

April 2024

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Sharing God's Word, Living His Love

Worship Services: Sundays at 8:30 am & 11:00 am

Church Office: (919) 553-4784

Email: Sarah.Elliott@holycrossclayton.com

www.holycrossclayton.com



A Chat With Pastor...

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

I hope all of you are still beaming from our Easter Sunday celebration! We had a wonderful day of worship, filled with praise to our great God for His greatest gift of love: The Resurrection of Jesus! I would like to extend a special thank you to **Robin Oelrich, Kurt Miller, Daniel Benken, Chris Urban, and Rebekah** for portraying the different characters of “Crosstalks” with me for our midweek Lenten worship services. Thanks, as well, to all of you who prepared the sanctuary for worship during Holy Week, and to everyone who put together our fantastic Easter breakfast. Finally, I would like to thank all of you who participated in our Commitment Sunday. It was exciting to see so many of you make courageous commitments to God to grow generously in your time, witness, prayers, love, financial giving, and service to God and others.

In fact, throughout the rest of the year, I would like to continue to focus and expand on the six parts of our *Courageous Generosity* sermon series. Remembering the incredible love Jesus showed to us in giving up His life on the cross for our sins and the amazing celebration of His resurrection, which assures us that we will live forever with Him, I thought it would be appropriate to do a sermon series on love. We are called to love God and our neighbors, but the way to do that is not always clear. What does it mean to live God’s greatest gift? Please join us for this 4-week series titled, “**Love: God’s Greatest Gift:**”

April 14: “*Chosen By Love*” – 1 John 3:1-7

April 21: “*Love One Another*” – 1 John 3:16-24

April 28: “*Deep Love*” – 1 John 4:1-11

May 5: “*Made For Love*” – 1 John 5:1-8



One of the ways we see love at work is in marriage. You would think it would go without saying that husbands and wives should love each other. However, since we are sinners by nature, and sin leads us to love ourselves rather than others, we need to be reminded to love each other. Therefore, we need Jesus in our marriages, not just to model love, but to give us that love through the forgiveness He won for us on the cross so it will empower us to love one another with the same love He has shown to us.

At the end of this sermon series, on Saturday, May 11, we will have a “vow renewal ceremony” for any couple in the church who would like to renew their vows and marriage commitments to each other. You will hear more about this ceremony throughout this month.

In God’s Service,

Pastor Bill Beyer

Pastor Bill Beyer

HOLY CROSS PRAYER MINISTRY
“YEAR of PRAYER 2024”



HOLY CROSS PRAYER MINISTRY “YEAR of PRAYER 2024”

Once again together with PASTOR Bill we are declaring 2024 to be another “YEAR of PRAYER”. In April & may we at Holy Cross are offering up PRAYERS for **marriages**

Here is an idea of what you might PRAY this Month:

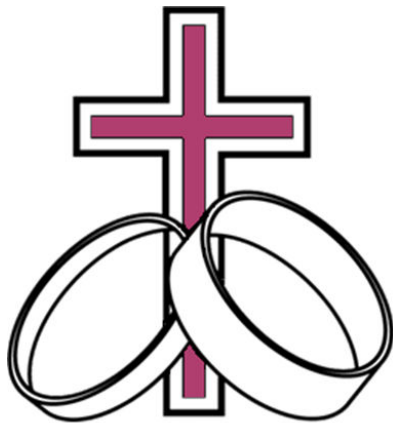
Heavenly Father, YOU have established marriage the family as the very foundation of society. May we love one another as You love us.

Help us to see that marriage, the foundation of the family, does not involve only two people, but also You as the one who holds our marriages together. May we all recognize that and allow You to be at the center of every marriage so it will be as You intended it to be.

Protect all marriages from the physical and spiritual evils of this world that constantly undermine the family on all sides. Bless marriages that are in a state of crisis, especially those who continue to act like everything is normal. They need You, Heavenly Father, to rescue them from their despair. Please grant unity, reconciliation and Your Peace in their home and ours, that we may be examples to the rest of the world.

We pray these things in the name of JESUS. Amen.
Together we are becoming a “PRAYER SATURATED CHURCH”

Ask **GOD** what role HE has designed for you and then contact: John & Linda Miesch, Prayer Ministry Leaders at Church, or at Eagleprod@mindspring.com, OR call 919-553-3579.



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
Holy Cross Lutheran
CELEBRATION of MARRIAGE
Saturday, May 11th at 11am

All Holy Cross member and other married couples are invited to be part of a group Marriage Vow Renewal Ceremony. Mark your calendars and save the date.

Marriage is a 3 way covenant between, husband, wife, and God.

Whether you are a newlywed OR have been married for 60 years, join us to Celebrate your marriage, renew your vows and re-invite GOD in to your marriage.

For those of our family who may not have been married in a Church, this is your chance to have that Church Ceremony. There will be a reception afterward open to your guests. Invite your family and friends.

Even if you are not renewing vows, please plan to attend and support your church family.

Signup on the church bulletin board across from the church office.

Have an idea to share or special request while we are in the planning stage, contact John or Linda Miesch at Eagleprod@mindspring.com or 919-553-3579.



Children's Ministry

Christian Education

- **VBS:** Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about! Registration opens April 1st.
- **Children's Church:** Happens during the 8:30AM Worship after the Children's Message. The children follow the cross out of Worship to the Music Room for a service on their level. The children are brought back to Worship during Sharing the Peace.
- **Nursery:** Is staffed at both services on Sunday.
- **Wed. Education:** Classes start April 10th at 6:45pm.
- **Sunday School:** We are bringing back Sunday School Sunday the 7th – May 5th in Classroom 2.

VBS 2024
Registration Open
June
17th - 21st

QR code linking to registration information.

Underwater scene featuring a pink octopus wearing goggles, a brown seal, and various colorful coral reefs.

YOUTH MINISTRY

holycrossyouth

Confirmation: Wednesdays

CY1, CY2, CY3 Students: Classes start back up on the 10th from 6:45pm – 7:30pm.

- ♦ **CY1:** Classroom 1.
- ♦ **CY2:** Classroom 2.
- ♦ **CY3:** Music Room; Save the Date for Leadership Training at Camp Agape on Saturday the 27th 8am – 3pm.
- ♦ **CY2 & CY3: Fundraiser:** Sign-up to sale Pine Straw in April. The money will go towards the Gathering 2025! <https://bit.ly/3SVit11>

Youth Ministry

- ♦ **Youth Group:** Starts back on the 10th at 6:45pm in the Youth Room
- ♦ **Fundraiser:** The money will go towards the Mission Trip or Gathering 2025! <https://bit.ly/3SVit11>

Fundraisers for the Youth:

Pine Straw Fundraiser: Saturdays, April 6th, 13th, and 20th. The cost per bale is: pick-up \$5.50, delivery \$7.50, and spread \$10. Email Rebekah to reserve your bales today.



We cannot thank all of our incredible volunteers enough - for working so hard at making this year's Easter Breakfasts so "extra" special!

It was so much fun as we all worked so hard together and yet, making some hilarious memories, along the way.

Please know that it is such a privilege serving beside each and every one of you - and we could never have done it without you!

Ralph and Debbie Fick

Moms in Prayer meet every Tuesday at 7:30 via zoom. Contact Lizzy Coleman for more info and the Zoom link at 919-455-8788 or lizy@e-colemans.com.

MIEN'S BREAKFAST

FAITH, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Let us not give up meeting together and let us encourage one another. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

1st Saturday each month from 9am-11am in the Narthex
Contact: Ralph Fick (919) 429-2301

HOLY CROSS serves the homeless in our area through:

MATTHEW Ministry

** We need a constant supply of Cans of Soup or Chili, Beane Weenee, and New Men's White Crew Socks**

Bring Your DONATIONS to the Church anytime.

WE ALSO NEED YOUR PRAYERS and MONETARY DONATIONS

PLEASE Consider a DONATION & ADD Matthew Ministry to your Daily PRAYERS





Helping Hands Ministry

"Carry each other's burdens and in this way we will be fulfilling the law of Christ!" (Galatians 6:2)


Are you available to provide "tangible" help to those who have needs for meals, rides, moving help, etc. **Contact: Debbie Fick (919) 632-3643 or Marvin Fordham (919) 219-0982.**



"Ladies' Evening Bible Study"

1st Thursday of each month
7:00 - 8:30pm Church Library
Debbie Fick, Coordinator (919) 632-3643

Surround yourself with Deliberate Women...women who live out their faith in God with purpose and diligence... and who encourage you to do the same.



Cancer Support Group

2nd Monday of the month at 6:30PM
Meetings take place at Holy Cross.

Support for those fighting cancer, caretakers, or anyone affected by cancer.

For more information contact Chuck at chuckmunsonjr@gmail.com

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2920 NC HWY 42 W.
Clayton, NC



Older and Wiser Lutherans

The OWLs

Sunday April 7th, 3pm. A play entitled "Angel Street" at The Neuse Little Theatre: 104 S. Front St. in Smithfield. Tickets \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door.

Contact Debra at 585-530-9839



Why study Ephesians?

The people of Ephesus were materialistic, sensual, and idolatrous. Sound anything like modern culture?

If it does, then come join us to study the book of Ephesians. Find out things about the history of Ephesus, see pictures of Ephesus and explore the implications about the original language of Ephesians, not readily obvious in our English translations.

Keith Garehan will be teaching Wednesday nights in Reese Hall April 10th.

"Seasons of Life" ~ our journey through grief!

Wednesday Mar. 13, 2024 11:00am - 1:00pm





"I Tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for it will be done for you by My Father in heaven for where two or three come together in My name, there am I with them"
(Matthew 18:19-20)

If you have any prayer requests for yourself (or your family) please email them to: Berta Hinton at berta37@msn.com



If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please join us for fun together on April 12th from 10:00 am until noon in Room #1. We will meet every second Saturday through the year (except for June).

She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She opens her hands to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.
(Proverbs 31:13&20)

Questions?? Contact Joan Neuner via voice or text at 919-412-2064 or email at wolfpackgirl518@gmail.com.



Comparable

Jesus often taught using parables, which were simple stories used to illustrate moral lessons. However, they were designed to catch people off guard and to elicit an immediate response. Join us for this 7-week study on **Sunday** mornings at **10:00am** as we go through different parables to see how we should respond. (Starts April 7th)

Reconciliation

From the time that Adam and Eve first fell into sin, God's people have been in conflict – with Him and with one another. Throughout the Bible, God tells us how He reconciled us to Himself through the work of Jesus. In this study we will see how basic teachings from Luther's Small Catechism reflect God's ministry of reconciliation and how we ought to relate to God and to one another. This study will take place on **Tuesdays** at **10:30am** and will be streamed live each week. (starts April 16th)



LWML Retreat

Join us at Camp Agape

Saturday, May 4, 2024 9:30am-3:00pm.

\$10 includes lunch and refreshments.

RSVP by April 6, 2024 on the bulletin board or our facebook page.



Carolinas District LWML CONVENTION 2024

Women in Mission Carolinas District Convention
September 20-21, 2024

Guest Speaker: Deb Burma, author
Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cary NC



Follow us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lwmlevents>

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>31 Apr 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am Sunrise Service 9am Contemporary Worship Service 11am Traditional Worship Service 	<p>Apr 1</p>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm Mom's in Prayer 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Hamamah Circle 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Ladies Evening Bible Study 7pm Praise Team Practice 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Pine Straw Sale 9am Mens Breakfast
<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Contemporary Worship Sen 11am Traditional Worship Service 12:15pm LWML Monthly Board Meet 4pm Boy Scouts (Troop 58, Pack 57, 	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm Mom's in Prayer 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Seasons of Life Meeting 5:30pm Family Night 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Quilting Group 7pm Praise Team Practice 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Pine Straw Sale 10am Prayer Shawl Ministry 3pm Eagle Scout Ceremony
<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Contemporary Worship Sen 11am Traditional Worship Service 4pm Boy Scouts (Troop 58, Pack 57, 	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm Mom's in Prayer 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Ruth Circle Meeting 5:30pm Family Night 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Parkinson's Group Meeting 7pm Praise Team Practice 	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Pine Straw Sale
<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Contemporary Worship Sen 11am Traditional Worship Service 4pm Boy Scouts (Troop 58, Pack 57, 	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm Mom's in Prayer 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Family Night 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Quilting Group 7pm Praise Team Practice 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Mtie Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Contemporary Worship Sen 11am Traditional Worship Service 4pm Boy Scouts (Troop 58, Pack 57, 	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm Mom's in Prayer 	<p>May 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Hamamah Circle 5:30pm Family Night 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Ladies Evening Bible Study 7pm Praise Team Practice 	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Mens Breakfast

We are praying for—Those receiving cancer care:

- ♥ David Coleman, brother of Paul Coleman
- ♥ James Atkins
- ♥ Pam Denning, friend of Candice Patterson
- ♥ Bill Berry, friend of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Peggy Davis, niece of Linda Beers
- ♥ Clyde Williams, uncle of Jamie Brannon
- ♥ Ralph Souter, friend of Harold Winkle
- ♥ Tonya Gordon, friend of Dinae Reczek
- ♥ Leon Goldapple, father of Jennifer McNally
- ♥ Clyde Williams, uncle of Jamie Brannon
- ♥ Nathan Fannin, Margaret Lee's neighbor
- ♥ Jean Barbour, Robert Bennett's aunt
- ♥ Candy Robinson, mother of Robin Oelrich
- ♥ Colleen Gilmartin, friend of George & Donna Rossetti
- ♥ Jesse Lee, friend of Rick & Dewie Francis
- ♥ Connie Beal
- ♥ Carla Barbour, daughter of Sharon & Chuck Fox
- ♥ Reid Yaple, brother of Paul Coleman
- ♥ Karen, friend of Elaine Reese
- ♥ Mason Fanning, friend of Margaret Lee
- ♥ Al Carter, friend of Lizy Coleman
- ♥ Gayle Keen, friend of Sue Beyer and Ellie Shep
- ♥ Terry Ward, friend of Terri Cochran
- ♥ Christy Dollar, Open Arms parent

We are praying for—Those with health issues:

- ♥ Ed Leigh
- ♥ Sonja Coull
- ♥ Jacob Boyd
- ♥ Kathy Savoy
- ♥ Rebecca Lavery
- ♥ Tom Hansen
- ♥ Judy Fowler
- ♥ Mark Wilson
- ♥ Connie Reid
- ♥ Margaret Lee
- ♥ Richard Lavery
- ♥ Penny Schenider
- ♥ Eleanor Shep
- ♥ John Miesch
- ♥ Dennis Reese
- ♥ Garry Bleeker
- ♥ Eric Roeser
- ♥ Ernie Creech
- ♥ Brenda Horne
- ♥ Connie Beal
- ♥ Chuck Munson
- ♥ Bill McElwain
- ♥ Carla McMullen
- ♥ John Wood, Sr.
- ♥ John Salemo
- ♥ Karla Bishop
- ♥ Caroline Schust
- ♥ Amanda Kearney, friend of Tara Webb
- ♥ Lois Lintner, mother of Madonna Bennett
- ♥ Sherry Whalen, friend of Judy Fowler
- ♥ Spenser Goldman, grandson of Penny Schneider
- ♥ Sandy & Bill, friends of Edie Voorhees
- ♥ Joseph & Mary Littleton
- ♥ Joyce Moore
- ♥ Charlotte Bucklen & Steven Kelley, friends of the Coleman Family
- ♥ Brian Blatchley, brother-in-law of Bill McElwain
- ♥ Steve Estes, husband of Gail Estes
- ♥ Donna, daughter of Caroline Schust
- ♥ Barbara Ekerdt Creecy, niece of Herman & Donna Steele
- ♥ Thomas Craig, brother of Caroline Schust
- ♥ James Norris, father of Meredith Marsh
- ♥ Danny McCarthy, friend of Michele Capozzi
- ♥ Monica Clonts, sister of Blake Ball
- ♥ Janie Bruton, friend of Bob Lotter
- ♥ Faith Hicks & her daughter Grace, goddaughter of the Colemans
- ♥ Heather, Charlie & Joyce Pike, friends of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Tod & Karen, parents of Sean Pritchard
- ♥ Matthew Marek, cousin of Robert McNally
- ♥ Rosie Villamil & Mahtob Mahmoody, friends of Elisabeth Junker
- ♥ Mark Morgan, nephew of Tim & Billie Shank
- ♥ Linda Williams, aunt of Jamie Brannon
- ♥ Michael Costa, brother of Jennifer McNally
- ♥ Carol & Larry, friends of Jerry Benditz
- ♥ Marcia & Phil Riley, Blake Ball's sister and brother-in-law
- ♥ Carlos & Yamy Garcia, friends of
- ♥ Donna Cantarella, friend of Ellie Shep
- ♥ Rita Giudice, friend of Penny Schenider
- ♥ Lucy Giudice, friend of Penny Schenider
- ♥ Mary Ruth Nicols, niece of Eunice Burch
- ♥ David Nicols, nephew of Eunice Burch
- ♥ William Schramm, friend of Harold Winkle
- ♥ Jim Scroggs, son of Jeanie Scroggs
- ♥ Larry Wilkening, father of Dewie Francis
- ♥ Shawn Roeser, son of Julie & Eric Roeser
- ♥ David Aitken, brother of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Artie V, friend of John Lundoy
- ♥ Cora Lee Cox, niece of Carrie Benner
- ♥ Al Barabour, Robert Bennetts cousin
- ♥ Nancy Morse, friend of Ellis Shep
- ♥ Justus Epley, grandson of Manuel and Glenda Sainz
- ♥ Heidi Goldman & Gretchen Schneider, daughters of penny Schneider
- ♥ Ashley Stenger, friend of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Heidi Mayer, friend of Doug Aitken
- ♥ Deborah, daughter of Richard and Sharon Hoh
- ♥ Gene Gevers
- ♥ Elisabeth Junker
- ♥ Cindy Zimmerman, sister-in-law of Lizy Coleman
- ♥ Kate Loeffel, friend of Denise Sears
- ♥ Kim Welch, cousin of Jamie Brannon



Your Ministry Team



Senior Pastor:	Rev. Bill Beyer	william.beyer@holycrossclayton.com
Dir. of Family Ministry	Rebekah Bajwa	rebekah.bajwa@holycrossclayton.com
Admin. Assistant:	Sarah Elliott	sarah.elliott@holycrossclayton.com
Music Director:	Seth Berger	bergerseth2@gmail.com
President:	Gary Scrofani	gscrofani57@gmail.com
Vice President:	Beth Miller	kurtandbethmiller@gmail.com
Board of Elders:	Mark Sherwin	sherwin16@gmail.com
	Brian Lawrence	brian1480@gmail.com
	Tony Swann	rtraviator@gmail.com
	Robert Bennett	robertbennettiii@protonmail.com
	Brad deCathelineau	braddecath1@gmail.com
	Randy Williams	deeran72@gmail.com
Open Arms Board:	John Michael Harlow	jmharlow2011@gmail.com
Social Ministries:	Debbie Fick	drfick1014@gmail.com
Board of Education:	Tara Webb	taradawnwebb@hotmail.com
Board of Properties:	Chuck Munson, Sr.	wgmunson@aol.com
Financial Secretary:	BJ Johns	bj.johns@HolyCrossClayton.com
Asst. Fin. Secretary:	Todd Hinton	toddhinton60@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Kelly Derflinger	kellycpa@mail.com

Vital Stats

<u>Date</u>	<u>In Person Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
2/4	310 (179 & 131)	\$12,016
2/11	292 (164 & 128)	\$14,733
2/14 (Ash Wed)	253 (105 & 148)	\$ 2,509
2/18	306 (165 & 141)	\$ 7,349
2/21 (Wed.)	148	\$ 966
2/25	258 (140 & 118)	\$ 7,435
2/28 (Wed.)	135	\$ 911
Direct Deposit Offerings (Feb.)		<u>\$ 10,515</u>

Total Envelope/Plate Giving: \$56,434

Total offerings received thru 2/29/24: \$99,350
 Total projected offerings thru 2/29/24: \$90,920

Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):

Building Fund:	\$350
Matthew Ministry:	\$310
Backpack Buddies	\$ 75
Youth	\$100

2024 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):

iChoose Pregnancy Support Services: \$500



Holy Cross offers online giving!

Scan the QR code (with your phone's camera) or visit
www.holycrossclayton.com/onlinegiving