



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.

2025 Holy Cross Milestone Statement

Connecting all to our identity and community in Christ at Holy Cross

The Voice of Your Shepherd

Pastor Zillinger

1 Peter 5:1-4 "So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory."

A Pause to Celebrate

We are taking a small pause from my stewardship series to celebrate. I just celebrated my one-year anniversary as your under-shepherd, your pastor, here at Holy Cross. (I hope you are wanting to celebrate as well!) The Lord has blessed me and my family greatly in your Calling me as your pastor. I pray that you also see the Lord's blessing in this Calling.

Hearing the Voice of Your Pastor

Before I was installed, I sought wisdom from our circuit church pastors, your interim pastor, our circuit visitor, and our District President. One piece of advice that I took to heart was the suggestion for the congregation to hear the voice of their pastor in worship, leading, preaching, and teaching. As your under-shepherd I would be proclaiming the Gospel, the voice of our great Shepherd, Jesus Christ. My preaching would be very Law/Gospel focused with Jesus Christ being the main subject of my sermons following the lectionary. (This is something I always do in every sermon!)

Echoes of the Voice

You might have heard an echo of this advice as I led the Shepherd and Sheep Bible study after Easter last year. You might have also heard this as I have primarily led worship with Liturgists helping in just a few ways. (There are certain parts of the worship service that are led by the Pastor and some that are allowed to be led by Liturgists/Lay Leaders). Then you might also have heard the voice of your pastor in the sanctuary Bible study where we are focusing on what it means to be a Christian/Lutheran in our belief, teaching, confession, and practice of the Creeds. (Baptism will soon be coming!)

(Continued on page 2)

Future Reverberation

I am now in the blessing of my second year as your pastor. We will be starting to add some more liturgy that lay leaders can help lead. We will also be continuing to hear what it means to be a Christian/Lutheran as we look at the six chief parts of Christian discipleship found in the Catechism. We will be including some more great Bible study options for Sunday morning. We will continue to focus on our identity and community here at Holy Cross as leadership begins working on our Mission and Vision statements as per your Transition Team document. We will continue our healing process as a congregation for the next few years and I pray that you can hear the voice of your Shepherd, Jesus Christ, in the voice of your pastor

May the Lord bless us and keep us as we continue to hear the voice of Jesus Christ!

Pastor Zillinger

Note from the President

Nathan Borchers



Did you notice the new lighting? New LED lights were installed throughout the majority of the building (with the exception of Hiller Hall) thanks to a very generous donation from a member. Not only do they look great and provide better light, they also will save us money on energy bills in the long run.

We are still struggling a bit financially as giving was less than budgeted. However, spending was below budget for February although still a little over budget for the year. The Board of Directors is continuing to closely watch our financial status.

We are putting together a committee to help organize events as we look to the 60th anniversary celebration later this year. If you would like to be on this committee, please see myself or any member of the Board of Directors.

As always, if you have questions, please let me know.

Budget Update (as of Feb 28)

Monthly giving: \$ 76,711.44

Budgeted Monthly giving: \$ 74,795.79

Total giving YTD: \$ 137,598.36

Budgeted Giving YTD: \$ 128,209.99

Spending YTD: \$ 222,715.64

Budgeted spending YTD: \$ 228,574.19

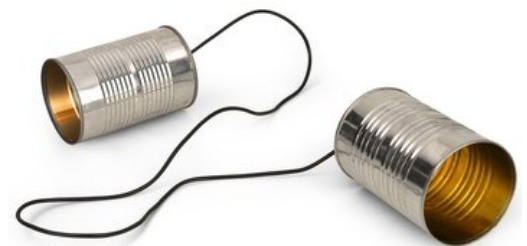
Current budget deficit: \$-55,638.76 *

* Note: complete budget totals include other factors not shown in this report.

New Communication Process

For scheduling events, fundraisers, announcements, room usage, etc.

Communication is hard. We are trying to make it easier and more streamlined, so we are launching a new system for requesting rooms, holding events, and making announcements. All of these requests will funnel through **one form** that will get disseminated to the necessary staff or other people. The form is to *request* permission, not a guarantee or permission.



