



**Holy Cross**  
Lutheran Church

# *Holy Cross* **Crossroads**

Monthly Newsletter : *January 2017*

## Mark Your Calendar

1.9 (Mon)

Council Meeting @ 5:30 pm

1.17 (Wed)

Hooks & Needles @ 9:00 am

1.18 (Wed)

Senior Lunch Sack Lunch

@ Noon

1. 25 (Wed)

Women's Bible/Book Study

@ 3:00 pm

1.11, 1.18, 1.25 (Wed)

Bible Study@ 1:30 pm

1.5, 1.19 (Thurs)

Quilting @ 9:30 & 4:00

1.26(Thurs)

Men's/Women Breakfast

@7:00 am

## Pastor's Corner



Grace and peace to you as we enter this new year of transition in the life of Holy Cross Lutheran Church. I am pleased to be serving the church as your Interim Pastor.

**About me:** I have lived in Reno since 1995 following my graduation from Princeton Theological Seminary and ordination as a minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). I served a Presbyterian church in Reno for over 10 years before working in the area as a leader in the nonprofit sector. I worked first at the United Way, primarily researching and writing Community Assessment papers to identify community need and assist the board in making strategic investments.





## Pastor's Corner (cont'd)

I was the Executive Director of Special Advocates for Elders (SAFE), a court-based organization advocating for older adults facing guardianship. I later served as the Director of RSVP, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program connected with the Sanford Center for Aging at the University of Nevada. Our mission was to recruit and place adults in community-based nonprofits according to their skills and interests. While working outside the church in these roles, I continued to preach occasionally in local churches and was a volunteer Chaplain at St. Mary's Medical Center.

I returned to parish ministry to serve Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church as its pastor, a congregation affiliated with both the Lutheran Church (ELCA) and Presbyterian Church (PC(U.S.A.)). In June of 2015 I began serving the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in downtown Reno. My role was to provide continuity and stability during its time of pastoral transition. Pastors Erik and Amy Allen were installed October 30 and their arrival and quick acclimation to their positions allowed me to consider other parish ministry opportunities, which has led me to Holy Cross. In addition to my years of parish ministry experience and related roles as a chaplain providing pastoral care or as a nonprofit executive leading volunteers, board, and staff to achieve the organization's mission, I also have specialized training as an Interim Pastor. This variety of leadership experiences, both within and beyond the church and in Presbyterian and Lutheran congregations, lead me to think that I'll be a good fit for the needs of Holy Cross in this time of transition. Lutherans and Presbyterians have a denomination-wide agreement that views the other as a "Full Communion" partner and describes how pastors such as I, a Presbyterian, may serve in a Lutheran congregation.

About my role with Holy Cross: Briefly, my role is to help the congregation prepare for a new long-term, installed pastor, a process which typically takes anywhere from 12 – 24 months. As an example, the call process at Good Shepherd Church took 28 months from the retirement of Pastor Carl Wilfrid in May of 2014 to the arrival of Pastors Erik and Amy Allen in September 2016.

With the congregation and particularly with Council members, I'll focus on the following five areas:

- Heritage: Reviewing how the congregation has been shaped and formed
- Leadership: Reviewing the membership needs and the church's ways of organizing and developing new and effective leadership
- Mission: Defining and redefining a sense of purpose and direction
- Connections: Discovering all the relationships a faith community builds outside of itself
- Future: Developing congregational and pastoral profiles

I look forward to sharing in this process with you all. Through additional newsletter articles, communication from the Council and other Holy Cross leadership teams, visual displays around the church, reflection in sermons, and individual and small group conversations, I'll continue to ask questions, make observations, prompt reflection, and encourage your response so that you all may discover or re-affirm who you are as a congregation, sharpen the understanding of who God is calling you to be, and describe the pastoral leadership you understand God calling you to identify for this time in the life of Holy Cross Lutheran Church. May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

--Pastor Scott

***“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD” – Proverbs 19:17***



# Council News

## 2017—Year of Change & Transition

### Call Process

As we move forward to 2017, we should be thankful for God's impact on our lives in 2016. Little did we know a year ago that 2016 would be a year of change for our congregation. The departure of Pastor Jon created a significant change and challenge for HCLC. However, we as a church adapted to that change as other challenges through prayer and working as a church family. As a result, at the end of 2016 we identified and hired an interim pastor. I am happy to say the hiring of Pastor Scott Trevithick was a significant accomplishment for your church council. We all believe that Scott's background and expertise is what HCLC needs as we move forward in the calling of a new pastor. One of Pastor Scott's critical responsibilities (as he indicated in his article) will be to work with the church council and congregation on five focus areas: 1) Heritage, 2) Leadership, 3) Mission, 4) Connections & 5) Future

