

The background of the header features a photograph of a church interior. In the center, a wooden altar is visible with a small floral arrangement and two lit candles. Above the altar, a large wooden cross is mounted on the wall. On either side of the altar, there are tall, narrow stained glass windows with abstract designs in shades of blue, green, and white.

AUGUST 2025

CROSSROADS

Official Newsletter of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

This month we mark a milestone. We have been blessed for ten years with the amazing music ministry and leadership of our Music Director, Brittney May and our accompanist, Becky Bradley. When I arrived here, they had things running so smoothly, I actually wondered why I was in the worship planning meeting! The first Christmas I was here, I had no idea how amazing the Christmas Eve service would be under Brittney's vision and each year, she brings more. The joy in her face when she leads the choir and the humor and good nature she holds even when she's stressed inspires me.

Becky also is an amazing organist and pianist and it is clear that she, too loves what she does. She is always prepared and she's always ready to help. One of the things that I appreciate most is her attention to detail. She faithfully proofreads the bulletin and the power points each week and often picks up on things I miss. She schedules and reminds and emails and keeps Brittney and I on track (not an easy task some days). In addition to working in our music department, she faithfully leads the Wednesday afternoon Bible study and spends a lot of time preparing so thoroughly.

In 2020, when we had to shut down, Brittney and Becky pivoted so well to our online recording schedule and Michael Tegio made it work so seamlessly and while that time in ministry was hard, there was never hesitation. Their support and encouragement to me personally in some hard times meant the world to me and I am so grateful for their friendship and for the gift they share with all of us in so many ways.

It's summer, so they take turns leading worship, and we're actually not going to celebrate their anniversary until the fall (September 28 to be exact). But, if you get a chance, be sure to wish them a Happy 10 Year Anniversary and be sure to thank them for the gifts they so lovingly share with us each week!

Love in Christ, Pastor Kathy

Youth News

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Youth Group (6-12 Grades). Join us after church on August 24 as we will be going miniature golfing! Sign up with Pastor Kathy to let her know you're coming!

We can use some help on Thursday afternoon, September 18 to set up for the Rummage Sale and Saturday, September 20. If you are able to help, please let Pastor Kathy know.

Back by popular request, we are heading to SIX FLAGS in Vallejo on Saturday, September 27. Sign up if you are interested in coming!

Confirmation Class Parent Meeting

by Pastor Kathy Morris

For Parents of Middle School kids: Join Pastor Kathy after church on August 10 for a short conversation about confirmation classes! We'll talk a little about what it is, what we'll be learning and we'll look at schedules to find out when we're meeting.

Blessing of the Backpacks

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Students, Teachers, School Administrators! Be sure to join us on Sunday, August 10 at 9:30 for our Annual Blessing of the Backpacks! We will have special prayers over students and adult as we prepare to go back to school!

Other Announcements

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Thank you to all those who worked so hard putting together the Artown Concert and Quilt Show! We had over 200 people join us for a fun afternoon.

Senior Games is Tuesday, August 5 at 1:30! Join us for some fun and games and fellowship!

Our Mid-Week Communion Service is Wednesday, August 13 at 1pm.

Senior Lunch is on break and will resume on September 17th.

Artown Quilt Show & Live Music

If you weren't able to attend, we had a wonderful show yesterday. Steady stream of visitors to see the beautiful quilts on display. We had quite a few vintage quilts this year, and I heard lots of comments about them. We sure appreciated everyone's help collecting quilts to display, setting up, manning the show, and taking down everything. It's a lot of work, but well worth the effort, and it does only happen once a year. We sold out all our "squares" for the raffle quilt. They sold wonderfully well this year and very quickly.

