

Holy Cross Crossroads

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH | MARCH 2022

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

As we enter into the month of March, we are also entering into the church season of Lent. Celebrating Lent has been a long-standing tradition of Christians throughout the world.

As the season leads up to the celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter, we find ourselves given the opportunity to focus on what that Christ's sacrifice means for us, and perhaps what that gift of life means to us.

It is common for people to take on Spiritual disciplines or faith practices during the season of Lent as an opportunity to reflect upon their life and their faith. Traditionally these disciplines are based in prayer, fasting and giving. In prayer, we strive to strengthen or renew our connection to God as we share with God the things that are happening lives, encompassing our thanksgivings, our concerns, our burdens and our joys and anything else that we would want to share with our loving Creator. The concept of fasting or "giving something up" for Lent is rooted in the idea that when you find yourself longing for the thing that you gave up, you turn to God for strength. Giving is another way we can share the abundance of our gifts with God and God's people. These disciplines are all designed to help us strengthen the relationship we each have with God.

This year at Holy Cross, I invite you to join us in deepening our faith as we participate in some of these faith practices. In this newsletter, you will find multiple opportunities to participate in a variety of events and we hope you will join us as you are able. Also available at the church is a devotional calendar put together by ELCA World Hunger.

We begin our Lenten journey with Ash Wednesday Services will be offered on Wednesday, March 2 at noon and at 6:30pm. Each service will serve communion and offer the imposition of ashes. We hope you join us!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Kathy

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR LENT



Worship on Sunday Mornings

Join us as we use the imagery of trees to remind us of the love and growth that God brings to our lives as we are rooted and nurtured in the love and grace of Jesus Christ. Worship is at 9am and 10:30am.

Worship on Wednesday Nights

Starting March 9, spend five weeks "In the Upper Room with Jesus." A soup supper* will begin at 6pm and worship will start around 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Together we will read through Jesus' final powerful words to his disciples in John 13-17. Participants are invited to bring their Bibles in order to follow along with the reading and then will have opportunity to discuss insights with one another. Communion

Prayer

Throughout the season of Lent, there will be special prayers periodically (read: not every day, but several times a week) posted to our Facebook and Instagram pages. Please check regularly and join us in prayer. If you would like to share a prayer, either written or recorded, please email it to Pastor Kathy.

Looking Ahead to Holy Week:

Sunday, April 10 - 9am & 10:30am
Palm/Passion Sunday Worship

Easter Egg Hunt* for children (following the 10:30 service)

**If you are able to donate plastic eggs and treats for the eggs, please bring them to the church by Thursday, April 7. If you would like to fill the eggs with treats and small toys before you bring them in, it would be extremely helpful. Thank you!*

Thursday, April 14 6:30pm
Service of Holy Communion & Foot Washing

Many of you know that we have traditionally done a Seder Meal each year on Maundy Thursday. This year, we have opted to do a special worship service focused on the servanthood of Christ. We hope to return to our Seder Meal next year.

Friday, April 15 - Noon and 6:30pm
Good Friday Worship Services

Sunday, April 17 - Easter Celebration
(Worship services include Sunrise Service at Windy Hill and at church at 9am & 10:30am)

Proverbs 27:19

*"As water reflects the face,
so one's life reflects the heart."*

Soup Supper

**If you are able to help prepare and serve for the soup supper, sign up sheets are available, or you can contact Lanai in the church office.*

Special Devotional Materials for Lent

are available at the church, including a calendar with suggestions for daily faith practices. *There are times when the calendar mentions giving and we encourage you to set aside funds to help us buy chicks through the ELCA Good Gifts program, which will begin in April.*

Family Lenten Fair - Kairos Time

Join us after the 10:30 service on Sunday, March 6 to join in learning about Lent and creating special projects for families to use together during the Lenten Season. Projects will help families pray, give and fast (or simplify). Also available will be a special devotional for families to use. Grandparents are invited to bring grandchildren! If you are able to come, please let Pastor Kathy know. For those unable to attend in person, a To-Go Box can be made available upon request. or if you would like a To-Go Box of Materials.



