

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you so much for your thoughtful cards and gifts that you gave me during Pastor Appreciation Month. I am truly humbled by your expressions of thanks and thoughtfulness. I mentioned this in church the other day, but I am so grateful for the opportunity to do ministry with you. Having the opportunity to do ministry with you brings me great joy.

I was thinking the other day about the hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story" which is one of my favorites. The hymn reminds me that all of the different ministries we do are our ways of telling the story of Jesus and his love. For some of us we use our words, for some we knit and sew and give warmth to our neighbors who are cold. For some, we prepare and share food. For some, we write notes and make calls of encouragement. For some, we decorate our trunks and pass out candy. for some, we bring the candy. For some we teach children, some teach adults, some come excited to learn. There are so many ways that we tell the story of Jesus and all of them are important.

Later this month, you'll hear me talk more about this as we turn to a stewardship emphasis in worship, starting on November 10. The emphasis will conclude with what I call a Thank-Offering Service on November 24 where we will have an opportunity to offer our estimate of giving cards for 2025 and celebrate God's goodness to us with a special brunch hosted by our church council. As you know, our stewardship – the sharing of our time, talents and treasure is what makes it possible to do the ministries of our church.

You will hear more about all this as we get closer to November 24, but as we move through the month and start thinking about Thanksgiving, I encourage you to think about the things that you are thankful for. Be sure to check out the church Instagram and Facebook pages to see some ministries that I am thankful for as I will be trying to post regularly throughout the month to help us give God thanks for the privilege of being able to serve God as we serve one another and our community. If you have any stories of ministry that you'd like to share, please let me know. I love a good story, especially one that shares Jesus and his love for all!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Kathy

YOUTH NEWS

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Confirmation Class will be on November 19 at 4:30. Due to holidays and school schedules, we will only meet once in November.

Youth, if you are able to help with the Silver Sage Thanksgiving Dinner, please be sure to sign up on the sign-up sheets in the narthex.

This month we celebrate the First Communion of Kaia, Kelsie, Addison and Hazel! We are excited for the growth of faith in these young people!

YOUTH GROUP OUTING

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Let's go to the movies! Join us to come and see the Best Christmas Pageant Ever on Sunday afternoon, November 24. If you are interested in going, please sign up or contact Pastor Kathy. The story is about six siblings who sneak into a church for snacks and leave with the primary roles in the children's Christmas program. It's based on the classic, hilarious book. Time will be determined as we get closer to the date. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Kathy

JOIN US TO SEE A NEW MOVIE!

by Pastor Kathy Morris

The film by Angel Studios Inc., Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Spy, Assassin, inspired by the work of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a formidable Lutheran German theologian is showing locally in late November. He admonished Christians to stand in solidarity with the Jews. It is inspired by the true story of Bonhoeffer's courageous fight to preserve Germany's spirituality against the evil of the rising Third Reich. Bonhoeffer was hanged in a German prison camp in April 1945 for taking part in an assassination attempt on Adolph Hitler.

On Tuesday November 26 we are arranging a group to go and see it at The Summit Theater in So. Reno. We are looking at a 12:15 or 3:30pm showing. If you are interested in going, please sign up in the narthex with your name and email and we will let you know the time and cost. We will also have some time for discussion following the movie. Tickets prices vary between \$10-15 dollars, but let Pastor Kathy know if you need financial assistance. We would like to reserve our tickets soon, so please sign up by November 10.

MID-WEEK COMMUNION OPPORTUNITY

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Realizing that there are some in our community who have difficulty joining us for morning worship services, we are

going to begin a monthly mid-week short communion service on the first Wednesday of the month at 1pm. The short service will consist of confession and forgiveness, a Bible reading, prayers and the sharing of communion. Our first gathering time will be Wednesday, November 6 at 1pm. Everyone is welcome!









YOU CAN HELP THE FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY BY DONATING UNEXPIRED

8

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD! YOUR DONATIONS TRULY MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND ARE APPRECIATED.





<u>Shared Harvest</u>





We are looking to collect the following items: (28) Cereal (42) Canned Fruit (42) Chicken Noodle Soup (42) Tuna



We're excited to announce this month's Shared Harvest meeting, taking place at Faith Lutheran Church, located at 2075 W 7th, Reno, NV 89503. See Peggy Ince for more information.





SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

by Linda Schlosser

Service

Please watch for the Giving Tree. It will be up in the narthex from November 3 through November 17 as the Turkey Tree for monetary donations to be distributed to Pine Middle School and Smithridge Stem Academy (both schools are right in our neighborhood).

In December the Turkey tree becomes an Angel Tree November 24 – December 15. We will be supporting 4 families from Smithridge once again this year. You will see requests for toys, clothing, books, and gift cards. Take an angel off the tree, purchase the gift, and return the wrapped present with the angel gently attached on Sunday, December 15.

We thank you in advance for your continued support of these projects.

Fellowship

We all enjoyed delicious food and fellowship at the Oktoberfest. Thank you to everyone who attended, provided food, and helped with the set-up and clean-up.

Ladies Advent Tea – December 8 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Once again, we will need a hostess for each table. Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex soon.



ADVENT CRAFTS AND DINNER

By Connie Barnhart

Happy November Everyone,

Coming next month on Wednesday evenings during Advent we are going to try something new this year. We will be having intergenerational Advent Crafts and dinner. We will be making a family wreath (1 per family). Supplies will be provided. Advent Rock Painting, and if there is extra time on the 3rd Wednesday, we will have an extra small craft. We'll be doing Potluck, Pizza, BYO (Bring your own), for dinner during that time. Lookout for details as they will be out in the upcoming weeks! Please plan to attend this wonderful time of fellowship as we prepare for the celebration of the Birth of Christ!

With Peace and friendship, Connie Barnhart



THE CHOSEN

by Pastor Kathy Morris



"The Chosen" Bible Study will meet on Tuesday November 19 and Tuesday, December 3 to finish up season 3. We will resume after the new year to watch season 4. Join us at 6:15 pm to watch and discuss the story of the disciples.

MONDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY IS MOVING TO A NEW TIME!

Join us Mondays, November 18 and November 25 at 4:00pm on Zoom as we look at the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday. Our new link is:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85131805610?pwd=i0m8UFDU0HCyhDIGHvHBRhW0rKBT2a.1

OR Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) Meeting ID: 851 3180 5610 Passcode: 235170 Please let Pastor Kathy know if you have any questions.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

By Becky Bradley

Wednesday Bible Study is studying Deuteronomy, but also learning about the ancient culture of the area as well as the differences in Hebrew logic compared to our more Greek-influenced logic and timelines of the western world. Makes for interesting discussions as we continue to peel off layers of the onion and get a deeper understanding of our faith.

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 <u>beckyb485@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: # Meeting ID: 896 3300 9098 Passcode: 050344

MUSIC NEWS

By Becky Bradley

Can you believe it's November already? The music program is moving at warp speed to prepare Christmas music. If you are not able to make a full year commitment but would like to join our team (singing or instrumentals) during this special season, please talk to Brittney or Becky about options. There's always a place for you!

ADVENT CRAFTS AND DINNER

By Connie Barnhart

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With Peace and friendship,

Connie Barnhart

CLOSE KNIT FRIENDS

By Peggy Whitney

This month **Close Knit Friends** will finish collecting and distributing hand knitted and crochet hats, scarves, blankets and other items of warmth and comfort to local organizations. We gather on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, <u>November 11 and November 25 at 1pm</u>. Our aim is to be sure our neighbors in need are ready for the cooler temperatures. We will accept clean and gently used items for school age children, teens and adults. Blankets should be no larger than twin size. Many of these items go to homeless individuals and families. This means some live in cars, motel rooms, or other buildings with limited heating sources and bedding. Many can only carry their belongings. For more information, please contact Peggy Whitney.

We are thankful for the partnership with Holy Cross Lutheran Church. We enjoy the facility to gather, the closet space to store our supplies and the opportunity to display a sample of our work in the Fellowship Hall. We appreciate the offers to participate in Artown Quilt and Music Show, the Blessing of the Quilts, and providing the crochet Octopus for Preemies to the local hospitals. We invite you to join us to learn to knit or crochet, provide washable yarn, donate gently used items of warmth and comfort when extra are needed, and prayers for our mission work to continue.

Close Knit Friends has received a request from the *Women and Children's Center of the Sierra* for larger size blankets up to size Twin/single beds. The local organization has seen an increase in homelessness and families struggling in poverty. New or clean gently used blankets are acceptable. Donations can be dropped in the box by the Close Knit Friends' display ladder in the Fellowship Hall during the month of November. Thank you!

Happy Thanksgiving to all from Close Knit Friends!

QUILT GROUP NEWS

By Diane Torry

Our "Quilt Year" ended in September and we delivered quilts in early October. We have completed and given away 330 quilts this year. A record year.

We delivered to nine local community agencies: Children's Cabinet, Washoe County School District Children in Transition, Circle of Life Hospice, Veterans in Transitions, Summit Assisted Living, Hosanna Home, Ronald McDonald House, Empowerment Center, Women and Children's Center of the Sierra and the Lutheran World Relief Ingathering in Cupertino, and members and friends of Holy Cross. In December we will deliver our baby quilts to the Renown Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit.

Here are some of the letters of appreciation we have received: From the Women and Children's Center: "We are so grateful to be a partner with you and be able to provide your beautiful quilts to those who need them most."; from the Children's Cabinet: "We are so thankful to have community partners like you to help provide quilts to our clients and their families for more than 17 years. You are instrumental in supporting the Children's Cabinet's ability to fulfill an important mission: to keep children safe and families together"; from Veterans in Transition: "our sincere appreciation for your quilts for indigent Veterans, it is through the efforts of community partners like you that allow us to continue the quality care and services we seek to provide for our deserving Veterans" and from WCSD Children in Transition: "our families, mothers and children appreciate these quilts. Your quilts are such a blessing to our community. Thank you." We have also heard from Lutheran World Relief that LWR quilts are being distributed to those impacted by Hurricane Helene.

