



Unsettled When Faith Is Tested

Our world appears to be very unsettled these days with a worldwide pandemic, questions about schools opening and distance learning, an uncertain economy with many people losing their jobs, and a national election just three months away. Sometimes it appears that our problems are getting worse or they are just too big for anyone to handle. Fortunately we have a God who still holds the world in His hands and He promises never to leave us.

There are several examples in the Bible of people facing big problems and an unsettled future, but in every situation God worked through them to bless and protect them. During the month of August we will look at 5 big problems that people faced and how Jesus answered their calls for help. In every situation the people faced problems that were too big for them to handle on their own, but they learned when they put their faith in Jesus nothing was impossible.

Join us during the month of August for a new sermon series titled, “Unsettled: When Faith Is Tested,” as we look at how Jesus worked through the following situations when people had doubts and saw their faith tested:

August 2 - “**Big Faith**” - *Matthew 14:13-21* - The disciples try to explain to Jesus that they have a big problem, namely they do not have enough food to feed a large crowd of people. However, Jesus simply tells them to bring what they had to Him and to trust Him.

August 9 - “**Scared Faith**” - *Matthew 14:22-33* - The disciples are on a boat in the middle of a storm and they are scared when they see Jesus walking on water. As long as Peter keeps his eyes on Jesus he is also able to walk on water, but he begins to sink when he doubts Jesus’ power.

August 16 - “**Patient Faith**” - *Matthew 15:21-28* - A woman comes to Jesus for help, but initially it appears that Jesus is not interested in helping her. However, the woman has a faith that will not give up as she patiently waits for Jesus to care for her.

August 23 - “**Confession of Faith**” - *Matthew 16:13-20* - Peter makes an amazing confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, even though Jesus had never told him that He was the Christ. Peter’s confession demonstrates how the Holy Spirit works faith in people.

August 30 - “**Confused Faith**” - *Matthew 16:21-28* - Jesus tells His disciples that He is going to die, but will rise again three days later. This did not make any sense to the disciples and many times Jesus says or does things that do not make any sense to us.



In God’s Service,
Pastor Bill Feyer
 Pastor Bill

Confirmation Registration

If you have a child entering the 6th Grade, please contact the church office by **August 15th** or sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0548ADA82DA6F85-confirmation1>



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Lutheran Women in Mission

Greetings Sisters in Christ!

Although we have not been able to worship together, the LWML continues to plan future events. The following list details those upcoming events. If you have spare time and would like to assist with any of these items, let Val Feick know.

- **Fall Retreat - October 24, 2020, 8:30am – 6:30pm – Faith, Family and Friends** in the open common area of the new building
- **Christmas Craft Fair and Cookie Walk – December 5, 2020, 9:00am – 3:00pm** in the open common area of the new building
- **LWML Board Elections – October 11, 2020** (additional details will be made available in the coming months)
- **2021 Spring Retreat!! - May 14, 2021 – May 16, 2021**, Fort Caswell Retreat Center, Oak Island



Thank you to those who have been able to drop off their Mite Box donation. As a reminder, you can drop off your donation at the church during business hours. You can either ring the bell outside the church or call the church after you arrive, and someone will come out and collect your box/donation. If you don't have a Mite Box but would like to drop off your donation anyway, make sure you place a note with your donation indicating it is for the Mite Box.

You can follow LWML activities, events and updates on Facebook: www.holycrossclayton.com/lwml.

We continue to pray for your peace, health and safety this summer!

Sheila Hirt, Communications Chair

Planning on purchasing something from Amazon?



Earn money for Holy Cross while you shop! To sign up visit smile.amazon.com/ch/56-2223804 and fill out your information. Make sure you choose Holy Cross Clayton as your charity of choice! After that, visit www.smile.amazon.com whenever you make an Amazon purchase and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to the church! If you need help, please email Cassy at cassy.welch@holycrossclayton.com for instructions!

We can't wait to meet you.
Come Pray with Us!

Find Community. Find Purpose.

We are moms just like you who have concerns about our kids and the influences around them.

In prayer, we know we're not alone
and this gives us reassurance and hope.

MomsInPrayer.org

Impacting children and schools worldwide for Christ
by gathering mothers to pray



Through the summer we are meeting by phone the last Friday of the month. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 28 at 9 AM. We hope to resume normal Friday prayer time after Labor Day at 9 AM by phone or zoom until we can meet again in person

Lizy Coleman
919-455-8788

Lizy@e-colemans.com



Adult Education

Overcoming Anxiety During COVID-19

Anxiety can feel like a constricting snake slowly tightening around us until it is difficult to breathe. In recent weeks, the anxiety surrounding the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus has a hold on the whole world as people die, economies decline, and our lives change right before our eyes.