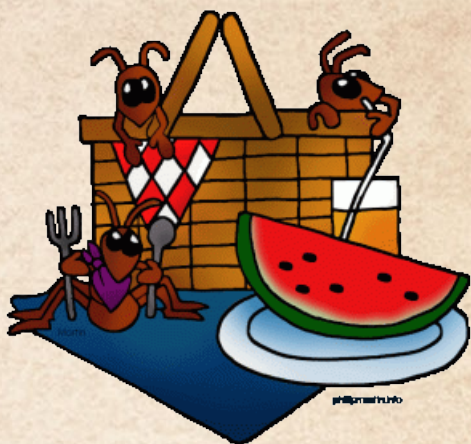
Service & Fellowship

Thank you everyone - **FOOD DONATIONS** for Northern Nevada Food Bank and Shared Harvest are going great.

March 6: Kids and Baby Sunday - Granola bars, popcorn, animal or graham crackers, baby formula, infant cereal, and baby food.

Of course, any nonperishable food items will be accepted. Please check expiration dates. We cannot distribute anything that has expired

APRIL AND MAY: Giving tree will be covered with chicks (with a suggested dollar donation). The money collected will be sent to ELCA Good Gifts to purchase farm animals such as chicks. This donation to ELCA Good Gifts helps a family spread their wings, and the animals not only provide an ongoing food supply but they can also help start a small business to generate a source of income.



YEAH!! ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC IS BACK!! Mark your calendar for **Sunday, May 15** following the last service. Hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks and condiments will be provided. Watch for sign-up sheets in the narthex to let us know you are attending and what side or dessert you will be bringing.



Close Knit Friends

Warmth and comfort is always in season for **Close Knit Friends** as we knit and crochet for local organizations. Individuals and families experience homelessness, domestic violence, exploitation, hospitalization, and poverty any time of the year. In February, over **80** items were delivered to the Domestic Violence Resource Center, Ronald McDonald House, the Veterans Hospital and to the Women Veterans Program. This Spring, **Close Knit Friends** will be working on Octopus for Preemies, Women Veterans Baby Shower gifts, Prayer Pockets as a Lenten project, and shawls for hospitalized women veterans. We invite you to join us on Monday, March 14 & 28 from 1-2:30 pm to share in prayer, fellowship, and mission work. All skills welcome! If you prefer to knit or crochet at home, we have patterns and yarn available for these projects. If you would like to learn these yarn crafts or refresh your skills, we'd love to help you get started. Contact Peggy at 775-622-0128 for more information.

MARCH SHARED HARVEST

10 fruit
28 peanut butter
28 cold cereal
20 milk packets
Bar soap

Please bring your donations to the church by the 24th and let Veralyn know what you're donating: veralyncombs45@gmail.com

Wednesday Bible Study



Wednesday Bible study continues with interesting and inspiring stories as we learn more about ministering in the strength and spirit of Jesus. We meet every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30pm-2:40pm. You can join the study at any time. Contact Becky at 775-360-0553 or beckyb485@gmail.com for more information.

Although we meet at church, Becky still logs into Zoom in case you need to join from home:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUEExQRVY5e1BXbHJ4dz09>

Meeting ID: 896 3300 9098
Passcode: 050344

Choir

Lent begins on March 2 with two Ash Wednesday services, and then special songs reflecting the Lenten season and Biblical images of trees as the Lenten theme. The choir is busy preparing special music for Palm Sunday and Easter, always a special treat for Brittney and Becky.

Enjoy a taste of an Irish melody - a beautiful rendition of "Be Thou My Vision".



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihJAJA4ibEs&list=RDCSODPhE-Ong&index=3>



Seder Meal

Dear Family & Friends of Holy Cross,

We are again sadly deferring our Holy Week Maundy Thursday meal this year. In discussing this with core volunteers and church leadership, it does not seem prudent to host this event where we are in a confined indoor setting for several hours, speaking in unison as we respond to the liturgy and share food. Additionally, the potential for revised guidance from the CDC regarding pandemic precautions eight or more weeks from now puts this event at risk of cancellation. Balancing the need for safety, the risk of cancellation, and the significant time and resources it takes to host this event, the best course of action is to defer one more year. Thank you to all who have volunteered, funded, and attended in years past, and we are hopeful that 2023 will bring the return of this very special event.

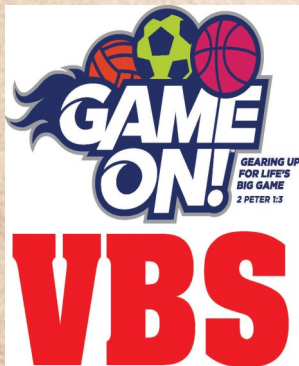
--Peace, Natalie Tegio



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Lenten Fair on March 6

Families, don't forget to join us to get ready for Lent as we make some special projects and learn more about the season of Lent. Let Pastor Kathy know if you are able to come or if you need a To-Go Box! (See more in special events for Lent)



Camp Kairos: Vacation Bible School "GAME ON!"

