

Holy Cross Crossroads

Monthly Newsletter of :



Holy Cross
Lutheran Church

| April 2020

Mark Your Calendar

The church is currently closed and our regular activities are suspended at this time.

Please visit our website and Facebook page for all the fun virtual activities we are planning while we are adjusting to our new "normal".

We will weather this "storm" together and celebrate together when we are able.

Stay safe & healthy!



Pastor's Corner....

Dear Friends,

I saw a post on a friend's Facebook page that said, "This is the Lentiest Lent I ever Lenten." I have to say, I agree with the sentiment. When we

began Lent, we were focused on prayer and had no idea that the virus that had been so terrible in China would hit us so hard, and so personally. I have to say that it's been weird to be in church on Sunday mornings, preaching to my phone, knowing that so many of you are able to tune in live on Facebook, or later on our church YouTube channel or on our website. Our transition to virtual worship hasn't been perfect, but I think we've done okay so far. We are still learning and we have a ways to go, but I am so appreciative of your patience with me as I continue to enhance my very basic social media skills.

There are words that were new to us a couple of weeks ago that we have now mastered... live streaming, zoom, video conferencing, FaceTime, social distancing, distance learning, flattening the curve.

Continued on next page...

Pastor's Corner (cont'd)...

I know there are plenty of our church family who are overwhelmed by all of the technology that has now become so important to us. However, I have a feeling of pride as so many of you have embraced it and are even doing better with it than I am. It's been important to use what we can of technology in order to stay connected.

However, the closing of the church has been tough, and anticipating that we likely have a few more weeks until our county "peaks," we are working to make the best of the situation.

The hardest part of this right now is missing Holy Week and Easter together. I am still finalizing some of our worship plans, but let me share with you what I know.

Palm Sunday:

Worship will be pre-recorded and available for viewing on our website, our YouTube channel, and our Facebook page on Sunday morning. It will not include communion, but it will help us journey with Jesus through the last week of his life. A special thank you to all who are helping put that together, especially Michael Tegio.

Also, on Palm Sunday, there will be a special message for the younger members of our church family (and those who are young at heart) later on in the day.

Monday-Thursday:

Each morning's there will be a special prayer and devotion posted on Facebook and then shared more widely YouTube and our website.

Mandy Thursday:

I know many of us will miss the Seder Meal, but we are currently working on how we might bring that to you live on Facebook. We will send out information by early next week as to how you may put together some of the traditional food that is part of the service, but if that doesn't work for you, simply plan to have a special meal that night. Dress up, set the table, get something special to eat and remember the special meal that the Israelites have to remember how they were set free from slavery in Egypt and remember that same special meal that Jesus had with his disciples the before he died.

Good Friday:

At noon, I will be live streaming on Facebook a contemplative worship service of Scripture Readings and prayer. This also will get posted on YouTube and our website later in the day so if you are working during the day, we invite you to make this part of your evening.

Easter Sunday:

I have to admit that I'm not yet sure exactly what worship will be like on Easter morning. The planner in me hates to admit that, but so many colleagues are getting so creative, so there might be something fun to help us celebrate. You will just have to tune in to find out. And just a reminder, when we are able to worship again, we are planning to have a "proper" Easter celebration!

Pastor's Corner (Cont'd)...

I know it's not ideal to not be together during this special week, but I do hope that you will join us as we contemplate God's greatest gift that is for us, God's only Son Jesus who saves and redeems us through his sacrifice. Journey with us through that last week of Christ's life, and please feel free to share videos and posts with others so that they may be blessed with his love as well.

After Easter, keep on the lookout for more opportunities to connect. Things are developing and happening rather quickly, so be on the alert for emails and notices that come from Dawn or the church. We hope to have regular chat and check in time through the virtual meeting website called Zoom. We may even try to do a new Bible study through Zoom as well, but things are so fluid right now, it's hard to pin everything down. We do appreciate your flexibility and patience with us as we continue to work and plan for the future.

I do want to add that we are going to continue our prayer of the day email. We've had a really wonderful response and so we will be continuing it for the foreseeable future. Please continue to send us your prayers!