In this four-part series, Jonathan Pokluda speaks words of comfort and wisdom, to help Christians navigate the areas of life COVID-19 is affecting. During this series you'll be encouraged in how to overcome anxiety in these troubling days

and explore ways you can remain faithful to God and to others.

This is a 4 Week Study on ZOOM and will be offered twice a week. Monday's 11:00am -12:00pm & 6:30 – 7:30pm starting August 10th. Please email Rebekah Bajwa at Rebekah.Bajwa@holycrossclayton.com if you would like to participate, and which class you will attend.



STEPHEN MINISTRIES

Here at Holy Cross we have Stephen Ministers who are here to care for people going through life struggles. If you are going through a struggle and would like someone to walk with you on this journey please contact Rebekah.Bajwa@holycrossclayton.com.

What is a Stephen Minister? A Stephen Minister is a person who offers one-to-one lay caring where they listen to their care receiver. Each Stephen Minister can have one care receiver at a time. Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

MATTHEW Ministry

"SERVING the HOMELESS in our area"

MATTHEW 20:28 (JESUS Said) "... the SON of Man did not come to be served, but to serve..." (We serve HIM by serving others)

MATTHEW 25:40 "...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."



**We are in a National and Global crisis.
All of us have had to make changes to our lives.**

**The Homeless have been affected dramatically.
Many of the support groups helping them have had to cut back
or entirely eliminate services to them.**

The main meeting place where MATTHEW Ministry served them, Oak City Cares, has cut back its operations to ONLY allow them to pick up "To Go" food on Saturday and Sunday AM.

**MATTHEW Ministry continues to serve 15 homeless with supplies.
We serve Dallas (pictured on right) and the 12 others
he serves in the SE Raleigh area.**



Also Melanie in the Garner area

**We have been working
with Melanie (pictured left)
for many years now. She lives deep
in the woods in Garner.**



****We NEED your help!!****

**We NEED Monetary donations to continue
to serve them with needed supplies.**

(Make checks payable to HCLC, put Matthew Ministry in remarks and mail or bring it to Holy Cross)

We are NOT ACCEPTING any clothes donations at this time.

**For more info
contact John or Linda Miesch 919-553-3579 or email Eagleprod@mindspring.com**



Thank you to everyone who sent cards, prayers, and well wishes while recovering from surgery.

*Friends in Christ,
Theresa Harrell*

Holy Cross Youth



CONFIRMATION MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Year 1 Students (CY1):

- If you have a child entering the 6th Grade, please contact the church office by **August 15th** and give Cassy the name of your youth. You can also use this link to sign-up your child online.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0548ADA82DA6F85-confirmation1>
- Mark your calendars for an informational meeting on **Thursday, August 27th** from **5:00-6:00 PM**. This meeting is for youth and their guardian(s) and will take place on ZOOM. Rebekah Bajwa will email you the link after you sign up.

Year 2 Students (CY2): You have an information meeting on **Wednesday, August 26th** from **5: 00-6:00 PM**. This meeting is for youth and their guardian(s). I will email you a ZOOM link for the meeting.

Year 3 Students (CY3): Mark your calendars for an informational meeting on **Wednesday, August 26th** from **6:00 – 7:00 PM**. This meeting is for youth and their guardian(s). I will email you a ZOOM link for the meeting.

YOUTH MINISTRY

High School Students: Mark your calendars for an informational meeting on **Thursday, August 27th** from **6:00 – 7:00 PM**. This meeting is for youth and their guardian(s). I will email you a ZOOM link for the meeting.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

During this time of COVID and isolation it has been hard for us to gather in person. Small groups are a way you can stay connected to other believers while being apart. If you would like to be part of a small group or lead one please let me know. Participants will be trained on how to meet using Google Chat, and ZOOM. By meeting online you can use a book study or video study. There are many possibilities and ways you can grow in your faith and relationships with others. If this is something that interests you please, email Rebekah.Bajwa@holycrossclayton.com.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

For children's education we are going to offer videos online. Since we are not able to meet in person, the Education Team made videos for children to watch at home. Each video will take you through a Bible Story, show you a short movie, and have a craft or activity you can do at home. The videos will come out once a week on the church's YouTube page starting **September 13th**. We hope your children enjoy them. The Bible Stories will continue through the month of December in this video format. In September there will be pages you can download for each study on the church's web page.



Youth Yard Sale Update: The Youth Yard Sale has been canceled for 2020 due to COVID - 19. We hope to have our traditional Spring yard sale in 2021.

HOLY CROSS PRAYER MINISTRY

“YEAR of PRAYER 2020”



PRAYER is VERY POWERFUL.

Philippians 4: 6 + 7 says *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.”*

**Together as a “Church Family” we are making 2020 a
“YEAR of PRAYER”**

**In August we at Holy Cross are offering up PRAYERS for
“schools”**

**In this stressful time of uncertainty and some fear about how schools
will operate and their safety in this time of Coronavirus, PRAYER is as
important as ever AND is one thing we all can and should do.**

Everyone is invited to join in.

PRAY together with your whole family. It is really simple!!

**You can PRAY from home, work, in the car, anywhere and
anytime the Holy Spirit leads you to PRAY**

**Your PRAYERS can be formal or even better just have a conversation
with GOD, after all HE is your Heavenly FATHER and BEST FRIEND.**

PRIORITIZE - Set a time to do this EVERY DAY, with your whole family.

Here is an idea of what you can PRAY this Month.

DEAR Heavenly Father, as a new school year begins, with much uncertainty and concern over protection from the Coronavirus, we know YOU are in control and YOU have a plan to use everything for YOUR good.

We pray for all schools, from preschool to college. Bless our children, teachers, and staff, and keep them safe from physical and spiritual harm. Guard their hearts and minds from the devil's schemes. Fill them with compassion for their fellow students, teachers, and staff. Light their path with a passion for learning Your Word and Your will in their lives.

While it is hard to send our children out into a world that is so unstable and volatile, we know that You are bigger than all of our worries and fears. Remind us that our children are Your children, and that You love them infinitely more than we do. We give You our thanks and praise that You love them and all of us so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus, to die on a cross.

We pray these things in the name of JESUS. AMEN.

the.prayer wall

B E C A U S E P R A Y E R M A T T E R S

We are praying for—Those receiving cancer care:

- ♥ David Coleman, brother of Paul Coleman
- ♥ James Atkins
- ♥ Deshawna Zazueta, friend of Dale & Ashley Cranford
- ♥ Roger Hamann, friend of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Judy Tenenbaum, friend of George & Donna Rossetti
- ♥ Dave Zimmerman, cousin of Lizy Coleman
- ♥ Paul, brother of Chris Urban
- ♥ “Sonny” Edward C. Leigh, Sr., father of Ed Leigh
- ♥ Lois DiFruscio, friend of the Janowski Family
- ♥ Joanne Morse, friend of Ellie Shep
- ♥ Pam Denning, friend of Candice Patterson
- ♥ Tim Ziezula, relative of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Mark, brother of Todd Samsa
- ♥ Bettina, daughter of Christa Schroeder
- ♥ Bill Berry, friend of Doug Aitken

We are praying for—Those with health issues:

- ♥ Jacob Boyd
- ♥ Luke Boyd
- ♥ Mary Jane Heisey
- ♥ Elisabeth Junker
- ♥ Nancy Studley
- ♥ Kathy Savoy
- ♥ Lanny Scroggs
- ♥ Maureen McElwain
- ♥ Shirley Van Gilder
- ♥ Rebecca Lavery
- ♥ Tom Hansen
- ♥ Connie Beal
- ♥ Kathy Savoy
- ♥ Barbara Denning
- ♥ Crystanna Mosley
- ♥ Werner & Ursula Fick
- ♥ Arlene Behr
- ♥ Jo Abma
- ♥ Lucille Nicklow
- ♥ Judy Fowler
- ♥ Peggy Lorton
- ♥ Betty Jo Pitcher
- ♥ Mark Wilson
- ♥ Connie Reid
- ♥ Lillian Lundoy
- ♥ Margaret Lee
- ♥ Richard Lavery
- ♥ Betty Winkle
- ♥ Nicholas & Family, grandson of Christa Schroeder
- ♥ Amanda Kearney, friend of Tara Webb
- ♥ Sue, grandmother of Brian Lawrence
- ♥ Lois Lintner, mother of Madonna Bennett
- ♥ Lee Hartman, Open Arms parent
- ♥ Sherry Whalen, friend of Judy Fowler
- ♥ Little Ester, needing heart surgery
- ♥ Josiah Miller, Open Arms parent
- ♥ Spenser Goldman, grandson of Penny Schneider
- ♥ Sandy & Bill, friends of Edie Voorhees
- ♥ Payton Hudson, friend of Sarah Beyer
- ♥ Donnie Whitman, brother-in-law of Robert Bennett
- ♥ Wayne Ausley, step-father of Brandy Bjorklund
- ♥ Allan Williams, coworker of Dawn Hansen
- ♥ Joseph & Mary Littleton
- ♥ Elihu Biggers, father of Shaunna Voorhees
- ♥ Charlotte Bucklen & Steven Kelley, friends of the Coleman Family
- ♥ Craig Drenkow and Family, friends of Rebekah Bajwa
- ♥ Brian Blatchley, brother-in-law of Bill McElwain
- ♥ Steve Estes, husband of Gail Estes
- ♥ Donna, daughter of Caroline Schust
- ♥ Patty, daughter of Gayle Keen, friend of Ellie Shep
- ♥ Barbara Ekerdt Creecy, niece of Herman & Donna Steele
- ♥ Thomas Craig, brother of Caroline Shust
- ♥ Martha Gale, mother of Jamie Brannon
- ♥ James Norris, father of Meredith Marsh
- ♥ Danny McCarthy, friend of Michele Capozzi
- ♥ Stevie Tibbett, friend of Eunice Burch
- ♥ Bertha Crabtree, mother of Nancy Burgart
- ♥ James Fowler & Ryan Hudson, friends of Robin Oelrich
- ♥ Monica Clonts, sister of Blake Ball
- ♥ Faith Hicks & her daughter Grace, goddaughter of the Colemans
- ♥ Charlie & Joyce Pike, friend of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Janie Bruton, friend of Bob Lotter
- ♥ Tom & Sue Rabon, mom & stepfather of Beth Miller
- ♥ Tod & Karen, parents of Sean Pritchard
- ♥ Natalie, niece of Jerry & Karen Benditz
- ♥ Joyce Moore
- ♥ Gretchen Sneider & Heidi Goldman, daughters of Penny Schneider
- ♥ Evelyn Goldapple, mother of Jennifer McNally
- ♥ Matthew Marek, cousin of Robert McNally
- ♥ Amy, step-mother of Marvin Fordham
- ♥ Rosie Villamil & Mahtob Mahmoody, friends of Elisabeth Junker
- ♥ Patricia, mother of Kurt Miller