Winners of the favorite category:

1st place: by Kathy Berndt - Van Gogh Doilies and Stars

2nd place: Lani Moss' - Grandmother's Flower Garden

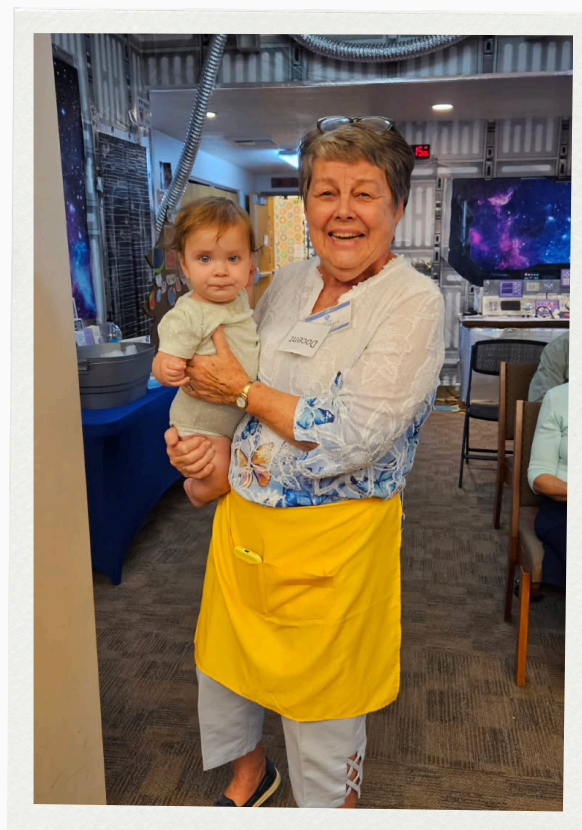
3rd place: Karen Burbach's - Rainbow Scrap Long Cabin

Community Outreach Quilt: Winner: Margaret Johnson - The Quilt of Valor

Children's Quilt: Tie for winner: Quilt with kitties in the center surrounded by different colored blocks and strips (hanging) Flannel 6" colorful blocks to the right of the kitty quilt (hanging) Made by Emelda of Pastor Rubio's congregation.

The music side of the show was incredible also, very well attended. I think our Artown venue is very much appreciated since it's away from downtown with easy parking.

Thanks again, Everyone, for a job well done.



Senior Socializing & Games



**Join us for some fun,
games, and fellowship!**

August 5, 2025

1:30 - 2:30 pm

**1st Tuesday
of every month**

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

RUMMAGE SALE

**Small appliances, clothes, books, furniture, shoes, pots and pans,
dinnerware, glassware, bikes, blankets, just to name a few.**

Want to donate? Drop your treasures off at the church beginning September 1st.

**We cannot accept beds, box springs, TV's, baby cribs, car seats, large
appliances, or exercise equipment.**



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www.holycrossreno.org - holycrossreno@gmail.com

Bible Study News

by Becky Bradley

Join us Monday afternoons at 4:00 PM on Zoom for our weekly Lectionary Study. Pastor leads us through the upcoming Sunday readings, offering time for deeper discussion and reflection. If you need the Zoom link, please reach out to Pastor or Becky. All are welcome!

Wednesday Bible Study is starting a study of I Samuel. The Israelites think having a physical king will stop their downward spiral into lawlessness and immorality. Wait, I thought God was supposed to be their King - they've obviously lost focus. Come see the rise of King Saul and King David in our study.

Join us either in the Fellowship Hall or by Zoom, every Wednesday, 1:30 pm - 2:40 pm. Contact Becky at 775-360-0553 or bekyb485@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>

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 # above.

Service Committee News

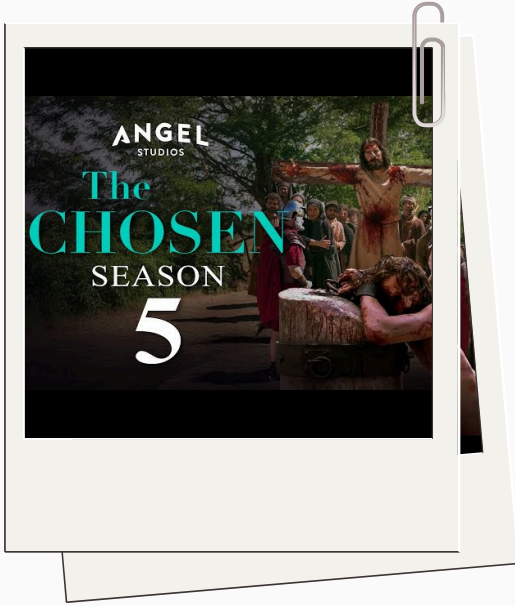
by Linda Schlosser

During the summer months (June 29-August 3) we are collecting new underwear and socks for men, women, and children. These items will be distributed to nonprofit groups in our community.