May God's love and peace be with you all!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Kathy



Holy Cross Visioning Process

As you all are aware, last month, I shared with you a plan about creating a new strategic plan and doing some visioning about the future of Holy Cross. You all were encouraged to pray for God to show you what the future at Holy Cross might be like between now and the next 3-5 years. I hope that you all have been praying, but I understand that other things have come up since we first made our plans.

We were also hoping to gather people together to share with other another things they have imagined, and all of that is still on my mind, but for right now, I think I just want to ask you to stay in the praying and the imagining stage. When all of the COVID-19 stuff settles, we will set up times for small groups to gather and we can share the things that we hope for our future.

For now, keep Holy Cross in your prayers. Take notes of ideas. And know that I can't wait to hear what God shows you during this time!

Pastor Kathy



WOW is the only word I can use to describe the support and willingness of our members to learn new ways of giving and supporting Holy Cross during these unusual circumstances! You all have been spectacular in so many ways. Many of you have learned how to navigate our website and set up your online giving on a regular basis. Many of you have

mailed in your regular contributions. Many of you have contacted me and asked for help when you got stuck. Many of you have learned how to watch Pastor's sermon on Face Book, YouTube & our website. Many of you have asked how they can help. Many of you have sent encouraging emails, texts, messages to me and other members of the congregation, etc. As you can see many, well truthfully ALL, of you are what make Holy Cross such a special place! To see you all embrace the craziness with a positive attitude and willingness to help and learn brings a smile to my face and warms my heart. You are all ROCK STARS! If you do need help with any "technology" aspects, please reach out to me via email or call me and I will walk you through whatever you may need. Keep smiling my friends :)

Greetings from your Administrative Assistant/Financial Secretary, Dawn Sawyer



Postponed for now, but we will let you know when it will be rescheduled.

Council News...

Wow—what extraordinary times! Here we are: praying together, working together, supporting one another, caring for one another, trusting in God's Love and Guidance during this unnerving time, even when the future is unclear and uncertain. We will get through this together!

Pastor Kathy has swiftly moved us to Virtual Worship on Facebook and our Holy Cross Web page and You Tube —and connecting by phone, text, e-mail and “snail mail”. Drive by communion— how creative! Dawn's support during this time is invaluable, as is Brittney's work in providing music. I hear of members checking with members, family, friends and neighbors —delivering “bananas and ice cream”, groceries dropped on front porches, checking in with one another to see how everything is going, offering support to run errands or just a time to visit over the phone, holding Zoom family gatherings, all that can, working at home, teaching on-line, staying home doing our part to slow the spread of the Covid 19 virus. We have members and friends who are on the front lines---medical staff, police, first responders, firefighters, those ensuring food and supplies are available at the grocery store and pharmacy, goods and services are delivered, ensuring transportation continues, buildings cleaned and sanitized, takeout meals available, all of those in essential industry that are keeping us going during this national health crisis. God Bless us all as we do our part.

The Council met on March 9 at our regular meeting—Richard Eggers, Vice President chaired the meeting. We approved the appointment of the Audit Committee to conduct the annual audit, approved the Gift Receipts Policy and the Memorial Garden Policy, reviewed the Council 2020 Action Steps developed at the annual council retreat.

On March 26 the council held a special Council meeting via ZOOM. This was a first for us, and we are pleased to report that the Zoom online platform works and we will be able to connect and conduct business in this format. After thorough discussion we made the difficult decision to suspend Worship Services through April 16, following Presidential, Federal, State and local guidance. We will continue to do our part to slow the spread of the virus, working together to keep our members and community safe. Church finances were reviewed, the Finance Committee will meet on April 2 when March numbers are available. Our on-line giving ability is up and running on our Web page and through a phone app. We encourage members to learn more about this giving opportunity and if appropriate, take advantage of the opportunity.

Words from Martin Luther during the Black Plague are as relevant today as they were 500 years ago: Martin Luther's letter: “Whether one might flee from a deadly plague” --as Europe was enduring the Black Plague Death: (Luther Works Vol 43 p. 132)

“I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then, I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid persons and place where my presence is not needed, in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I will have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others.

If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God.”

Diane Torry, Council President

In Memoriam



Adeline Bergeson, Reno, NV, formerly of Twin Valley and Hawley, MN, died March 2, 2020 at her daughter's home.