In addition, we, as a congregation, will be selecting a call committee. This is a critical step in our process since those members of the call committee will have the ultimate responsibility of selecting the right pastor for our congregation. As I stated in a previous newsletter, if you are interested on being on the call committee or would like to suggest/nominate an individual, please submit the information to a church council member or myself. As you think who would be a viable candidates, please consider the following characteristics: 1) worship participation—an individual who participates regularly in worship, 2) a person of prayer, 3) a person who can represent the whole congregation, 4) one who is able to speak out, 5) one who is able to listen, 6) a person of conviction with the ability to reach consensus, 7) an individual who is available to work on the committee—the time commitment is about a year, and 8) gender & youth participation—that is a balance of men and women as well as youth participation if we have a member who has the time and dedication to participate.

Once the church council has candidates to consider we will go through the process of nominating a list of individuals for congregational approval. At the upcoming annual meeting, the congregation will elect six members to be on the Call Committee. Please remember the election of members to the Call Committee should with prayer and careful consideration. In fulfilling their responsibility, the Call Committee's selection of a new pastor can have a significant impact on where HCLC is going in the next five to ten years.

Thus, the final stage of the overall process begins. Your members of the call committee will be charged with various responsibilities; however, two significant requirements are:

Completing the Ministry Site Profile (MSP)—a document that reflects (among other things) congregational history, current structure/staffing patterns, hopes for the future, etc.  
Interviewing & Selection Process-identifying the right candidate for HCLC

A final note on the call process. Although I have shared some of the above information previously, I thought it was essential that I convey to you again the importance of the upcoming phase of the call process. While this coming phase of our church life will be challenging for all of us, I know that through prayer and God's direction we will be successful in the next chapter of HCLC's history.





# Council News (cont'd)

## **500th Anniversary**

On October 31, 1517, in Wittenberg, Germany, Martin Luther “ began a protest that changed and reformed the Christian Church throughout the world.” Throughout 2017, we should take the opportunity as Lutherans to celebrate our heritage. However, this will require planning and coordination among our members. I believe the first step is to find volunteers who are willing to work on a committee to develop a plan that includes various activities throughout 2017. In addition, I don't see this committee working in a vacuum. Ideally, this committee would reach out to the other ELCA churches in the Reno/Sparks area to seek their interest. If you are interested in chairing or being on this committee, please let a church council member or myself know. We would appreciate your input prior to the upcoming annual congregation meeting.

## **Annual Congregation Meeting**

The upcoming annual congregation meeting will be January 29, 2017 at 10:30 AM. We will have one service @ 9:00 AM that morning followed by coffee & snacks in Fellowship Hall. Please mark your calendar for this important meeting as we have a myriad of decisions to make for the church.

## **New Member Orientation Class**

In 2016, we have lost some members but also have gained some. However, one critical aspect that has been lacking is officially welcoming new members to HCLC. Cleo and Ollie have volunteered to jointly lead a committee that will revamp/reinitialize the new member orientation class. But, they will need help from the congregation to restart this program. If you are interested in participating, please let Cleo or Ollie know.

## **Our Director of Music**

We have a first for Holy Cross Lutheran Church. I am happy to pass on that Brittney will be competing in The National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) regional singing competition on January 14th, 2017 in Phoenix, Arizona. NATS is the largest professional association of teachers of singing in the world with nearly 7,000 members internationally. She will be singing a selection of art songs and arias by composers such as Mozart, Respighi, Durufle, Brahms, Bononcini, and Massenet. She will be competing against thousands of collegiate level singers to advance to the next level of competition as well as receive a monetary prize. This is her first time competing in this competition. Brittney is looking most forward to the invaluable feedback she will receive from the professional vocalists adjudicating her audition. I know you all agree with me when I say we are blessed to have such a talented individual at HCLC. And we wish her the best of luck in this competition.

*Looking forward to a prosperous 2017 as we provide and increase opportunities to enrich the spiritual growth of our members of all ages.*

Steve Tate  
Council President



# **Service & Fellowship**

## **BE WARM, BE KIND**

Thank you to the congregation for supporting this year's Angel Tree. We delivered presents to both Reno Valley Senior and Assisted Living Center and Holy Child Learning Center. The gifts for the seniors and children were greatly appreciated.

