

Official Newsletter of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church

CROSSROADS

April 2024



Dear Friends,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! (It seems strange to write that when it's before Palm Sunday, but for those of you reading this in April, Happy Easter!). I hope you all had a wonderful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord!

I am looking forward to taking some time away just after Easter. Some of you know that earlier in February, my Godfather passed away and my mom and I decided to take the kids to Maryland to spend some time with my Godmother, who has been one of my mother's dearest friends for over sixty years – they were in church youth group together. I am very much looking forward to seeing her as well as several other people that I haven't seen since we moved from Maryland to Nevada almost twelve years ago. We'll spend time with wonderful people, see some sights, walk down memory lane, eat some delicious seafood and be renewed.

I've been thinking a lot about the things that bring us new life and renewal and as I was looking through the Scripture lessons in the post-Easter season, I noticed some wonderful lessons that remind us about some things that God uses to bring to us new life in order that our spirits would be renewed and refreshed.

This Easter season as I preach, we'll delve into some of them and give ourselves time to ponder the question, "How does God renew our spirits?" Each week, we'll find a different answer:

April 14 – Meals with Friends

April 21 – Time in Creation

April 28 – Pruning in the Garden

May 5 – Helping Friends and Serving Neighbors

May 12 (Mother's Day) – The Power of Prayer

What does God use to help us be refreshed and encouraged as we walk in faith? Maybe it's one these things, maybe it's something, but come and join us in worship. My prayer is that you will find renewal in this season of new life so that you can be lifted up and encouraged in your faith in God and in your love for one another!

Love in Christ, Pastor Kathy Morris

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"THE CHOSEN" Discussion Group

by Pastor Kathy Morris



The Chosen Discussion Group will resume on April 16 with Season Two! We're meeting on our non-council Tuesday nights at 6:30pm. The Chosen, a dramatization of the life of Jesus through the eyes of those who knew Him. Watching the episodes together with a group discussion afterwards.

Monday Evening Zoom Bible Study

Pastor's Monday night Bible study will resume on Monday, April 15th at 6:30pm. Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84911569919?pwd=VUM1SUdoeWdnSnM1WUZva0dQdzBidz09> Meeting ID: 849 1156 9919, Passcode: 113211 One tap mobile: +16699006833,,84911569919#,,, *113211# US (San Jose)

Wednesday Bible Study

By Becky Bradley

Wednesday Bible Study continues through Numbers - we've entered the Promised Land, but not is all milk and honey as expected. There are people already living there! Come join us for the journey.

When we meet, it's 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=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUExQRVY5elBXbHJ4dz09>
Meeting ID: 896 3300 9098 Passcode: 050344

Shared Harvest

8 peanut butter
50 Canned Veggies
13 powdered milk
Bar soap



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Vacation Bible School News

Enrollment is OPEN!

June 24-28 from 9am-noon

We are looking forward to a great week of learning and fun for the kids and the volunteers. We will be "Under God's Big Top of Love" June 24-28, from 9am-noon. Please spread the word and invite your family, friends and neighbors! If you are interested in volunteering, please talk with Pastor Kathy.

For those who are interested in planning VBS, we will be having a **planning meeting on Wednesday, April 17 at 5:30**. By the end of April, we'll have a wish list of items that we'll need for the week, so please be on the lookout!

You can use this link to register:

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



UNDER THE BIG TOP OF GOD'S LOVE
VBS 2024

JUNE 24-28
9AM-NOON

You can use this link to register:
<https://form.jotform.com/220266697951163>

VBS is designed for kids who have completed pre-school – 5th grade.
(Youth in middle school and high school are invited to help volunteer).

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
4895 S. MCCARRAN BLVD., RENO, NV 89502
WWW.HOLYCROSSRENO.ORG
775-827-4822

Youth News

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Crazy Game Night

Join us on Saturday Night, April 27 5:30-7:30 for dinner and Crazy Game Night. Pastor Kathy has been storing up some very silly and crazy games, so be sure to join us! Friends are welcome! Parents, let Pastor Kathy know if you are able to help that night!

Youth Ministry Planning Meeting

If there are any adults in the congregation with a special interest in helping our youth ministry grow, you are invited to join us for a Youth Ministry Planning Meeting on Friday Night, April 12 at 6:30pm. We will have dinner and discuss some immediate plans for the rest of the year as well as taking some time to dream into the future. We've got some great kids already involved and we're excited to grow into the future. If you are unable to come, but have some thoughts and ideas, please talk with Pastor Kathy. Also, please let her know if you are planning to come, so we know the right amount of food to prepare.

Confirmation News

We are winding down our year of Confirmation Classes – with only three more to go! We will be meeting on Wednesdays, April 10 and 24 and May 8 at 5:30. We are looking forward to celebrating with some of our young people on Confirmation Sunday, which will be Sunday, May 19 at the 10:30 service.

If you have students heading into 6th grade next year, be sure to talk with Pastor Kathy about joining the class next year!

April Birthdays

4/02 Emma Lintz
4/03 Abigail Morris
4/03 Birdie Vario
4/08 Susan Volinkaty
4/09 Jaydin Koch
4/13 Mary Edman
4/26 Torry Tegio
4/26 Joey Ginnetti
4/27 Karen Ford



Prayer List



Allison Council
 Jan Schultz
 Connie Barnhart
 Sydney Hiles
 Ellis Christman
 Linda Schlosser
 Kelly, Ashton, Jaxon Meseberg
 Raymond and Bonnie
 Matt Jensen and family

Service Committee News

By Linda Schlosser

- During the months of January and February we collected hygiene kits, underwear and socks for the Eddy House. We delivered items to Eddy House the first week in March. Once again, thank you for your generosity.
- March 17- April 21 - ELCA GOOD GIFTS Barnyard animals help stop hunger! These animals are an important source of food for many families. They also help people earn income needed to obtain the basic necessities for their families. Through your Gifts of Hope to God's Global Barnyard, you will help break the cycle of hunger and poverty and inspire hope for families in desperate need.
- June through August – Pantry items for Eddy House and School supplies of the Women and Children's Center. Reams of paper for our local elementary schools

Fellowship Upcoming Events

By Linda Schlosser

- Annual Picnic – Scheduled for June 2. There's only one service that day. Watch for sign-up sheet for sides and attendance sheet.
- Faith Night – August 9 – Please watch for a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Do not need to make a firm commitment until two weeks prior to the game.



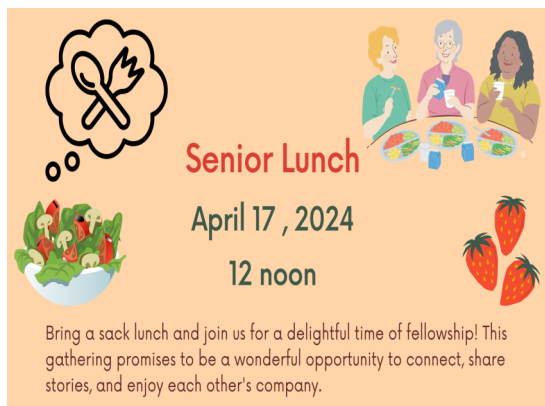
Music News

By Becky Bradley

We are so thankful to our choir for all their preparation to make Palm/Passion Sunday and Easter so special in worship. They put in extra time in rehearsals as well as singing through both services on both Sundays to enhance our worship experience. Thanks to the brass quartet who joined us on Easter also - gotta have brass for Easter! Be sure to thank a choir member for all their hard work.

The choir also has some words of thanks. Thank you to the Council for providing a substantial breakfast between both services on both Sundays in order to help maintain our energy through the long morning and feed our guest musicians on Easter.

And a VERY special thank you to an anonymous donor who enabled the choir to get new official leather music folders which made their debut on Palm/Passion Sunday. Now we don't have to use plastic binders as we had in the past which we not really suited for handling pieces of music. We have 25, so there's room for additional singers to join us (hint, hint)!



Close Knit Friends

By Peggy Whitney

Easter brings signs of new life, and our communities are blossoming in color, foliage, and song. **Close Knit Friends** are focusing on new signs of life too in the way of newborns. We are working on baby blankets and hats for the *Women Veterans Program Baby Shower* at the VA and purple baby caps to bring awareness to *Shaken Baby Syndrome*. Shawls for women veterans who receive in-home visits are also being made. Please join us on Monday, April 8 and Monday, April 22 at 1pm at the church. If you prefer to make these knitted or crochet items on your own, please be sure to bring completed projects to the church by the April 22nd gathering. We have baby yarn if you would like to participate. These items will be gifts for veteran moms-to-be and new moms in early May. Becky will be offering a second workshop to make *Octopus for Preemies* on Monday, April 29 at 1pm. The crochet octopuses are given to babies in the *NICU at Renown Hospital* and help the infants "finger" with the tentacles instead of the medical tubes attached to their bodies. Please bring a G or H hook to this gathering and we will provide the cotton yarn. Please see Becky Bradley for more information about the workshop or Peggy Whitney. Our gatherings take place on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month starting at 1pm. We are happy to get you started on simple projects for the community or help you with your current project. Donations of washable yarn are welcome!



Quilt Group News

By Diane Torry

Gratitude—Holy Cross Quilters are so very grateful to be able to share God's love and care through giving quilts to local agencies for families in need in our community.