Adeline Juntunen was born in Suomi, MN, February 1, 1920 to Edwin and Minnie Juntunen. She was baptized and confirmed in the Christian faith at Suomi Lutheran Church. She completed grade school through eighth grade at Suomi School, graduated from Grand Rapids MN High School in 1938, and worked as a clerk-typist for the USDA's Farm Security Administration in Grand Rapids, Long Prairie, Duluth, Ada and Mahnomen, MN.

In 1942 she married Burnett J. Bergeson at Thief River Falls, MN. They purchased a farm in Home Lake Township near Twin Valley, MN, engaging in grain farming and raising turkeys for 35 years.

During those years Adeline worked as Parish Secretary for Zion Lutheran Church in Twin Valley, and Secretary for her husband during the years he was a member of the Minnesota Legislature. Adeline was a manager for Lutheran Memorial Homes in Twin Valley and Halstad, retiring as Administrator from Halstad, MN. She was active in the church and held multiple offices in the Lutheran Church Women at Zion Lutheran Church (Twin Valley) and the Hawley Lutheran Church.

In 1977 they sold the farm and bought a home in Hawley, MN where they lived for 20 years before moving to Reno, NV in 1998. In retirement, she became an expert quilter (hand and machine quilting), a joy she shared with her daughter and granddaughters. She was a ribbon winner at Quilt Shows in Reno, NV, and a founding, active member of the quilt group at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Burnett and Adeline had 68 years together before his death in 2011. Adeline is survived by their four children: David (Patricia) of Wichita, KS, (grandchildren Scott (Stacy) and Steven (Lindsay); Diane Torry of Reno, NV (grandchildren Katie Torry and Natalie (Russell Tegio); Jay, Sparks, NV (grandchild Lukas); Loren, Los Angeles, CA; daughter-in-law Kristin McKie, Boise, ID (grandchildren Amanda and Valerie Bergeson); brother, Oliver Juntunen of Suomi (rural Deer River, MN), four great grandchildren (Jack and Joe Bergeson, Torry and Michael Tegio) and many nieces and nephews. Preceding her in death were her parents, husband, sisters and their spouses, Marion (Herb Stierna) and Mildred (Perry Hanson); and sister-in law Gertrude (Oliver) Juntunen; son-in-law Michael Torry of Reno, NV; Burnett's siblings and their spouses: Roy (Esther) Bergeson; Gertrude (Lee) Purrier, Melvin (Olga) Bergeson; Mildred (Morris) Sargent; Olive (William) Burton; and John (Norma) Bergeson,.

A memorial service will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Reno, NV with a future date to be determined. Final inurnment will be at the Zion Lutheran Church and cemetery Twin Valley, MN July 11, 2020.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Home Delivered Meals, Washoe County Senior Services, 1155 E 9 th St. Reno, NV 89512 or Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 4895 S. McCarran Blvd, Reno, NV 89502.

Just for fun....

We are all cooped up in our homes doing our best to social distance from people which is a really hard thing to do since we are social beings and are so loving & caring. So, I came across this list of things you can do while stuck at home. Some are funny, some are good ideas and some won't apply to everyone, but I thought it would be good to pass along. It may inspire you to do something of your own that is not on the list. Enjoy and let us know what you are doing. You can email me a picture or let me know and we will share (with your permission) with our Church Family via Facebook, emails, etc. We are all in this together. Let's do our own version of socializing with each other.

- Complete a puzzle: The more pieces the better! Feeling extra saucy? Take on a Rubik's Cube. More of a word person? Crossword puzzle!
- Start a journal or blog. Sure, it can be about the coronavirus, but it could also be about a specific interest from chess to cheese.
- If it won't bother your neighbors: Dust off that old instrument and practice.
- Write poetry. Perhaps you can craft a haiku for Mother's Day, or something without a specific structure. Just try it!
- Watch all the really long movies you've avoided until now.
- Download Duolingo, or a similar app, and teach yourself a foreign language.
- Finally read all those LONG (or short) books you have been avoiding. You got this.
- Meditate. Try lying down with your eyes closed, palms up and while focusing on your breath. Or spend 20 minutes sitting cross-legged and repeat a soothing word to yourself in your head. (The latter is more like transcendental meditation.)
- Face masks, moisturizer, oh my! Treat yourself to a 10-step skin care routine you don't have time for during a normal work week.
- Look at pictures of puppies, kittens, or any cute animal.

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Wednesday Bible study is on hiatus at the moment until we get the green light for the church to resume gatherings again. If you're not already getting these daily quizzes, it's easy to sign up. Enjoy!

www.bibletrivia.com

"subscribe" in the upper right corner

Things to do while stuck at home.

- Take note from "Tangled" star Rapunzel, who has an entire song about how she's spent her days alone in a castle. Activities included in her ditty: Ventriloquy, candle-making, papier-mâché and adding a new painting to her gallery.
- Write actual letters to family and friends. After that? Write thank-you notes to service people who you remember went out of their way for you.
- Learn calligraphy. YouTube can help.
- Finally read the rules to those long and intense board games you've never played with the family. Encourage the family to play.
- Put on a soap opera. Mute the sound. Create your own dialogue.
- Have a space in your home where all of the Tupperware goes? Organize it and actually match lids to containers.
- Try on all your clothes and determine whether they "spark joy" à la Marie Kondo.
- Better yet, go through this process with your junk drawer and supply shelves.
- Do some baking.
- Watch the films that won Oscars for best picture.
- Watch films that won Independent Spirit Awards for best picture.
- Watch films that critics say *should* have won those aforementioned awards.
- Read all the magazines piled on your desk.
- Knit, crochet or sew.
- Use Skype, FaceTime, Google Hangouts or Marco Polo to video chat with your long-distance friends.
- Try out at-home aerobics or yoga videos. Consider downloading a fitness app with curated workout playlists.
- Look at yourself in the mirror. Attempt a self portrait with pencil and paper.
- Take a bubble bath.
- Coloring books: They're not just for kids.

- Take time to reflect: What have you accomplished in the last year? What goals are you setting for yourself in the next year?
- Write a short story or get started on that novel.
- Actually try to reproduce something you see on Pinterest. Fail, try again.
- Clear out the family room and camp indoors with all blankets, popcorn and scary movies.
- Finally get around to fixing that broken door knob and loose tile or cleaning scuffed up walls.
- Interview your grandparents, parents or family members (over the phone, of course) and save the audio. Can you create an audio story or book with that file?
- Go through your camera roll, pick your favorite pics from the past year and make a photo book or order framed versions online.
- Go on a health kick and learn how to cook new recipes.
- Create a list of shows or movies you're watching and share it among family and friends.
- Make a list of things for which you are grateful.
- Work on your financial planning, such as exploring whether to refinance your loan or ways to save more money.
- Write a book with your family. Pick a character and each member writes a chapter about their adventures. Read aloud to each other.
- No March Madness? Have a Scrabble tournament. Or Bananagrams. Pictionary, anyone?
- Indoor scavenger hunt.
- Alternate reading the Harry Potter series with your kids and cap each one off with the movie.
- Dye your hair a new color. No one else needs to see it if you don't like it.
- Make lists of all the museums, sporting events and concerts you want to visit when they finally reopen.

Continued on next page

Things to do while stuck at home (cont'd)

- Rearrange your furniture to make it seem like your home is a totally different space.
- Practice shuffling playing cards like a Poker dealer. Be ready for employment opportunities once all casinos open back up, lol.
- Organize your spice rack alphabetically or get crazy and do it by cuisine.
- Teach your dog to shake. Hand sanitizer optional.
- Memorize the periodic table. You never know when that will come in handy.
- Get a free trial of a streaming service and binge-watch as much as you can before it expires.
- Learn a new style of dance via YouTube, from belly dancing to breaking.
- Update or write your will and organize your affairs. Yes, it sounds melodramatic and morbid but let's face it: This is a task many of us avoid because we never have the time. Now we do.
- Watch the "Star Wars" series.
- Stretch. Work on your flexibility. It's possible to get the splits back, right?
- Talk to your plants. How are they doing? Make sure they are getting the amount of sunlight they should be. Check their soil. Water if necessary.
- Deep condition your hair and put paraffin wax on your hands. Enjoy your soft hair and nails.
- Consider donating money to food banks to help families struggling to get meals.
- Take deep breaths, in through your nose and out through your mouth.
- Sleep. Get lots of it.

Enjoy & Have Fun!

