

Holy Cross

Crossroads

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”—
Philippians 4:19

Mark Your Calendar!

9/13

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

9/13

Confirmation Class (9:30am)

9/20

40th Anniversary Celebration!

9/27

Blessing of the Pets Sunday

9/27

Confirmation Class (9:30am)

Communion in the Garden

Join us on Sundays at 8am or 9am for a short service of Scripture, prayer, reflections, and Holy Communion. Feel free to bring a chair to sit if needed.

From Pastor Kathy:

Dear Friends,

Happy Birthday Holy Cross Lutheran Church!

As you may know, this month marks the 40th Anniversary of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, and that is a wonderful milestone to celebrate.

A year ago, we started planning multiple events to help us capture the ministry that Holy Cross has done in Christ's name, but as with most everything in 2020, our plans have been scaled back dramatically. The plans are all still all there, but you will likely see them next year, hopefully in time for a wonderful 41st Anniversary celebration next fall.

Rather than focus on the things that we are unable to do this year, I want to share some exciting things that we are planning. On September 20 (our celebration Sunday) we have some surprises that will be included with our online worship service, and we will be dedicating our new Memorial Garden at both of the Communion in the Garden Worship Services. We know that not everyone will be able to attend the dedication services, so the 9am service will be recorded and shown later in the day.

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“From Pastor Kathy” continued...

The ministry that Holy Cross has done in the name of Jesus for the community and for all of the people who have at one time or another been a part of the Holy Cross Family has been remarkable. Holy Cross has been richly blessed and has thereby been a blessing to many others. And whether we are together in person, or have moved across the country, we give God thanks for that!

Later in the newsletter, you will see some information about how to participate in our upcoming visioning process, and we hope that you will share your input so that we can start moving forward and continue to do God’s work into the next 40 years and beyond.

I wish you all, our Holy Cross family – past, present and future – the happiest of birthdays!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Kathy

To Our Members:

We ask, if you are able, (being very aware that these uncertain times cause financial issues that may challenge the ability to give) to continue with your weekly or monthly giving. If you could consider “paying in advance,” that will allow Holy Cross to more securely navigate the coming months.

Thank you for your continued generous life-giving gifts of your resources, time and talents.

Peace and Blessings,
Diane B. Torrey, Church Council President

Interesting/Note-worthy Dates in September

September is Self-improvement Month, National Suicide Prevention Month, and World Alzheimer’s Month. Feel free to choose a few days below to celebrate with friends and family, with pets, or treat yourself to something special!

9/5 - International Day of Charity

9/6 - Read a Book Day

9/7 - Labor Day

9/10 - World Suicide Prevention Day

9/11 - Patriot Day

9/13 - Grandparents Day and
Blame Someone Else Day

9/15 - International Day of Democracy

9/16 - National Guacamole Day

9/17 - Constitution Day

9/18 - First Love Day

9/19 - National Dance Day

9/20 - Wife Appreciation Day

9/21 - International Day of Peace

9/22 - Hobbit Day, National Singles Day, and
First day of fall

9/25 - Heritage Day, National Daughters Day,
and National Cooking Day

9/26 - Family Health and Fitness Day, National
Family Day, and Nat. Hunting & Fishing Day

9/27 - National No Excuses Day and
World Tourism Day

9/28 - National Neighbor Day and National
Sons Day

9/29 - National Coffee Day

9/30 - National Love People Day



Next Steps for Our Visioning Process

As you may remember, last spring we began a new visioning process where we invited everyone to pray, specifically for Holy Cross and its ministries and its future. We will be continuing this process in September, and would like you to dream big and ask God to show you what He is putting on your mind and your heart for the future. It doesn't matter how simple or elaborate it might seem, we want to hear about it. Youth and young adults are especially encouraged to attend and add their input!

We will be hosting 6 Listening Sessions, which will be based around the following questions:

- What is God calling Holy Cross to do in the next 1-2 years?
- What is God calling Holy Cross to do in the next 3-5 years?
- What is God calling Holy Cross to do in the next 5-10 years?

In order to make sure we are hearing input from as many people as possible, we are setting up a variety of ways to participate.

