



# HOLY CROSS

## LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ENCOURAGING THOSE WHO HUNGER  
to be nourished by God.

## May at a Glance

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

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### 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*

We continue to dig into what **Common Union** we as Lutherans (LC-MS) believe, teach, confess, and practice. As Julie Andrews sings in *The Sound of Music*, "Let's start at the very beginning." This article highlights the very foundational premise of the Christian faith and what Lutherans fought for during the Reformation. At the end of the article is a link to a very good resource for comparison/contrast between Lutherans and many in American Christianity.

Your Shepherd in Christ,  
Pastor Zillinger

[Link to Common Union Article](#)

[Lutheran Witness - Other Denominations](#)

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## 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 had our initial meeting last Tuesday and made some good progress. We will keep the congregation and staff informed as we move forward.

- ✧ We continue to look for ways to replace the school siding fiscally responsible manner. We are roughly \$18,000 short from the money given and raised last year to complete this \$38,000 project.

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

## **Budget Update (as of March 31)**

<b>Monthly Giving</b>	
Budgeted	Actual
99,258.05	86,785.90

<b>Total Giving YTD</b>	
Budgeted	Actual
226,821.08	215,099.17

<b>Total Spending YTD</b>	
Budgeted	Actual
323,240.28	323,689.21

*Other General Fund Revenue: 110,524.51*

*2026 current budget surplus: \$\$1,934.24*

## **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 have a system for requesting rooms, holding events, and making announcements 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. Access the Communications and Facility Request form by clicking [here](#).

## **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

## **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 **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

## Sunday Schedule

### Beginning May 24

**9 a.m.** - Worship

**10 a.m.** - Food and Fellowship in Hiller Hall (FREEWILL OFFERING)

**10:30 a.m.** - Christian Education Hour

## May 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.

**May 3: Fifth Sunday of Easter; Graduation Sunday**  
Guest Chaplain Riley; Acts 6:1-9;7:2a;51-60, Psalm 146, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

**May 10: Sixth Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day; New Member Reception**  
Pastor Zillinger; "Suffering"; Acts 17:16-31, **1 Peter 3:13-22**, John 14:15-21

**May 17: Seventh Sunday of Easter/Ascension; Armed Forces Day; Stephen Minister Commissioning**  
Guest Chaplain Hokana; Acts 1:1-11, 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11

**May 24: Pentecost; Summer Schedule begins: One service at 9 a.m.**  
Pastor Zillinger; "Two Festivals"; Num. 11:24-30, Acts 2:1-15, **John 7:37-39**

**May 31: Trinity Sunday; Summer Schedule: One service at 9 a.m.**  
Pastor Zillinger; "Trinity and Creation"; **Gen. 1:1-2:4a**, Acts 2:14a;22-36, Matt. 28:16-20

## Summer Worship Schedule

As we approach the end of the school year, we are excited to embrace a season of shared worship, learning and fellowship. To bring our entire community together, we will be transitioning to **a single service followed by bible study for the summer.**

Starting Sunday May 24th, we will gather for **one service at 9:00 a.m.** with **bible study following at 10:30.** Summer is a unique time in the life of our church. With many families traveling and enjoying outdoor activities, our goal is to foster a stronger sense of connection.

By gathering as one body, we can:

- **Elevate our Worship:** There is a special energy that comes when every voice is raised together in a space.
- **Strengthen Community:** This schedule allows members from both of our regular services times to mingle, share coffee and get to know one another better.
- **Support our Volunteers:** A single service gives our dedicated tech teams, musicians, ushers, and greeters a bit of extra breathing room during this season.

This summer schedule will remain in effect through Labor Day weekend. We look forward to seeing the sanctuary full and vibrant as we celebrate this season of rest and renewal together. Let's make this summer a time of connection!

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to one of the elders or Pastor Zillinger.

## 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

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

## Wednesday Night

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

6-7 p.m.—Classes for all ages

**Regular Classes end on May 20.**

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.

**Regular classes end on May 17.**

**No class on May 24.**

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
The Ten Commandments	Hiller Hall	Pastor Z
1 & 2 Peter	Room 120	Nathan & Christi Borchers

## Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School will begin on **May 31 at 10:30 a.m.** There are classes for all ages, beginning at 3 AND potty trained through adults.

**Preschool-1<sup>st</sup> Grade-** Room 213

**6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade-** Room 210

**2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade-** Room 225

**9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade-** Youth Room

# 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)	4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays	6:30 p.m./105 West Brewing	Carl Miedich
Theology on Tap (Women)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays	6 p.m./105 West Brewing	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

## Theology on Tap for Men

This men's bible study will resume starting **June 22, 2026**, at 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 105 West Brewing Company at 1466 Garden of the Gods Road, Suite 178. We will be beginning a new study, "The Smalcald Articles and The Treatise." Study guides can be obtained from Carl Miedich on Sundays at church.



## 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).

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.

Phil. 2:3-5

# Holy Cross Lutheran School

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

Time has certainly flown by, and it's hard to believe the school year is already drawing to a close!

The students are still actively enjoying end-of-year events. Our preschool recently held a fun Trike-a-Thon to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Not only did they help support children facing life-threatening illnesses, but they also learned important bike and trike safety along the way.



*Kids enjoying the annual trike-a-thon*

They would also like to invite you to the Preschool Graduation and Moving Up Ceremony on Wednesday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The preschoolers are excited to share Bible verses and songs they have learned throughout the year!

Speaking of sharing, we hope you enjoyed the elementary students' video of them singing "Earth and All Stars."

### **Now Hiring**

Holy Cross Lutheran School is currently seeking individuals to serve in both our preschool and elementary programs. We have a particular need in our elementary program, with hours available Monday–Thursday from 2:30–6:00 p.m. and Friday from 1:30–6:00 p.m. If you or someone you know has a heart for working with children and sharing the love of Jesus, please contact us at [hcls@holycrosscs.org](mailto:hcls@holycrosscs.org).

### **Thank You**

We are so grateful for the generous gifts provided during Teacher Appreciation Week—thank you! We also thank you for your continued support throughout this school year as we strive to share Jesus with our students and families. Whether through prayer, donations, time, or other acts of service, your support is truly appreciated.

This year has been a joyful one as we "Made a Joyful Noise" in praise to God in all we have done. We look forward to another year of learning, growing, and sharing Christ's love.

In Christ,  
**Mona Book**

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## Summer Youth Group

Summer Youth Group is starting on **May 27** for those finishing 5th grade through those finishing 12th grade. Come for Bible study and fellowship each Wednesday this summer from 6-8 p.m. Contact Lizz at [lizzm@holycrosscs.org](mailto:lizzm@holycrosscs.org) or Michelle at [michelle@holycrosscs.org](mailto:michelle@holycrosscs.org) with any questions.

## Never Alone May 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.



## 'Praying, Praising and Serving our Lord'

### Upcoming Events

- ✘ **May 9th at 10 a.m.** - Annual Spring Brunch and Meeting in Hiller Hall
  - pancake bar provided
- ✘ RADA Knife Sales - April 19-**May 10** - These make great graduation, wedding, Mother's Day, etc. gifts. After this date, contact Gail Neal.
- ✘ **May 10th** - June 21st (Mother's Day to Father's Day) - **Fundraiser for LifeNetwork** (formerly Baby Bottle Boomerang). We will no longer have individual bottles but will have larger banks at the Ministry Center for checks, bills, or coins.
- ✘ **May 17th** - Mites Sunday is the third Sunday of each month. All are welcome to drop off donations at the Ministry Center.
- ✘ **May 21st** - (3rd Thursday) Fellowship and games in Fireside at 1:30 p.m. We plan to play every third Thursday of the month through May.
- ✘ Register NOW for the **Rocky Mountain LWML District Convention**, June 5-7
  - The theme is "Faith That Can Move Mountains."

