

Dear Friends,

I'm not sure if you noticed it or not, but September was a really busy month. I told you at the start of September that we were going to be doing "God's Work with Our Hands" all month long and I wasn't kidding. Some of my highlights included:

- Working with our ELCA churches to offer grace, support and love to people at the Pride Festival.
- Welcoming so many people from our community at the Rummage Sale.
- The youth outing to Six Flags, where yes, I really did baptize one of our youth on the water ride. (We'll be celebrating that as a congregation with her soon!)
- Sharing our Godly Play Training with our friends at Faith Lutheran Church.
- Praying with so many of you for our friends who had to evacuate their homes due to the Davis Fires. We rejoiced
  with them as their houses were spared, and we continue to offer our support and care with those who have lost their
  homes and are displaced due to fire.
- Blessing over 200 quilts, blankets and other knitted and crocheted items in worship.
- Learning more about the needs at the new apartments across the street from us at Marvel Way and thinking about new connections we can make.
- Getting to know incoming new members through our connection lunch.
- Sharing worship and fellowship with so many of you.

As busy as it was, I'm looking forward to more fall fun in October as we help young people get ready to receive communion, do a deep clean of the church, eat way too much food at Oktoberfest, celebrate baptisms and Reformation Sunday, visiting with people and trying to think of something creative for my trunk this year as we prepare for Trunk or Treat.

I recently saw a t-shirt that asked the question: Are you Fallow-een Jesus? (Get it... Fallow-een – like Halloween?) I know, bad joke... go ahead and roll your eyes. But I'm remembering that as busy as it might feel, this is all part of the ministry that Jesus has called us to do in this place and in this time. Happy Fall, Ya'all – that season where we enjoy pumpkin spice and Jesus Christ.

Love in Christ, Pastor Kathy

#### **YOUTH NEWS**

by Pastor Kathy Morris

We had an amazing trip to Six Flags in Vallejo and are already looking forward to going again next year!

Coming up in October, we are going to be working with Jan Looney on some special projects to complement the church's welcome mural. We'll gather after the 10:30 service on October 20, have some lunch and then we'll get to work on our projects and play some games as well.

Save the date for November! We're going to the movies on November 24 to see *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever...* a new movie based on a classic book! (It's a favorite of Pastor Kathy's.) Keep alert for details!

Confirmation Classes will be meeting on October 1 and 15 at 4:30! We will be talking about the 10 Commandments.

#### FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

by Pastor Kathy Morris

We'll be offering First Communion classes for kids and young people who want to learn more about the gift of Holy Communion. We'll have two sessions on Fridays, October 25 and November 1 at 5pm. Please let Pastor Kathy know if your child will be attending.

## Baptized at Six Flags



#### TRUNK OR TREAT

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Be sure to join us for Trunk or Treat on Thursday, October 24 from 5:30-7pm (? – Is that the time we landed on?). We would love to volunteers decorate their trunks (In a family friendly way) and share candy and treats with the neighborhood kids who come. We also could use some help in the kitchen serving food to our guests and bringing candy and treats to share with the kids. If you can help, please sign up or let Lanai know. If you want to join the fun, but aren't able to help, just come and bring the kids in your family! Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors!



#### **COMING IN NOVEMBER!**

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Looking ahead to November, we'll be gearing up for our annual Stewardship Campaign, where we'll be focusing on "Being Blessed to Bless." Plan to join us for a church family (all generations) kick-off art night and spaghetti dinner on November 9 as well as a Thank offering Brunch after services on November 24.

November 16 will be our cookie exchange as well as a mini craft fair, so if you have crafts to sell and share, please talk with Lani Moss or Katie Torry to sign up for a table. Tables will be \$25 dollars. More details will be coming soon!







YOU CAN HELP THE FAMILIES IN OUR
COMMUNITY BY DONATING
UNEXPIRED

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



# Six Flags 2024















#### SERVICE/FELLOWSHIP NEWS

by Linda Schlosser

#### Service

It's getting to be that busy time of the year again! 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). The tree will change to an Angel Tree from 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.

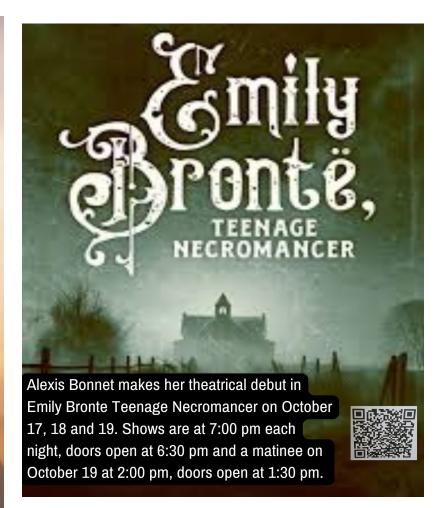
We thank you in advance for your continued support of these projects.

