

APRIL 2026

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sharing God's Word, Living His Love

Monthly Newsletter

WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAYS AT 8:30 AM AND 11:00AM



“My Favorite Time Of The Year”

Did you know that Holy Week and Easter is my favorite time of the year? I actually like it more than Christmas, because the week is not necessarily loaded with secular traditions. You don't see a lot of bunnies and lights displayed on the front lawns of homes, even though I will see some plastic eggs hanging from a few trees. While there are plenty of jelly beans, chocolate, and Easter egg hunts, at least these activities do not go on and on for weeks. Many of you may buy some new clothes for Easter, but there doesn't appear to be a lot of rushing around with Easter as there is for Christmas.

I like having a holiday where I feel a little more relaxed, because it enables me to focus on the importance of Holy Week and what it means for us in our lives. The week begins on a day we call “Palm Sunday” with an unusual parade – the Son of God riding into Jerusalem on a donkey with crowds waving palm branches and shouting, “Hosanna!” The entire focus of Holy Week is on Jesus, where He gathers with His disciples in an upper room for their last supper together, but is betrayed by one of His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane and is arrested, put on trial, and crucified for the sins of all people. He was buried in a borrowed tomb, but three days later rises from the dead to offer hope and life to all who believe in Him. It is truly a great week as we go from the joy of Palm Sunday, to the sorrow of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, to the glorious euphoria of Easter morning.

I look forward to seeing all of you in worship during Holy Week and Easter, but if you are traveling for Easter, don't forget the real reason why are off from school or work. The world may not admit it, but we know it's true – Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Happy Easter,

Pastor Bill

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 2ND - 7:00 PM

Maundy is a word that means “mandate” and in this service we will remember our Lord's last supper with His disciples in which He created Holy Communion for us.



GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3RD - 7:00 PM

This Tenebrae service will go through the steps of our Lord's suffering and death. “Tenebrae” is a Latin word that means “darkness” and during this service the lights and candles will slowly be put out as a reminder of our Lord's death.



EASTER SUNDAY

HE IS RISEN

7:00am – Sunrise Worship
(outside chapel)

7:45am – Easter Breakfast

9:00am – Contemporary Worship

9:45am – Easter Breakfast

11:00am – Traditional Worship

FAMILY & YOUTH

SHARING GOD'S WORD

CONFIRMATION



- **Don't forget** to fill out **one** sermon note each month for Sunday worship.
- **Mission Trip:**
Mission Trip Dates: July 19th—24th, 2026
- **Classes Resume:** Wednesday, April 15th.
This time we will be split up. CY3 students will be in the Classroom 1 and CY1 students will be in Classroom 2.

YOUTH MINISTRY

- **Youth Group Resumes:** Wednesday, April 15th.
- **Mission Trip Dates:** July 19th—24th, 2026
- **LOCK-IN:** Friday, May 1st - Saturday, May 2nd. 7:00pm—7:00am

REGISTER

NOW!

Vacation
Bible School

June 15th-19th

Registration Info:
In The Well

Youth Yard Sale

**Saturday
May 9th, 2026**



WE ARE ACCEPTING DOANCTIONS! ITEM DROP OFF: May 8th!
Contact the church office for more information: 919-553-4784

ADULT EDUCATION



STUDIES RESUME APRIL 15th

- **Rooted & Reaching:** Our Christian faith is rooted in six chief parts: The Ten Commandments, The Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Communion, Creeds, and Confession. In this study we will take a closer look at the meaning of these words we speak in our faith as listed in Martin Luther's small catechism and we will apply them to our Christian lives. Join us for some "R & R" on Wednesday nights as we reach deeper into our Christian faith. Led by Pastor Bill & Rebekah.

