

MARCH 2026

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sharing God's Word, Living His Love

Monthly Newsletter

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



A Note From Pastor... Six years ago this month we had to shut down our public worship services due to the Covid pandemic. In one sense it is a time I would like to forget as we struggled with what we were going to do. How were we going to do worship? How long was this pandemic going to last? How were we going to stay together as a congregation? Many of you may remember how several organizations thought they would only have to shut down for two weeks and then we would be back to normal. Sadly, that did not happen, and as the pandemic continued, jobs were lost, relationships were strained, and people died. But through it all I realized that even when we cannot see it, God is always there, He is for us, and He is faithful. In fact, there were many days during that pandemic that I tried to look for God in order to recognize and appreciate His presence in our lives. While at times it seemed like it was difficult to see Him, I realized that He was working because He is faithful.

While some things changed as a result of the pandemic, our God's faithfulness remained the same. Therefore, I would like to begin a new sermon series this month titled, **"Faithful God, Faithful People,"** in which we will see how even when people had doubts about God they served and followed Him, because His faithfulness to them never wavered. Please join us for the following worship services:



March 1 - "The Valuable Gift of Faith" - Genesis 12:1-9

March 8 - "The Power of Words" - John 4:5-30

March 15 - "The Eyes of Faith" - John 9:1-41

March 22 - "Believe and See" - John 11:1-45

March 29 - "Blessed Is He" - Matthew 21:1-11

April 5 - "He Lives Triumphant" - Matthew 28:1-10

While we may never have a burning bush moment, we serve the same God who spoke to Moses. We serve the same God who promised Abraham as many descendants as the stars. We serve the same God who healed the sick and welcomed all people. And we serve the same God who willingly died for us, but rose from the dead so we could live with Him forever. God is with us, just as He was with every person we read about in Scripture. Call to Him, have faith in Him, and live out that faith. He will prove that He is trustworthy and faithful to the end.

In God's Service,

Pastor Bill

FAMILY & YOUTH

SHARING GOD'S WORD

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 office.

CONFIRMATION

- **Don't forget** to fill out **one** sermon note each month for Sunday worship, and during **each Lenten service** on Wednesday Nights.
- **Mission Trip Meeting:** The 1st at 1pm. Mission Trip Dates: July 19th—24th, 2026
- **Passion of the Christ Movie Event:** Sunday the 29th @ 1pm in the Youth Room. Film is rated "R". For students and family.

Children's Ministry

- **Children's Church:** During 8:30 am worship, after the Children's Message.

YOUTH MINISTRY

- **Will resume April 15th.**
- **Mission Trip Meeting:** The 1st at 1pm. Mission Trip Dates: July 19th—24th, 2026
- **Passion of the Christ Movie Event:** Sunday the 29th @ 1pm in the Youth Room. Film is rated "R". For students and family.



THANK YOU PACK 57!

Members of Cub Scout Pack 57 raked up and removed the leaves from behind the church near the kitchen on Sunday, March 1.



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 March we at Holy Cross are offering up PRAYERS for “Families and Neighbors”

May we **LOVE** our “families and neighbors” As we **LOVE** ourselves!

Here is an idea of what You might **PRAY** this month!

Heavenly Father, YOU have established the family as the very foundation of society. YOU have given us all the members of our own family. YOU know each of them personally and love them. Grant that we may each feel YOUR LOVE and share it with every member of our family. May we love one another as YOU love us.

You have instructed us to love our neighbors as ourselves and told us that EVERYONE is our neighbor. Today I lift them up to your loving hands and pray for physical and spiritual protection for all our neighbors; those next door, down the street, in our community AND throughout the world. You know the physical and spiritual challenges they are facing, be with them and their families.

Many of our neighbors and family members may not know You. I pray that You would provide men and women of faith to share the Good News to those who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Father, may they feel Your presence. Draw them to You, TODAY! Please grant unity 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

Answers to **EMERALD CROSSING**
An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Save THE DATE

Vacation Bible School
June 15th-19th
Registration Opens April 1st

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

**MON,
March**

***MOM'S IN PRAYER**
7:00 PM (ZOOM MEETING)

CONTACT
LIZY COLEMAN
lizy@e-colemans.com

**WED,
March**

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE
7:00 PM

CONTACT
CHURCH OFFICE
919.553.4784

**SAT,
7**

MEN'S BREAKFAST
9:00 AM

CONTACT
RALPH FICK
919-429-2301

**SAT,
7**

LADIES BIBLE STUDY
9:00 AM

CONTACT
DEBBIE FICK
919-632-3643

**WED
11**

SEASONS OF LIFE
11:00 AM

CONTACT
CHARLES LORTON
704-779-1799

**THU,
12**

QUILTING GROUP
9:00 AM Classroom #1

CONTACT
DEWIE FRANCIS
919-302-6193

**SAT,
14**

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
10:00 AM Classroom 1

CONTACT
ELLA MCBRAYER
919-757-7955

**MON,
16**

GAL-ATIANS
6:30 PM Reese Hall

CONTACT
TERRI PELLE
919.320-3608

**WED,
18**

RUTH CIRCLE
10:00 AM Classroom 1

CONTACT
BRENDA GAY
919-763-7117

**THU,
26**

QUILTING GROUP
9:00 AM Classroom #1

CONTACT
DEWIE FRANCIS
919-302-6193



LWML Retreat



Saturday, April 25, 2026 9:00-2:00
The Woman's Club of Clayton
\$15 includes lunch by Zak's Deli, drinks and refreshments