June 27-July 1 from 9am-noon

Kids aging from pre-school - 5th grade are invited to join us for a very special week of fun, friendship, learning and more!

Registration Forms can be found online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/220266697951163>

Please feel free to invite friends and neighbors!

Proverbs 8:17

*"Love those who love me,
and those who seek me
find me."*

Youth Group Confirmation:

We are taking a
Lent Break from
formal classes
but will resume
April 20!



Easter Egg Hunt - April 10 following the 10:30 worship service

We are accepting donations of plastic Easter Eggs and treat to make this a special event for the kids. If you are able to bring eggs already filled, it is helpful. Please have your donations to the church by Thursday, April 7. Thank you!

Youth are invited to
join us for a
**Scavenger Hunt on
Sunday, March 27,**
starting at 3pm.

We need a couple of
adults to join us as we journey to one of our
local neighborhoods to collect items for the
Food Bank of Northern Nevada. Please let
Pastor Kathy know if you can help!



Spotted Around Town:

Abigail and Leslie have been busy selling Girl Scout Cookies for Troop #142. Both girls are thankful for your support for their annual cookie fund raiser this year. Their troop has been meeting at Holy Cross since the fall.



Congratulations to Logan, who recently got his Learner's Permit! We wish him the very best and safe travels as he grows more comfortable behind the wheel!



Annual Synod Assembly Volunteers needed

The Sierra Pacific Synod's Annual Synod Assembly will be held June 1-4, 2022 at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, NV.

Hundreds of our fellow Lutherans will be attending the Assembly to Worship, Learn, and Conduct the Business of the Sierra Pacific Synod. All who attend this year's Synod Assembly will need to show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination and wear a mask while indoors.

Volunteers are needed in many areas: Event photography, Day of Service, Hospitality, Registration, Small group support, Worship support or "plug me in anywhere". Volunteers who would like to serve can sign up through our online form or contact either Diane Torry dbtorry@att.net or Catherine Slabaugh Catherine@spselca.org.

Here is the link to sign up through our online form: www.tinyurl.com/SynodAssemblyVolunteer

As listed above, there are many opportunities to sign up for a "volunteer shift" — different days, times, and aspects of the Assembly. Descriptions of the many volunteer opportunities can be found in the online form above.

Sign-ups for Volunteering for Synod Assembly will close May 1st, 2022 and a zoom volunteer orientation will be scheduled a week or two prior to the Assembly.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or concerns. You can find up to date information on this year's Synod Assembly on the website here: www.spselca.net/synodassembly

Peace and Blessings,

Diane Torry & Catherine Slabaugh



Council News

Council met in February and held elections for 2022. Your council members are: Laurel Lindstrom - President, Sandi Christman - Vice President, Laura Grady - Secretary, Pat Clem, Joan Julius, Carol Ritter, and Katie Torry.

Linda Puckett has submitted her desire to step down as Treasurer, so we are looking for a new treasurer. Please let Pastor or myself know if you have any thoughts. Linda Puckett has given this congregation many years of service as a stellar treasurer, and we are so grateful for her service!

Laurel Lindstrom, President

Senior Lunch



Senior Lunch Wednesday March 16th at Noon. Bring a sack lunch. The theme will be St. Patrick's Day of course.



Welcome Center News

The Welcome Center in the Narthex is a place of welcome and greeting for visitors, friends and members.

Welcome packets are available for visitor's—or for members and friends to take and give to a friend -inviting others to come join us. A good supply of welcome packets is always available.

In addition, there are prayer requests cards, visitor cards, brochures about Holy Cross and Godly Play, and the current Christ in our Home Devotional booklets available for all.

Prayer requests or visitor cards can be placed in the offering plate or given to Pastor Kathy.

Our nametags are available at the Welcome Center, currently arranged by first name. If you don't find your name tag, put your name on the yellow pad, and Lanai will create one for you. Your new nametag will be available the following week.

We have welcomed over twenty visitors during the past two months, with over 60% returning to worship with us, and over 30% have attended new member orientation.

Talk with Diane Torry if you would like to help at the Welcome Center at Sunday Worship.

