

JULY 2025

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sharing God's Word, Living His Love

Monthly Newsletter

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



LCMS Youth Gathering

July 19-23, 2025

Every three years our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) denomination hosts a National Youth Gathering where over 20,000 high school youth and adults from across the country and around the world come together to worship, serve, spend time in God's Word, and enjoy fellowship with other LCMS youth. The Gatherings are an exciting vehicle by which the Church reaches out to, cares for, equips, and affirms young people for ministry and service in a variety of settings in their congregations and communities. I have attended several of these gatherings over the past 30 years and it is one of the best events put on by our church denomination.



ENDURE
2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING

This year the gathering will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana under the theme “**Endure**,” based on Hebrews 12:1-3, which states: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with **endurance** the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him **endured** the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who **endured** from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*

The goals under the theme of “**Endure**” are to help students look to Jesus to find strength to endure in both good times and bad; to see how they need the church and how the church needs them; and to encourage them to persevere in the faith and to live in joyful service to others. Please pray for the following students and adults who will be attending the gathering:

Youth:

Ella Boenker
Rylee Elliott
Jayden LaGattuta
David Lawrence
Ella Richards

Lyla Roby
Carter Sanderson
Luke Sanderson
Natalie Sherwin
Troy Sherwin
Kinsey Squires

Lincoln Sweazy
Logan Sweazy
Danielle Urban
Emma Urban
Laney Voorhees
Elliott Webb

Adults:

Rebekah Bajwa
Steve Scrofani
Derick Disch
Sarah Disch
Pastor Bill Beyer

All of the students and adults will be participating in events at the New Orleans Convention Center and at the Superdome (where the New Orleans Saints football team plays their games). You are invited to watch the evening events at the Superdome live on July 19-23 at lmsgathering.com.

In God's Service,

Pastor Bill

Pastor Bill

FAMILY & YOUTH

SHARING GOD'S WORD



• Youth Gathering:

Commissioning Service: 7/13

Gathering: 7/18-23



• Family Night: Sign your child up using the link on the website or in the app.

<https://bit.ly/3GsFrKL>

• Children's Church: During the 8:30 am Worship after the Children's Message.

• Nursery: For babies 6M – 3-years-old.

• Young Families: Sun. 7/27 Splash Pad and Playground Play at Municipal Park. Meet at 3:30pm. Families can stay for as long as they want. We will have a cooler with water and juice boxes in it plus some apple sauce to snack on. The address is: 325 McCullers St, Clayton, NC 27520



ATTN: ALL RISING 6th GRADERS

- Please fill out a registration form for rising 6th Grade Students. The form is on our website and in the lobby. Please turn the form into Rebekah.



Elders care for the spiritual wellbeing of our church. The Elders meet faithfully to pray for our members, especially those with health concerns. To better assist our church, they asked to form Care Groups. This way they can better pray for our congregation. Please look for their email later this month as they will be reaching out to introduce themselves to you. If you wonder who our elders are, please check the Staff page on our website.



ARE YOU A GOOD LISTENER?
DO YOU HAVE A CARING HEART?
DO YOU WANT TO HELP OTHERS, BUT
DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

WE ARE OFFERING A STEPHEN MINISTRY
TRAINING PROGRAM. PLEASE CONTACT
REBEKAH FOR DETAILS.

THE STEPHEN MINISTRY PROGRAM EQUIPS
EVERYDAY PEOPLE WITH THE SKILLS TO
PROVIDE EFFECTIVE, CHRIST- CENTERED,
CARING MINISTRY TO THE COMMUNITY.

REBEKAH BAJWA:
REBEKAH.BAJWA@HOLYCROSSCLAYTON.COM
OR 919.553.4784

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

LIVING HIS LOVE



JULY MEETING UPDATE:

HEY Y'ALL

JOIN US AT THE
SOUTH RALEIGH
PARTEE SHACK

THURSDAY, JULY 31
@7PM

Contact Liz Cvelbar
for more information




WITH THE
TEMPERATURES RISING,
WE NEED GATORADE!

HELP US, HELP OTHERS

MATTHEW MINISTRY

AMAZON WALMART



Cancer Support Group


Meets the **2nd Monday**
of each month

Monday 7/14
Reese Hall
@ 6:30 pm

Contact: Chuck Munson Jr.
@chuckmunsonjr@gmail.com

"Seasons of Life"

our journey through grief!



Wednesday 7/9
(Library)
(11:00am-1:00pm)

Contact: Debbie Fick
drfick1014@gmail.com

"Ladies' Bible Study"



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.

Will resume
Saturday 9/6

Contact:
Debbie Fick
(919) 632-3643



Prayer Shawl Ministry

2nd Saturday of The Month

(Library)
(10:00am- 12:00pm)

"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)

Contact Ella McBrayer via phone or text at 919-757-7955



Men's Breakfast

Because of 4th of July, we
will meet
Saturday July 12th
from 9-11
in the Lobby Coffee Area

For additional information
Contact: Debbie Fick (919) 632-3643



HOLY CROSS PRAYER MINISTRY

“YEAR OF PRAYER 2025”

Together as a “Church Family” we are making 2025 a
“YEAR of PRAYER”

In July we at Holy Cross are offering up PRAYERS for
“our government officials”

In this stressful time of division, turmoil and great uncertainty PRAYER is as important than
ever AND is one thing we all can and should do.

Everyone is invited to join in. It is really simple!! You can PRAY from home, work, in the car, anywhere and any-
time 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,

You have given us a great country, founded on principles and truths from Your Word.

We PRAY for leaders, men and women who will honor You, trust You, and lead us back to You. We PRAY for
servant leaders to love the things You love and who care more about others than themselves.

We pray, in the Name of the Lord Jesus, for our president, the vice president, all the Cabinet and the chief justice
and associate justices of the Supreme Court to seek and receive the wisdom of God, to act in obedience to that
wisdom and for the power of God to flow in their lives. We pray for the members of the Senate and the House of
Representatives and for our Governor as well as all our State and local Government officials to find Your peace and
direction, and for these men and women to act and lead according to Your Word.

We Pray further for UNITY of all Your Children in this time of turmoil and change.

We pray these things in the name of JESUS. AMEN

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

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
GINGER.URBAN@HOLYCROSSCLAYTON.COM



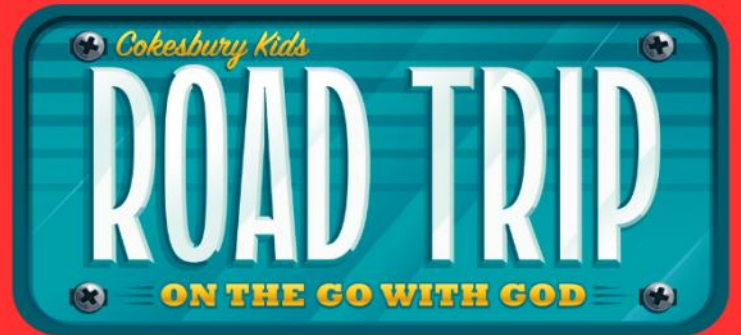
Helping Hands Ministry



“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



For all the events of
the week visit:
holycrossvbs.weebly.com



LORD IN YOUR MERCY, *Hear Our Prayers.*

Please Pray For Our Holy Cross Family With Health Concerns:

Sonja Coull	Richard Lavery	Eric Roeser	Carolyn Selby	Berta Hinton
Jacob Boyd	Penny Schneider	Ernie Creech	Chris Urban	Betty Lotter
Kathy Savoy	Ed Leigh	Brenda Horne	Duane Scheller	Carol Matino
Rebecca Lavery	Connie Beal	Elisabeth Junker	Karla Bishop	Lorna Preston
Tom Hansen	John Miesch	Carla McMullen	Linda McLoughlin	Debbie Fick
Judy Fowler	Chuck Munson, Jr.	John H. Wood	James Lucas	Holly Tetzloff
Mark Wilson	Dennis Reese	Caroline Schust	Lanny Scroggs	Donna Gracey
Margaret Lee	Bill McElwain	David Lawrence	Kim Ruggero	Jody Burgart
Connie Reid	Garry Bleeker	Joan Tucker	Paul Niewoehner	

Please Pray For Friends and Family of Holy Cross Receiving Cancer Care:

Tonya Gordon , friend of Diane Reczek	Candy Robinson , mother of Robin Oelrich
Peggy Davis , niece of Linda Beers	Colleen Gilmartin , friend of George & Donna Rossetti
Judy Evans Stoudt , cousin of Doug Aitken	Carla Barbour , daughter of Sharon & Chuck Fox
James Atkins	Christy Dollar , Open Arms parent
Pam Denning , friend of Candice Patterson	Angela Stancil , niece of Terri Pelle
Bill Berry , friend of Doug Aitken	Fred Oelrich , father of Robin Oelrich
Leon Goldapple , father of Jennifer McNally	Cora Lee Cox , Niece of Carrie Benner
Nathan Fannin , Margaret Lee's neighbor	Everette Kelley , child of a friend of Tara Webb
Karen , friend of Elaine Reese	Janet Crowe , mother of Ed Crowe
Mason Fannin , friend of Margaret Lee	Donna Sappington , niece of Joyce Smith
Derryck Sauls	Dave & Leslee , brother & his girlfriend of Cindy Barnes
Jean Barbour , aunt of Robert Bennett	Traci Via , Open Arms teacher

Please Pray For Friends and Family of Holy Cross With Health Concerns:

Lois Lintner , mother of Madonna Bennett	Donna Cantarella , friend of Ellie Shep
Sherry Whalen , friend of Judy Fowler	Rita Giudice , friend of Penny Schneider
Spenser Goldman , grandson of Penny Schneider	Lucy Giudice , friend of Penny Schneider
Sandy & Bill , friends of Edie Voorhees	David Nicols , nephew of Eunice Burch
Joseph & Mary Littleton	William Schramm , friend of Harold Winkle
Shirley & Brian Blatchley , sister & brother-in-law of Bill McElwain	Jim Scroggs , son of Jeanie Scroggs
Steve Estes , husband of Gail Estes	Shawn Roeser , Son of Juie & Eric Roeser
Barbara Ekerdt-Creecy , niece of Donna Steele	Artie V. , friend of John Lundoy
Thomas Craig , brother of Caroline Schust	Al Barbour , cousin of Robert Bennett
James Norris , father of Meredith Marsh	Heidi Goldman and Gretchen Schneider , daughters of Penny Schneider
Danny McCarthy , friend of Michele Capozzi	Nancy Morse , friend of Ellie Shep
Monica Clonts , sister of Blake Ball	Margot Coleman , mother-in-law to Lizzy Coleman
Faith Hicks & her daughter Grace , goddaughter of the Colemans	Kim Welch , cousin of Jaime Brannon
Heather, Charlie, & Joyce Pike , friend of Doug Aitken	Kris Jaeckle , friend of Doug Aitken
Tod & Karen , parents of Sean Pritchard	Francis Larry Overby , friend of John Paul Keon
Joyce Moore	Ralph Hendrex , father of Travis Bjorklund
Matthew Marek , cousin of Robert McNally	Angie Basette , friend of Jamie Brannon
Rosie Villamil & Mahtob Mahmoody , friends of Elisabeth Junker	Gail Estes , sister of Kathy Savoy
Linda Williams , aunt of Jamie Brannon	Amy Aldinger , friend of Rick & Dewie Francis
Michael Costa , brother of Jennifer McNally	Brian Cochran , brother of Terri Cochran
Carol & Larry , friends of Jerry Benditz	Betty Begg , friend of Doug Aitken
Mary Ruth Nicols , niece of Eunice Burch	Keith & Cynthia Brown , friends of Ed & Leslie Leigh
Marcia & Phil Riley , sister & brother-in-law of Blake Ball	Peggy & Buddy Roberts , family of Ella McBrayer
Carlos & Tamy Garcia , friends of Sandy Nesselrode	Kyle , son of Amy McCormick
	Johnathan Reed , Open Arms parent

2025 July

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice	3	4	5
6 8:30 am Cont. Worship 11:00 am Trad. Worship	7	8	9 11:00 am Season's Of Life (Library) 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice	10	11	12 9:00 am Men's Breakfast (Front Lobby) 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
13 8:30am Cont. Worship 11:00 am Trad. Worship 12:15 am LWML Board Meeting	14 6:30 pm Cancer Support Group	15	16 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice	17	18	19
20 8:30 am Cont. Worship 11:00 am Trad. Worship	21	22	23 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice	24	25	26
27 MITE SUNDAY 8:30am Cont. Worship 11:00 am Trad. Worship	28 10:00 am Mite Counting	29	30 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice	31		

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

Seth Berger: Music Director

bergerseth2@gmail.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:

robertbennetiii@protonmail.com

Randy Williams:

deeran72@gmail.com

Brian Lawrence:

brian1480@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>
5/4	265 (144 & 121)	\$ 10,069
5/11	285 (152 & 133)	\$ 9,430
5/18	285 (163 & 122)	\$ 9,665
5/25	301 (158 & 143)	\$ 9,349
Direct Deposit Offerings (May)		<u>\$ 14,812</u>
Total Envelope/Plate Giving:		\$ 53,325
Avg. weekly offerings 21 weeks 2024:		\$ 13,067
Avg. weekly offerings 21 weeks 2025:		\$ 13,509
Avg. weekly attendance 21 weeks 2024:		293
Avg. weekly attendance 21 weeks 2025:		299
Total offerings received thru 5/31/25:		\$283,701
Total projected offerings thru 5/31/25:		\$250,446

Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):

Hurricane Helene Relief Fund:	\$ 425
Matthew Ministry:	\$ 290
Backpack Buddies	\$ 150
Youth	\$ 120

2025 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):

iChoose Pregnancy Support Services:	\$ 1,250
Southeastern District (LCMS):	\$ 13,954

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Ginger.Urban@holycrossclayton.com	2920 Veterans Parkway Clayton, NC 27520