

#### From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends.

I always get excited to welcome April. Much of it has to do with the new life that surges forward at this time of year... the tulips come up, the blossoms on the trees come out, baby animals are born, the weather gets warmer and with spring comes a new energy. I also get excited for Easter and the new life and promise that it holds. Easter this year is April 17 and we will celebrate with worship sunrise worship at Windy Hill at 6am, and then worship at the church at our regular times of 9am and 10:30am. We are planning for wonderful worship and celebrations.

But, often for me, the joy I feel on Easter morning is accentuated because I've spent time walking through the difficult days of Holy Week.

We begin on Palm Sunday as we will gather for worship outside in the Memorial Garden to bless the palm branches and remember Jesus's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem and what a powerful display of joy was experienced. As we come inside, the service turns to the Passion Story and we will hear again the story of Jesus' last week as he journeys to the cross. It is always a powerful Sunday.

But the story we hear on Palm/Passion Sunday is never complete and so we worship during the week so that we can take the time to truly ponder the sacrifice that Christ made for us.

Maundy Thursday is the day that we remember, retell and relive that night in which Jesus was betrayed.

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#### **Church Events**

- Apr 6—Soup Supper
- Apr 10—Easter Egg Hunt
   11:30am, Choir at both services
- Apr 11 & 25—Close Knit Friends
- Apr 14—Maundy Thursday Service 6:30pm
- Apr 15th—Choir Practice 5:15pm
- Apr 15—Good Friday Service 12noon & 6:30pm
- Apr 17—Sunrise Service 6am (Windy Hill), Easter Sunday Services 9am & 10:30am, Choir at both services
- Apr 20—Senior Lunch 12noon
- Apr 25—Newsletter Deadline



#### From the Pastor's Pen continued...

There are so many parts to that story – a foot washing, a meal, prayer in a garden and yes, a betrayal and an arrest. Traditionally, at Holy Cross, we have done the Seder Meal, remembering the Passover Meal that Jesus was sharing with his friends that fateful night. This year, we are mixing things up a little bit. This year we will worship with communion, and you will be invited to come forward for a foot washing. I will be washing feet as a reminder to you that Jesus gave his life in order to serve you with love. If you have never been a part of a service like this, I invite you to come and see and reflect on what it means for us to follow Jesus' command to love one another. Worship will start at 6:30pm.

Worship continues the next day with our Good Friday Services. There will be two services (one at noon and the other at 6:30pm) and they will be similar as we reflect on the time that Jesus spent on the cross giving up his life. We will look at the seven last words (or phrases) that Jesus uttered from the cross and will sing those deeply haunting hymns that tell the story of our Lord's suffering. Worship is somber and stark on Good Friday, which makes the joy of the empty tomb so much more palpable.

I know that there is always a lot going on, but I encourage you this Holy Week to spend some time in worship. Join us as we walk with Jesus to the cross, to the grave, and to new life.

Love in Christ, Pastor Kathy

#### Music Program

It's April! Time for all the Holy Week services, starting with Palm/Passion Sunday with the choir at both services. We have a new commemoration of Maundy Thursday with a special foot washing service with communion. Good Friday is two services at noon and 6:30pm. We culminate this season with Easter – 6am sunrise, and our two regular services in the sanctuary, with the choir and a UNR brass guartet at both services! What a festive and holy time, and the choir has been hard at work preparing choral numbers and specials to enhance worship all though this Lenten season. Enjoy this special rendition of the "Hallelujah Chorus", by the silent monks. It will bring a smile to your face.

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=pRhjWdr-LAA

#### Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday Bible study has finished II Corinthians and is now turning to I and II Timothy as we continue in our study 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. Note: There is NO Bible study during Holy Week on April 13. Although we meet at church, Becky still logs into Zoom in case you need to join from home: https://us02web.zoom.us/

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#### Youth Group "Mystery Event"

Middle and High School Youth join us Sunday, April 24, right after church for a Mystery Event. (Also known as something really fun that Pastor Kathy wants to surprise you with!). You do need to let Pastor Kathy know if you can come!

Your hints for the event: Wear comfortable clothing, close toed shoes and be ready to have some fun. Parents, I may need some help with transportation and chaperoning, so please let me know if you are available!



#### **ELCA Good Gifts**

APRIL AND MAY: The 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.



Join us after church on Sunday, April 10 for an Easter Egg Hunt! Invite friends and neighbors with kids and grandkids to come and have some fun with searching for special Easter Eggs around the church grounds! Kids of all ages are welcome!

# Confirmation Updates

Confirmation Classes Resume on Wednesday, April 20, May 4 and May 11 (yes, there are two in a row!). Come and join us for our last few classes for the year!



# Camp Kairos Vacation Bible School – "Game On" June 27-July 1 9am-noon

Kids come and join us as we learn how to play the game called life with the help of our friends and especially with the help of Jesus! We will have fun crafts, games, activities, Bible stories, music, snacks and more all week long!

