

Dear Friends,

As you're reading this, I'm on vacation for another week, so this whole article may seem odd, but I've got something on my mind, so I'm just going to tell you what happened to me today.

I got a call from someone in the church who was letting me know that someone else in the church was in the hospital. Then, in that conversation, it got mentioned that the person who was calling me to let me know, had also been in the hospital the week before. I had no idea that either person was in the hospital, and I felt really bad because I know that hospitals can be a really hard place to be and that often times, it helps to have the pastor show up and pray or bring communion. (Granted, when you feel awful, it can be unhelpful to have me show up, but that's when you say, "I feel terrible, please leave" and I will). But an important part of my job is to visit the sick. I can't do that very well, if the sick don't tell me their sick. (In case you weren't aware, pastors don't get the superpower of mindreading when they get ordained.)

The book of James reminds us of the importance of praying for one another when we are sick and struggling. "Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up." (James 5:13-15)

Now, I've heard some of you say that here in Nevada, "people can take care of themselves." But every once in a while, there are times when you might need support and back up a little help to raise up your spirit, your mind or your heart, and if I am able, I want to be helpful to you. That includes those of you who don't get to church as often as you like due to health issues. I freely admit that my visiting schedule has gotten more sporadic in recent months than I would like, but as I return from vacation in August, I'm determined to do better. So, if you need or want a visit, please let me know. If I have a full schedule or can't come, I will always try to find another time or another way. Please, don't ever think that I am too busy to hear what's happening in your life. Please don't ever think that you don't matter or you're your concern isn't important. Even if I'm away, there is usually another pastor ready to help. Please know that you can call, text or email me anytime, and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Love in Christ, Pastor Kathy

YOUTH NEWS

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Youth in grades 6-12th, join us Sunday, August 25 for a fun time at Defy in the Legends Shopping Center in Sparks. We will leave after church (around 11ish) and return later in the afternoon. We have been gifted with some free passes, so plan to bring money for food. Please let Pastor Kathy know if you can attend by Saturday, August 24. Feel free to invite your friends!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

by Pastor Kathy Morris

As we head back to school, please plan to join us, Sunday, August 11 for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks. During worship, we will offer special prayers for our students and educators, so please bring your backpacks to church and then plan to stay afterward for a special ice cream treat.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

by Pastor Kathy Morris

We'll be resuming our Confirmation Classes in late August, but if you are planning to have your child attend, please join us for a very brief meeting during the ice cream social so we can talk about scheduling our classes for the upcoming year. Confirmation classes are designed for kids in 6th, 7th and 8th grades. The classes review some of the foundations of our faith as Lutheran Christians. We typically meet twice a month. This year our focus will be on Martin Luther and the Small Catechism. If you are interested in more information, please talk with Pastor Kathy.

SERVICE COMMITTEE NEWS

by Linda Schlosser

<u>The Back-to-School Supply Drive</u> continues for the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra has officially started! Your contributions can make a big difference in helping children start the school year off right. Deadline is August 31st.

<u>Community Donation Drive</u> We need your help to support Eddy House and our local schools! How to Help: Visit our Giving Tree. Choose an item you'd like to donate. Suggestions for the Eddy House

- * Shelf-stable snacks and drinks
- * Jerky (individual packs)
- * Crackers (peanut butter, etc.)
- * Gatorade
- * Juice
- Granola Bars
- * Nuts
- Popcorn (individual packs)
- Laundry pods

For Local Schools:

• Reams of white paper 8.5 x 11



Youth assemble bags for Shared Harvest



FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

by Laurel Lindstrom

Thank you for your continued support of Holy Cross and our mission.

Be sure and download the Church Connect App on your phone (scan the QR code) and/or go to: <u>https://holycrossreno.churchtrac.com/</u> and register for an account. You will be able to edit your profile (change address, phone, email, etc), view and print your giving statement, and easily connect to our website and event calendar.