BIBLE READING PROGRAM

- **Home Bible Reading Program:** Our church has a Home Bible Reading Program. It started in November, but it is open to anyone at anytime. To join us, please give your email address to Al Popilek, Lee Quast or Ginger Urban in the church

Children's Ministry

- **Children's Church:** During 8:30 am worship, after the Children's Message.
- **VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN:** VBS is the week of June 15-19, 2026. To Sign-up, Click Here or visit the well for registration info.
- **Family Camping at HCLC:** Saturday, May 2nd—Sunday May 3rd. Please sign up to reserve a camp site or parking for your RV. Food, activities, and games will be provided. A great way to introduce children to camping without having to travel far. There are camping families helping to put this on, so it will be a blast. If you don't like sleeping outside or in tents, there is always the church. We will attend the 8:30 Worship Service in the morning.



HOLY CROSS PRAYER MINISTRY

“YEAR OF PRAYER 2026”

We have formed one of the most powerful and important Ministries any Church can have, the **PRAYER MINISTRY**, Holy Cross is becoming a “House of Prayer” where EVERY aspect of our Church is constantly SATURATED in Prayer.

Together with PASTOR Bill, we are declaring 2026 to be another “**YEAR of PRAYER**”

In April 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 and the family as the very foundations 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.

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

HELP US, HELP OTHERS

MATTHEW MINISTRY

AMAZON WALMART

Backpack BUDDIES

Because hunger doesn't end on Friday.

AMAZON LIST WALMART LIST

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer Requests

At Holy Cross Lutheran Church, we're here to share in each others' experiences and lift each other in prayer. Whatever you're facing - whether it's a cause for joy, a challenge weighing you down, or a particular intention you're holding close to your heart - we want to join you in prayer.

Please email your prayer requests to
DEBBIE FICK @ DRFICK1014@GMAIL.COM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

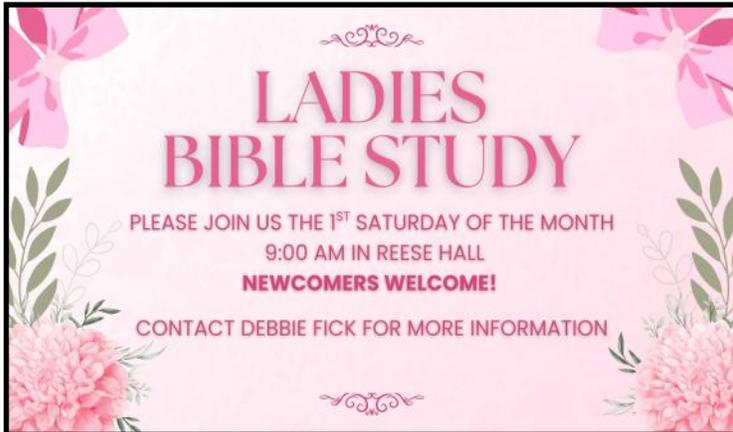
HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE “TANGIBLE” HELP TO THOSE WHO HAVE NEEDS FOR MEALS, RIDES, MOVING, ETC?

CONTACT
DEBBIE FICK: 919-632-3643

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE JOIN US



**LADIES
BIBLE STUDY**

PLEASE JOIN US THE 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
9:00 AM IN REESE HALL
NEWCOMERS WELCOME!

CONTACT DEBBIE FICK FOR MORE INFORMATION



**MEN'S
BREAKFAST**

PLEASE JOIN US THE FIRST SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH @ 9:00 AM



**NEW MEMBER
CLASSES**

BEGIN SUNDAY APRIL 12TH
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM
CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR MORE INFO: 919-553-4784



