



# 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.



### 2026 Holy Cross Mission Statement

*Gathered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments, we live in the Father's forgiveness, show mercy, proclaim the Gospel, and grow disciples of Jesus Christ.*

### Holy Cross Milestone Statement

*United in our Mission at Holy Cross, we walk together in community*

## Maundy Thursday

<sup>26</sup> Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."<sup>27</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you,<sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. – Matthew 26:26-27

<sup>22</sup> And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body."<sup>23</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. <sup>24</sup> And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. – Mark 14:22-24

<sup>19</sup> And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."<sup>20</sup> And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. – Luke 22:19-20

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,<sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."<sup>25</sup> In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."<sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. – 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Aside from Good Friday and Easter, Maundy Thursday is the next highest Christian festival of the church year as Jesus institutes Communion to be celebrated until He comes again. There are only 4 specific mentions of the practice of Communion from Scripture, and yet we get a lot of specifics (or a recipe) about how we practice Communion from them. "Maundy" means command, and we rejoice that it is for the forgiveness of sins! It is not given to just any believer (like the crowds who followed Jesus) but to His disciples, those who know and are united in His teaching and practice. It is not an emotional *warm fuzzy* but a solemn and sacred sacrament. Jesus, the Son of God, uses real wine and real unleavened bread, commanding that it is really His Body and Blood! We eat God who has sacrificed Himself for us! It is not our faith that makes the meal, but Jesus' Words that make

the meal exactly what it is. Our faith passively clings to these words and the miracle that God's Word makes something unique and special. Not only when Jesus first did it, but as St. Paul states, every time we celebrate Communion, the Words of Institution are spoken in the assembly of disciplined believers in Jesus' teaching and practice. It is a new covenant! The old covenant of the Torah, the Old Testament festivals, and the requirements of the Law were fulfilled and completed in the cross of Christ. A new covenant in His Body and Blood is now made between Jesus and His disciples today! That is why we disciples celebrate Communion often, even every week, as we want to be included in this grace of the new covenant in Jesus Christ. We want what He alone can offer, forgiveness of sins! We want this sacrament to strengthen our faith and unity with each other at the communion rail and around our altar. That is why St. Paul commanded personal and corporate examination before Communion because he was so very concerned that Communion be done properly by Jesus' disciples as a blessing in forgiveness rather than a curse in sin. The meal is not fast food but an intimate meal of common union with God and with all of each other in our congregation, living, growing, and maturing together. Let us truly celebrate the Feast of Communion with maturity and sincerity of heart every Maundy Thursday and every Sunday!

Rejoicing in the Communion we have with God and one another at the altar,  
*Pastor Zillinger*

## Note from the President

**Nathan Borchers** — nathan.borchers@yahoo.com



We continue to watch finances closely. Giving an extra \$10 a week for those who are able would do a lot to relieve the financial stress we expect in 2026. Did you know you can give online automatically? If you have questions about this process or how to sign up, please see me or your Board of Elders representative.

In other news:

- ⇒ As discussed at the Voter's meeting, the BOD will be leading a staff composition review this year to try and determine the ideal staff composition as we move forward. We look to start this study after Easter. We will keep the congregation and staff informed as we move forward.
- ⇒ There was a small section of the roof that was not replaced when the majority of the roof was a few years ago. It now needs replacement. This is an unplanned \$17,000 expense authorized by the BOD to be taken from the Facility Renewal Fund. This work has been completed. We are looking now at how we can replace the siding for the school in a fiscally responsible manner.

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

## Budget Update (as of January 31)

Monthly Giving	
Budgeted	Actual
74,418.36	75,490.91
Total Giving YTD	
Budgeted	Actual
127,563.03	128,313.27
Total Spending YTD	
Budgeted	Actual
218,936.91	220,284.30

*Other General Fund Revenue: 84,455.25*

*2026 End of Year budget deficit: \$-7,515.78*

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

## Regular Worship Schedule

**8 a.m.** – Hymnal liturgy and hymns with the organ

**9:15 a.m.** – Short "grab and go" refreshments in Hiller Hall (*freewill offering*)

**9:30 a.m.** – Christian Education Hour (Sunday School/Adult Bible Study)

**10:30 a.m.** – Food and Fellowship in Hiller Hall (*freewill offering*)

**11 a.m.** – Creative Worship liturgy and songs and hymns led by the worship team

## April Worship

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

### April 5: Easter

Pastor Zillinger; "Now Let Us Dance"; **Jer. 31:1-6**, Psalm 16, Col. 3:1-4, Matt. 28:1-10

### April 12: Second Sunday of Easter

Pastor Zillinger; "Earth and All Stars"; Acts 5:29-42, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

### April 19: Third Sunday of Easter

Pastor Zillinger; "Peanut Butter and Jelly Salvation"; **Acts 2:14a,36-41**, 1 Peter 1:17-25, Luke 24:13-35

### April 26: Fourth Sunday of Easter; Honduras Sunday

Pastor Zillinger; "The Lord is My Shepherd"; Acts 2:42-47, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

## Altar Flowers

The **2026** 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. Our vendor recently raised the price to \$35. You may take the arrangement home after the service, but 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 Sunday's texts



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## Summer Sunday School Help Needed

Would you like to serve our kids and students this summer? We are looking for Teachers, Assistants, and Substitute Teachers for Summer Sunday School. If you would like to have more information, please contact Lizz at [lizzm@holycrosscs.org](mailto:lizzm@holycrosscs.org).