RSVP by April 18, 2026 on the bulletin board,
<https://bit.ly/40FSlvq> OR 



LWML Board members were installed Sunday March 1, 2026.

Members are Sandy Nesselrode, Liz Scrofani, Donna Harlow, Val Feick, Linda Turman, Dee Williams, and Betsy Harsh.

Thank you to all who served on LWML Sunday.



March Mite Madness is here. Bring your mite boxes.



Follow us on Facebook @

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lwmlevents>

JOIN US FOR

Easter

BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, APRIL 5th

7:45 - 8:45 AM & 9:45 - 10:45 AM

REESE HALL

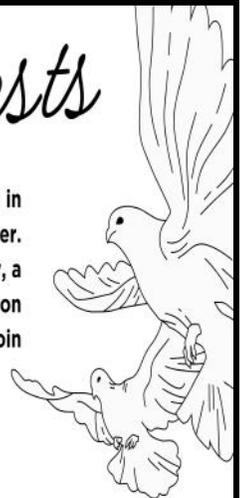
SIGN UP GENIUS COMING SOON!



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



*MOM'S IN PRAYER

To join mom's in prayer zoom meeting, please scan the code:
Meeting ID: 883 7635 2383
Passcode: 702958



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
Nathan Fannin, Margaret Lee's neighbor
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
Linda Williams, aunt of Jamie Brannon
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 Lunday

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

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>8:30 am Cont. Worship</p> <p>11:00 am Trad. Worship</p> <p>12:15 pm LWML Board Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30 pm Elders Meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>LIFTed (Family Night)</p> <p>5:45 pm Dinner: Spaghetti from Venero's</p> <p>6:30 pm LIFT Games</p> <p>7:00 pm Midweek Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30 pm Elders' Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 am Ladies Bible Study</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30 am Cont. Worship</p> <p>11:00 am Trad. Worship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11:00 am Seasons of Life</p> <p>LIFTed (Family Night)</p> <p>5:45 pm Dinner: Jersey Mike's Subs</p> <p>6:30 pm LIFT Games</p> <p>7:00 pm Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 am Quilting Group</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30 am Cont. Worship</p> <p>11:00 am Trad. Worship</p> <p>5:00 pm Y'all Dinner Garibaldi's in Garner</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 pm GALatians (Reese hall)</p> <p>7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 am Ruth Circle</p> <p>LIFTed (Family Night)</p> <p>5:45 pm Fiesta Mexicana Tacos</p> <p>6:30pm LIFT Games</p> <p>7:00 pm Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>MITE SUNDAY</p> <p>8:30am Cont. Worship</p> <p>11:00 am Trad. Worship</p> <p>3:30 pm Church Family Social in Reese Hall</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00 am Mite Counting</p> <p>7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>LIFTed (Family Night)</p> <p>5:45 pm Dinner: Pizza</p> <p>7:00 pm Midweek Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 am Quilting Group</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>8:30 am Cont. Worship</p> <p>11:00 am Trad. Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer</p>	<p>31</p>				

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>
1/4	302 (162 & 140)	\$ 9,649
1/11	295 (160 & 135)	\$ 7,588
1/18	261 (139 & 122)	\$ 6,756
1/24 (Sat- Ice)	100	\$ 5,211
Direct Deposit Offerings (Jan.)		<u>\$ 17,325</u>
Total Envelope/Plate Giving:		\$ 46,529
Total offerings received thru 1/31/26:		\$ 46,529
Total projected offerings thru 1/31/26:		\$ 52,460
<u>Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):</u>		
Hurricane Helene Relief Fund:		\$ 200
Matthew Ministry:		\$ 760
Backpack Buddies:		\$ 425
Youth:		\$ 120
<u>2026 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):</u>		
iChoose Pregnancy Support Services:		\$ 250

THANKS & GIVING = \$73,289

Last fall, as part of our year-long 25th anniversary celebration, I asked all of you to consider making a special gift to the church to help offset the planned increase to our monthly mortgage. As a result of your generosity, we raised \$73,289, which helped reduce the expected increase in the monthly mortgage. Thank you very much for your generosity and the wonderful notes that so many of you wrote about how Holy Cross has blessed you in your life. God has certainly blessed our congregation in many ways and I thank Him for the privilege of serving Him with all of you.

In God's Service,
Pastor Bill

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