- 1) Three sessions will take place on Zoom, and three will take place in person here at the church (six feet apart and wearing masks). Our goal is to have 10-15 people at each session, so you would only need to come to one of the sessions. If more than one member of your household is planning to come, please sign up each person.
- 2) We are asking you to make a reservation for whichever session fits best into your schedule.
- 3) If you are not comfortable with the technology or if you simply don't feel comfortable coming, you are welcome to email me your thoughts, but it is ideal to have people share with one another.

Instructions for signing up for a listening session:

To make a reservation for one of the following Listening Sessions, please use the link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FADAC23A0F5CF8-listeningvisionin>

Or you may call or email Alese at the church office (775-827-4822 or holycrossreno@gmail.com), or use the sign-up sheet provided at the church on Sunday (or stop by!).

- *Thursday, September 10 – 6pm at Church*
- *Sunday, September 13 – 1pm on Zoom*
- *Tuesday, September 15 – 2pm at Church*
- *Wednesday, September 16 – 6pm on Zoom*
- *Thursday, September 17 – 10am on Zoom*
- *Sunday, September 20 – 9:30am at Church*

*Zoom links will be sent to those who sign up for the sessions.

40th Anniversary Celebration

September 20th

Documentary

If you have mementos, stories to share, or fun things to remember, Michael Tegio is continuing to work on documenting Holy Cross' history.

Contact Michael for more information:
Michaeltegio@live.com



We hope you can join us for our 40th Anniversary Celebration as we dedicate our Memorial Garden at both services at 8:00am and 9:00am.

If you cannot make it, the 9am service will be recorded and posted for you to watch at a later time.

Also, tune in for online worship as there will be some surprises in store!

Memorial Pavers

While we will dedicate our Memorial Garden with its inaugural paver stones on September 20, we will also continue to add new Memorial Pavers each year. If you would like to purchase a paver stone which will be added to the garden and placed this fall, we ask you to fill out a Memorial Paver Stone Order Form and return it to the church no later than September 30. Pavers cost \$150. We will bless our new paver stones on All Saint's Day, which is November 1. If you would like more information, please contact Paula Featherstone or the church office.

Confirmation Classes

This fall we are starting Confirmation Classes for those in middle and high school who have not yet been confirmed. If you are interested in having your child or grandchild participate, classes will be held two Sundays a month and are part of a two-year program. For now, we will be meeting at 9:30am after Sunday services in the Fellowship Hall, and we will begin by looking at the Old Testament. Please note that there is no cut-off date for starting this program. If you have any questions or would like a registration form, please talk with or email Pastor Kathy at pastorhclcreno@gmail.com.

August 23

Bible & OT Overview

September 13

Creation

September 27

The Fall

October 11

People of the Promise

October 25

The Promise Continues

**More dates to come!*

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15



Group Studies

Church in Society Discussion Group:

Join us at 6:30pm on Tuesdays on Zoom as we discuss the ELCA Social Statement “*The Church in Society*”.

This document was put together and adopted by the 1991 Churchwide Assembly and it is the first in a series of ELCA social statements on a variety of issues. You can find it at: <https://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Church-in-Society>. We will take our time as we read through and discover what the role of the church is when dealing with social issues.

The study group may take from 2-5 weeks as we work through the document and its Scripture references and see if it's a helpful tool for us when looking at current issues of today. If you are interested in participating, please contact Pastor Kathy and plan to at least read through the document before we start discussion.

Tuesday Night Bible Study, 6:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83778498476?pwd=cTJzd3JBRXpwWjV5amdXYlowblhTUT09>

Meeting ID: 837 7849 8476 (IF you are calling in on your phone to 669-900-6833)

Password: 278499 (if requested)

Wednesday afternoon Bible Study on Zoom!

Join us on Wednesdays at 1:30pm for a Bible study on the book of Proverbs (ending by 2:40pm after prayer). There is no handout or study book needed, but be sure to let Becky Bradley (beckyb485@gmail.com) know if you are interested so that you can be put on the weekly email blast reminder which will often have notes or references regarding our upcoming discussion.

We started a study of this book in August, beginning with clarifying why we should study Proverbs and how they can give us wisdom to help us in our daily life. Then we reviewed the story on how and why God gave Solomon his world-renowned wisdom - God always gives us more than we ask for, especially when it's in His plan. Come join us as we look at the wisdom in this book. Hopefully, "you won't bite off more than you can chew"!