Landscape News

Work has started on our Memorial and Scattering Garden.

We are so happy to see the progress that has taken place in just a few short days on the gardens situated on our property. If the weather cooperates the project will be completed within these next two weeks.

All orders that were received for pavers have been completed and the pavers themselves have been sealed and are ready to be laid. We will continue to take orders of Memorial Pavers once we are able to begin worship services. Paula and Chris will be available to assist you. Our next scheduled deadline for orders will be towards the end of September. Those pavers will be placed in the later part of October. Dedication of the additional pavers will take place on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020.

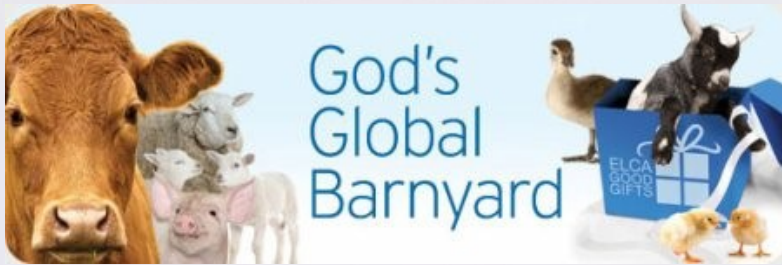
Chris Martin for the Landscape Committee



Service & Fellowship.....



A new signup sheet for "Easter Flowers" will be in the narthex once plans are in place for our Easter celebration.



***God's Global Barnyard
The Challenge has begun.
Let's Buy the Farm.***

Let's Buy the Farm! Can we raise \$715? During Lent and through May, please consider helping us buy a farm through ELCA. Your gifts to God's Global Barnyard support the sustainable development ministries of ELCA World Hunger, which include training, education, resources (and more) to help the community care for animals and create new market opportunities like starting a small business selling eggs, meat or dairy products. Your gifts support this comprehensive approach to animal husbandry. With eggs, milk and meat to eat and sell, and tools and training to increase the harvest, this gift can create a world of opportunity for a family living in poverty. *You can still donate to this cause by mailing in a check to the church or you can make a one time donation directly to "buy a farm" using the drop down menu from the Give Page on our website at holycrossreno.org. If you have problems, get in touch with Dawn and she can walk you through it.*



God's Work. Our Hands.

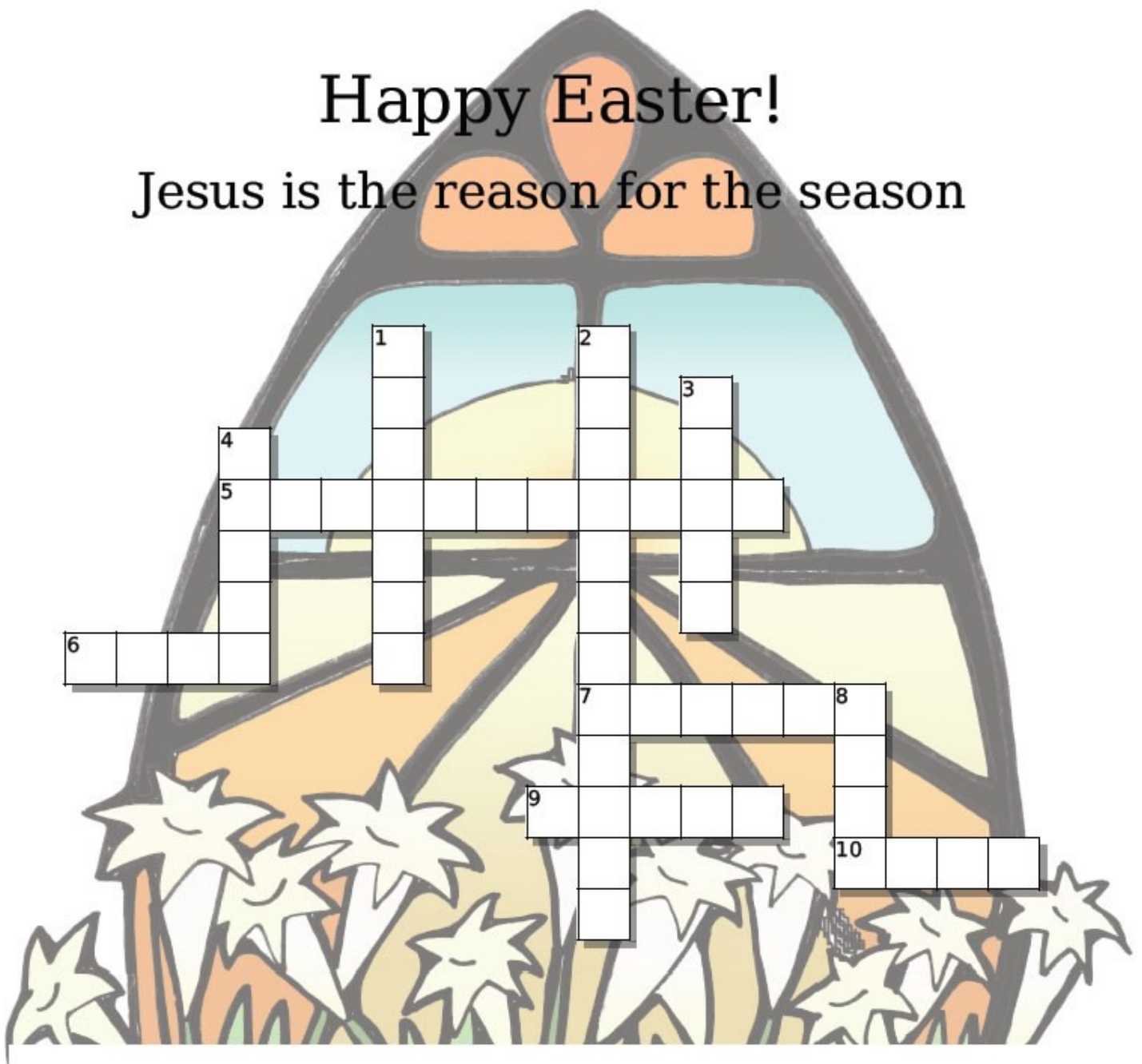
Through out the summer Service Committee will be collecting items for God's Work. Our Hands Day. Items collected will be given to Step2, VOA, and the homeless in our community. More information will be provided in the next newsletter.

Fellowship...

Mystery Dinner – Thank you to Wib and Nellie Namestka for planning a mystery dinner in March which had to be postponed. Hopefully, we can reschedule this dinner soon.

Happy Easter!

Jesus is the reason for the season



ACROSS

- 5 He fills the baskets (2 wds.)
- 6 We dye them, plus a symbol for rebirth
- 7 Where you should be on Easter :)
- 9 Common Easter flower
- 10 It was empty

DOWN

- 1 Common Easter colors
- 2 What all of the fuss is about
- 3 What the Easter bunny brings
- 4 The reason for the season
- 8 Children love a good Easter egg __

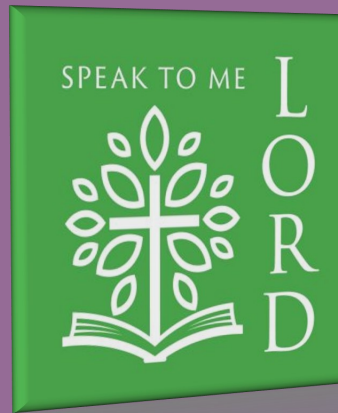


Mark your calendars and plan on coming to a "Celebration of 40 years" concert at Holy

Cross on September 13th at 2:00 pm. We plan on featuring the Choir, High Desert Harmony Chorus, and other solo and small group performances. This is one of several 40th anniversary events coming in September!

The six words below each have the same highly unusual feature. What is it?

almost
begin
below
empty
first
glory



April 5th

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14--
27:66

April 12th

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

April 19th

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

April 26th

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35



It's been very quiet in Quiltville. We haven't figured out how to hold a virtual quilt group meeting on Zoom! We don't know when we will be back on schedule, but what we do know is there will be plenty of "quilting fun" when we get back to our regular schedule!

If you have run across some fabric you are ready to part with (perhaps some of us are cleaning corners and closets, just a guess) the quilt group will gladly accept your fabric donation. However, if you are looking for a "project" you could cut your fabric into 10 ½ inch squares--- 48 of these squares make a 60 by 80 quilt --and we will package the squares into our Blue Basket quilt top kits when we return. --Just a thought.