Thank you to everyone for your friendly welcome to all that visit and attend Holy Cross.

Our vision in action:

**Believe in One, Affect Many,
Welcome All!!!**

Quilt Group News

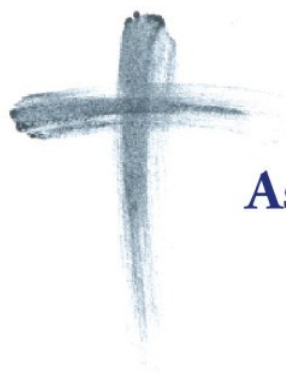
We completed our quilt donation to the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra this past month—thank you Peggy Whitney! The Center has very limited storage space, so we made two deliveries this year.

We are grateful to support this local nonprofit group doing life giving work in our local community.

The Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS) provides services to support women as they work to move out of poverty and improve their lives. Their comprehensive approach includes ESL and GED education, job search and preparation, a free diaper bank, crisis intervention, and information and referrals for any other community service a woman may need to move forward in her life.

The quilt group meets "formally" the first and third Thursday each month—9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., however you will find a few quilters every Thursday in the Fellowship Hall—having all kinds of fun, working together to provide quilts to our neighbors in need in our community and around the world.

We dedicate our quilts to Christ's service, trusting that Christ's love will go wherever each quilt is sent, making it more than just a piece of material or a collection of items—making each quilt we have created an expression of love.
Come join us---all are welcome!

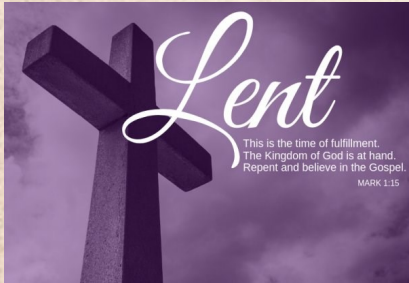


Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

The Budget Challenge

The budget challenge is going well - there's still time to give or pledge to help close the budget gap by March 6 only \$470 to go as of February 20, 2022. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Laurel Lindstrom, Financial Secretary



Office Hours

The office will be open Tuesday-Friday from 10 am — 3 pm and is closed on Mondays. If you need anything outside of those hours, please call Pastor Kathy at 775-443-6583.

Christ in Our Home Devotional

The April, May, June devotional is available in the Narthex.

Church Events

- March 2 — Ash Wednesday Services
12 Noon & 6:30pm
- March 6 — Welcome New Members
- March 6 — Lenten Fair 11:30am
- March 9, 16, 23, 30 — Soup Supper 6pm
- March 12 — Chris Calise Memorial 1pm
- March 14 & 28 — Close Knit Friends 1pm
- March 27 — Youth Scavenger Hunt 3pm
- March 28 — Newsletter Deadline 5pm



March 1 — Carol Gevert
March 9 — Alexander Ross
March 12 — Frank Schenk
March 15 — Kaiden Kennedy
March 17 — Dexter Drew
March 18 — Peggy Whitney
March 19 — Trent Schenk

March 19 — Leslie Jaillet
March 20 — Carol Hudak
March 21 — Cary Lindstrom
March 24 — Dakota Carper
March 25 — Tanner Gonyou
March 26 — Suzanne McDonald
March 27 — Gary Rovig

MARCH

2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 12pm Ash Wed. Service 1:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Ash Wed. Service	3 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting 3pm Finance Committee	4 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero	5
6 9am Worship 10:30am Family Worship 11:30am Lenten Fair	7 6:30pm Book Study	8 1pm Service Committee 5:15pm Council	9 1:30pm Bible Study 6pm Soup Supper	10 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	11 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero	12 1pm Memorial for Chris Calise
13	14 1pm Close Knit Friends 6:30pm Book Study	15	16 1:30pm Bible Study 6pm Soup Supper	17 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	18 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero	19
20 9am Worship 10:30am Worship/Godly Play	21 6:30pm Book Study	22	23 1:30pm Bible Study 6pm Soup Supper	24 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	25 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero	26
27 9am Worship 10:30am Worship/Godly Play 3pm Youth Scavenger Hunt	28 1pm Close Knit Friends 6:30pm Book Study 5pm Newsletter Deadline	29	30 1:30pm Bible Study 6pm Soup Supper	31 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting		
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-3pm			Casa del Alfarero Fridays 7:30pm Sundays 5:30pm			