Wednesday afternoon Bible Study, 1:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUExQRVY5elBXbHJ4dz09>

Meeting ID: 896 3300 9098 (IF you are calling in on your phone to 669-900-6833)

Password: 050344 (if requested)

A Message From Our Church Council

August 10 we met in a combined meeting — Zoom and in person in the Fellowship Hall (with masks and physically distanced). This was a first try, and it worked reasonably well.

Sue Gonyou led devotions—Chapter 2 of Power Surge-Discipleship for a Changing Church. “The question always is do our activities further discipleship and engage us in mission—in God’s love for the world?”

We received reports from Finance and Administration and support, and Worship and Music.

Laurel Lindstrom presented the updated Building and Grounds Rental Documents. Policy, procedure, application, and agreement. With a few changes, the Building and Grounds Documents were approved, and the Council Executive committee was designated as the Committee to oversee the rental of our building to outside groups.

Most of the evening’s business was discussed during Pastor’s Report: When should we resume live worship in the building? There was agreement to continue outdoor Garden Worship through August and develop a plan for live worship in the building to be presented at the September 14 Council Meeting. We will be learning more as our schools open, and we continue to follow our local and state guidelines. We discussed using the Fellowship Hall for worship since it is a larger space, windows can be opened, and easier cleaning of chairs.

We discussed potential Caring Connections Ministry, Visioning for the future, Stewardship and plans for the fall and Christmas Seasons.

Upcoming events: Proverbs Bible Study, The Church in Society ELCA statement study, Confirmation classes, Blessing of the Backpacks, Blessing of the Animals, 40th Anniversary Sept. 20, and meetings on Silver Sage Thanksgiving Dinner and Live Nativity.

Mark Calise led us in closing prayer at 7 p.m.

Diane Torry, Council President

LEAN Update

NEVADA ADVOCATES RESPOND TO COVID-19 NEED

Lutheran Engagement and Advocacy in Nevada (LEAN) recently received a wonderful surprise gift. A very large donation came through the Sierra Pacific Synod from St. John's Lutheran Church of Sunnyvale, California (St. John's property had recently been sold as is the practice of the Synod, the proceeds of the sale are disbursed to support the ministries of the Synod).

This blessing arrived the first week of April, in the midst of the Covid-19 lockdown, and just as the state unemployment offices were being overwhelmed with claims. LEAN was aware that food pantries throughout Nevada were likewise being overwhelmed.

Although LEAN's mission is *advocacy* to address the root causes of hunger and poverty, the board recognized that a direct response to the emergency was appropriate, and also wanted to make a tithe in gratitude for the gift.

Northern Nevada is in the Sierra Pacific Synod, and Southern Nevada is in Grand Canyon Synod. LEAN's board decided to contribute to feeding programs in both Synods. **A gift of \$5,000 went to Food Bank of Northern Nevada.** The Food Bank is an industrial-scale operation that supplies food pantries throughout Northern Nevada, including Elko, Winnemucca, and other locations in what we refer to as "the rurals."

"The Food Bank is so grateful to partners like LEAN," said Nicole Lambole, President and CEO of the Food Bank of Northern Nevada. "We are seeing significant increases in families who need our help during this crisis and we wouldn't be able to meet that need without partners who share our passion for helping our neighbors."

A similar gift was made to **Lutheran Social Services of Southern Nevada**, as well as an **allocation to the Nye Communities Coalition**. Both of these organizations serve Southern Nevada by providing resources and coordination.

LEAN is appreciative of the gift given and hopes to be able to continue to partner together with these agencies and others to benefit all in Nevada.

If you would like more information about LEAN, please speak with Pastor Kathy, who serves on the board.



Serving Through Creativity

Hooks & Needles

Hooks and Needles are back "at it". We are safe distancing and are wearing our masks

We welcome all knitters and crocheters and/or those who want to learn how to knit or crochet.

We are a small group and make afghans/lap robes, scarves, hats, and shawls for local causes here in the Reno/Sparks area along with for our family and friends.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. September 8 and 22 at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

We are gladly accepting donations of yarn for our projects, thank you.