Everyone, keep safe and healthy, doing our part-staying and home if you can, practice social distancing. We are grateful for those on the front lines—medical care, police, fire, first responders, grocery staff, janitorial staff, truckers, critical supply chain workers and those that keep these critical areas up and running.

Crossroads

Here the church stands.

*Between clarity of mission
and the schism of division
Here we stand.*

*Between promises which assure
and temptations that allure
Between certainty and confusion
between dreams and illusions
Here we stand.*

*Between sweet silence of peace
and the fin of war's increase
Between God's promised new creation
and our human deprivation
Here the church stands.*

And here Christ Stands.

*Between sin-filled confession
and grace-full redemption
Here Christ stands.*

*Between heaven and earth
between death and new birth
Between broken promises or our past
and God's kingdom come, at last
Here Christ stands.*

*Because Christ stands,
Here we stand.*

*At once, sinner and saint,
At once, courageous and all-too-faint
Here the church stand.*

Here we stand.

Here Christ stands.

~ John McCullough-Base ~



YES, this project is still being worked on!

Michael Tegio is still working on creating a video of Holy Cross History which will both archive Holy Cross History and produce a Video of Holy Cross History.

To accomplish this work, Michael needs your help! If you have pictures, videos, bulletins, newsletter articles, anything that highlights Holy Cross History, Michael will video them and return the originals to all who want them back. Due to current circumstances with the church being closed, you can email these directly to Michael at michaeltegio@live.com or to Dawn at holycrossreno@gmail.com.

In addition, Michael will be interviewing old and new members. Please let him know if you would like to be interviewed! These can be done over the phone, skype, zoom, etc.

Michael hopes to have the documentary completed in late spring or early fall.

Help us preserve & celebrate the history of Holy Cross Lutheran Church.



Alright all you HCLC Betty Crockers.... here's the scoop.

Thank you for all those who have been sending in your treasured recipes by either dropping them in the basket in the Narthex or emailing them to Richard Eggers. We are super excited about this project to celebrate our 40th Anniversary.

We still need more recipes, so dig them out and bring or send them on in. We really need to see some more recipes coming in so we can get this wonderful project going. You can just drop them off in the Narthex. You may also email them to Richard Eggers at Renogemini@aol.com.

Please make sure you only submit up to 3 recipes. That they are legible to read and your name or the name of who the recipe is from is on it.

We are looking for a wide variety of entries (not just desserts) - things like appetizers, soups, salads, stews, main dishes, side dishes, beverages, desserts, cakes, cookies, breads, holiday dishes, candy, etc.



Who's Who

Children's Bible Stories

Match the Children's Bible Story with it's main character on the right.

- ___ Who is the Son of God?
- ___ Who got out of the boat and walked on the water towards Jesus?
- ___ God changed who's name to Israel?
- ___ Who was swallowed by a giant fish?
- ___ Who was thrown into the lion's den?
- ___ Who built the Ark for the great flood?
- ___ Who went to Heaven in chariots of fire?
- ___ Who parted the Red Sea?
- ___ Who did God choose to lead the battle of Jericho?
- ___ Who's father gave him a robe of many colors?
- ___ Who was promised to be the "Father Of All Nations"?
- ___ Who's strength was in his uncut hair?
- ___ Who was unable to speak until his son was born?
- ___ Who betrayed Jesus?
- ___ Who baptized Jesus in the Jordan River?
- ___ Who defeated Goliath the Giant with a slingshot and a stone?
- ___ Who was the first person to find out Jesus was not in his tomb?
- ___ Who was the greedy tax collector who climbed a tree to see Jesus?
- ___ Who's wife turned to a pillar of salt because she looked back?
- ___ Who was blinded on the Road to Damascus and heard the voice of Jesus?

- 1. Jesus
- 2. Jonah
- 3. Noah
- 4. Peter
- 5. David
- 6. Abraham
- 7. Elijah
- 8. Daniel
- 9. Lot
- 10. Moses
- 11. Samson
- 12. Joseph
- 13. Saul
- 14. Mary
- 15. Zechariah
- 16. Judas
- 17. Joshua
- 18. Zacchaeus
- 19. John
- 20. Jacob

