



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
ENCOURAGING THOSE WHO HUNGER
to be nourished by God.

June 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

Simplified Stewardship – Available and Aware

Hebrews 10:24-25 ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Simplified Stewardship

Please read the previous newsletter articles to learn more about stewardship.

Simplified Stewardship Treasure #1 - *At the beginning of the year, evaluate your income and assets to regularly and proportionally give to your congregation. 2 Corinthians 8:3*

Simplified Stewardship Treasure #2 - *Regularly, weekly/monthly, give to your congregation your treasure stewardship. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2*

Simplified Stewardship Time #1 – *Schedule your yearly calendar based on God's Festivals in Christ. Acts 20:16*

Simplified Stewardship, Time, Talent, Treasure #1 – *Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of God's family — the church — in managing all of life's resources for His purposes. Luke 12:42*

LC-MS Stewardship Definition

Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of God's family — the church — in managing all of life's resources for His purposes.

Time, Talent, and Treasure

God has given you all things in Christ Jesus as a gift for His kingdom, for your neighbor, and eventually for your enjoyment. Simplified Stewardship encompasses all of our Time, Talent, and Treasure. All that we do, each day, how we plan, and what we accomplish is all considered our stewardship of time. Our abilities, desires, strengths, weaknesses, and vocations are all considered our stewardship of talent. All of our possessions, our income, our expenses, and our wealth are considered our stewardship of treasure.

Talents

God has made you unique with many abilities and talents that you may use to serve Him and others

(Continued on page 2)

well. Some talents are unique only to you, how you do things, and how you are created by God. Other talents might be possessed, utilized, and used by many people. Some talents are developed skills, while others are abilities that come naturally to you. You can excel in some talents, or you can just use them regardless of success or failure. Some talents are available to you over time, while others disappear with time and situation. What you do and how you do things are your talents given to you by God. They are not things you are to hide, squander, or even keep to yourself. They are things that the more you use them, the more they will benefit others and even yourself!

Available

In order to serve others well, you have to be available, with them, to serve them. It is one thing to be good, successful, or efficient in your service. It is another to be available to serve when you are needed. Our Bible verse talks about how you are not to neglect meeting together in worship and church activities because you might miss the opportunity to serve your brother and sister in Christ. Also, in not being available in worship or other church events, you restrict their talents in serving you.

Aware

You also need to be aware of others around you, their situation, and their needs, or even wants, so that you may serve them. Just showing up right on time for church and then leaving right away might not be a good use of your talents in serving others or even allowing them to serve. Just hanging out at church all the time with your head buried in your phone or talking to only your friends might not give you the opportunities to serve that are needed. Be aware of your surroundings, of the saints around you, and even of your neighbor. There are so many opportunities for you to use your talents in service to God and others!

More Simplified Stewardship to Come

Throughout this year (and possibly beyond), we will be learning more Simplified Stewardship habits as we grow in our identity and community here at Holy Cross. If you have found this small, simplified stewardship habit and definition beneficial, please share it with others and pass it along to your family. Also, if you have other small tips, tricks, or habits that have helped you in your Christian stewardship, please pass them along to me and other Christians. Please share this article and tip with others in our congregation, as many have not yet read these newsletter articles or seen the Sunday morning slides. We joyfully learn and grow from and with each other as we are connected here at Holy Cross!

Living Available and Aware to serve God and others,

Pastor Zillinger



Note from the President

Nathan Borchers

We continue to track closely to the approved budget, some pluses and minuses here and there, but overall fairly close. This is good news in that we are seeing what we planned. But this is also bad news. Recall our approved budget results in an end-of-year deficit of approximately \$169k. This is obviously unsustainable beyond this year. As discussed at the Annual Voter's Meeting, the BODs will use the May financial report (which we receive mid-June) to review possible cuts/potential savings we can still realize this year.

Looking forward to 2026, unless something unforeseen happens and without increased giving, we will be

(Continued on page 3)

looking to make substantial cuts to the budget for next year.

In other news, we are looking to revise the constitution and bylaws. I am forming a committee to take on this work and would like to have 3-5 members from the congregation in on this effort, along with representatives from the BOD, BOLM, and staff. If you are interested, please let me know.

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

Budget Update (as of April 30)

Monthly giving: \$ 77,167.12

Total giving YTD: \$ 305,138.57

Spending YTD: \$ 447,716.02

Current budget deficit: \$-46,738.87 *

Budgeted Monthly giving: \$ 74,897.56

Budgeted Giving YTD: \$ 307,349.62

Budgeted spending YTD: \$ 444,156.35

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

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



Summer Worship Schedule

We offer one service with education time to follow:

9 a.m. - Divine worship with rotating worship and music style

10:15 a.m. - refreshments and fellowship in Hiller Hall

10:30 a.m. - Christian Education Hour (Sunday School/Adult Bible Study)

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.

June 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.