Over the past while, we have received lovely thank you notes:

From Ronald McDonald House: "We cannot thank you enough for your beautiful hand-made quilts. Please know that your creations are bringing smiles and warmth to the families we serve".

From Washoe County School District Children in Transitions: "I wanted to reach out and thank you for the beautiful quilts for our CIT families. These quilts bring a sense of comfort in a troubling time of our students lives. Please know that we appreciate Holy Cross's contribution to our program."

From Renown, Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit: "We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your incredible generosity in providing quilts and octopuses for our tiny NICU patients. Your thoughtful donations bring comfort and warmth to these little ones. Thank you for your compassion and being a beacon of hope."

From the Empowerment Center: "Thank you for all the beautiful quilts that everyone made. We are so very grateful to all of you for supporting the women at the Empowerment Center".

We are Blessed to be a Blessing!



Greetings Holy Cross Family,

Welcome to Spring! Nope wait, winter again!

Easter greetings from your church council. We have hit the ground running and are excited about the upcoming year. Our annual council retreat was full of enthusiasm and excitement about the growth our church has experienced over the last year. Our goal this year is to strengthen and build the foundation so that we continue to grow in our faith and be of service to our community. We plan to do this in many ways.

We want to celebrate all the wonderful and important groups that we have at Holy Cross. We want to see them flourish and grow in the coming year. These are truly the foundation of our congregation. Our service groups are the backbone of our church. Keep up the great work!

We also want to keep doing new and old events here at Holy Cross. We will be continuing our yearly Rummage Sale with a twist. We are also planning our game nights, ice cream social, and community dinners. Keep on the look out for flyers about these events.

Finally, I want to thank Jan Looney for her beautiful mural!! We are blessed to have so much talent in our congregation. The mural truly welcomes all to our faith home.

Thank you to all in our faith community for helping to keep our faith home strong and vibrant. You are truly a blessing!

Peace and Blessings to all!

Katie Torry

Council President





*Welcome
New
Members*



*Dan Gates
Evelyn Goetz
Barbara Kramer
Cathy Sheehan*

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Wib & Nel Namestka (Family & Great Friends)
Paula Featherstone (Memory of Kevin & my parents)
Jaillet Family (God's Glory)
Joan Julius (In memory of family)
Fred & Karen Ford (In memory of loved ones)
Barb Kramer (loved ones gone)
Deborah Kline (Allison Council)
Art Eggers & Family (Roneé Eggers)
Jim Alanko (Family)
Gail Nemy (Ray & Bessie Severns)
Sandi Christman (My Sister Judy)
Jody Morrison (In memory of Pat Kunze)
Linn Bleggi & Meredith Frazier (In memory of Joe Bleggi)
Evelyn Goetz (In memory of her husband, Bill)
Susan Bjorn (In memory of her parents)
Laura Grady (In honor & memory of Merle & Jan Moebus)
Marla Vinopal (In memory of loved ones)

Crossroads April 2024

APRIL 2024

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

31

1

6pm High Desert Harmony

2

7pm Casa Del Alfarero

3

1:30pm Bible Study

4

9:30am Quilting
1pm Quilting

5

7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero

6

10am-5pm UNR Retreat

7

9am Family Worship
10:30am Worship
Godly Play

8

1pm Close Knit Friends
6pm High Desert Harmony

9

5:45pm Council Meeting
7pm Casa Del Alfarero

10

1:30pm Bible Study
5:30pm Confirmation Class

11

9:30am Quilting
1pm Quilting
6pm Girl Scouts

12

6:30pm Youth Ministry
Planning Meeting
7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero

13

10am Beit Yeshua Meeting

14

9am Worship
10:30am Worship
Godly Play

15

6pm High Desert Harmony
6:30pm Zoom Study

16

7pm Casa Del Alfarero
6:30pm The Chosen Study

17

12pm Senior Lunch
1:30pm Bible Study
5:30pm VBS Planning

18

9:30am Quilting
1pm Quilting

19

7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero

20

4:30pm-6:30pm Community
Dinner

21

9am Worship
10:30am Worship
Godly Play

22

1pm Close Knit Friends
6pm High Desert Harmony
6:30pm Zoom Study

23

7pm Casa Del Alfarero
6:30pm The Chosen Study

24

1:30pm Bible Study
5:30pm Confirmation Class

25

9:30am Quilting
1pm Quilting

26

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
7:30pm Casa Del Alfarero

27

10am Beit Yeshua Meeting
5:30pm Crazy Game Night

28

9am Worship
10:30am Worship
Godly Play

29

1pm Crochet Workshop
6pm High Desert Harmony
6:30pm Zoom Study

30

7pm Casa Del Alfarero
6:30pm The Chosen Study