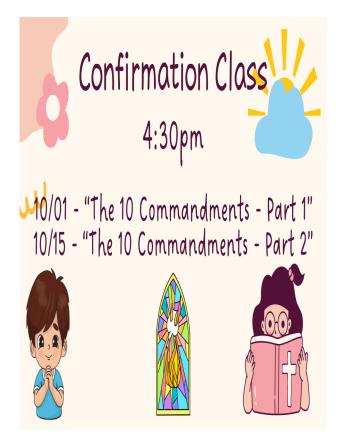
#### **Fellowship**

Oktoberfest is on October 6 following the second service! Brats, hot dogs, and music will be provided. Please let us know if you plan to attend by signing up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Also, please sign up to bring a side dish of your choice – beer, salad, dessert or a vegetable or fruit side dish to share.

Ladies, mark your calendar for the Advent Tea – on 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.









#### THE CHOSEN

by Pastor Kathy Morris



The Chosen Viewing and Discussion Group will be meeting on Tuesdays, October 1, 15, 22 and 29 at 6:15. We will continue watching season three. All are invited to come and join us. It's been a really interesting opportunity to think about what life might have been like for Jesus' disciples.

#### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

By Becky Bradley

Wednesday Bible Study is heading to the end of the ride with Moses and his teachings in Deuteronomy. We are really understanding more of the culture of the early nation of Israel on the verge of entering the Promised Land. You can join the class at any time.

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 <a href="mailto:becky-

Here is the Zoom information in case you need to join remotely:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUExQRVY5elBXbHJ4dz09

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

The Music Program is gearing has started working on our fall selections, which include the themes of Thanksgiving and Stewardship selections. So many wonderful songs it's hard to choose! On Sunday 10/6, the choir is looking forward to providing the special at the 1030am service, and then Oktoberfest afterwards! Believe it or not, we'll soon be starting work on our Advent and Christmas music - where does the time go?



#### PRIDE EVENT

By Katie Torry

The Pride Event happened Saturday, September 7. It was a great day meeting fellow ELCA Lutherans from our area churches and showing God's love for everyone.

Natalie Tegio hosted a face painting booth. We handed out flyers about all our churches and had other give aways at our booth.

We met our neighbors during the day by handing out water, flyers and trinkets.

This event is important in our faith walk with Jesus. It also puts our Welcoming and Affirming Statement into action.

Thank you to all the members of Holy Cross who participated during this event!















#### **CLOSE KNIT FRIENDS**

By Peggy Whitney

After a busy September, **Close Knit Friends** continue knitting and crocheting hats, scarves, shawls, and blankets for local organizations helping individuals and families facing life challenges. This month our projects focus on the *Ronald McDonald House*, and *AWAKEN*. Join us on <u>Monday, October 14 & 28 at 1pm</u>. All skill levels are welcome or drop off finished projects that you work on at home. We also accept new store bought hats, scarves, shawls, and blankets for all ages OR clean, gently used items. PLEASE NO WOOL!! For more information please contact Peggy Whitney at 775-622-0128.

#### **QUILT GROUP NEWS**

By Diane Torry

In September we "wrapped up our "Quilt Year". On Sunday, September 29 we blessed our quilts, the Sanctuary was a rainbow of color, art, and caring. This year Holy Cross Quilters are giving away more than 305 quilts. Since the quilt group began eighteen years ago, we have given away over 2,000 quilts!!

The "fun begins when we distribute our quilts, locally to Veterans in Transition—for Veterans getting established in their own homes, Washoe County School District, Children in Transition—helping homeless students in our School District; Ronald McDonald House—supporting families of children who are hospitalized; Hosana Home -helping women regain their lives; and the Children's Cabinet—helping children in our community, Women's Children Center of the Sierra, helping women and children move from poverty to self-sufficiency, the Empowerment Center helping women recovery from addiction, Circle of Life Hospice, Renown Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit and through Lutheran World Relief, we send our quilts to our brothers and sisters in need around the world. We also are blessed to provide a comforting quilt to congregation members, friends and neighbors in need of a warm quilt, support and comfort.

Thank you to everyone who participates and supports the Quilt Group's outreach ministry of Holy Cross. A special thank you to Pastor Kathy for delivering our guilts to the LWR In Gathering in California

We dedicate our quilts to Christ's service, trusting that Christ's love will go wherever each quilt is sent, making it more than just a piece of material, making each quilt we have created an expression of love.

During October and November, we will be working on 24-inch small quilts that we will give to the Renown Neo Natal Intensive Care Units for babies who are in the NICU units over the Holiday season.

Thank you to everyone who participates and supports in the Quilt Groups outreach ministry of Holy Cross. We are blessed to be a blessing. Thanks be to God.

Come join us---all are welcome!



#### **COUNCIL REPORT**

Dear Holy Cross Members,

HAPPY FALL Y'ALL! I love the change of seasons both in nature and in the church.

Your council had a busy meeting after an inspiring devotion by Jan Looney.

We reviewed our big activities in September. The Pride Event was our first activity in September. We shared the booth with the other ELCA churches in Reno and Sparks. We shared the Good News with many people by showing God's love for everyone in all aspects of life.

The second big event was our Annual Rummage Sale. Lots of treasures were shared with our neighbors. We were able to help so many people with needed items that it again showed God's love for everyone.

We then moved on new items. We will be hosting a cookie exchange and going to add a mini craft fair. If you are crafter that would like to sell your crafts, please let Pastor or me know. This will be happening in November.

We also reviewed finance committees report. Thrivent Bank approved our request to reduce the rate of our loan by .25% at the November interest rate reset. We are also beginning the 2025 Budget Cycle has started. Committees will be sent a request for 2025 budget needs.

As we move into a busy season at church, please remember to take time to admire God's creation and goodness.

Peace and Blessing,
Katie Torry
Council President



#### **MARVEL WAY COMPLEX**

By Peggy Whitney

To the south of Holy Cross Lutheran Church stands the Marvel Way Complex containing 42 units of affordable, sober living apartments for individuals and families. All facing the challenges of homelessness, financial challenges, and recovery from alcohol, drug abuse and domestic violence. Eighty percent of the residents are referred by local treatment centers. Next Spring, 46 more units will be available to a waiting list of 150 future residents. Twelve members of Close Knit Friends and the Holy Cross Quilters toured the clean, quiet, and simply decorated facility with Yvette Myers, director of Community Development with The Empowerment Center on September 23. "The Marvel Way Complex is the first of its kind in Nevada modeled after affordable, recovery focused housing projects in other states. The complex provides all utilities, on-site support services, twelve-step meetings, and a sober environment offering residents the best opportunity for long-term success. "There are six (2) bedroom units, 1 bedroom units and studios. Currently 25 children live there with their parent(s). Some of the residents are working, some are disabled, and many have no cars. There is a food pantry on Mondays. There is a housing director, Richard, and a maintenance manager, Isaac along with 2 UNR social work interns. In the future, The Empowerment Center currently located on S. Virginia Street will build a new center on 2 acres across the Marvel Way Complex. It will house 83 women and bring their offices and on-site services under one roof and close by.

Close Knit Friends and the Holy Cross Quilters brought back ideas on ways Holy Cross Lutheran Church can offer encouragement, friendship, and support to our new neighbors. We will be in discussion with Pastor Kathy, the Church council, and the Service Committee. Currently the Marvel Way staff are looking for a couple of queen size mattresses/beds for tenants that just moved in, a couple small dressers, and a small kitchen table. Many residents come with nothing! Since many do not drive, bikes are welcome. Welcome baskets with cleaning and laundry supplies, quilts, blankets, linens (all in good condition!!) accepted and **please call** Richard Brown 775-507-3010 OR Yvette Myers, 775-853-5441. Tours of the facility are welcome but please schedule. Pastor Kathy/Lanai will be sending flyers of upcoming events and future newsletters to invite the residents to worship, fellowship, and participate.

More information can be found at <u>marvelway.com</u> OR <u>empowermentcenternv.org</u>

### Free Shred Day

Clear the Clutter, Protect Your Privacy!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
PLUMB LANE BRANCH | RENO, NV



Free Document Shredding Up To Three Boxes. It's time to clean out those old papers and sensitive documents! Protect your privacy and prevent identity theft by bringing your unwanted documents to our Fall Shred Day. Watch them get shredded into oblivion and give yourself peace of mind!

What to Bring:
Bank statements
Old tax documents
Medical records
Credit card statements
Utility bills
Anything with sensitive information

#### Why You Should Shred:

Properly shredding documents that contain personal information is essential in protecting yourself from identity theft. Don't leave your private data vulnerable—safeguard your information by shredding it securely!

Friday, October 4, 2024 10am to 2pm Plumb Lane Branch 1296 E Plumb Lane Reno, NV 89502

We'll shred your documents for free, but we greatly appreciate donations to the SPCA of Northern Nevada, which will be on site collecting them. They can accept cash and pet food donations.

To manage potential wait times, please limit your number of boxes or bags to a maximum of three per car. Boxes may be no larger than 26"L x 15"W x 14"H (or about the size of a 21-gallon tote). No boxes or containers of any kind may be left behind. All persons participating in shredding services are required to remain with their items. No dropping off of items is allowed. Electronics, ink cartridges, and cardboard will not be





# OCTOBER 2024

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	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	H	FRI	SAT
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	6 OKATOBERTASOT 8 am Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10:30 am Worship/Godly Pla	7 6 pm High Desert Harmony	8 5:45 pm Council 7 pm Casa Del Alfarero	9 1:30 pm Bible Study	10 9 am Quilting Group	11 7:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero	12
	8 am Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am Godly Play	14 1 pm Close Knit Friends 6 pm High Desert Harmony	15 4:30 pm Confirmation Class 6:30 pm Chosen Study 7 pm Casa Del Alfarero	16 12 pm Senior Lunch 1:30 pm Bible Study	17 9 am Quilting Group	18 7:30 pm Casa Del Alfarero	19 <b>CHURCH CLEANING DAN</b>
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