile clinics as part of our team activities in June. To God be all glory!

Drivers Needed

Drivers are needed to drive the Honduras Mission team and their supplies **to the airport** in Denver. Date: June 19; Time: 7:30 p.m.

Drivers are needed to drive the Honduras Mission Team and their supplies back **from the airport** in Denver.

Date: June 28; Time 11:30 p.m.

If you are interested in driving or have a trailer or horse trailer they might borrow, please contact Deanna Waldron denadjim@juno.com or 719-510-3472.

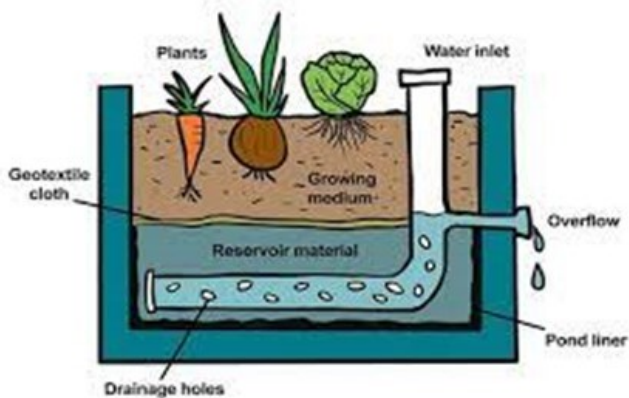
Honduras Sponsors!

Ziploc bags have been placed in your mailboxes ready for you to fill for the 2024 Honduras mission team to take to your sponsor kids. Filled bags may be turned in to the Ministry Center **until May 26th**. If you did not receive a bag or have any questions/concerns please see Kelly Carter or email:

hondurassponsorship@gmail.com

Book Bank

We are always accepting **donations of good quality books (in English or Spanish), appropriate for children ages 3 to 9.** Books may be dropped off at the front office during the week or at the **Ministry Center on Sunday mornings after worship.** If you wish to make a targeted monetary contribution for this effort we would be quite grateful. Thank you for your support! For more information, contact Dan Szarke at szarke@yahoo.com.



Community Garden

Community Gardening is just around the corner! Earlier this year I proposed some of the groups from our Church consider growing in our garden for the pantry and members could take different days or weeks to water and weed.

This spring I am also working with an Eagle Scout needing a project and I have proposed building 4 three foot high self-watering beds. The benefits of these beds are many, and I am hoping we can build 4 this spring.

1. Less water will be used, and this will save on water for the garden and Church.
2. The higher garden will allow folks in wheelchairs access, and folks with bad backs will not have to bend over while gardening.
3. Gardeners will only have to come to the garden once or twice a week to water; once their plants are established.

If you are interested in helping us build these new plots, please leave your name and number at the Ministry Center in the binder that has a gardening section.



Food Pantry

We are open Mondays & Tuesdays 1 to 3 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

March needs: spaghetti sauce, canned fruit. We can also accept **meat, eggs, and dairy products** such as butter, yogurt, and milk if you bring them in during office hours so they can be refrigerated promptly.

If you would like to help in the food pantry, contact Christine in the church office or Gail Youngmeyer at gailyoungmeyer@yahoo.com. There are direct service positions as well as behind-the-scenes roles.



Join us for Bingo on Sat., April 27th from 5-7 in Hiller Hall!

Bingo is free to play with a donation to our community garden. We are specifically looking for terra cotta pots and lids, or a monetary donation. We are looking to create an Olla watering system.

Feel free to bring a friend, a snack to share, or your dinner!



Hosted by the FUN Committee

F.ellowship
U.nity
N.ourishment



Stitchin' Servants

March 16

This group usually meets on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Fireside Room. They make baptismal blankets, prayer shawls, and other handmade items for local organizations.

As modeled by Jesus,
we will build a **WELCOMING** community.

Holy Cross Armed Forces Ministry

Upcoming Events:

- **Military Women's Coffee Group** – Join other military service members, spouses, and family members for a fun, casual coffee group usually on the first Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in Hiller Hall. Because of Easter, **this month's coffee is on the second Tuesday April 9th at 9:30 a.m. in Hiller Hall.** Come join the fun and fellowship. Child care is provided and children are always welcome.
- **Armed Forces Potluck** - Our next potluck is scheduled for May 19th in conjunction with Armed Forces Day. An interesting and informative program has been arranged. Look for more details as the date gets closer. An Honor Flights has been arranged. The main course and a cake will be provided. Stay tuned for additional details in next month's Newsletter and the Armed Forces Ministry bulletin board as the date approaches.



Roster Updates:

Email us at holycrossafmc@gmail.com if your address, email, or phone number has recently changed, or if you would like to be added/removed from the roster.

Who We Serve:

We are dedicated to those who have served or are currently on active duty and their family members (including Gold Star families). We invite you to experience fellowship, outreach, Bible study, and support services.

Where to Find Us:

Find us on Facebook at [Holy Cross Armed Forces Ministry](#). Be sure to also check out the Armed Forces Ministry bulletin board located outside room 102 for information, highlighted events, and the quarterly spotlighted person or family.

Young At Heart

April 8 at 11:30 a.m.

- **April 8** - Immanuel Lutheran Church. Meal by Rodger. Program: "The Buffalo Soldiers" by Willie Brezell
- **May 6** - Holy Cross Lutheran. Potluck lunch. Program is Springs Rescue Mission presented by CEO Jack Briggs.



Scrapbooking Group

March 16 at 10 a.m.

Bring your scrapbooking or other projects to work on while we fellowship and create. We usually meet the third Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. in Fireside Room. Contact Janet Grangruth with any questions: janetgrangruth@msn.com or 719-638-6874.

Alissa Bernabei Music and DCE Scholarship

Coming Soon - A beautiful memorial in the form of a scholarship will be released to Holy Cross Lutheran Church and the Pikes Peak circuit in Alissa Bernabei's name. Details will be coming soon.



Young Adult Game Night at Immanuel

Join others age 18-39 from the area on the **first Friday of every month** at 6:30 p.m. for a game night at Immanuel Lutheran's fellowship hall (846 E. Pikes Peak Ave.) Bring a favorite game and a snack to share if you'd like. Questions? Contact Becky Fisher at 254-747-0016.

Online Movie Night

A new feature on our website



- A company called Catalyst streams Christian movies every Friday and Sunday night at 7 p.m., and they allow churches such as Holy Cross to put them on their websites.
- The movies are not an "on demand" type of thing where you can watch the movie anytime you want. It plays at exactly 7 p.m. and goes from start to finish.
- There is a link on our website is near the bottom of our website at holycrosscs.org. This is where you need to go to watch the movie at 7 p.m. Friday or Sunday night.

Let us know if you give it a try and tell us what you think.



Save these dates to have some fun with the FUN Committee in 2024!

June 1 - Parking Lot Community Sale. Host a garage sale or craft sale.

March National Days to Celebrate

April 1 — U.S Air Force Academy Day
April 6 — Army Day
April 14 — Air Force Reserve Birthday
April 15 — Tax Day
April 19 — Oklahoma City Bombing Commemoration Day
April 23 — Army Reserve Birthday
April 30 — Military Brats Day

Other Days to Celebrate in March

April 2 — Peanut Butter and Jelly Day
April 5 — First Contact Day
April 6 — Twinkie Day
April 11 — Barbershop Quartet Day
April 20 — Lima Bean Respect Day
April 22 — Shakespeare Day
April 24 — Pigs in a Blanket Day
April 30 — Oatmeal Cookie Day