## Wednesday Night

5-5:45 p.m. - Free-will meal for everyone

6-7 p.m.—Classes for all ages

Kid/Youth Classes	Location	Teacher
PK-1 <sup>st</sup>	Room 213	Linda Baker
2 <sup>nd</sup> —5 <sup>th</sup>	Room 225	Susan Smith
1st year confirmation	Room 210	Gail Neal
2nd/3rd year confirmation	Hiller Hall	Pastor Z
High School Youth	Youth Room	David W/Michelle M
Adult Classes	Location	Teacher
James	Room 120	Lee Guthrie
The Chosen	Fireside Room	Rick Waters
Women's Bible Study	Room 102	Richelle Hecker

## Sunday Morning Classes for all ages 9:30– 10:30 a.m.

Kid/Youth Classes	Location	Teacher
Under 4	Nursery	Trained Staff
PK-K	Room 213	Donna Speer
1st-2nd grade	Room 222	Becky Kuenn
3rd-5th grade	Room 225	Nicole Berry
Middle School	Room 210	Jim Waldron
High School	Youth Room	Chris & Heather Abatelli
Adult Classes	Location	Teacher
Stewardship	Hiller Hall	Pastor Z
Lutheranism 101	Room 102	Vern Gillette
1 & 2 Peter	Room 120	Nathan & Christi Borchers

## New Member Class | Room 102

This is a class for those wishing to transfer to Holy Cross from another LCMS church or for those who have completed Lutheranism 101 and wish to join or are joining by profession of faith. The class is a great opportunity to meet other new people and learn about the specific mission, ministries, and leaders of Holy Cross.

## Never Alone April 11 | 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

## *Let's Make a Joyful Noise!*

**A blessed Easter from all of us at the school!** During this week and the next, our students are enjoying special Easter activities and lessons that point them to the cross and the empty tomb. **He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

As we look ahead to **Teacher Appreciation Week next month**, we invite the congregation to help us bless our teachers and aides. We are collecting gift cards (Ideas: craft stores, fast food, grocery, or basics such as Walmart or Target) and spa items (small lotions, nail filers, eye masks, lip balm, bath bombs, mini candles, etc.) for our ten teachers and aides. A collection bin will be available in the Ministry Center throughout the month of April. Thank you for helping us show our appreciation!

**Registration remains open for the 2026–2027 school year.** Tours can be scheduled by contacting the school office at [hcls@holycrosscs.org](mailto:hcls@holycrosscs.org). Events hosted at Holy Cross—such as the Easter Encounter, Fall Festival, and Vacation Bible School—are an important part of our mission. These events connect us with families in the community, many of whom later enroll their children in our school. Please continue to share this ministry with others and keep our school in your prayers

Blessings,

**Mona Book**

School Director

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## Midweek Studies

There are lots of other learning and fellowship opportunities during the week on and off-site. Please call the church office at 719-596-0661 for contact information or to join a Zoom class.

Topic/Group	Day	Time/location	Teacher
1 Corinthians	Mondays	6:30 p.m./Zoom	Wayne & Lisa Gayler
Young at Heart (55+)	1 <sup>st</sup> Mondays	11:30 a.m./varies	Larry Schumm
<b>*NEW:</b> Acts of the Apostles (women)	Mondays	2:15 p.m./Zoom *Book info. below	Gail Neal
Theology on Tap (Men)	<b>NEW DAY:</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays	6:30 p.m./105 West Brewing (Garden of the Gods Rd.)	Carl Miedich
Theology on Tap (Women)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays	6 p.m./105 West Brewing (Garden of Gods Rd.)	Kelly Carter
Military Women's Coffee	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesdays	9:30 a.m./Hiller Hall	Rosey Dudden
Women's Group	Wednesdays	10 a.m./home group	Cheryl D/Karen G
2nd Corinthians	Thursdays	10 a.m./Fireside	Larry Schumm
Revelation	Thursdays	6 a.m./Wades Café	Neil Ridenour
Women's Group	Thursdays	9 a.m./Zoom	Gail Neal
Never Alone (women)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturdays	10 a.m./Fireside	Lorrie Faunce

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you"

Psalm 32:8



**'Praying, Praising and Serving our Lord'**

**Upcoming Events**

- **April 16th** - (3rd Thursday) Fellowship and games in Fireside at 1:30 p.m. We plan to play every third Thursday of the month through May.
- **April 19th** - Mites Sunday is the third Sunday of each month. All are welcome to drop off donations at the Ministry Center.
- **April 25th** - Spring Tea "Be the Clay in God's Hands."  
2 p.m. in Hiller Hall; sign up on 4/12 and 4/19
- **RADA Knife Sales** - April 19-May 10 - These make great graduation, wedding, Mother's Day, etc. gifts.
- **SAVE the DATE May 9th at 10 a.m.** - Annual Spring Brunch and Meeting in Hiller Hall  
pancake bar provided
- **SAVE the DATE June 5-7** for the Rocky Mountain LWML District Convention  
The theme is "Faith That Can Move Mountains."  
[no women's retreat this year as we want you to go to the convention as a great spiritual uplift]

