



Holy Cross *Crossroads*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH | MARCH 2023

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

They say that March comes in like a lion and out like a Lamb. Let's hope so! As I write this, the kids are home from school and there is a blizzard outside and I could do with some gentler weather!

It's kind of odd with all of the snow that we've had this year to think that this season of Lent is preparing us for the new life that comes with Spring. Many of us have our traditions when it comes to the season of Spring. We do spring cleaning, we go on spring break, we spruce up our backyards, we turn the clocks forward and enjoy more light in the evenings, we spend more time outside, but as I watch the snow swirl outside the window, spring seems still very far away. But maybe that's the beauty of a long winter. The joy and the beauty and the new life that comes with Spring means just a touch more.

Lent is a season of reflection, prayer, acts of service, giving and repentance. It's a season built into the church year to help us remember the hardship that Jesus endured as he journeyed to the cross and we have to walk through that with Jesus in order to really appreciate the new life that Easter brings. I also like to think that it serves as a time to also help us remember not only our own seasons hardships, but also how God sustained and carried us through them.

I know there are some of you who are going through a difficult season of life right now. There have been illnesses, loss, worries, struggles, tension, and life has just been hard. I pray that you know that you are not alone. Christ is with you and the church is here for you, so if you need something, please reach out. Winter doesn't last forever and under the surface, the cold, hard earth is being watered and nurtured, getting the earth ready for spring, new life and rebirth! Faith tells us that God gives our hearts, minds, and souls even more nurture and care, getting each of us ready for the new and abundant life that God has for each of us.

May you look forward to the hope and promise of Spring!

Love in Christ, Pastor Kathy Morris

HOLY WEEK



Sunday, April 2 - Palm/Passion Sunday – We invite you to join us outside (weather permitting) as we begin worship celebrating Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. As we move inside to continue our worship services, we will journey with Jesus through the last week of his life.

Thursday, April 5 – Maundy Thursday – We invite you to join us for worship at 6:30 pm as we remember the Last Supper and the final teachings of Jesus.

Friday, April 6 – Good Friday – Worship with us at noon or at 6:30 pm as we reflect on the seven last words of Jesus.

Easter is Sunday, April 9!

Sunrise Service at Windy Hill will be at 6:15 am

Easter Worship at Holy Cross will be at 9 and 10:30 am

For Children & Families

Easter Egg Hunt – Sunday, April 2

Following the 10:30 am service, kids and families are invited to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt! Kids can bring their Easter baskets and collect eggs and treats! If you would like to donate plastic eggs or treats (or both), please be sure to have them to the church by Friday, April 6.

Vacation Bible School for kids ages 3 years old – 5th grade will be June 26-30 from 9-noon. Save the dates and be on the lookout for registration forms! Please let Pastor Kathy know if you are able to help!

Youth News!

Thank you to the congregation for supporting our Youth's efforts to collect spare change as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring! Together, we collected \$468.43 that will be donated to the Northern Nevada Food Bank and will provide over 1400 meals for those who are living with food insecurities here in our community!

Our youth had a fun time bowling last month and the final results ended in a three-way tie!

Confirmation will meet only once this month as we have Spring Break, so we will see our youth on March 12!

Soup Suppers & Lenten Mid-Week Services

Join us Wednesday Nights for Soup Suppers and Worship. Soup will be served starting at 5:45, starting March 8 through March 29. Suppers will be followed by worship at 6:30pm. Worship will include Holden Evening Prayer as well as Scripture readings often found in an Easter Vigil service. Our readings will be interactive and a fun way for families to worship together. Mid-Week services will also have communion. If you would like to help with the soup suppers, contact Lanai in the office or use the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Music Program

The Music Program is preparing for special music during Lent, especially on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter. Thanks to Sydney Huynh who will be providing a piano special on March 26. The Praise Team continues to add to this special season of reflection.

We're looking for men! Well, not us personally, but we could always use this addition to our choir. See Brittney or Becky, and we'll find a place for you.



Lent

*"40 Days
Of
Spiritual Preparation"*

Senior Lunch

**Wednesday
March 15th
12 pm**

**Bring a
sack lunch.
Get to know
someone new!**

Wednesday Bible Story

Wednesday Bible has started studying Exodus! Moving right along! You can join at any time, but this is a good time to consider since we just started a new book. Very timely since we are nearing the season of Passover and this is remembrance is part of the Seder Meal celebrated by people of the Jewish faith.