We invite you to register online this year so please use the link below to register: <a href="https://form.jotform.com/220266697951163">https://form.jotform.com/220266697951163</a>

### **Quilt Group**

Every Thursday you will find quilter's busy at work in the Fellowship Hall, although our "formal" meeting times are the first and third Thursday of each month 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome— come by and see what the quilters are "up to"!

The quilt group began in 2007. The Prayer Quilt was the first project completed. This quilt is displayed in the Fellowship Hall. The Split Rail Quilt is tied with extra long ties so that people may tie a knot and pray. A prayer also may be written and tied to the prayer quilt. The prayer quilt provides a visual/tactical way to contribute to one's prayer life—recognizing the importance of prayer during our everyday life, the trials of life, and in times of joy and celebration of the goodness of life.

Over the past 15 years, the quilt group has completed and given away 1,529 quilts to over 15 agencies and groups that support people in need in our community, around the world and members and friends of Holy Cross. We have also completed quilts and wall hangings that we maintain in our rotating collection of quilts. The quilts are displayed in the Fellowship Hall during the year—quilts that will be given away and quilts that remain in our collection. In the fall we bless all of the quilts—asking for God's blessing on those that receive the quilts and those that make the quilts. Quilters are blessed to be a blessing.

We grateful for the generous donations of fabric and supplies from members and friends, and support through participation in our periodic fundraising quilt raffles

—Thank you everyone.

### **Close Knit Friends**

Spring Forward with the Close Knit Friends on Monday April 11th and April 25th at 1pm.

We donated 5 crochet and knitted shawls/lap blankets to the Women Veterans Program at the VA Hospital, 8 hats and 10 blankets to the Domestic Violence Resource Center, and over 40 Pocket Prayer Cloths to Holy Cross Lutheran Church in late March. For April we are making baby blankets with optional hats, booties, and/or sweaters for the Women Veterans May Baby Shower. Close Knit Friends continues to crochet Octopus for Preemies, shawls for the Women Veterans in the VA Hospital and other items of warmth and comfort for local organizations helping individuals and families in need. You may see a few of the participants at a worship service like Becky Bradley, Suzanne McDonald, and Peggy Whitney. If you miss us at church, please call Peggy at 775-622-0128 for more information. We welcome any skill level and accept washable yarn (preferably cotton and/ or acrylic). You do not have to be a member of the church to join us.





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

Hundreds of our fellow Lutherans will be attending the Assembly to Worship, Learn, and Conduct the Business of the Sierra Pacific Synod.

**Volunteers** are needed in many areas: Day of Service, Hospitality, Registration, Small group

support, Worship support, Event photography, Day of Service or "plug me in anywhere". Volunteers who would like to serve can sign up through our online form or contact Diane Torry, dbtorry@att.net

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

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. The online form is very user friendly and easy to use, Diane Torry can also provide more information on the volunteer opportunities.

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.

Peace and Blessings,

Diane Torry, Volunteer Coordinator, 775-747-0976; <a href="mailto:dbtorry@at.net">dbtorry@at.net</a> Holy Cross Lutheran Church



# 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 would like to bring.

#### **Easter Flowers**

We are now taking orders for mums, tulips, and/or daffodils to decorate the altar for Easter Sunday. You may also dedicate the flowers to someone. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. They will look beautiful planted in your garden after Easter.



#### Holy Cross Lutheran Church

## Senior Transitions Program

The Senior Transitions program is a small group ministry that provides a forum where seniors can explore options for life transitions in a supportive environment over 6 weekly, 2 hour sessions.



Contact: Holy Cross Lutheran Church 4895 S. McCarran Blvd. Reno, NV

Name: Lanai Strawn Phone :775-827-4822 email:holycrossreno @gmail.com



Program Coordinator Diane Torry Phone: 775 747-0976 E-mail:dbtorry@att.net It's human nature to put off or even ignore life's difficult decisions. The challenges of aging may intimidate us.

The Senior Transitions 6 week program offers a supportive environment where you can explore options for independent living and alternatives when living on your own is no longer safe or desirable.

Having a choice has always been important in life, and it is especially important during this time. Classes include speakers, small group discussions and tours of local senior communities. These classes will assist you with identifying future needs and choices to meet your needs.

If you are interested in participating sign up at Holy Cross Lutheran Church or contact the program coordinator.

#### Register Now

Program dates: April 26,

May 3,10, 17, 24,31: 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Fellowship Hall



We will hold the Spring Clean Days May 19, 20, and 21. Details and "cleaning opportunities" will be available closer to the dates. We look

forward to having fun and enjoyable work together, as we keep God's House in tip top shape!

#### **Senior Lunch**

Wednesday April 20th is Senior Lunch day. Please come and join us and bring your own lunch. The theme will be Easter.

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## Here is the link to sign up through our online form: <a href="https://www.tinyurl.com/SynodAssemblyVolunteer">www.tinyurl.com/SynodAssemblyVolunteer</a>

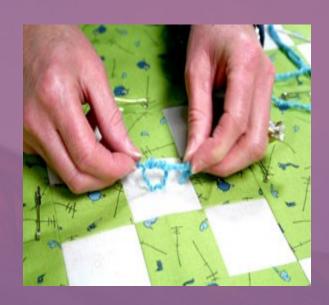
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#### Quilt Group needs additional yarn for tying quilts!!