All women of the church are invited to attend LWML Circles:

**Ways to Help/Get Involved:**

- **Donate items at the Ministry Center** for our annual Ingathering. This year we are blessing three groups with some needed supplies.
  - \* Lutheran Valley Retreat - Items can be new or gently used as appropriate: Tarps (16x20 or larger), reams of paper, masking tape, gallon or sandwich size Ziploc type bags, board/card games with all pieces for rainy days, climbing shoes of all sizes, sleeping bags (preferably 20 degrees or colder)
  - \*Orphan Grain Train and Navajo Lutheran - water colors and paint brushes, colored pencils, sharpeners, erasers, fine tip markers, play doh, molding clay, other school supplies
- **Donate items for our NEW "Sonshine Box Ministry"** to brighten someone's day by sharing God's love and a little encouragement. We will give boxes/bags/baskets with a few thoughtful and fun items to people who may be going through a difficult time or need a reminder of God's love. We are looking for small inexpensive items along with items that are specifically yellow. Examples: Juicy Fruit gum, Butterfingers, small bags of Lays potato chips, lemon drops, pens, stationery, note pads, candles, fuzzy socks, art supplies, fidget toys, joke or puzzle books, lip balm, lotion, snacks, books, etc. Drop in the box at the Ministry Center.
  - \*THANK YOU, THANK YOU!** Thank you for all of the items donated to the Sonshine Box ministry so far. We have already given out 6 boxes! If you know of someone who could use a little "sonshine" in their lives, please let Bev Smith or Cheryl Dempsey know.

**All women of the church are invited to attend LWML Circles:**

Circle	Day	Time/Location	Topic
Sarah	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mondays	10 a.m./Fireside/Zoom	Women of the Bible based on books by John MacArthur and Max Lucado
Joy	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays	9:30 a.m./Hiller Hall.	LWML Women's Quarterly
Deborah	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays	7 p.m./Fireside Room	"Joy" a study of Philippians by Deb Burma



VBS Registrations for both participants and volunteers will begin on **April 12**. Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a life-long adventure, discovering the nature of God, and exploring what it means to be rooted in relationship with their creator, a safe place in life's storms. VBS is on **June 15-19** from 9-noon and is open for those 3 AND potty trained

through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Those 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and older can volunteer. Contact Lizz at [lizzm@holycrosscs.org](mailto:lizzm@holycrosscs.org) with any questions or to register. I hope to see you there!

We will also have both an in person and online Giving Tree. Be on the lookout for that information soon.

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



## Honduras Mission Update

Thank you for all the ways you helped support our mission in Honduras this year!

Join us for "Honduras Sunday" during worship on April 26th as we share about our recent trip. Feel free to ask any team member about his/her experience.

## Stitchin' Servants | Apr 18

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.

## Bowling Tournament

**Saturday, May 23rd @ 2:00**

**Check the Ministry Center for details**

**\*Fun \*Prizes \*Bake Sale**



Save the date for this event that raises money for scholarships for students in Honduras to be able to attend university.

## Prayer Shawls

WHAT IS A PRAYER SHAWL OR SQUARE?

A way of reaching out to others who are hurting—physically, emotionally, or spiritually. It's a way to let them know our congregation is praying for them in their time of need. We now have **small prayer squares** available to put in your purse or pocket as well as quilts. Please visit us the first Sundays of each month next to the blood pressure clinic outside Hiller Hall.



## Food Pantry

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

**Current needs:** *VOLUNTEERS, macaroni and cheese, jelly, condiments, small bags of flour/sugar, oil, egg cartons.* Monetary donations are always appreciated.



## Community Garden

Join us for a workday in the garden on Saturday April 18th.

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

## Holy Cross Armed Forces Ministry

### Upcoming Events:

- **Military Women's Coffee Group** – Military Women/Spouses/Moms, join us April 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Hiller Hall for this fun casual coffee group that meets the first Tuesday of each month. Childcare available. Children are always welcome. Contact Rosey with questions. 719-651-3084

### You Can Help:

Armed Forces Ministry would like to invite anyone interested in helping with this important ministry. The Committee is refocusing on fewer activities that are higher impact for our Active and Retired military/families at Holy Cross. If interested, please contact Rosey [dr651@live](mailto:dr651@live).

## Young At Heart

### April 13 at 11:30 a.m.

- **April 13**—Meet at Immanuel Lutheran Church For more information regarding Young at Heart, a group for those 55+, please call, text or leave a message on Larry Schumm's phone, 567-259-9559.

## Scrapbooking Group

### April 18

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 719-638-6874 or [janetgrangruth@msn.com](mailto:janetgrangruth@msn.com).

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies."

John 11:25