We meet every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30pm-2:40pm in a "hybrid" class: we meet in person in the Fellowship Hall, but you can also join in by Zoom. Contact Becky at 775-360-0553 or beckyb485@gmail.com for more information.

Here is the Zoom information in case you need to join remotely:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUEExQRVY5eIBXbHJ4dz09)
[pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUEExQRVY5eIBXbHJ4dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUEExQRVY5eIBXbHJ4dz09)

Meeting ID: 896 3300 9098
Passcode: 050344

Movie & Discussion

As a special “treat” during Lent, join us Tuesday, March 7 at 11:30am for a movie and discussion. We will watch the 2001 movie *Chocolat* – a story about a single mother and her daughter who open a chocolate shop – with Sunday hours- across the street from a local church. They are met with skepticism but soon make connections with the townspeople thanks to their delicious products. We'll start the movie at 11:30am and people are welcome to bring their own lunch to eat during the movie. If there are folks who are unable to come but are interested in discussing the movie's themes, please contact Pastor Kathy and we can set up an evening or weekend discussion group!

Sundays in Lent

Join us Sunday mornings in Lent as we meet four different characters who have an amazing encounter with Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of John.



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We're looking for men! Well, not us personally, but we could always use this addition to our choir. See Brittney or Becky, and we'll find a place for you.

Holy Cross “Spring Clean” Days March 24th & 25th

Our Spring Clean Days are scheduled!! We will work together to do a spring clean and prepare God's House for Easter!

Find the signup sheet in the Narthex. Cleaning tasks are listed—choose what you would like to complete—and select the day that works best for you! You can also contact Lanai in the office and ask her to put your name on the sign up sheet. The building will be open each day at 9 a.m.

Put on your best cleaning duds, wear comfortable shoes, bring your sunny disposition and cleaning supplies—we will work and enjoy fellowship with new members, long time members, young members and not so young members—a terrific crew, Holy Cross at its finest.

Professional carpet cleaning is scheduled for March 30th at 11 am.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Thank you for helping keep Holy Cross in great shape and ready for Easter!

Sandi Christman and Diane Torry



Service/Fellowship Committee

We have some exciting events and opportunities for service and fellowship happening during the next few months. These opportunities include:

Our continued collection of blankets, adult hats, scarves and gloves for the Marvel Way Complex. Let's help ensure people stay warm through this very long, cold winter! Your last opportunity to donate is March 5, 2023.

Next, we are challenging the congregation to fill the food barrel for Northern Nevada Food Bank. Let's see if we can fill it to the brim and maybe even overflow the barrel to help feed our community.

Between March 5 – April 2, the giving tree will be up asking for monetary donations to the ELCA. In past years we purchased chicks to help supply food, and a source of income to families in need. This year we decided to change it and sponsor health clinics, and purchase clinic supplies for children in need of health care.

Dust off your aprons and mixing bowls and get ready to get your hands sticky with delicious treats! In April, we will host a cooking class with Gloria (A Silver Sage resident). She makes wonderful baked desserts, like cream puffs, biscotti, and cannoli and wants to share her recipes with us! More information coming soon.

Finally, a sign-up sheet to attend the Reno Aces Faith Night game on Friday, August 11, is in the narthex. Ticket cost is \$20/person if we get at least 20 people attend. The good news is there is no obligation at this time – we understand you may not know your August plans yet. We will contact you three weeks before the game for confirmation and payment. So, even if there is a chance you will attend – **SIGN-UP NOW**. Who doesn't love a Friday night under the lights!

Supporting Aging Seniors

What a great group of 20 plus members and friends who participated in the three - week Supporting Aging Seniors Program which concluded February 25. We were blessed with great speakers and engaged participants sharing information and talking about the issues, joys and challenges and decisions we face as we age. Together we learned and explored options for life transitions, helping us to maximize our independence.

Thank you to everyone who attended and all the speakers who shared their time and knowledge. A special thank you to Pastor Kathy who opened each session with prayer, deepening our prayer life.

Diane Torry and Peggy Ince, Senior Transitions Coordinator

Supporting Seniors



2023

Quilting Group

Quilter's are busy at work in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. We have quilt tops to tie, tops to cut, design and sew, material to press, and wonderful conversation around the quilt table. Something for everyone. Come join us!

