



December 3, 2017
 HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

“The Carols of Christmas”

Saturday, December 9
 at 7:00 pm

Today is the last day to purchase dinner tickets.

Presented by the Music Ministries
 of Holy Cross

A Message From The Evangelism Team

What a wonderful array of concert and worship opportunities we have here at Holy Cross during the Advent and Christmas season! Enclosed please find a handy postcard which lists all of them. It's perfect for putting on your refrigerator—or better yet, hand it to a friend, relative or neighbor as an invitation to join us here during this most special of Holidays! We know that the most frequent answer to our question to new members of how they came to Holy Cross is that they were personally invited by a Holy Cross member. So please share with someone you know the opportunity to experience the worship, the music, the joy of Christmas at Holy Cross. (Extra postcards are available at the Welcome Center.)

Lunch With Hephatha

Join us Sunday, December 17 for worship at Hephatha Lutheran Church and share a taco lunch afterwards. The bus departs at 8:00 am and returns around 12:45 pm. We would love to fill the bus and bring a large crew to worship with our brothers and sisters at Hephatha. We will be serving about 175-200 tacos for lunch following worship. We are looking for some help acquiring all the "taco fixin's" including tortillas, cheese, sour cream, and salsa. Please stop by the sign up board in the narthex to donate and/or sign up to ride the bus! If you have any questions, please email Amanda, Minister of Partnership and Mission at amandaj@holycrosslutheran.org.

Together By Grace Book Study A Great Success!

After eight weekly sessions, the book study on Together by Grace: Introducing the Lutherans has finished meeting to discuss this thought-provoking book! Our groups (consisting of around 50 people) covered everything from Luther and the reformers to Lutheranism's thriving future. We focused a lot on global Lutheranism, and for good reason--worldwide, we're 80 million strong, and growing every year.



Our group was a good mixture of new and seasoned Lutherans, which allowed us to dive deeply into Lutheran theology and practice. New folks often ask the best questions! We asked questions like: Why do we believe that Jesus is present in preaching and in the sacraments? How do Lutherans read scripture? What makes Lutherans different from other Christians? If you're curious about the answers to these questions, I'd encourage you to seek out one of our participants.

Participants reported that we engaged in a "meaningful" mix of large-group teaching and conversation in small groups and that our conversations were "thought-provoking." One said that she learned "great things about worldwide Lutheran persons, cultures, and national traditions." Most importantly, however, those who participated reported learning a lot, an increased connection to Lutheranism, and a meaningful growth in their personal faith.

At Holy Cross, we come together regularly to study God's word and our Lutheran tradition. If you weren't able to participate in this book study, I'd encourage you to prayerfully consider joining us for our next study.

Vicar Hans

Save The Date

We have 58 people at the International Learning Center whose tags have yet to be picked from the Giving Tree. Gift requests range from booster seats, to rice cookers, to blankets. Grab a tag today and place your **unwrapped gift with the tag attached** under the tree by **noon on Friday, December 8**.

Join us to organize, sort, and wrap gifts on Saturday, December 9 in the Trinity Center from 3:00-5:00 pm and/or join the International Learning Center for their Holiday Party in the morning on Thursday, December 21. Sign up on the easel next to the Giving Tree for both opportunities.

Blue Christmas Worship Service

On Sunday, December 10 at 12:00 pm, we will be holding our *Blue Christmas Worship Service*. Are you grieving the death of a loved one, struggling in relationships, feeling overwhelmed by all of the "to do's", or just feeling sad? Blue Christmas is a 45 minute service for those whose days aren't "Merry and Bright." It is a peaceful service filled with beautiful music, lighting of candles and remembering the babe of Bethlehem who is with us in the darkness. If you have any questions, please call or email Pr. Meredith.

Volunteers Needed For Christmas Worship Services

Christmas is quickly approaching! Since we will be scheduling extra services, we are in need of ushers, lectors, Welcome Center people, greeters, communion assistants and lectors. For your convenience, a sign up sheet is located outside the sanctuary.

Gently Used Toys Needed

Our Northwest Trading Post is finishing its' ministry to women, children and infants on December 18. In November we served 111 families and every toy was taken! We are looking for donations of gently used toys to be brought to the church office by December 15.

PRAYER CONNECTION

Join the Prayer Chain or submit a request by emailing prayerchain@holycrosslutheran.org

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To the family and friends of Audrey Lindemann in her passing.
- To the family and friends of Marlene Meisner in her passing.
- To the family and friends of Don Sibenhorn in his passing.

MEMORIAL CHART

- Flower support is given by Deanna Buth in memory of Kyp's birthday.
- Coffee Hour support is given by Cindy Lemke in memory of Joanne Lemke.

NOISY OFFERING

- ELCA Disaster Relief

SERVING on December 9 & 10

Ushers:

5:00 pm Pat Hansen team
7:45 am Ron Jaeger team
9:00 am Walter Blahnik team
10:30 am Mark Barelmann team

Lector:

5:00 pm Lowell Carl
7:45 am
9:00 am Bill Winge
10:30 am Phil Smith

Worship Assistant:

Avis Dallman

Altar Guild:

Donita Bruder, Dianne Donnell, Sandra Lembke, Bev Mehring

Greeters:

5:00 pm Barb Berg & Mary Ann Holt
7:45 am Patsy Baer, Glenn & Carolyn Schellhaas
9:00 am Donna James Romano, Avis Dallman, Richard & Donna Hoffman
10:30 am Nancy Barelmann, Susan Gartzke

Welcome Center:

4:40 pm Evangelism
8:30 am Evangelism
10:00 am Evangelism

PRACTICE 7 SERVE

And He said Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Matthew 4:19



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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Web Site: www.holycrosslutheran.org

Worship Schedule: Saturday-5:00 pm, Sunday-7:45, 9:00 & 10:30 am



TODAY

Reading: Isaiah 55:1-13

Worship Asst./Lectors: Scott Steinke, Joan Reinke, Carolyn Schellhaas, Avis Dallman

TODAY-Sunday 3

Scrip Sale
Worship 7:45, 9:00 & 10:30 am
Celebration Band & Choir 9:00 am
Faith Development 9:00 & 10:30 am

Monday 4

Preschool 9:00 am

Tuesday 5

Preschool 9:00 am
Elizabeth Circle 9:00 am
Staff Meeting 10:00 am
God Squad 6:00 pm
King's Kids 6:00 pm
Book Club 6:30 pm
Baptism Seminar 7:00 pm
Celebration Band & Choir 7:00 pm

Wednesday 6

Preschool 9:00 am
Quilters 9:00 am
New Beginnings Handbell Choir 5:00 pm
Heavenly Sounds Handbells 6:00 pm
Chancel & Festival Choir 7:00 pm
Student Ministry Night 7:00 pm

Thursday 7

Preschool 9:00 am
Pr. David Bible Study 11:00 am
Youth Team 6:30 pm
Rehearsal-All 7:00 pm

Friday 8

Church Office Closes At Noon
Preschool 9:00 pm
Tweens Event 6:30 pm

Saturday 9

Scrip Sale, Blood Pressure Screening
Worship 5:00 pm
Dinner 5:00 pm
Christmas Concert 7:00 pm



Sunday 10

Scrip Sale, Blood Pressure Screening, Coffee & Chocolate Sale
Worship 7:45, 9:00 & 10:30 am
Celebration Band & Choir 9:00 am
Faith Development 9:00 & 10:30 am
Breakfast Club 9:30 am
Blue Christmas 12:00 pm

JOIN US FOR

Children

●Don We Now Our Red Apparel Party-4th-5th-6th grade students are invited to attend a Christmas party on Friday, December 8, from 6:30-8:30 pm. There will be Ga Ga ball, basketball, games, pizza, and cookie decorating. We will also make crafts to donate to Interfaith Senior Programs. Friends are invited to come along. The cost is \$3.00 per person. RSVP to suec@holycrosslutheran.org or look for the table near the church office and add your name. Please let me know if you are a middle/high school student or an adult interested in being a chaperone. Don't forget to wear red!

Adults

●Help support our youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston by purchasing a tasty treat for Christmas. Our youth are selling O & H Danish Bakery Kringle in the Narthex for \$12 each. Order by December 10 and your Kringle will be available for pick up the weekend of December 16 and 17.

Holy Cross Staff

Senior Pastor...Pastor Meredith Bedker Musaus

*Visitation Pastor...Pastor David L. Shelstad

Minister of Care and Community...Deacon Ellie Schmidtke

Intern...Vicar Hans Becklin

Parish Administrator...Jeff Boardman

Minister of Youth Faith Formation...Zac Meyer

Minister of Children's Faith Formation...Sue Christiaansen

Minister of Partnerships and Mission...Amanda Juedes

Minister of Music...Michael Jacklin

Facilities Manager...Jack Kamoske

*Assistant Minister of Music...Karen Heins

*Chancel Choir Accompanist...Phil Smith

*A/V Coordinator...Justin Doucette

*Minister of Evangelism...Eleonore Kamoske

*Administrative Assistant of Worship...Paula Fiorvento

*Administrative Assistant of Communication...Jennifer Deubler

*Finance Administrator...Beth Dorsey

*Preschool Administrator...Pam Kraus

*Preschool Teachers...Brittney Rasmussen/Tammy Seidemann

*Part Time