Quilt Group News

In September we wrap up our "Quilt Year" by planning for our annual quilt blessing and preparing the quilts for distribution. Of course, this year the quilt blessing will be different, but we are developing plans to ensure that the quilts are blessed before they are sent out into our community and world with the love and prayers of Holy Cross.

We distribute our quilts locally to:

- 1) Veterans in Transition—an organization for Veterans getting established in their own homes as well as Veterans in long-term care at the Veteran's Hospital
- 2) Washoe County School District's Children in Transition—helping homeless students in our School District
- 3) Ronald McDonald House—supporting families of children who are hospitalized
- 4) Hosana Home and Leah's Home—helping women regain their lives
- 5) Children's Cabinet—helping children in our community
- 6) Lutheran World Relief—we send our quilts to our brothers and sisters in need around the world
- 7) We also are blessed to provide a comforting quilt to congregation members, friend and neighbors in need of support and comfort.

Thank you to everyone who participates and supports the Quilt Groups outreach ministry of Holy Cross.



Outreach & Service

Just a reminder that Service Committee is collecting underwear and socks for men, women and children, as well as, deodorant. A plastic container will be in the Memorial Garden for Sunday outdoor services until we are able to move indoors. We've extended the date of collection through September 20.

We thank you for your continued support.

Stay well.

Other Donations:

Due to Covid-19, many donation sites are at capacity. Please use the following if you are bringing donations to church:

Good Shepherd Clothes Closet - They are relocating from Record Street to Greenbrae. They are closed until January 1, 2021. Please keep these items at home until then.

Children's Cabinet - Please mark items for children and these donations can begin in September (2020).

Assistance League - These items, if marked, can be brought in beginning of September (2020).

Thank you for your generosity!

Whatever you did for one of the least of these
brothers and sisters of mine,

you did for me.

September Lectors & Helpful Info

September Reading Schedule

We want to thank everyone who has volunteered to be a lector, especially as we've been navigating these strange times.

Please note that the Sunday Scripture readings through November 1st are now on our website at holycrossreno.org. If you put your mouse over the "Media/Sermon Archive" tab at the top you will see "Scripture Readings".

We will continue to send out the readings to our lectors via email, and our goal is to get those out at the end of the month for the following month.

We are happy to help you record your reading at the church, and can also help you upload the file.

If you are interested in signing up to be a lector, email holycrossreno@gmail.com

Sue Gonyou Sunday, September 6	Lectionary 23 (14th Sunday after Pentecost)	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20
Kathy Doyle Sunday, September 13	Lectionary 24 (15th Sunday after Pentecost) God's Work, Our Hands	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35
Open Sunday, September 20	Lectionary 25 (16th Sunday after Pentecost) 40th Anniversary Celebration	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16
Jody Morrison Sunday, September 27	Blessing of the Animals (Non-lectionary lessons)	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 148 John 10:7-15





Announcements

Shared Harvest News:

This month we are collecting the following items:

- 27 Cereal
- 40 Canned fruit
- 40 Powdered milk
- 15 Peanut butter
- Bar soap

Please bring your donations to the church by the 20th, and let Veralyn know what you're donating: veralyncombs45@gmail.com.

Altar Guild Assignments for September— THANK YOU!

Paula Featherstone
Linda Puckett

Office Hours:

The office will be open Monday through Thursday from 10am –3pm, and will be closed on Fridays. If you need anything outside of those hours, please email holycrossreno@gmail.com or call Pastor Kathy at 702-423-0382.

Christ in Our Home Devotional:

The July/August/September devotional is available at the Garden Communion Services or at the church for pickup. If you are unable to pick one up, let the office know and we will get on to you.



Russell Tegio
September 2

Laine Christman
September 5

Katie Weldon
September 13

Kimberly Lintz
September 27

Lukas Bergeson
September 2

Kevin Sawyer
September 9

Jody Morrison
September 15

Kerrie Rees
September 27

Kathy Barcaskey
September 2

Warren Kline Jr.
September 9

Deseree Carper
September 20

Ray Cross
September 28

Emily Amaral
September 5

Mark Jaillet
September 12

Travis Mills
September 23

Scott Grady
September 29