The graphic features a top section with a photograph of three memorial pavers set into a brick path. The pavers are engraved with the following text: 'IN MEMORY OF CORNIE & LUIS JOHNSON', 'IN MEMORY OF JIM & DEAN GONYOU', and 'IN MEMORY OF ED GONYOU 8/24/50 - 5/11/21'. Below the photo, the text 'Memorial Garden Pavers' is displayed in a blue serif font, enclosed within a decorative blue diamond-shaped frame. To the right of the frame, a paragraph of text provides instructions: 'Forms for memorial bricks must be completed and submitted by September 28 to ensure engraving and placement before All Saints Sunday. For questions or to pick up a form, please see Paula Featherstone or Lanai in the church office.' The entire graphic is decorated with stylized blue and orange floral illustrations at the top and bottom.

The Chosen Bible Study Returns on August 26!

by Pastor Kathy Morris



We'll meet Tuesday nights at 6pm to watch Season Five: Last Supper. We won't be meeting on the second Tuesday of the month due to the church council meeting. We'll start back August 26 and watch an episode a week and have discussion afterward. If you haven't joined us before and want to come, please do, we will catch you up, and chances are, we're at a part of the story of Jesus that's familiar to you. The dramatic portrayal of Jesus and his disciples is thought-provoking and our discussion is always interesting!

Health & Wellness Committee News

by Lani Moss

What is High Blood Pressure?

Did you know that nearly half of Americans over age 20 has high blood pressure (HBP)? High blood pressure is defined as blood pressure over 130/80.

Not treating HBP is dangerous. It increases your risk of heart attack and stroke. HBP usually has no signs or symptoms. Please make sure to get your blood pressure checked regularly. For proper diagnosis of HBP, your health care professional will use an average based on two or more readings taken on two or more visits.

Some risk factors for high blood pressure you can control and some you can't control. The risk factors that you can control include: cigarette smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke, diabetes, being obese or overweight, high cholesterol, diets high in sodium, low in potassium, drinking too much alcohol, and physical inactivity.

There are many things you can do to control HBP, but getting screened is the first step.

Respectfully submitted, Your Health and Wellness Committee HCLC

References: American Heart Association



August Birthdays

Pat Schlosser - 8/06

Jean Bye - 8/11

Connie Barnhart - 8/12

Diane Torry - 8/14

Pat Clem - 8/21

²⁴ The Lord bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

45TH ANNIVERSARY

Did you know Holy Cross will be celebrating its
45th anniversary this September?

We're planning a special celebration on

Sunday, September 14th,

with one worship service followed by food and fellowship.

We're looking for volunteers to help with the planning—if you're interested, please let Pastor Kathy know as soon as possible.



Fellowship Committee News

by Linda Schlosser

We wanted to share a quick update about the Annual Advent Tea. This December, our committee decided to take a break from hosting the tea, as the holiday season is always full of so many wonderful (and busy) activities. We are hoping to hold a special ladies tea in the spring. Thank you so much for all the love and support you've shown for this event over the years. As always, feel free to share any thoughts or ideas with us.

Service Committee meets August 12 at 10:00 a.m.

Music News

by Becky Bradley

Wow! Super job at Artown from everybody! All the reports look great, and I know the choir had fun doing their part of the program. Fun and quality - great combination!

Summer is here, and with it comes a beautiful opportunity to enrich our worship services with the unique gifts God has given each of us. Whether you sing, play an instrument, dance, act, or have a creative expression you'd love to share, we want you to be part of our Summer Worship Specials.

You do not need to be a regular member of the music program to participate—just a willing heart and a desire to glorify God through your talent. This is your moment to shine and bless the congregation in a powerful and meaningful way.

If you're interested, or even just curious about how you might get involved, please reach out to Brittney or Becky. We're excited to see how God will use the gifts of His people this summer!



Join Us at the Pride Parade

by Katie Torry & Eric Gieseke

We are excited to announce that our congregation will be participating in the Pride Parade on September 6, joining with other ELCA Lutheran congregations in a celebration of love, inclusion, and community. Together, we will host a booth featuring fun giveaways, face painting, and information about our congregations.

We invite you to be part of this joyful event by signing up to help at the booth or simply stopping by to show your support and connect with others. This is a wonderful opportunity to share our message of welcome and affirming faith with the broader community.

Bring your family and friends and encourage them to visit our booth! A volunteer sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. We look forward to seeing you there!

Supporting Aging Seniors: Hospice Care & Memorial/Funeral Planning

by Diane Torry

This one-day program is offered on Saturday, August 23, 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall at Holy Cross.

Supporting Aging Seniors is a program designed for seniors, their families, and support networks to learn about and explore the challenges and issues that often come with aging.

In this session, we will learn about the services provided by hospice care as we approach the final stages of life, as well as how to plan for memorial or funeral services. A representative from a hospice organization will be joining us as a guest speaker, and our own Pastor Kathy will lead a discussion on memorial and funeral planning.

It's human nature to put off or avoid life's difficult decisions, especially when it comes to aging. Conversations between parents and adult children—or between seniors and their loved ones—are often delayed or avoided altogether. In the worst cases, no discussions or plans are made until a crisis occurs. Our Senior Transition Programs offer a safe and welcoming space to learn about and openly discuss the challenges of aging before a crisis arises.

You are welcome to attend on your own or with your adult children or support network—and feel free to invite friends to join you. Brochures and flyers about the program are available in the Narthex or by contacting the church office.

To register, contact Lanai in the Church Office at holycrossreno@gmail.com, reach out to Program Coordinator Diane Torry at dbtorry@att.net, or simply sign up on the sheet located in the Narthex.



presents

HARMONY IN THE PARK

A CELEBRATION OF BARBERSHOP HARMONY

FEATURING 2014 Sweet Adelines International
Queens of Harmony: LOVE NOTES QUARTET

SUNDAY, AUG. 17, 2025

1:30 – 2:00 PM INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

2:00 PM SHOW

This FREE performance is made possible with generous support
from the Reno Arts and Culture Commission.

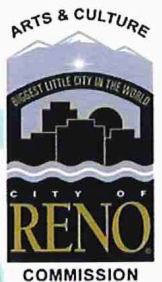
California Building | Idlewild Park, Reno NV



HIGH DESERT HARMONY CHORUS



LOVE NOTES QUARTET



Close Knit Friends News

by Peggy Whitney

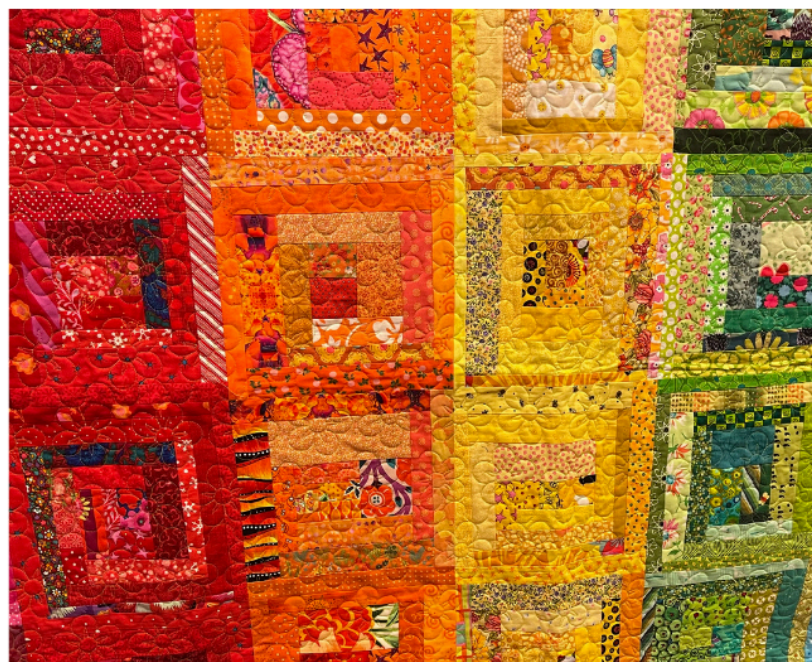
Last month was busy for Close Knit Friends with guest speakers and ARTOWN. We gave over 70 hand knitted and crochet items of warmth and comfort to the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra and Junella Zuniga, Executive Director. There is more information about WACCS in this newsletter. Chelsea Benson, Women Veterans Program Manager also visited and gave updates about women veterans. Close Knit Friends is working on shawls for them. We also participated in the Quilt and Music Show and thank everyone who stopped by to see our colorful exhibit. What a great experience!