June 1: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Pastor Zillinger "We Are One"; Acts 1:12-26, Rev. 22:1-6(7-11)12-20, **John 17:20-26**

June 8: Pentecost; Confirmation Sunday; VBS Commissioning

Pastor Zillinger "Peace I Leave with You!"; Gen. 11:1-9, Acts 2:1-21, **John 14:23-31**

June 15: The Holy Trinity; Father's Day; VBS Sunday

Pastor Zillinger "Undercover Boss"; Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31, **Psalm 8**, Acts 2:14a, 22-36, John 8:48-59

June 22: Second Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor Zillinger "Lap of Prosperity"; **Isaiah 65:1-9**, Gal. 3:23-4:7, Luke 8:26-39

June 29: Third Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor Zillinger "Circumcision Party"; Acts 15:1-12, **Galatians 2:1-10**, Matthew 16:13-19

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

Eccles. 3:1

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.

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

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

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

[Last Regular Class May 18 - Summer Sunday School begins June 1 at 10:30.]

<u>Class Title/Level</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Baptism (adult)	Sanctuary	Pastor Zillinger
High School	Youth Room	
Middle School	Room 210	
Preschool/Kindergarten	Room 213	
1st/ 2nd Grade	Room 222	
3rd-5th Grade	Room 225	
Nursery (under 4)	Nursery	Trained nursery workers

Summer Sunday School Help Wanted

I am looking for people willing to serve as Summer Sunday School Assistants and Substitute Teachers. An Assistant is someone who helps the main teacher with teaching, supplies, and classroom management and engages with the students. A Substitute Teacher is someone who can fill in when the main teacher is unable to teach. We will have 4 classes, Prek-1st Grade, 2nd-5th Grade, 6th-8th Grade, and 9th-12th Grade. Summer Sunday School will run from June 1-August 24. For more information, contact Lizz at lizzm@holycrosscs.org.

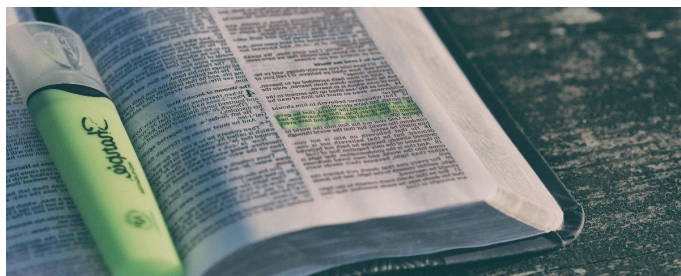
Summer Youth Group | Wednesdays 6-8 p.m.

We will have games and Bible study each night. This is for those entering 6th grade- finishing 12th grade. I hope to see you there!

*No class on June 11 because of VBS.

Never Alone | June 14, 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.



**Having a Mary Heart
in a Martha World**

Upcoming Events

- **RADA Knife Sales** - great gifts for weddings, graduation, Mother's Day, Father's Day. Sample knives and other information at the Ministry Center.
- **June 7 - Colorado Springs Walk for Life** - We need a CONGREGATIONAL champion. Contact Kay McCarthy for information.
- **June 15 - Father's Day - Baby bottle Boomerang Fundraiser for Life Network.** Please return all baby bottles on Father's Day 6/15 whether you have used them or not. Fill the bottle with checks made out to LifeNetwork, cash, or coins. Proceeds go to LifeNetwork to support their efforts to value life.
- **June 15 - Mites Sunday** is the third Sunday of each month. All are welcome to drop off donations at the Ministry Center.

A special thank you to all who donated mites in the past year. At the annual meeting, two missions were selected to support: Mercy Meals (part of Orphan Grain Train) and Alaskan Missions for Christ. Each organization received \$750.

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

Summer Game Days

Thursdays at 1:30 starting June 5

You are welcome for fun and fellowship every Thursday through August. If you would like to bring a game or snack to share, or if you would just like to have some fun, please join us!

Lutheran Kindergarten Opportunity

Rock of Ages Lutheran church is going to begin offering kindergarten for the 2025-26 school year. Registration has already begun. School starts August 11th. For more information: 719-632-9394 or rockofagespreschool@gmail.com.

Midweek Adult Classes

- **Prayer** (co-ed) meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Led by Wayne & Lisa Gayler.
- **Romans** (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.
- **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.

VBS June 9-13

Join us for the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today, but Jesus is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North! Monday-Friday, 9-noon, FREE. <https://vbspro.events/p/a149e4> Sign up sheets for volunteers are also by the mailboxes.



Celebrate VBS Sunday | June 15

We will celebrate VBS on June 15 during service. The kids will be sharing some songs that they learned, there will be a slideshow to show all that we did, and there will be cupcakes during fellowship time.

Holy Cross Lutheran School

Run to Jesus!

School ended our year on May 23rd and enjoyed backyard game fun and a picnic. It was an amazing, productive year. We thank those of you who were able to come join us at the Graduation and Moving Up Ceremony for the preschool. If you missed it, you can check it out on the church YouTube channel.