Join Us
MOMS IN PRAYER

MONDAYS
@ 7:00 PM

Contact Lizy Coleman
lizy@e-colemans

Meeting ID:
883 7635 2383

Passcode:
702958

Scan me



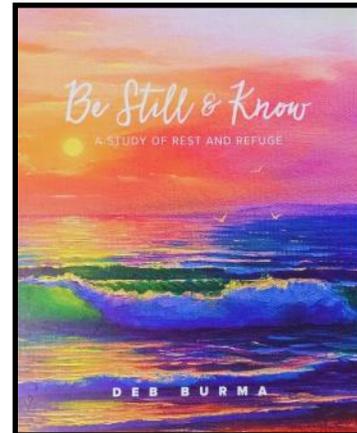
momsinprayer.org



JOIN US FOR

Galatians

2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH @6:30 PM
IN REESE HALL



Be Still & Know
A STUDY OF REST AND REFUGE

DEB BURMA



**Ruth
Circle**

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MEETS THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF
EVERY MONTH @ 10:00AM
CONTACT SUE BEYER
FOR MORE INFORMATION



**PRAYER
SHAWL
MINISTRY**

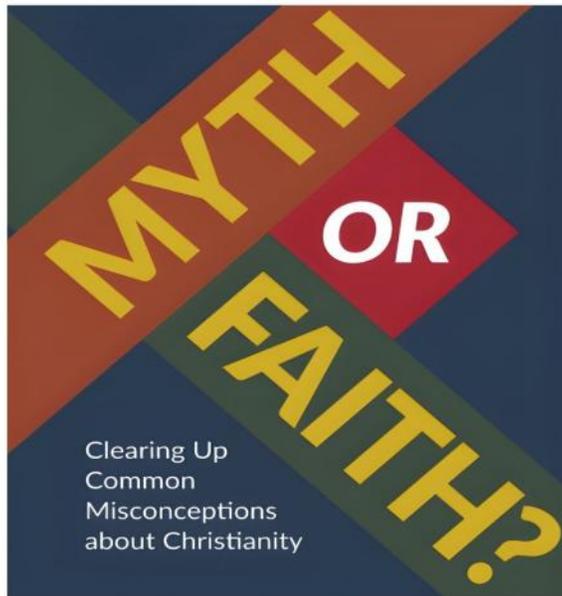
MEETS THE 2ND SATURDAY OF
EVERY MONTH IN CLASSROOM 1.
LEARNERS WELCOME!

CONTACT ELLA MCBRAYER FOR MORE
INFORMATION: 919-757-7955



**Quilting
Ministry**

Join us the 2nd and 4th Thursday of Each
month! 9:00 AM in Classroom 1!
No experience Necessary!
Contact Dewie Francis for more info: 919-302-6193



Myth or Faith?

“The New Testament is more important than the Old Testament.” “Prayer changes things.” In this study, beginning on Tuesday, April 14, at 10:30am, we will take a closer look at various misconceptions about God, the Bible, worship, and the world, using the Word of God to root out myths that often lead to confusion and disagreement in the church.

**Midweek.
Together.
*Lift*ed.**

LIVING. IN. FAITH. TOGETHER.

*Christian Education
For The Whole Family*

Resumes:

Wednesday, April 15th

5:45 PM DINNER

6:30 PM

LIFTed Kick-Off

6:45 PM

Education Break Out



Save the Dates

- Women's Retreat at 4/25/26
- Ice Cream social 8/9/26
- Craft Fair 11/7/26
- Christmas Luncheon 12/6/26



LWML RETREAT

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF CLAYTON

TOPIC: FRIENDSHIP & SISTERHOOD IN CHRIST

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2026 9 AM - 2 PM

\$15 INCLUDES LUNCH BY ZAK'S DELI

RSVP BY APRIL 18TH, 2026 ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
OR SCAN THE QR CODE:



LORD IN YOUR MERCY, *Hear Our Prayers.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOLY CROSS FAMILY

Sonja Coull
Jacob Boyd
Kathy Savoy
Rebecca Lavery
Judy Fowler
Mark Wilson
Margaret Lee
Connie Reid
Richard Lavery

Penny Schneider
Ed Leigh
John Miesch
Chuck Munson, Jr.
Dennis Reese
Bill McElwain
Garry Bleeker
Ernie Creech
Brenda Horne

Elisabeth Junker
Carla McMullen
John H. Wood
Caroline Schust
Joan Tucker
Carolyn Selby
Chris Urban
Duane Scheller
Linda McLoughlin

Kim Ruggero
Berta Hinton
Donna Gracey
Elizabeth Winkle
Ellie Shep
Traci Via
Eric Roeser
Julie Roeser
Nadene Kilburn

Jane Schoenberg
Sarah Elliott
Brian Lawrence
Ron Harrison
Bill Sessoms
Carol Matino
Brenda Gay
Tom Hansen

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE RECEIVING CANCER CARE

Tonya Gordon, friend of Diane Reczek
Judy Evans Stoudt, cousin of Doug Aitken
James Atkins
David Coleman, brother of Paul Coleman
Bill Berry, friend of Doug Aitken
Karen, friend of Elaine Reese
Mason Fannin, friend of Margaret Lee
Derryck Sauls
Candy Robinson, mother of Robin Oelrich
Colleen Gilmartin, friend of George & Donna Rossetti
Carla Barbour, daughter of Sharon & Chuck Fox
Fred Oelrich, father of Robin Oelrich
Cora Lee Cox, Niece of Carrie Benner

Everette Kelley, child of a friend of Tara Webb
Janet Crowe, mother of Ed Crowe
Dave & Leslee, brother & his girlfriend of Cindy Barnes
Jennifer Hawkins, sister of Victoria Sullivan
Doug Anderson, friend of Frank Daughtrey
Cheryl Webster, friend of Diane Reczek
Sue Nichols, friend of Ed Leigh
Case Belsley, child of a friend of Tara Webb
Melissa Hulland, sister of Skip Hulland
Rose Harnois, friend of the Urban family
Michael Grannis, friend of Margaret Lee
Kay Beaulieu, friend of the Popileks

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS

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
Shirley & Brian Blatchley, sister & brother-in-law of Bill McElwain
Steve Estes, husband of Gail Estes
Barbara Ekerdt-Creecy, niece of Donna Steele
James Norris, father of Meredith Marsh
Danny McCarthy, friend of Michele Capozzi
Monica Clonts, sister of Blake Ball
Faith Hicks & her daughter Grace, goddaughter of the Colemans
Heather, Charlie, & Joyce Pike, friend of Doug Aitken
Joyce Moore
Rosie Villamil & Mahtob Mahmoody, friends of Elisabeth Junker
Carol & Larry, friends of Jerry Benditz
Mary Ruth Nicols, niece of Eunice Burch
Carlos & Tamy Garcia, friends of Sandy Nesselrode
Rita Giudice, friend of Penny Schneider
Lucy Giudice, friend of Penny Schneider
William Schramm, friend of Harold Winkle
David Scroggs, son of Jeanie Scroggs
Shawn Roeser, Son of Juie & Eric Roeser
Artie V., friend of John Lundoy
Al Barbour, cousin of Robert Bennett

Heidi Goldman and Gretchen Schneider, daughters of Penny Schneider
Kim Welch, cousin of Jaime Brannon
Francis Larry Overby, friend of John Paul Keon
Angie Bassette, friend of Jamie Brannon
Gail Estes, sister of Kathy Savoy
Amy Aldinger, friend of Rick & Dewie Francis
Betty Begg, friend of Doug Aitken
Peggy & Buddy Roberts, family of Ella McBrayer
Kyle, son of Amy McCormick
Andrew Buskey, friend of Ed Leigh
Brett Springfield, friend of John Paul Keon
Mark Spinazzola, brother of Traci Via
Tim Johnson, friend of Frank Daughtrey
Dorothy Connolly, friend of the Mackenzies
Houston Holcomb, friend of John Paul Keon,
Christopher, grandson of Gail Fikes
Rick Santos, brother-in-law of Doug Aitken
Jimmie Walsh, son of Betsy Harsch
Tyler, friend of Karen Harms
Ryan Burda, son of Renee Stull
Larry Wilson, brother of Mark Wilson
Tammy Christian, friend of Ed & Leslie Leigh
Colter Codwell, child of a friend of Ed & Leslie Leigh
Christine Batton, friend of Joyce Smith
Martha Gale, mother of Jamie Brannon

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 pm Worship	3 GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 pm Worship	4
5 7:00 am Sunrise Service (Outdoor Chapel) 7:45 am Breakfast 9:00 am Cont. Worship 9:45 am Breakfast 11:00 am Trad. Worship	6 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	7	8 11:00 am Seasons of Life	9 9:00 am Quilting Group 6:00 pm Open Arms Board Meeting	10	11 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
12 8:30 am Cont. Worship 10:00 am New Member Classes (Reese Hall) 11:00 am Trad. Worship	13 5:30 pm Council Mtg 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	14	15 10:00 am Ruth Circle LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner: Veneros 6:30 pm LIFT Games 6:45 pm Education Breakout	16	17	18
19 8:30am Cont. Worship 10:00 am New Member Classes (Reese Hall) 11:00 am Trad. Worship 12:15 pm LWML Board Meeting	20 5:30 pm Elders Meeting 6:30 pm GALatians (Reese hall) 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	21	22 LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner: Fiesta 6:30 pm LIFT Games 6:45 pm Education Breakout	23 9:00 am Quilting Group	24	25
26 MITE SUNDAY 8:30am Cont. Worship 10:00 am New Member Classes (Reese Hall) 11:00 am Trad. Worship	27 10:00 am Mite Counting 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	28	29 LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner: Pizza 6:30 pm LIFT Games 6:45 pm Education Breakout	30		

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Bill Beyer: Senior Pastor

william.beyer@holycrossclayton.com

Rebekah Bajwa: Dir. of Family Ministry

rebekah.bajwa@holycrossclayton.com

Ginger Urban: Administrative Assistant

ginger.urban@holycrossclayton.com

Brett Jacobs: President

jacobsbrettr@yahoo.com

Courtney Kelsay: Vice President

clkelsay@gmail.com

Board Of Elders:

Mark Sherwin:

sherwin16@gmail.com

Gary Scrofani:

gscrofani57@gmail.com

Tony Swann:

rtraviator@gmail.com

Robert Bennett:

robertbennettiii@protonmail.com

Randy Williams:

deeran72@gmail.com

Matt Vessie:

Mpvessie@gmail.com

John Michael Harlow: Open Arms Board

jmharlow2011@gmail.com

Debra Rayter: Social Ministries

jardes2433@gmail.com

Tara Webb: Board of Education

taradawnwebb@hotmail.com

Marvin Fordham: Board of Properties

mfordham@mindspring.com

BJ Johns: Financial Secretary

bj.johns@holycrossclayton.com

Todd Hinton: Asst. Financial Secretary

toddhinton60@gmail.com

Kelly Derflinger: Treasurer

kellycpa@mail.com

VITAL STATS

<u>Date</u>	<u>In Person Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
2/1 (Snow)	21	\$ 2,470
2/8	334 (173 & 161)	\$ 14,413
2/15	313 (163 & 150)	\$ 9,557
2/18 (Ash Wed.)	248 (85 & 163)	\$ 3,078
2/22	270 (146 & 124)	\$ 9,710
2/25 (Wed.)	140	\$ 931
Direct Deposit Offerings (Feb.)		<u>\$ 19,475</u>
Total Envelope/Plate Giving:		\$ 59,634
Total offerings received thru 2/28/26:		\$ 106,163
Total projected offerings thru 2/28/26:		\$ 104,920
<u>Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):</u>		
Hurricane Helene Relief Fund:		\$ 390
Matthew Ministry:		\$ 1,085
Backpack Buddies:		\$ 125
Youth:		\$ 240
VBS		\$ 250
<u>2026 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):</u>		
iChoose Pregnancy Support Services:		\$ 500



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