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

Worship Schedule

We offer two services with education time in between:

- 8 a.m.** - Hymnal liturgy and hymns with the organ
- 9:15 a.m. - Short "grab and go" refreshments in Hiller Hall
- 9:30 a.m.** - Christian Education Hour (Sunday School/Adult Bible Study)
- 10:30 a.m. - Food and Fellowship in Hiller Hall
- 11 a.m.** - Creative Worship liturgy and songs and hymns led by the worship team



**SAVIOR
SERVANT
FRIEND**
SERVICES FOR LENT

**Join us for
Midweek
Lenten Service**

Beginning Wednesday, March 5

- 11:30 a.m. (morning prayer)
- 7:15 p.m. (evening prayer)

Pick up your
FREE Lenten Devotional
at the Ministry Center

40
DAYS

Week 1: FORGIVER
Week 2: HEALER
Week 3: LISTENER
Week 4: ENCOURAGER
Week 5: PROTECTOR
Week 6: COMFORTER

Mid-Week Lenten Worship

Join us for two more Wednesday Lenten Worship services on 4/2 and 4/9 at 11:30 a.m. or 7:15 p.m.

Holy Week

- 4/17 Maundy Thursday at 11:30 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.
- 4/18 Good Friday at 11:30 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.
- 4/20 Easter Service times: sunrise at 6 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m.

Altar Flowers

The **2025** sign up sheet is on the copy room door if you'd like to sign up to recognize a special anniversary, birthday, or other event or to remember someone who has passed or just because. We have had to **increase the cost to \$30**, and you may take the arrangement home after the service. We ask that the flower container be returned to the office when the flowers are done.

April Worship

8 a.m. or 11 a.m.

Sundays

Join us in person or online on YouTube or Facebook to worship Jesus at 8 a.m. or 11 a.m. on Sundays. Communion is offered at all services.

April 6: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Pastor Zillinger; "Goal Vision"; Isaiah 43:16-21, Phil. 3:4b-14, Luke 20:9-20

April 13: Palm Sunday

Pastor Zillinger; "Looking up the Hill"; Deut. 32:36-39, Phil. 2:5-11, John 12:20-43

April 20: Easter Sunday (Services at 6, 8, and 11 a.m.)

Pastor Zillinger; "The Lamb Lives I Live"; Job 19:23-27, 1 Cor. 15:19-26, Luke 24:1-12

April 27: Second Sunday of Easter; Honduras Sunday

Pastor Zillinger; "Lampstand"; Acts 5:12-20 (21-32), Rev. 1:4-18, John 20:19-31

Pastor's Page

There is a page on our website with information about Pastor Z, his current Bible study, and a link to a daily devotion video he creates, Monday through Friday.

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

Prayer Room in Room 223

Come in to our prayer room anytime during business hours (M-F, 9-3) to find a quiet place to pray. The prayer team would like to invite you to join them on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. to pray for our church, our community, country, and others.

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

Wednesday Night

[No class on April 16 for Holy Week.]

- 5—5:45 p.m. Meal and salad bar, free will offering
- 6—7 p.m. Classes for all ages

<u>Class Title/Level</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Leaning on Jesus (adult, co-ed)	Room 102	Richelle Hecker
The Chosen (adult, co-ed video study)	Fireside Room	Rick Waters
6th grade affirmation	Room 210	Carl Miedich
7th/8th grade affirmation	Hiller Hall	Pastor Zillinger
High School	Youth Room	David Wickert/Michelle Mueller
Children	Rooms 213 and 225	DCE Lizz
Nursery (under 4)	Nursery	Trained nursery workers

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

[No class on April 20 for Easter.]

<u>Class Title/Level</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
The Creeds (adult)	Sanctuary	Pastor Zillinger
Lutheranism 101 (adult)	Fireside Room	Vern Gillette
High School	Youth Room	Chris and Heather Abatelli
Middle School	Room 210	Jim Waldron
Preschool/Kindergarten	Room 213	
1st/ 2nd Grade	Room 222	
3rd-5th Grade	Room 225	
Nursery (under 4)	Nursery	Trained nursery workers

The Resurrection Study (March 9-April 13)

The overall purpose of this course is to provide an overview on the historical evidence that supports the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The goal is to help individuals understand the most significant pieces of evidence supporting the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Class runs March 9-April 13. Led by Mike Forbis.

New Member Basics Class (March 23-May 4; New Member Sunday May 11)

This class is intended for those who have completed Lutheranism 101 or who are transferring from another LCMS church. The class is a great opportunity to meet other new people and be introduced to the ministries and leadership of Holy Cross.



Easter Encounter

Saturday, April 12 from 10-noon

We are in need of candy and volunteers. Drop off candy at the Ministry Center. There is also a sign up sheet for volunteers at the Ministry Center. We need the following help: set up, clean up, egg hiders.