We are praying for—Those with other prayer needs:

- ♥ Lexi, friend of Olivia Bishop
- ♥ Ryan Underwood, nephew of Beth Otto

We are praying for—Those in mourning:

- ♥ The Pritchard Family, mourning the death of their friend, Seraphina

Vital Stats

<u>Date</u>	<u>Online Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
6/7	541 views	\$ 9,811
6/14	564 views	\$ 5,945
6/21	513 views	\$ 6,265
6/28	684 views	\$ 7,302
Direct Deposit Offering (June):		\$ 11,958
Total Envelope/Plate Giving:		\$ 41,281
Total offerings received thru 6/30/20:		\$272,468
Total projected offerings thru 6/30/20:		\$293,956
*Total revenue thru 6/30/20:		\$302,325
Total expenses thru 6/30/20:		\$290,859
(*Revenue=Offerings + CDC Contributions + Misc. Income + Interest)		
Avg. weekly offerings 26 weeks 2019:		\$ 11,787
Avg. weekly offerings 26 weeks 2020:		\$ 10,480
Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):		
Building Fund		\$ 11,719
MATTHEW Ministry		\$ 430
2020 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):		
iChoose Pregnancy Support Services:		\$ 1,500
Southeastern District—LCMS		\$ 25,104

Your Ministry Team

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Bill Beyer	william.beyer@holycrossclayton.com
Dir. of Family Ministry:	Rebekah Bajwa	rebekah.bajwa@holycrossclayton.com
Admin. Assistant:	Cassy Welch	cassy.welch@holycrossclayton.com
Open Arms Director:	Cindy Elliott	openarms@holycrossclayton.com
Music Directors:	Melissa Sultan	mgsultan96@gmail.com
President:	Donna Harlow	harlow5@mac.com
Vice President:	Travis Bjorklund	bork@zombiehive.com
Board of Elders:	Ron Harrison	rshnc@nc.rr.com
	Chuck Fox	cfox13@nc.rr.com
	Tony Swann	rtraviator@nc.rr.com
	Robert Bennett	rbennett6@nc.rr.com
Open Arms Board:	Brad deCathelineau	braddecath1@gmail.com
	Jody Burgart	jodyburgart@gmail.com
	Teresa Bauer	ptbauer514@aol.com
	Beth Otto	bethotto73@gmail.com
Board of Education:	John Neuner	jkneuner@gmail.com
Board of Properties:	BJ Johns	bjkjohns@gmail.com
Financial Secretary:	Karen Hatcher	khatcher275@gmail.com
Asst. Fin. Secretary:	Todd Hinton	toddhinton60@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Wilson Feick	wfeick@embarqmail.com



Building To Serve UPDATE

as of June 30th

To prepare God's people for
works of service, so that the
body of Christ may be built up.

—Ephesians 4:12



\$1,007,891 \$1,111,827

■ Amount Received
■ 3 Year Total Pledge