We are working to complete over 50 baby quilts for the Renown NICU –to be delivered the first week in December. We plan to have a small quilt "show" to display the quilts on November 24, and then these small quilts will be blessed at the Dec. 1 Worship Services, before they are delivered.

Please come join us—we are in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday. All are welcome to join in the work, fun and fellowship. We are blessed to be a blessing.



If you take pictures at one of our events, we'd love to see them! Please forward your photos to Pastor Kathy at <u>pastorhclcreno@gmail.com</u> or Lanai at <u>holycrossreno@gmail.com</u>. Your contributions help us capture and share the memories of our gatherings!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR & COOKIE EXCHANCE

Donations to benefit our Helping Hands fund which is used for our church family and neighbors who need a small helping hand

> 4895 S MCCARRAN BLVD., RENO, NV 89502 775-827-4822 HOLYCROSSRENO.ORG HOLYCROSSRENO@GMAIL.COM

CROSSROADS NOVEMBER 2024

NOVEMBER

17th

10:00 A



Set-up on Sunday, November 17th starting at 8 am

Cost: Suggested donation of \$25.00 per table (72 x 30 inches), 2 tables \$40.00. Extra donations always gratefully accepted. Please send table fee donation to Holy Cross Lutheran Church before **November 17th**.

<u>Cookie Exchange</u>: Please bring 2 dozen homemade cookies and then you can purchase a dozen assorted cookies for \$20.00 or 6 cookies for \$10.00. Please label with name of cookie and if they contain nuts or not. To-go containers will be provided.

These donations will be designated for the music program at HCLC.

4895 S MCCARRAN BLVD., RENO, NV 89502 775-827-4822 HOLYCROSSRENO.ORG HOLYCROSSRENO@GMAIL.COM

COUNCIL REPORT

Hello Holy, Cross Family,

We have started our busy season at Holy Cross with a bang!

Our first event for October was Oktoberfest! Brats and beer were enjoyed by all, with many members staying after church to celebrate.

The next event was the Church Clean Day. Our church was cleaned by many volunteers on the 19 th of October. The church looks fabulous! Thank you to everyone that volunteered.

Our Trunk-or-Treat was a huge success with over 250 people participating from our local community. We had a total of 13 trunks. We also had special guest appearances by Darth Vader, R2D2, a storm trooper and the bounty hunter Boushh. A great time was had by all. Thank you to all the volunteers that made this happen!

Our youth at Holy Cross helped Jan Looney make fall banners for the entrance way into the church. They should be hung in the next week.

We are also hosting a family art night with spaghetti dinner on Saturday, November 16 from 5-8 pm. Please plan on joining us for this event.

Coming Sunday, November 17 is our cookie exchange and mini craft fair. If you are a crafter and would like to rent a table for \$25 please let Pastor Kathy or Lani Moss know. More details on this event are coming.

Please take time this month to find or practice random acts of kindness in celebration of God's goodness.

Peace and Blessing,

Katie Torry Council President









NOVEMBER 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
27	28	29	30	1	1 5 pm 1st Communion Class 7:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero	2		
³ 8 am Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	4 6 pm High Desert Harmony	5 4:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm Casa Del Alfarero	6 1:30 pm Bible Study 2:30 pm Community Fellowship	7 9 am Quilting	8 7:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero	9		
10 8 am Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10:30 am Worship/Godly Play	11 1 pm Close Knit Friends 4 pm Zoom Study 6 pm High Desert Harmony	12 5:45 pm Council Meeting 7 pm Casa Del Alfarero	13 1:30 pm Bible Study	14 9 am Quilting	15 7:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero	16 5 pm Spaghetti Dinner & Craft Night		
17 8 am Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10 am Craft Fair/Cookie Excha 10:30 am Worship/Godly Play	18 4 pm Zoom Study 6 pm High Desert Harmony	19 4:30 pm Confirmation Class 6:15 pm Chosen Study 7 pm Casa Del Alfarero	20 12 pm Senior Lunch 1:30 pm Bible Study	21 9 am Quilting	22 7:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero	23	5	
24 8 am Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10:30 am Worship/Godly Play Youth Movie Day	25 1 pm Close Knit Friends 4 pm Zoom Study 6 pm High Desert Harmony	26 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:15 pm Chosen Study 7 pm Casa Del Alfarero	27	28 Closed for Thanksgiving	29 Closed for Thanksgiving 7:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero	30 3:30 pm Silver Sage Thanksgiving Dinner		
Every Sunday 1 pm Siasi Tonga Houeiki & 5:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero								