



Holy Cross *crossroads*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
AUGUST 2023

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

Many years ago, I found myself at an isolated place called Holden Village in Washington State as a chaperone on a youth retreat. Aside from a pretty epic water fight, what I remember from that weekend was the theme. "Practicing the Presence" was the theme and I think there may have even been a song to go with it. And all of the activities of the weekend were opportunities for the participants in the retreat to learn and be reminded that because Christ is always with us, wherever we went or wherever we would go, we took the presence of Jesus with us.

I've always tried to remember that as I've done ministry. When I go and make a visit in the hospital, when I comfort a family who is mourning, when I perform a wedding, when I hang out with youth group kids, when I chat with people, when I lead worship, I try to be an open vessel to bring the presence of Jesus to people and to a place. It's not just my calling to do that as a pastor, but I know it is the work of the whole church. We gather on Sunday mornings to be filled and fed with the presence of Christ and then we are sent out to take the light and the presence of Christ into the world.

This last month, we had numerous opportunities to share the presence of Christ with our community. We hosted an Art Town Quilt Show and Concert. We had a booth and a presence at the Reno Pride Festival. We welcomed friends from Silver Sage and the congregation to an ice cream social. Young people played at Lake Tahoe and at a local mini-golf course. Christ was with us.

Evangelism can be a terrifying word. The thought of it makes some of us quake in our boots; however, when you break it down and remember that evangelism is really about carrying the presence of Christ with us everywhere we go, it doesn't have to be that complicated. Being present means we're in the moment, paying attention and being open to the needs around us – Whether it's the needs that Jesus has for us, or if it is the needs the community has. As we reflect on the ministries that we've been doing lately and look forward to more things to come, let us remember that all we do is to bring the presence of Christ – his love, his forgiveness, his hope, his healing and his peace – to all the places we go and all the fun we have!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Kathy

Youth Group

Join us on Sunday, August 20 as we help fill the bags for Shared Harvest. Please be at Holy Cross at 1pm to help with this important ministry.



Confirmation News

Parents and Students of our Confirmation Program, please plan to join us on **Sunday, August 27** after church as we talk about and make plans for the upcoming year. Confirmation is an education class for students in middle and high schools where we learn some of the basics of our Lutheran Christian faith. This year, we will be working our way through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. If you have questions or would like to find out more information, please contact Pastor Kathy.



Music News

Our Artown concert and quilt show was a great success, in spite of the 100+ degree weather.

So many people to thank:

- ♦ The HCLC Choir: Nura Calise, Orlyn Schenk, Linda Schlosser, Abigail Morris, and Lani Moss
- ♦ Laurel Lindstrom who worked so hard for us in so many ways in the background
- ♦ Lula Lewis, High Desert Harmony, Serafina, and The Something Else, all friends of HCLC, who added their talent and variety
- ♦ Brittney May, Becky Bradley, and Michael Tegio for their leadership in this project
- ♦ All the people who bought tickets for our 3 gift baskets to support the music program. The winners of our gift baskets were Addy Christman, Orlyn Schenk, and Fred and Karen Ford – congratulations!

If you missed the concert, you can watch it on Facebook: <https://fb.watch/ITTFpv2ZeK/>

Blessing of the Backpacks

August 13

Students and educators are invited to join us for worship on August 13 as we bless our school bags and backpacks. Please invite your children and grandchildren for this special time of prayer as school begins the next day!



WANTED: ITEMS FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL Holy Cross Rummage Sale

To kick off our fall season, we will be holding our annual rummage sale, Saturday, September 9 from 8 am to 2 pm. Household items, small appliances, clothes, shoes, bedding, furniture, decorator items etc. are hot items at this rummage sale. We accept most items but will not accept beds and large appliances. Items can be dropped off at the church starting Sunday, September 3. People will be available to accept donations during the week from 10-2.

We will also need A LOT of volunteers to make this outreach event happen smoothly. We are looking for a team to set up the narthex and fellowship hall Friday, September 8th starting at 8:00 am. We will also need volunteers to help at the cashier stand, merchandise during the day, and greet people as they walk in. Finally, we will need a team of volunteers to help with the clean up at the end of the day. Look for sign-up sheet in the narthex soon!!

Draft Declaration of Welcome and Affirmation

We affirm that each person is a beloved and unique creation made in the image of God. We give thanks to God for the diversity of race, culture, ethnicities, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical and neuro diversity, socioeconomic status, family structure, background, and faith journey. We see all people as God's precious children and accept and celebrate all differences and gifts.

We are committed to the work of loving one another, being intentionally welcoming, and inviting all home into this faith community. Following Christ's example, we strive to: pursue racial justice; avoid hurtful speech, actions, behaviors; and love one another as God loves us. Here at Holy Cross, there is a place for you!