This month guest speakers from local non-profit or community organizations will share information about individuals and families in need. Yvette Myers from The Empowerment Center and Marvel Way Complex will visit on Monday, August 11 at 1:30pm. They provide an intensive treatment program, with safe and sober housing, in-house and external support services for recovering addicts and alcoholics. "Sometimes all we need is a little support wrapped in a second chance." On Monday, August 25 at 1:30pm, Brooke Westfield will update us on the Ronald McDonald House where families stay while their children receive medical care at local hospitals. The congregations and friends are welcome to join Close Knit Friends to hear from these two speakers.

All levels of knitters and crocheters are welcome to join Close Knit Friends on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month from 1-2:30pm. We have projects for beginners and those with more experience. Yarn is available for all our mission work and finished projects stay local. In a recent sermon, Pastor Kathy asked, "Who is My Neighbor?". This summer Close Knit Friends is finding out about individuals and families, babies, children, and adults struggling with day to day challenges. Sexual exploitation, domestic violence, addiction, hospitalization, and poverty are a few of those challenges right around the corner from Holy Cross Lutheran Church and in Reno. The white basket by our display ladder in Fellowship Hall has information about the local organizations who offer assistance to our neighbors in need. If you would like to join us in our efforts to provide hats, scarves, blankets, shawls, and baby items, please see Peggy Whitney.

Mission Moment - Who is My Neighbor? The Women and Children's Center of the Sierra located at 3905 Neil Road has been providing a "Hands Up, Not a Hand Out" since 2008 to support women as they work to escape poverty and improve the lives of their children. In recent years over 1,000 families receive food, hygiene items, diapers, household items, and cleaning supplies. WACCS (for short) offers education and life skills classes such as High School Equivalency, English as a Second Language, goal setting and job search help. Moms and families receive domestic violence assistance too. Currently there is a food bank that offers milk, eggs, and fresh produce. A diaper bank offers weekly supply to moms with children under 3 years of age. Moms must have a referral letter from a doctor or local official stating "a need for diapers". Moms must sign up for a class after receiving diapers ten times. Volunteers help out with childcare and other tasks. There are six paid staff and work from a budget of around \$400,00 that comes from private donations, corporate partners and grants. How can we help? Donations of unexpired nutritional food and fresh produce, small household items (lamps, dishes, etc.), cleaning supplies, hygiene products, diapers, toys (not too small - avoid choking) and books. You can call (775-825-3905) Monday - Thursday, 9am-5pm, closed for lunch 11:30-noon/ Fridays 9-1pm) with any questions regarding donations and drop off. WACCS is located near Miguel Ribera Park and Mauldin Lane next to the Police Station and Senior Center.





Holy Cross Rummage Sale

by Katie Torry

Annual Rummage Sale – Mark Your Calendars!

Our much-anticipated Annual Rummage Sale will take place on Saturday, September 20, with set-up on Friday, September 19. This popular community event is a great opportunity to donate gently used items from your closets, garages, and storage spaces—and for others to discover new treasures at affordable prices. It’s a time of generosity, connection, and fun, and you might even find a few unexpected treasures you didn’t know you needed!

We will begin accepting donations on September 1. Clean, gently used household items, clothing, books, and more are all welcome.

Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success! A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex, so please consider lending a hand. Whether you can help with setup, sorting, selling, or clean-up, your time and effort will make a big difference. Join us for a fun and rewarding experience!

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

Greg	Texas Flood Victims	J
Esther (Linda’s Aunt)	Kathy (Sue Gonyou’s Sister-in-law)	Karen B
Bobby (Kathy Barcaskey’s Son)	Lily (Heather’s Daughter)	The Dougan Family (Lanai’s Family)
John Edman	Ellis, Addy, Maryann & Justin	