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

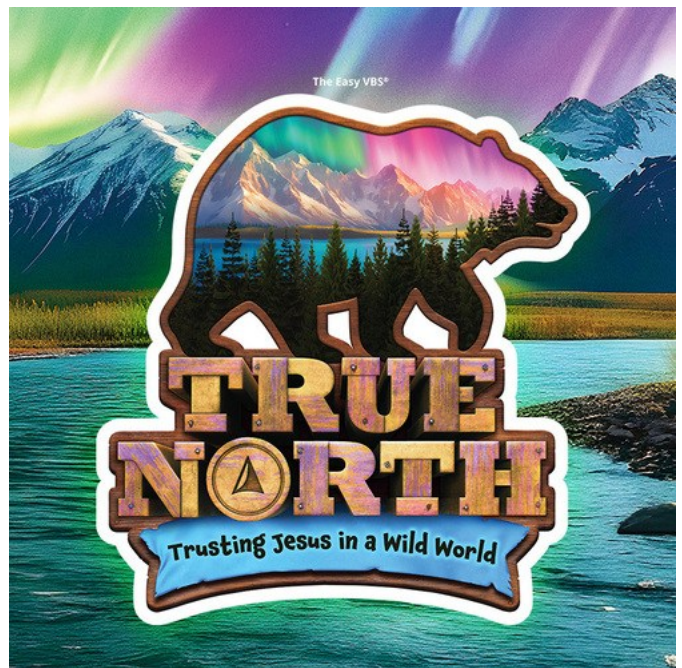
Romans 6:4



Easter Breakfast

The Youth will be hosting Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 20 from 7-8 a.m. and 9:30-11:00 a.m. The main course will be egg casseroles and biscuits and gravy. All proceeds will go to support Youth going on mission trips. Thank you for your support!

We are in need of **egg donations**. Please consider purchasing a dozen eggs for Easter Breakfast. Bring the eggs to the Kitchen refrigerator labeled Easter Breakfast BY Monday, April 14.



Vacation Bible School

June 9-13

VBS registrations for both participants and volunteers will begin **Sunday April 13**. (Use the QR code at the right or call the church office).



Midweek Adult Classes

- **Justification and Sanctification** (co-ed) meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Led by Wayne & Lisa Gayler.
- **Hebrews** (women's study) meets on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. Led by Gail Neal.
- **James, Peter, John & Jude** (men's study) meets on Thursdays at 6 a.m. at Wade's Café. Led by Neil Ridenour.
- **(Starting April 2) Psalms: A New Song. All of Your Wonderful Deeds** (women's study) meets on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Led by Cheryl Dempsey and Karen Givens.
- **Max Lucado books** (women's study) meets on Thursdays at 9 a.m. via Zoom.
- **Bible Study-Acts** (co-ed) meets on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the Fireside Room.
- **Theology on Tap** (men's study) meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Brewing (4630 Forge Rd.) Please call Carl Miedich (618) 780-3139 for more information.

Other Groups: If you are looking for other small groups, visit this www.holycrosscs.org, click on Grow and scroll down to Adult Classes.



Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World

Upcoming Events

- **RADA Knife Sales** - great gifts for weddings, graduation, Mother's Day, Father's Day
- **April 20 - Mites Sunday** is the third Sunday of each month. All are welcome to drop off donations at the Ministry Center.
- **April 26 - Mother/Daughter Tea "Spring Time in Paris"**
- Entertainment provided by "The Peak School of Dance."
- Register on April 6 and 13, cost \$2
- **Mother's Day** - Baby bottle boomerang to support Life Network begins.

We Need Your Help

We have a faithful group of people who are reaching out to our homebound, ill, and elderly members through "Care Card Connections," and they could use your help in keeping this ministry going with **donations of postage**. Thank you to everyone who has donated cards! We have a good supply right now. Any donations can be dropped off at the Ministry Center. Thank you so much!

We'd Love to Have You Join an LWML Circle

- **Sarah Circle** - 2nd Mondays at 10 a.m. in Fireside Room/Zoom. Study: *The Baptismal River: Studying the Sacrament throughout Scripture* by Richard Davenport
- **Joy Circle** - 3rd Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Hiller Hall. Study: From the LWML Quarterly
- **Deborah Circle** - 3rd Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Fireside Room/Zoom. Study: *God's Relentless Love - A Study of Hosea* by Sharma Fritz
- **Esther Circle** - Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. **ON HIATUS**

Never Alone | April 12, 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.