Our mid-year congregational meeting is set for Sunday, August 6, 2023 starting after the 9:30 service. During this meeting will be taking a vote of affirmation about the Declaration of Welcome and Affirmation Statement. This statement is a testimony to what we believe at Holy Cross when we say "Believe in One, affect many, welcome all." We are not replacing our vision and mission statement, but using the Welcoming and Affirmation Statement to help us become more Christ like in building relationships and welcoming all people into our church home.

Council Report

Hello Holy Cross Family,

We have had a busy July! So many exciting outreach events that is hard to count.

During our July Council Meeting, we planned to participate in Artown with our Quilt and Music Show, the Pride Event in downtown Reno and an Ice Cream Social at Holy Cross. Also during July, the quilters offered a youth sewing class. All outreach events were amazing! Thank you to the Council members who organized these events and all those that participated.

Peggy Ince is the one to talk to about the Poker for a Cause. The cause is helping Smithridge Elementary by buying gift cards to Walmart or grocery stores for families that may be in need. This event is scheduled for Saturday, August 5 with a light dinner at 4:00 pm and games starting at 4:45 pm. There is a \$40 buy-in and would need about 21 players. There will be prizes for the 5 top scoring players. For those of us not poker savvy, Bingo will be part of the evening. We are looking for white elephant prizes for the Bingo.

Finally, please plan on attending our mid-year congregational meeting on Sunday, August 6 right after the 9:30 service. We will be reviewing the first 6 months of 2023, get a financial update, vote on Welcoming and Affirmation statement, and discuss upcoming events.

Our next council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 8th at 5:30.

Peace and Blessings,

Katie Torry
Council President

Pride Parade & Festival 2023

Our booth at the Pride Parade and Festival made connections with hundreds of people—individuals, families, children—and a few pets! We provided face painting (thank you Natalie). Take away including buttons, stickers, dog treats, water and information about Holy Cross were given out. Over 65 packets of Holy Cross information were picked up. Participant comments included: “I am so glad to see Church participating in this event”.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped prepare for, set up and staff the booth—members from age 10 to 80! Holy Cross reaching out to together build up community and share Jesus with our neighbors.

Mid-Year Congregational Meeting

AUGUST 6TH
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
THE WORSHIP SERVICE.



Memorial Garden Pavers

If you would like to have a paver placed in the Memorial Garden in memory of a loved one now is the time to get your order in. Forms must be completed and turned in prior to September 24th so we can get them engraved and placed prior to All Saints Sunday. Please see Paula Featherstone, Diane Torry, or Jeff Morris if you have questions or to get a form.



Bible Study News

Wednesday Bible Study is studying Leviticus, learning about the sacrifices and offerings required by God to make his chosen people holy and set apart from the other cultures of the day. A survey indicated that Leviticus is the least favorite book that Christians like to study, but one person commented, "I didn't know Leviticus could be so much fun!" Come join the fun! 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?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUExQRVY5eIBXbHJ4dz09>

Meeting ID: 896 3300 9098

Passcode: 050344

Pastor's Monday night Bible study is on summer break and will resume in August.



Quilt Group News

Thank you to all the volunteers, attendees, and quilters who made the July Artown Quilt Show July 16 a great success. There were about 140 who came to view the quilts and hear the music!

Forty-five Quilts were registered for display, twenty-five from the community and twenty from members of the congregation. Quilts were grouped into a variety of Categories: Children's, Vintage, Contemporary, and beautiful wall hanging art quilts. The quilt group's "Community Quilts" given to nine local agencies and Lutheran World Relief were on display—highlighting the quilt groups mission—making and donating quilts to people in need in our community and around the world.

The winners of Best in Show; Children's, Linda Schlosser - her grandson's baby quilt made by a friend; Vintage—Jan Schultz, Hands All Around, a quilt Jan rescued from a thrift store; and Contemporary—Margie Smith-gorgeous star pattern that Margie both pieced and long armed quilted. The wall hangings were all gorgeous and unique!

Thank you to all who purchased a chance to win the opportunity quilt. The blocks were made by quilt group members, then sashed and bordered, and Margie Smith long arm quilted the quilt. All the fabric was from our "stash" of donated fabrics. The winner will be announced when all the "chances" are purchased.

Quilters are now "back at work" every Thursday 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.—come join us for creative work, fun and fellowship.

Close Knit Friends

Hot August Nights may be approaching but the **Close Knit Friends** know how to keep cool on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. We knit and crochet in air conditioning! Join us at 1pm on Monday, August 14 - at Betty Plant's house in the Galena area or on Monday, August 28 at Holy Cross Church. RSVP to Peggy Whitney (775-622-0128). You can learn a new craft or improve your skills while making an item of warmth and comfort for our neighbors in need. Hats, scarves, shawls, baby blankets, and more are some of the items we create each month and then distribute to local organizations helping women and their children in poverty, veterans, children in the hospital, victims of sexual exploitation, and those in rehabilitation or re-entering society. We also accept donations of washable yarn, funding to purchase yarn, or gently used and cleaned blankets. We are truly blessed to be partnering with Holy Cross Church and thank you for your encouragement!