If you have yarn "remnants" that need a new home, the Quilt group can use the yarn to tie the quilts they create and give away to people in need in our community and around the world.

Yarn donations can be dropped off in the church office or given to any quilter at Sunday Worship.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our Holy Cross Quilt Ministry.



#### **Council News**

Hi everyone! Your council has been busy! Some of the things we are working on are:

- 1. The website check it out at <a href="https://www.holycrossreno.org/">https://www.holycrossreno.org/</a>. Let me know if you have any input and we are always looking for great pictures to put on the site. A big thank you to the synod staff Catherine for her help in improving the website.
- 2. Live streaming of worship services is going well, Michael has been working on a procedure and is willing to train others who may want to help with this!
- 3. Lenten worship readings on Facebook, go to <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/cat
- 4. The welcome center could use some volunteers. Let Diane Torry know if you can help.
- 5. Mystery dinners are coming back later this year that will be fun!
- 6. Men's breakfast is starting back up, there are sign-up sheets if you want to be on the notification list or let Pat Clem know.
- 7. We will be mailing an Easter invitation to our neighborhood thanks to the evangelism grant from Pastor Marta.
- 8. Diane Torry is starting a Senior Transition series of classes. Look for the information or talk to Diane.
- 9. With your help we met the Budget Challenge and made up the deficit for this year. Thank you!!
- 10. One of the usual tasks of the Council is to look at our Vision and Mission and goals and we are in the process of deciding how to get your input. Are you open to meetings or a questionnaire? Let me know your thoughts!
- 11. The new officers for this year are: Sandi Christman, VP and Laura Grady, Secretary.
- 12. We are working on the Treasurer position, very hard shoes to fill as Linda Puckett has been a faithful keeper of this role. At present we are considering sharing the role. We are looking for help if you are able.



#### **Shared Harvest News**

This month we are collecting the following:

**Toothpaste** 

10 — Vegetables

28 — Peanut Butter

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

Thank you all for being so supportive of

#### **April Communion Assistants**

4/3 - Mike Ross 9am

4/3 - Veralyn Combs 10:30am

4/10 - Sue Volinkaty 9am

4/10 - Natalie Tegio 10:30am

4/17 - Pat Clem 9am

4/17 - Noelle Lentz 10:30am

4/24 - Linda Schlosser 9am

4/24 - Laura Grady 10:30am

#### **April Lectors**

4/3 - Jan Looney 9am

4/3 - Diane Torry 10:30am

4/10 - Laurel Lindstrom 9am

4/10 - Diane Torry 10:30am

4/17 - Lani Moss 9am

4/17 - Jeff Morris 10:30am

4/24 - Paula Featherstone 9am

4/24 - Noel Lentz 10:30am

#### **April Ushers**

4/3 - Jim Alanko/Mike Ross 9am

4/3 - Jody Morrison/Logan & Kayla 10:30am

4/10 - Joan Julius/Paula Featherstone 9am

4/10 - Veralyn Combs/Carol Ritter 10:30am

4/17 - Jan Looney/Jim Alanko 9am

4/17 - Katie Torry/Sandi Christman 10:30am

4/24 - Pat Schlosser/Linda Schlosser 9am

4/24 - Veralyn Combs 10:30am



**April 2—Emma Lintz** 

**April 3 — Abigail Morris** 

April 3 — Birdie Vario

April 8 — Susan Volinkaty

April 9 — Laloni Moell

April 13 — Mary Edman

April 23 — Wilma Hooker

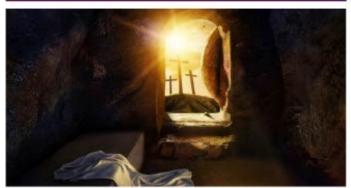
**April 26 — Torry Tegio** 

April 26 — Joey Ginnetti

April 27 — Karen Ford

# APRIL





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9am Worship	4	5	6	7 9:30am Quilting	8	9
3am Worship 10:30am Family Worship	6pm HDH 6:30pm Book Study (Zoom)		1:30pm Bible Study 6pm Soup/Supper	1pm Quilting 3pm Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30pm Girl Scouts		
10 Palm Sunday 9am Worship 10:30am Worship/Godly Play 11:30am Easter Egg Hunt	11 1pm Close Knit Friends 6pm HDH 6:30pm Book Study	12 1pm Service Committee Mtg. 5:15pm Council Mtg.	1:30pm Bible Study	14 Maundy Thursday 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Service	Good Friday 12pm Good Friday Service 6:30pm Good Friday Service	14
17 Easter Sunday 6am Sunrise Service 9am Worship Service 10:30am Worship/Godly Play	18 6pm HDH 6:30pm Book Study (Zoom)	19	12noon Senior Lunch 1:30pm Bible Study	9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting 6:30pm Girl Scouts	22	23
<b>24</b> 9am Worship Service 10:30am Worship/Godly Play	25 1pm Close Knit Friends 6:30pm Book Study (Zoom) 6pm HDH	26	27 1:30pm Bible Study	9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	29	30
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-3pm						