SPRINGTIME IN PARIS



MOTHER/DAUGHTER TEA

Saturday, April 26, 2025 - 2:00pm

Hiller Hall

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Tickets available at the Ministry Center April 6th and 13th

\$2.00 per person

Dress up and bring your daughters,
mothers or girlfriends.

Don't miss out on the fun!

Hosted by Holy Cross Lutheran Church LWML

Questions: Contact Jan Anderson, 719-930-1406

Holy Cross Lutheran School

Run to Jesus!

Happy Easter from all of us in the school! Later this month, the children will enjoy Easter activities and lessons that point toward the cross and empty tomb. He is Risen!



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. 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. Thank you for telling others about our Christ-centered program serving children age 2.5 through 5, not in kindergarten with part time and full time preschool and after school care serving Thomas MaLaren Charter School. Tours can be set up by contacting the school office at hcls@holycrosscs.org.

The events hosted at Holy Cross are an important part of the school mission. Events like the Easter Encounter, 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.

Your continued prayers are always welcome.

Mona Book, School Director

Volunteer Need at Our School

We need some volunteers to help walk elementary students from Thomas MaLaren to Holy Cross and others to help with preschool recess. This would be from **2:45-3:30**. Would you be able to make a one-day weekly commitment to help the school for less than an hour? Walkers are needed Wednesday and Thursday and recess help is needed Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Contact the church office at 719-596-0661 or the school at hcls@holycrosscs.org

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

Stephen Ministry

Holy Cross is reinitiating Stephen Ministry. Carl Miedich has volunteered to go through Leader Training, and once that is complete, we will have Stephen Minister training classes for those interested in becoming a Stephen Minister or who want to refresh their old training. More to be announced this spring and summer. Please check out their website to see if you would be interested in becoming a Stephen Minister here at Holy Cross.

Contact Carl to be put on his interested contact list, cmiedich@liberty.edu

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.



Honduras Special Project

Honduras Mission Update

The Honduras Team will be sharing stories and pictures from their trip during worship on April 27th. Come see and hear what God is doing in Honduras!



Food Pantry

HOURS: Open Mondays & Tuesdays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Current needs: jelly, pancake syrup, small bottles of oil, small packages of flour/sugar, eggs, and egg cartons. Monetary donations are always appreciated also.

Please reach out to Kelly Carter (mrs_kelc@yahoo). There are direct service positions as well as behind-the-scenes roles.

Stitchin' Servants | April 19

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.



Photo by [amirali mirhashemian](#) on [Unsplash](#)

As modeled by Jesus,

we will build a **WELCOMING** community.

Scrapbooking Group | April 19

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.

Young At Heart | Apr 7 | 11:30 am

- **April 7th** - Immanuel Lutheran Church, meal by "Roger." Program presented by Mark Dickerson entitled "The Tuskegee Airmen."
- **May 5th** - Holy Cross Lutheran Church

For more information regarding Young at Heart please call, text or leave a message on Larry Schumm's phone, 567-259-9559.

Holy Cross Armed Forces Ministry

Upcoming Events:

- **Military Women's Coffee Group** – Join other Military Moms/Women/Spouses for a fun casual coffee group on the first Tuesday of each month. This month's coffee is on **April 1** at 9:30 a.m. in Hiller Hall.

Come join the fun and fellowship. Childcare is provided and children are always welcome.



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.

Living Last Supper Presentation

April 5 at 7 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church, 1310 Evergreen Heights Drive, Woodland Park, will present a drama titled *The Living Last Supper* on Saturday, April 5, at 7 p.m. During this presentation, each of Jesus' disciples (played by members of Faith) speak of how they met the Savior and how He changed their lives. As they gather in the upper room for the Passover meal, they will share their reactions to the words of Jesus as He says, "One of you will betray me." Come and discover the drama of that Last Supper! There is no cost – invite your friends and neighbors – this is a fantastic way to share your faith! If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 719-687-2303 or go to faithteller.org.

Young Adult Game Night at Immanuel | April 4

Young adults (ages 18-39) are welcome to join us in the fellowship hall at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 6:30 p.m. the first Friday of each month for a game night. Feel free to bring your favorite game and a snack to share! Questions? Text or call Becky Fisher at (254) 747-0016.

Reminder:

Church office will be closed at noon on Good Friday and closed all day on April 21 for Easter Monday.

**I am the resurrection and the life.
Whoever believes in me,
though he die, yet shall he live.**

John 11:25 (English Standard Version)