Shared Harvest

(5) Cereal
(30) Crackers
Deodorant

Thank you for your
continued support.



Kids' Sewing Class

Kids wanting to learn how to sew...music to our HCLC quilters' ears. We had a sewing class in the Fellowship Hall for eight kids from Holy Cross early in July. The age range was from 6 to 16, girls and boys. All the kids made pajama pants in all types of prints: sports, Pokémon, hearts to spooky fabric. We had one adult to every two kids to help them. All the pajamas turned out great, and the kids were very proud of their projects. They also learned to sew which is a wonderful life skill. The class was a success!



Prayer List

LUKE MORRIS/JEFF MORRIS' BROTHER
MIRKA
SUE BORTON
LIZ STRAND & FAMILY
JUDY ROBERTS
TOM/SUE BORTON'S GODSON
MEGHAN BONNET
PAT CLEM
JENNA DISBRO
AMELIA/SUE BORTON'S NIECE
EARL/PASTOR'S FRIEND

Service Committee News

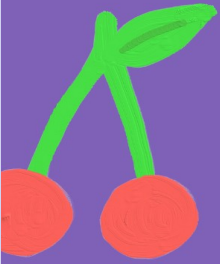
The Giving Tree - NOW through August 6
Diapers (children-all sizes), and Underwear and Sock drive for men, women and children to support Women and Children of the Sierra (WACCS), Marvel Way and other nonprofit organizations in our community.

We are continuing to collecting schools supplies through August 6 for WACCS. Please see the list of supplies on the Giving Tree.

Fall is just around the corner so watch for announcements for fellowship activities, as well as, service projects!



OUR MEMORIES



LAKE TAHOE DAY
&
MINI GOLF



Artown
QUILT SHOW
2023





Pat Schlosser
Jean Bye
Diane Torry
Pat Clem

August 6
August 11
August 14
August 21

<u>August 6, 2023</u>	<u>Communion Assistant</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
9:30 am	Sandi Christman	Orlyn Schenk	Jim Alanko/Paula Featherstone
<u>August 13, 2023</u>			
9:30 am	Natalie Tegio	Carol Ritter	Jan Looney/Carol Ritter
<u>August 20, 2023</u>			
9:30 am	Jody Morrison	Laura Grady	Deseree Carper/Linn Bleggi
<u>August 27, 2023</u>			
9:30 am	Karen Ford	Katie Torry	Pat Clem/Mike Ross

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

POKER & BINGO FOR A CAUSE

August 5, 2023
4pm Light Meal - 4:45pm Games Begin

\$40 donation to play Poker Prizes for top 5 Poker Players
\$1 per card to play Bingo White Elephant prizes for Bingo

All funds donated will be used to provide meals to the community and provide Smithridge Elementary with gift cards to be used for children in transition.

4895 S. McCarran Blvd., Reno, NV 89502
775-827-4822 - www.holycrossreno.org

FAITH NIGHT 2023

August 11, 2023

GAME TIME 6:35 PM

RENO Aces
BASEBALL CLUB

Please confirm on the sign-up sheet in the narthex and see Pat or Linda Schlosser regarding your payment.
The cost is \$20.00 per person.
Last day to confirm - Sunday, July 30.

AUGUST 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 7pm Casa del Alfarero	2 1:30pm Bible Study	3 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	4 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero	5 4pm Poker for a Cause
6 9:30am Family Worship 10:30am Mid-year Congregational Mtg. 5:30pm Casa del Alfarero	7 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	8 5:45pm Council Meeting 7pm Casa del Alfarero	9 1:30pm Bible Study	10 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	11 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero Faith Night w/Reno Aces	12
13 Blessing of the Backpacks 9:30am Family Worship 5:30pm Casa del Alfarero	14 1pm Close Knit Friends 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	15 7pm Casa del Alfarero	16 1:30pm Bible Study	17 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	18 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero	19
20 9:30am Family Worship 1pm Youth/Shared Harvest 5:30pm Casa del Alfarero	21 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	22 7pm Casa del Alfarero	23 1:30pm Bible Study	24 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting	25 7:30pm Casa del Alfarero	26
27 9:30am Family Worship 11:30am Confirmation Class 5:30pm Casa del Alfarero	28 1pm Close Knit Friends 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	29 7pm Casa del Alfarero	30 1:30pm Bible Study	31 9:30am Quilting 1pm Quilting		