The "Blue Basket" is back and available in the Fellowship Hall for anyone to pick up a quilt top kit!

The Blue Basket expands our quilt ministry work by providing quilt top kits to anyone who would like to complete a quilt top at home, on their own schedule. Each quilt kit comes with instructions—with the additional caveat that for the majority of the charitable organizations we give to, ask that we do not include any religious symbols—as our quilts are given to all based on need regardless of religious creed. Religious references may be misinterpreted jeopardizing the delivery to the people who need the quilts most.



Close Knit Friends

Close Knit Friends and a few of the Holy Cross Quilters delivered hats, scarves, blankets, and other items of warmth and comfort collected in February to the *Marvel Way Complex* and *The Women and Children's Center of the Sierra*. Individuals and families were appreciative. Thank you to all who contributed new and gently used items! **Close Knit Friends** gathers on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month, March 13 and March 27 at 1pm and welcomes all skill levels and donations of washable yarn. We are working on shawls for the *Women Veterans Program*, baby blankets, hats, and booties for the June Baby Shower for women veterans, and more. Patterns and yarn is available for these projects too. For more information, please pick up a flyer at the church or contact Peggy at 775-622-0128.



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 21—Cary Lindstrom

March 24—Dakota Carper

March 26—Suzanne McDonald

March 27—Gary Rovig

March 28—Linn Bleggi

Christ in Our Home Deepening our Prayer Life

At Holy Cross we strive to Deepen Our Prayer Life.

A wonderful “tool” to deepen our prayer life is available to everyone: members, friends, visitors at Holy Cross the **Christ in Our Home**—daily devotional booklet. This great publication is available in the Narthex at Holy Cross—please take one! They are also available in large print.

Every day the Good News is shared in the daily devotional -a reflection on Scripture and prayer--some topics: “Good News Travels Fast” - Acts 5:27-32; Outsiders and Outcasts, Psalm 118:14-29; The Greatness of Jesus: Ephesians 1:15-23.

Christ in Our Home is published quarterly—the current quarter and next quarter’s devotional is available in the Narthex. Take one, share another with a friend.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Anthony Sottolano & Family
Cindy Hadell - Ashleigh Faulstich's Mom
Larry Ritter

Jan Schultz & Family
Terry - Laurel & Orlyn's Brother
Jean Bye

Mary Edman & Family
Karen Ford

Amanda & Family - Carol Ritter's Daughter

Jean - Lin Bleggi's Niece

Ryan Watson's Family
Nellie & Wib Namestka

Mary Alice

Lanai Strawn & Family

Shared Harvest

(10) Peanut Butter (30) Powdered Milk
(10) Fruit Bar Soap

Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday
10 am—3 pm

March

2023

Psalm 31:14-16

¹⁴But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." ¹⁵My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. ¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			¹ 1:30pm Bible Study 5:45pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	² 9am & 1pm Quilting	³ 7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	⁴
⁵ 9am Worship 10:30am Worship 5:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	⁶ 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study 6pm HDH	⁷ 11:30am Movie & Discussion 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	⁸ 1:30pm Bible Study 5:45pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	⁹ 9am & 1pm Quilting	¹⁰ 7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	¹¹
¹² 9am Worship 10:30am Worship 5:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	¹³ 1pm Close Knit Friends 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study 6pm HDH	¹⁴ 1pm Service/Fellowship 5:30pm Council 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	¹⁵ 12pm Senior Lunch 1:30pm Bible Study 5:45pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	¹⁶ 9am & 1pm Quilting	¹⁷ 7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	¹⁸ 9am – 12pm Quilt Tying Party
¹⁹ 9am Worship 10:30am Worship 11:45am Confirmation 5:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	²⁰ 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study 6pm HDH	²¹ 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	²² 1:30pm Bible Study 5:45pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	²³ 9am & 1pm Quilting	²⁴ 7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	²⁵
²⁶ 9am Worship 10:30am Worship 5:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	²⁷ 1pm Close Knit Friends 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study 6pm HDH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!	²⁸ 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	²⁹ 1:30pm Bible Study 5:45pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	³⁰ 9am & 1pm Quilting	³¹ 7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero	