

The background of the top section features a photograph of a church interior. On the left and right are stained glass windows with blue, white, and pink designs. In the center, an altar is visible with a wooden bookstand holding an open book, flanked by two lit white candles in black holders. A dark green banner is overlaid on the top left of the image.

SEPTEMBER 2023

CROSSROADS

Official Newsletter of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church

From the Pastor's Pen

BY PASTOR KATHY MORRIS

Dear Friends,

As we return to September, we shift back to our two services on September 10. As it has been for some time, our traditional service will be at 9am and our contemporary service will be at 10:30.

While I always enjoy the sense of community that we have in worshipping together at one service over the summer, I also appreciate the return of the two different styles of worship. I am a person who at times, craves the tradition of the hymns and the liturgy, but wow, do I also love praise music. It's nice to be in a place that offers both and does so in ways that are authentic to Holy Cross.

We are so blessed by our music leaders, Brittney May, Becky Bradley, and Michael Tegio, as well as our choir, which may seem small when you compare it to other congregations, but the joyful praises that they sing are powerful and moving. They return to rehearsals on September 10 as well. They meet starting at 8am before the first service begins and I know they are always looking for more voices to join them.

Worship is essential to our life together as we come as a community before God, but it is also essential to our individual relationship with Christ our Lord. In worship, we are gathered, we hear the Word of God, we are sustained with the bread and the wine, and we are sent out. In worship we are blessed with forgiveness and grace and love, so that we can take what we know of Christ back out into the world in order to bless those around us.



From the Pastor's Pen continued...

BY PASTOR KATHY MORRIS

If it's been while... if you're here all the time... if you're squeezing us in between trips to see your grandchildren... if you're overwhelmed with life... if you're craving connection to the Lord, or to other people, come and join on Sunday mornings. Come and be renewed. There is always a place for you.

Love in Christ,
Pastor Kathy Morris



Synod Update

BY PASTOR KATHY MORRIS

In Burlingame, California, September 15-17, the Sierra Pacific Synod will be gathering at the annual Synod Assembly. At the forefront of the agenda is the election of a new Bishop. Katie Torry and Sandi Christman will be attending as voting members from Holy Cross. Diane Torry, who has been serving on the Bishop's Election Committee and Peggy Ince will also be attending as volunteers. Pastor Kathy will not be attending this year due to a wedding that was scheduled before the Synod Assembly dates were announced (usually the Assembly is in the spring).

Leading up to the Assembly, we will be praying for the Synod in our Sunday prayers. You are also invited to keep the Assembly and specifically, the election of a new Bishop, in your personal prayers as well.

Also at the Assembly, new Synod Council members will be elected, which will complete Pastor Kathy's term as a member of the Synod Council. She is more than ready for that transition.

Welcome Mural in Progress

BY LINDA SCHLOSSER



Memorial Garden Pavers

BY PAULA FEATHERSTON

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.



Oktoberfest

Get ready for a delicious Oktoberfest celebration, happening right after the 10:30 am service on October 15th. We've got a scrumptious spread planned for you, featuring mouthwatering brats and hot dogs. But that's not all – we invite you to be a part of this festive feast by bringing your own dish to share. The signup sheet is now available in the Narthex. Please indicate the total number of attendees from your group and let us know which dish you would like to share. Your contribution will add to the variety and joy of the celebration!

Pet Blessing

Saturday, September 30th 10 am. Bring your creatures great and small and join us for a special blessing.



Baking with Gloria Saturday, September 23 10 am

Are you looking to enhance your culinary skills? Join us for a delightful cooking experience at the Cooking with Gloria event! Gloria will be leading a cooking session where you'll get to create cannoli. The cost to participate is only \$6.00. This nominal fee covers the ingredients and materials needed for the cooking session. To secure your spot, please sign up on the sheet located in the narthex. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to reach out to Linda Schlosser.

Senior Lunch

September 20th
11:30am

Bring a dish to share!

Welcome New Members

BY DIANE TORRY

At Worship on August 20, we welcomed Juan Monge-Ontiveros, Meredith Frazier, and Susan Bjorn – new members at Holy Cross. We look forward to getting to know you and working with you here in “God’s Vineyard” at Holy Cross.



Wanted: Items for our 2nd Annual Holy Cross Rummage Sale

BY KATIE TORRY

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. Please call 775-827-4822 to confirm someone is there to accept your items.

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, remerchandise 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.

YOUTH NEWS

Confirmation Class News

BY PASTOR KATHY MORRIS

Confirmation Classes resume on Wednesday, September 13. This year we'll be meeting two Wednesdays a month for class, starting at 5:30, and we'll be focusing on the Bible, using a book called Manna and Mercy. Confirmation classes are designed for youth 6th grade and older, and it is a three-year program. If there are families who are interested in having their youth participate, please contact Pastor Kathy.

Monthly Youth Group Event: Fly High Trampoline Park!

Youth grades 6th-12th are invited to join us for some fun and jumping on trampolines at Fly High – 10 Greg Street in Sparks on Sunday, September 24. We'll meet at the church following the 10:30 service and head over in carpools. Youth are invited to bring money for snacks. Parents will need to fill out a waiver, which can be found at:

<https://reno.flyhightrampolinepark.com/waiver>

Youth as Helping Hands

If there are any youth who would like to help with the Rummage Sale on September 9, please talk with Katie Torry or sign up at the table in the narthex.

Godly Play

BY JOLENE JAILLET

We hope that everyone had a wonderful summer. Godly Play is scheduled to start back up again on September 10, 2023. We are excited to begin our children's ministry program again and share together through stories, work time, and feast. We are continually looking for people interested in storytelling or door keeping. If you have any interest in helping this wonderful children's ministry, please feel free to contact Jolene Jaillet, Natalie Tegio, or Katie Torry.

September 10, 2023 - Lesson 1: The Circle of the Church Year

September 17, 2023 - Lesson 3: The Flood and the Ark

September 24, 2023 - Lesson 4: The Great Family

Council News from the July 2023 Meeting

BY KATIE TORRY

Hello Friends,

Holy Cross's outreach ministry was the highlight of our July meeting.

During July we participated in or hosted several events. Artown was a huge success! The quilts were enjoyed by all visitors. The music was superb and enjoyed by all. We participated the Pride Event by hosting a booth. We handed out about 70 welcome packets as well as Pride pins, buttons, and stickers. Natalie Tegio was gracious enough to provide face painting. It was the hit of the day. Our Ice Cream Social was a nice treat after the hot day at the Pride Event. We had about 25 people with visitors from Silver Sage. Finally, we hosted Poker/Bingo for A Cause. Our cause was to fundraise money for Walmart gift cards to give to the counselors at Pine and Smithridge to hand out as needed. Other money will be used as seed money to start a community dinner served once a month. Peggy Ince is heading up this outreach.

In other news, we are moving forward on our mural in the entry way. Jan Looney is still looking for volunteers to help with the painting. Please take a moment to thank Jan for this lovely art installment.

Our roof needs some minor repairs. We are on the list for D&D Roofing to start the repairs before the weather changes!

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our church.

Sincerely,

Katie Torry
Council President



New Member Class

BY PASTOR KATHY MORRIS

If you are interested in “officially” joining Holy Cross as a member, we are having a New Member Class on Sunday, October 22, following the 10:30 service. We will talk about the history, mission, and ministry of Holy Cross. Lunch will be served. If you plan to attend, please talk with Pastor Kathy or Diane Torry.

Quilts Blessed during Worship

BY DIANE TORRY

At Sunday Worship on September 24 the quilts will be blessed -- The Fall Quilt Blessing! The quilts will be displayed on the “pews” in the Sanctuary so all can see the work completed by the quilt group over the past year—a “rainbow of color and creativity”. The quilt group is strengthened by the congregation’s appreciation of our work and together blessing our work and the quilts that are sent to God’s children in our community and around the world.

We will be working to complete all the quilts during our September Thursday quilting days---finishing up few tops, tying the quilts, then sewing on the quilt labels before the quilt blessing at Worship on September 24. Please join us!

The “Blue Basket”

The “Blue Basket” is back and available in the Narthex for anyone to pick up a quilt top kit! Check with Sandi, Paula, Diane or any quilter for more information about the Blue Basket.

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 regardless of religious creed. Religious references may be misinterpreted jeopardizing the delivery to the people who need the quilts most.



Senior Transitions Program

BY DIANE TORRY

This one-day program is offered on Tuesday, October 17, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall at Holy Cross.

Supporting Aging Seniors is designed for Seniors, their families, and support networks, to learn about and explore issues Seniors experience as we age.

During this session we will learn about the services provided by Hospice Care, as we move into the final time of our lives, and how to plan for Memorial or Funeral Services. We will have a speaker from a Hospice company and our own Pastor Kathy will discuss Memorial and Funeral Planning.

It is human nature to put off or even ignore life's difficult times and decisions. The challenges of aging may intimidate us and conversations between parents and adult children or seniors and loved ones are avoided. In the worst-case scenario, no discussion has taken place and no plans are made until a crisis hits. Our Senior Transition Programs provide a safe, comfortable place and time to learn about and discuss issues of aging.

Attend individually or with your adult children, or support network. Invite your friends to join us.

Brochures and fliers about the program are available in the Narthex, or by contacting the church office.

Register with Lanai, in the Church Office, holycrossreno@gmail.com, or Program Coordinator Diane Torry dbtorry@att.net Or sign up on the signup sheet in the Narthex.

Affirmation Vote for our “Welcoming & Affirmation Statement

BY KATIE TORRY

I just wanted to clarify that the vote we took at the semi-annual congregational meeting about our Welcoming and Affirmation Statement was a vote of affirmation. This vote told the council and the committee that our congregation is ready to take a formal vote during our annual meeting in January of 2024.

This affirmation vote is a way of publicly stating that we believe in, support, and welcome everyone in the community into our faith home.

Shared Harvest

20 - Peanut Butter
42 - Packets of
Powdered Milk
28 - Cereals
Bar soap

**Thank you for your
continued support.**



Service & Fellowship Committee News

BY LINDA SCHLOSSER

Service:

June through August School Supply and Socks and Underwear Drive was very successful. All items have been delivered and are very much appreciated. Thank you again to our wonderful congregation who so generously support our community projects.

- October 15 - November 12 – Giving Tree for WinCo gift card donations for Smithridge Stem Academy and Pine students.
- November 12 - December 10 – Angel Tree – Purchase gift cards for children and families at Smithridge Stem Academy.

Fellowship:

- September: Baking with Gloria -September 23 - 10:00 am \$6:00 fee
- October: Oktoberfest – following second service on October 15. Sign-up for attendance and side dishes etc. is in the Narthex.
- December: Advent Tea, December 3, 2-4 pm.



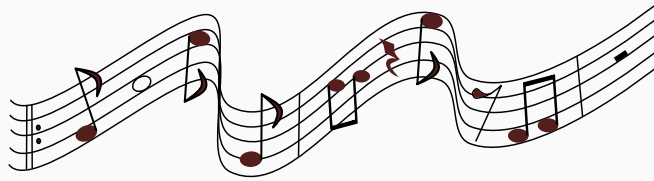
Choir

BY BECKY BRADLEY

Choir, we hope you enjoyed your summer break. It's not over yet, but just a couple more weeks.

HCLC returns to the 2-service schedule on September 10 when we return to our fall schedule. That means choir rehearsal in the choir room at 8 am, and then singing usually at the 9 am service.

See you then!



Music Program News

BY BECKY BRADLEY

Don't forget – on September 10 we resume our usual fall schedule: 9 am traditional format with choir, specials, and organ, and 10:30 am praise format with contemporary praise songs, piano, guitar, and drums. Choir rehearsals start September 10 at 8 am in the choir room. We always welcome additional singers of all ages and reading music is not a requirement. We always welcome people to participate in the praise band, whether with voice or instruments. In both cases, come with enthusiasm for serving the Lord and our congregation with your musical talents. We'll find a place for you!

The choir room has a new addition – a wonderful, wheeled platform for the piano so that it can be more easily moved, and we don't have to worry about its legs snapping off. A big thanks to Wib Namestka for building this for us! He is so willing to use his construction talents to serve this congregation. We just tell him what we need, and he figures out what will work. Thanks, Wib!

Bible Study News

BY BECKY BRADLEY

Pastor's Monday night Bible study has resumed, although there is no class on Labor Day. We meet on Monday nights at 6:30 pm on Zoom. We discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday and go into more depth and background than you'll get in the sermon.

Wednesday Bible Study is studying Leviticus, learning the Holiness Code, and the ways God set his chosen people apart from the societies around them (including Egypt where they just left, and Canaan where they're headed to). You can join the class at any time, no matter what book we're currently studying.

We meet every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 pm-2:40 pm 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

Close Knit Friends

BY PEGGY WHITNEY

Blankets, shawls, and Octopus! Oh my! The Close Knit Friends worked over the summer on projects to be distributed into the community. We will meet on Monday, September 11, and Monday, September 25 at 1 pm and all are welcome to join us. On September 25 at 1:30 pm, new co-executive directors of the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra, Alex and Junie, will join our gathering to update us on their work with women and children in poverty. Close Knit Friends donates blankets, shawls, hats, and scarves as needed to this organization located on Neil Rd. We will also be donating shawls to the Women Veterans Program at the VA Hospital. If you would like to join us in making items of warmth and comfort for these and other local organizations, please contact Peggy at 775-622-0128 or stop by our gatherings. Peggy is also available on most Sunday mornings before the second service near the Welcome Center if you have any questions or interest.

Fall Cleaning Days

**October 19th,
20th, and 21st**

**The church will
be open at 9 am.
Sign-up sheet
coming soon.**





September Birthdays

Russell Tegio - Sep 2
Lukas Bergeson - Sep 2
Laine Christman - Sep 5
Susan Bjorn - Sep 7
Mark Jaillet - Sep 12
Jody Morrison - Sep 15
Deseree Carper - Sep 20
Travis Mills - Sep 23
Kimberly Lintz - Sep 27
Scott Grady - Sep 29

Prayer Requests for the month of August

June and Bill - Pastor's mom's friends
Carrie - Pastor's family friend
Earl - Pastor's friend
Mike, Kathy, Stephanie - Carol Ritter's friends
Aaron Puckett
Mark - Sue Gonyou's brother
Adam and his family - (Peggy Whitney)
Hali-ann - Lanai's granddaughter
Julie - Linda S's friend
Pat Schlosser
Becky Bradley
Eldora Johnson

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:30am Family Worship 10:30am Fellowship 1pm Tongan Church 5:30pm Casa del Alifanero	4 6pm High Desert Harmony 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	5 7pm Casa del Alifanero	6 1:30pm Bible Study 2:30pm Community Fellowship	7 9:30am & 1pm Quilting 3pm Finance Committee	1 7:30pm Casa del Alifanero	2 12pm-2pm Tongan Event
10 9am Worship 10:30am Worship/Godly Play 1pm Tongan Church 5:30pm Casa del Alifanero	11 1pm Close Knit Friends 6pm High Desert Harmony 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	12 5:45pm Council Meeting 7pm Casa del Alifanero	13 1:30pm Bible Study	14 9:30am & 1pm Quilting 6pm Girl Scouts	15 7:30pm Casa del Alifanero	16 8am Rummage Sale Intake 8am - 2pm Rummage Sale
17 9am Worship 10:30am Worship/Godly Play 1pm Tongan Church 5:30pm Casa del Alifanero	18 6pm High Desert Harmony 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	19 7pm Casa del Alifanero	20 12pm Senior Lunch 1:30pm Bible Study	21 9:30am & 1pm Quilting	22 7:30pm Casa del Alifanero	23 10am Baking with Gloria First day of fall
24 9am Worship 10:30am Worship/Godly Play 1pm Tongan Church 5:30pm Casa del Alifanero	25 Newsletter Deadline 1pm Close Knit Friends 6pm High Desert Harmony 6:30pm Zoom Bible Study	26 7pm Casa del Alifanero	27 1:30pm Bible Study	28 9:30am & 1pm Quilting 6pm Girl Scouts	29 7:30pm Casa del Alifanero	30 10am Blessing of the Animals

Notes:

Synod Assembly 9/15-9/17