### 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 4th Mondays	10 a.m./Fireside/Zoom 9:30 a.m.	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.	Going out for lunch in May and then on break for summer.
Deborah	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays	7 p.m./Fireside Room	Last meeting May 19th and then on break for summer.



Enter into the rainforest as we Explore the Nature of God. VBS is June 15-19. To participate, you need to be 3 AND potty trained through 5th grade. Those 6th grade and older are invited to volunteer. Contact Lizz at [lizzm@holycrosscs.org](mailto:lizzm@holycrosscs.org) for

information on signing up or with any questions.

\*We are still in need of VBS volunteers. Please consider signing up by the Ministry Center.

\*The Giving Tree for VBS is up. Please return any items under the Sign Up Table no later than June 3. Thank you for your support of VBS

## Volunteer Trainings for VBS

Sunday, May 31 from noon-1 p.m **OR** Tuesday, June 9 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. If you are volunteering for VBS, please plan on attending ONE of these training sessions. Contact Lizz at [lizzm@holycrosscs.org](mailto:lizzm@holycrosscs.org) with any questions

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

## Honduras Mission Update

Just want to send a big THANK YOU again to all on behalf of the Honduras Ministry. We were overwhelmed and humbled by how many came to hear more about Honduras during the Sunday education hour. If you missed worship on Sunday or the Bible study deep dive and have an interest in Honduras and what God continues to do through Holy Cross, we definitely encourage you to check out the livestream links.

Also a reminder that we would love to have to you join us for the bowling event in a couple weeks. This fundraiser directly benefits the Honduras university students and helps them with transportation and supplies to be able to pursue higher education.

If you are interested in getting the **Holy Cross/ Good Shepherd t-shirt**, there is a sign up sheet at the Ministry



Center. Good Shepherd is the LCMS mission church we have been working with for the past few years. This is NOT a fundraiser; the price is just to reimburse the cost of materials. The shirts cost \$5 for s-xl and \$6 for 2xl. Payment must be made to Cassie Hein, not Holy Cross, to reimburse her for her expenses. There is an order sign up list at the Ministry Center.

## Bowling Tournament

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



**Check the Ministry Center for details**

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



Sign up now at the Ministry Center for this event that raises money for scholarships for students in Honduras to be able to attend university. All ages and abilities welcome. You can also participate by donating a baked good or other prize or coming to watch.



## 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, mac and cheese, jelly, condiments, small bags of flour/sugar, oil, empty egg cartons. Monetary donations are always appreciated.

**Kids' Service Project :** Thanks to Ms. Lizz for including the Food Pantry in this year's service project for the youth of Holy Cross. The youth spent April 8th helping make birthday boxes for our Bread of Life patrons. The youth participated in a quick tour of the food pantry and then spent the rest of night decorating bags with inspiring pictures of Christ's love for all. I am looking forward to working with the youth more in the future!

## Community Garden

Thanks for all who came out for our garden work day! We made some good progress and restored some overgrown garden beds. A garden sign up day will be Sunday May 3 between services in the Fireside Room. Cost is \$60 for the season to help offset the cost of watering. See Nathan Borchers with any questions. [nathan.borchers@yahoo.com](mailto:nathan.borchers@yahoo.com)

## Stitchin' Servants | May 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. **Meeting in room 102 and 120 this month.**

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 May 5 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
- **Armed Forces Day Congregational Potluck** - All are welcome to eat and fellowship together on **May 17** after services. Pulled pork, pulled chicken, and dessert will be provided. Members are asked to bring a hearty side or salad/vegetables. Sign up at the Ministry Center.

### 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

### May 4 at 11:30 a.m.

- **May 4** - Meet at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Potluck with a program provided by CSPD - "Neighborhood Watch."
- **June 1** - Holy Cross 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 | May 16

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).

And my God will supply every need of ours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Phil 4:19