A big thank you to Wib and Nellie Namestka and Bobbie Heaps for hosting this year's Appetizers/Wine and Desserts. The meal at Wib and Nellie's house was delicious and desserts, as always, yummy.

Our Second Annual Advent Tea was a big success. Thank you to all who attended, and to all the ladies that worked so hard to put the program together, baked, and hosted tables. A special thank you to Brittany and Becky for providing the music and to Dawn for her administrative support.

**SERVE ONE  
ANOTHER  
IN LOVE**

**GALATIANS 5:13**



# January Scripture Readings

## January 1st

Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalms 148

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23

## January 8th

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalms 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

## January 15th

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalms 40:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

## January 22nd

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalms 27:1, 4-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

## January 29th

Micah 6:1-8

Psalms 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12



Godly Play resumes  
on the 8th of  
Jan. beginning  
at 10:25 am.

Hooks and Needles will meet the 3rd Tuesday in January, the 17th at 9:00 a.m. We welcome all knitters and crocheters and/or those who want to learn how to knit or crochet. We donated all of our hats and scarves and most of our afghans to various local agencies, so we will need to build up our inventory for next fall's donations. Come join us for a fun time.





# *Live Nativity*

During the Christmas Season something magical has been happening at Holy Cross for over 30 years—The Live Nativity

Reflections on the 2016 Live Nativity at Holy Cross

Luke 2

“I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people; to you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord. Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth, peace among men...”

What a joyful celebration of our Savior's Birth—the “reason for the season”.

The stable structure was erected—old hands and new hands participating—including a beautiful addition – a painted Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus.

While the weather “was frightful”--cold and windy, the Nativity story was enacted both Friday and Saturday night. --“old” members and “new” members of Holy Cross played their part in the Nativity. Then we invite our guests to play their part in the Nativity—and families brought their children and together many played their part in the Nativity. Comments included—“I came as a teenager and now I am bringing my children to see and participate in the Live Nativity”: “we have come every year to see and take part in this Christmas Celebration” “remembering when we first built the stable, and collecting the wood from a construction site I was working on” “remember before the Church was built, when we used the “Winebago” to warm up in between performances? —how cold we were”--“ “remember the camels?”, “my children and grandchildren all have participated in this Live Nativity” .

What a joy to hear the Christmas Caroling, enjoy making crafts, eat the delicious food, see the actors dressing and then acting out the Nativity, to be with congregation members, family, friends, and neighbors from our community—celebrating the birth of Jesus. Thank you to all who make this wonderful event happen ( Paula & Katie Featherstone, Natalie Tegio, The Krehliks, The Goebels, Michael Marton, Joey Ginnett and all those who donated goodies, time, support and their love). Pictures will follow in next month’s newsletter.



# Senior Lunch on Wednesday the 18th at NOON and bring a SACK LUNCH.

## Holy Cross Quilters

We are "back at work" starting Thursday January 5th! Our regular schedule is the first and third Thursday of each month--9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Quilt tops are ready to tie, cutting, pressing, sewing, designing, will also be needed. Please join us--bring new friends, old friends --young people, children, there is work and fun for everyone.

Everyone is welcome to join the quilt group. No quilting or sewing experience is required. Although experience quilters and seamstress are also treasured!. During our quilt meetings we do a variety of things--cutting fabric, sewing quilt tops, pressing the material, coordinating tops and backs and tying the quilts.

Please join us for creative work, fun and fellowship.



1/3 Betty Hobbs

1/4 Deborah Goebel

1/4 Grayson Nguyen

1/4 Lance Combs

1/6 Odell Guss

1/7 Owen Schenk

1/8 Stephanie Johnson

1/10 Charlie Gevert

1/11 Karleigh Ellison

1/11 Jayne Ellison

1/12 Nellie Namestka

1/18 Trish Riley

1/19 Orlyn Schenk

1/23 Anthony Sottolano

1/23 Jolene Jaillet

1/25 Kaylee Caldwell

~ NOTE ~  
We will have  
only one  
service on  
January 29th at  
9:00 am with  
the Annual  
Meeting  
following  
services.

Cheers  
to a  
*New Year*  
and another chance  
for us to get it right.