Camp Chaos is coming soon! We have some exciting news to share about this summer. The school is test running a summer program. We are taking a VBS program and stretching it out into a six-week program, with our own VBS counting as a week as well. We will offer our usual quality programming with extra VBS fun thrown into daily activities. This year is only being offered to current students. If it is well accepted by families, we will expand on it next summer.

There are planned updates being made to the school over the summer and we are looking forward to those being completed.

We are still enrolling for the 2025-2026 school year. Enrollment is for children aged 2.5 through age 5 (not in kindergarten) for the preschool program and Kindergarten through 5th grade for students who need after school care from Thomas MacLaren Charter School. Interested families can visit our website at holycrosscs.org/school/. Thanks for telling others about our wonderful school!

Thank you for your continued prayer and support for this vibrant ministry touching the lives of children and their families in our community with the love of God, as they 'Run to Jesus.'

Mona Book, School Director

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

Stitchin' Servants | June 21

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.

Food Pantry

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

Current needs: *Progresso soups, crackers.*

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.

Community Garage Sale | July 26

The Holy Cross Community Garage Sale will be July 26th. The event will be held in the church parking lot. Individual spaces are open to all and can be reserved starting in June. Alternatively you can donate your items and Holy Cross volunteers will try to sell them to benefit Global Missions. Either way it's a great way to help things you don't need find a way to a new home! Stay tuned for more details coming soon.

Honduras Special Project

Thanks to God's blessings and the generosity of Holy Cross, the special projects are continuing to show blessings.

With the funds we sent, Betesda church was able to purchase additional supplies to build the walls on the second floor foundation laid during our March trip.

Good Shepherd was able to use a portion of our funds to assemble "Good Samaritan" bags. They will be distributing these needed supplies in their local community to share the love of Jesus and connect with their neighbors. Photo attached.

Thank you again Holy Cross for your love and generosity to our brothers and sisters in Honduras!

Kevin and Cassie



Garden Update

Thanks to all who showed up for our work day on Sat, May 17. The crew was small but enthusiastic and we made some good progress. We have three more work days planned this summer – June 28, July 19, Aug 2. I hope you can join us if you are interested; we have some big projects in the works!

If you gardened last year and are interested in renewing your plot, please see Gloria at church during work hours or email me (Nathan Borchers: nathan.borchers@yahoo.com) to get the application and reserve your plot. As always, let me know if you have questions.

Honduras Coffee

Honduras coffee is available for purchase at the Ministry Center. By purchasing this coffee, you are helping provide employment for several families. \$9 per bag.



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

Save the Date! Holy Cross Homecoming

Please join us on **August 31st at 9 a.m.** for an outside service and celebration of Holy Cross's 60th Anniversary. We will be celebrating with food, music, and fun activities for the whole family. A Jello salad contest we know some can't resist. More information to come.

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." Ps 126:3



Send in Your Music Requests

As part of our anniversary celebration, we are planning a Hymn and Praise Singalong. What would YOU like us to include? Of course, we will have the classics of "Amazing Grace," "How Great Thou Art," and "A Mighty Fortress," but what are your other favorites? Please give your requests/suggestions to Gloria at gloriaj@holycrosscs.org or 719-596-0661.

Young At Heart | June 2 | 11:30 am

- **June 2**—Fargo's Pizza, order from menu. No program.
- **July 7** - Jade Dragon, no program. Hosted by JoAn Bauer & Roy Strain

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

Scrapbooking Group | June 21

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 719-9638-6874 or janetgrangruth@msn.com.

Ladies Night Out

All adult women invited

Join us for dinner, dessert, or drinks, and fellowship with us!

When: Wed. June 11th at 6:15 p.m.

Where: The Old Spaghetti Factory (3101 New Center Point)

RSVP: text or call Kelly at 719-244-3661



SAT. JUNE 14TH

AT 5:00, IN HILLER HALL

JOIN US FOR BINGO, FUN, PRIZES, AND FELLOWSHIP. FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR DINNER OR A SNACK TO SHARE. INVITE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBORS. ALL ARE WELCOME!

BINGO IS FREE TO PLAY WITH A DONATION TO THE BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY.

PANTRY NEEDS: READY TO EAT SOUPS, CEREAL, JELLY, SMALL PACKAGES OF FLOUR & SUGAR



Hosted by the FUN Committee

**F.ellowship
U.nity
N.ourishment**

Holy Cross Armed Forces Ministry

Upcoming Events:

- **Military Women's Coffee Group** – We are taking a break for the summer. See you in September!

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](https://www.facebook.com/HolyCrossArmedForcesMinistry). 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.



Online Movie Night

- 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.

You can see the movie schedule and also access other resources such as study questions [here](#).

The link on our website is near the bottom of our [landing page](#). 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.