If you are a Thrivent member, don't forget to sign in and direct your Choice Dollars to Holy Cross. The other ways you can help Holy Cross is by using the RaiseRight program and Igive programs where Holy Cross receives a donation. If you have questions about any of these programs there are flyers in the narthex and you can always ask me!! Thanks.



THE CHOSEN DISCUSSION WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER!

by Pastor Kathy Morris



We will pick up with Season 3 on Tuesday, September 3. If you have not been able to join us, but would like to, please feel free to watch Seasons 1 & 2 on your own and join us for Season 3. Episodes are available to watch on Amazon Prime, Hulu, or at this link: <u>https://watch.thechosen.tv/#carousels</u>

MONDAY EVENING ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

by Pastor Kathy Morris

We will resume our Monday night Bible Study on Zoom, starting Monday, August 19. Each week is a stand-alone lesson as we discuss the lessons for the upcoming Sunday, so if you can only come occasionally, that is just fine. We meet at 6:30 and all are welcome. To participate, please use the Zoom Link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84911569919?pwd=VUM1SUdoeWdnSnM1WUZva0dQdzBidz09</u> Meeting ID: 849 1156 9919 Passcode: 113211

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

By Becky Bradley

Wednesday Bible Study is studying Deuteronomy, and following the story as the Israelites are poised to "Cross the Jordan" and enter the Promised Land. Moses is reminding this 2nd generation of God's law (Torah) to make them a holy nation set apart from the other cultures they will be encountering.

We meet, on Wednesday afternoons 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 <u>becky-b485@gmail.com</u> for more information.

 Here is the Zoom information in case you need to join remotely: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUExQRVY5eIBXbHJ4dz09</u>
Or join us by a phone call to bypass needing the Zoom app: Dial either number: 346 248 7799 or 669 444 9171 Enter the meeting ID: 896 3300 9098# Then confirm the meeting ID: #



MALLORY - KATIE TORRY'S FRIEND CONNIE BARNHART AND FAMILY ANNIE - PEGGY INCE'S FRIEND LAURA GRADY'S AUNT BETTY LAURA GRADY'S COUSIN SHARON LAURA GRADY'S COUSIN'S LST GRANDCHILD LUCAS EVELYN GOETZ MARLA HOOLE-VINOPAL

Confirmation Class

We'll be resuming our Confirmation Classes in late August, but if you are planning to have your child attend, please join us for a very brief meeting during the ice cream social so we can talk about scheduling our classes for the upcoming year.

August Birthdays

Pat Schlosser - August 6 Jean Bye - August 11 Connie Barnhart - August 12 Diane Torry - August 14 Pat Clem - August 21

CLOSE KNIT FRIENDS

By Peggy Whitney



Last month Close Knit Friends exhibited our projects at the Quilt and Music Show and appreciated our partnership with Holy Cross Lutheran Church. We are also grateful to join with the Holy Cross Quilters on a few projects. Working in areas of service together we have the chance to enjoy new friendships, share our talents and skills, and build up the body of Christ. We hope you will check out the Close Knit Friends display ladder in the Fellowship Hall and see our projects. "...be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love..." Colossians 2:2.

This month we are keeping our cool as we work on providing community organizations with hats, scarves, and blankets. So far we have given 13 blankets to the Ronald McDonald House and 18 blankets to the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra. Our goal is to provide over 100 hats and scarves for school-age children and adults at The Empowerment Center and Marvel Way Complex as requested. We welcome you to join us on Monday, August 12 and Monday, August 26 at 1pm. All skills are welcome! If you prefer to work on projects for the community at home, please contact Peggy Whitney at 775-622-0128 for more information. We accept clean, gently used hats, scarves, and blankets for infants to adults and donations of yarn (**NO WOOL**!). Thank you for your support!

QUILT GROUP NEWS

By Diane Torry

Thank you to everyone for the terrific Artown Quilt Show. We had 185 visitors and volunteers for the Quilt and Music Show. 45 quilts from "the community" were registered and shown. We displayed our community quilts that will be given to over eight agencies in our community and around the world. All the quilts were beautiful.

There was a tie for first place in "Best of Show" Judy Hein for Crop Circles and Jenna Disbro for Glacial Star. A wonderful recap of the show – both Quilt and Music – is posted on the Holy Cross Facebook page, take a look. What a wonderful day sharing the love and joy of quilting and music with our neighbors.



There are a few tickets still available for our quilt raffle. Talk with any quilter to purchase a ticket. The proceeds of the raffle are used to support our Quilt Ministry--purchasing batting and other quilting supplies.

Come join us for quilting – we are in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday "All are Welcome in this Place."

ARTOWN 2024

By Becky Bradley

What a great celebration for Artown last month! The Quilt Group and the Concert Organizers (Laurel and Brittney) once again outdid themselves for a successful event reaching out into the community. I have heard so many compliments about the quality and variety of styles of our own HCLC Choir - what a hard-working group. Brittney, the congregation, and I are so blessed. We also heard from some other great groups in our community as outreach to give them some more exposure and they provided variety to our program.

This is a good time to express our thanks to Michael Tegio for all his behind the scenes work on our technology, including the live stream as well as all the sound setup that is required to have good communication in our events held at HCLC. There doesn't seem to be any problem or situation he can't solve, and we are so blessed to have him as a part of our Worship Team here. Thanks, Michael!

ARTOWN 2024

By Laurel Lindstrom

We had a very successful Artown Quilt show and Music Performances this year! 185 people came through our doors and all of the comments were positive. We had a 65% return rate with our audience surveys and 64% said this was their first time at this event. 17% were under the age of 35. The quilt show was well-curated and beautifully displayed. The music performances met our goal of providing a safe venue for a culturally diverse event. Jessica Obermiller provided ASL translation - she describes herself as an ASL singer, which is apparent in how beautifully she translates the lyrics. This was our first year applying for and receiving a City of Reno Arts and Culture Event grant which enabled us to provide a stipend to our musical groups. One of our groups, the Local Vocals (led by our very own Eric Gieseke) from Note-Able Music Therapy Services sent us a lovely thank-you note about what they are doing for our community (the letter is posted on the bulletin board at church). A big thank you to our many volunteers who helped make this day a success and to the Quilt Group, Close Knit Friends, and the choir. Without all of you, we could not put on such a wonderful community outreach event.





August 18, 2024 MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

COUNCIL REPORT

Dear Holy Cross Family,

Welcome to August! It is hard to believe that Summer is winding down and Fall is around the corner.

What a fabulous July we had at Holy Cross. We recouped from Vacation Bible School and then put on a fabulous Quilt and Music Show. It was great to see so many community members attending this show.

As we look to the fall, we have some great events happening. We will be hosting a booth at the Pride Parade on Saturday, September 7. We will be having an organization meeting after church on Sunday, August 25. If you are interested in helping at this event please plan on attending this organizational meeting.

The following weekend is our Annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, September 14 from 8 am – 2 pm. Please start saving any donations. We will start excepting donations on Sunday, September 8. We will continue to receive donations the following week on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 am—2 pm. If these times don't work into your schedule, let me know and we can arrange another time for drop off items.

We are looking for volunteers to help set up the day before, Friday, September 13 starting at 8 am. I am hoping to be done by noon. Besides volunteers on Friday, we will need lots of volunteers to help with day of the sale. Please look for a volunteer sign up Sunday, August 11. You can volunteer for an 1 hour or hang out with us the whole day. We will need a big group at the end to help bag and box up left over items to be picked up by the Reno Gospel Mission Saturday at 3:30.

Finally, I look forward to seeing everyone at our congregation meeting, Sunday, August 18 to review the year so far and look forward to winding up 2024.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Peace and Blessings,

Katie Torry Council President

























Photos by: Luke Merlino