# Next 16 of the 95 Theses

41. *Papal indulgences must be preached with caution, lest people erroneously think that they are preferable to other good works of love.*
42. *Christians are to be taught that the pope does not intend that the buying of indulgences should in any way be compared with works of mercy.*
43. *Christians are to be taught that he who gives to the poor or lends to the needy does a better deed than he who buys indulgences.*
44. *Because love grows by works of love, man thereby becomes better. Man does not, however, become better by means of indulgences but is merely freed from penalties.*
45. *Christians are to be taught that he who sees a needy man and passes him by, yet gives his money for indulgences, does not buy papal indulgences but God's wrath.*
46. *Christians are to be taught that, unless they have more than they need, they must reserve enough for their family needs and by no means squander it on indulgences.*
47. *Christians are to be taught that they buying of indulgences is a matter of free choice, not commanded.*
48. *Christians are to be taught that the pope, in granting indulgences, needs and thus desires their devout prayer more than their money.*
49. *Christians are to be taught that papal indulgences are useful only if they do not put their trust in them, but very harmful if they lose their fear of God because of them.*
50. *Christians are to be taught that if the pope knew the exactions of the indulgence preachers, he would rather that the basilica of St. Peter were burned to ashes than built up with the skin, flesh, and bones of his sheep.*
51. *Christians are to be taught that the pope would and should wish to give of his own money, even though he had to sell the basilica of St. Peter, to many of those from whom certain hawkers of indulgences cajole money.*
52. *It is vain to trust in salvation by indulgence letters, even though the indulgence commissary, or even the pope, were to offer his soul as security.*
53. *They are the enemies of Christ and the pope who forbid altogether the preaching of the Word of God in some churches in order that indulgences may be preached in others.*
54. *Injury is done to the Word of God when, in the same sermon, an equal or larger amount of time is devoted to indulgences than to the Word.*
55. *It is certainly the pope's sentiment that if indulgences, which are a very insignificant thing, are celebrated with one bell, one procession, and one ceremony, then the gospel, which is the very greatest thing, should be preached with a hundred bells, a hundred processions, a hundred ceremonies.*
56. *The true treasures of the church, out of which the pope distributes indulgences, are not sufficiently discussed or known among the people of Christ.*



## But Whom Do You Say That I AM?

ETACOVDAEWH  
 RURETSAMFOG  
 AVRSUSEJLNO  
 WRETMWAYICL  
 VINYDAAKDDO  
 RATSGNINROM  
 DAYSTARCP TSA LDNATSRI FORERUNNER  
 EVGFNOPHHOTUJGROLESNUOCHCNARBO  
 NMPEIAGONOFUORHADUJFONOILIFEIT  
 EEMVMIMOSRSFKHORN OFSALVATIONSA  
 RSA AHOFFETKEENDOGYTHGIMLAMENHI  
 ASSQNGDDOILANINOSNETTOGEBYLNOD  
 ZITJOUNNNNDECAEPFOECNIRPHYPLPE  
 AAEDYOE GACORSTNENIVDIVADDFONOSM  
 NHRZWHS LQARS DPOCJT LAMBOFGODBFV  
 RHORATOUCIR  
 PHPOCSNDEGE  
 ELRLDRSGRHD  
 NDOFAEOERTE  
 TRPOINLVUHE  
 EEHDDRAESBM  
 RVEREOTRESE  
 EOTOLCILRHR  
 VSNLIKOA VET  
 ISGRVVNSAPS  
 GADAERBTNHI  
 WPSDRVSITER  
 AGSGEVONORH  
 LOWORDHGSDC  
 NOITADNUOFY

Advocate  
 Almighty  
 Alpha and Omega  
 Amen  
 Apostle  
 Beloved Son  
 Bishop  
 Branch  
 Bread  
 Captain  
 Carpenter  
 Chosen  
 Christ  
 Consolation  
 Cornerstone  
 Counselor  
 Day Star  
 Deliverer

Door  
 Emmanuel  
 Everlasting  
 Faithful and True  
 First and Last  
 Forerunner  
 Foundation  
 Governor  
 Head  
 High Priest  
 Holy and Just One  
 Horn of Salvation  
 I AM  
 Jesus  
 Judge  
 King  
 King of Kings  
 Lamb of God

Lawgiver  
 Life  
 Light  
 Lion of Judah  
 Lord  
 Lord of Lords  
 Master  
 Master  
 Mediator  
 Messiah  
 Mighty God  
 Morning Star  
 Nazarene  
 Only Begotten Son  
 Passover  
 Priest  
 Prince of Peace  
 Prophet

Redeemer  
 Resurrection  
 Rock  
 Savior  
 Servant  
 Shepherd  
 Son of David  
 Son of God  
 Son of Man  
 Vine  
 Way  
 Wonderful  
 Word