

May 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...

*"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."* – 2 Peter 3:18

Many of you know that I am a runner and whenever I run I time myself hoping to go a little faster each week. In order to get faster and stronger I have learned that I need to practice running 3 or 4 days a week, which is a lot of work.

Peter writes in the verse listed above that we are to grow in the knowledge and grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What he's telling us, and all Christians, is that we must practice our faith. Seems like odd advice, doesn't it? I mean, either we believe in Jesus as our Savior or we don't. Right? Peter, though, doesn't think it is that simple. His point is that we have to continue to grow in faith once we come to faith. We have to continue to show our faith, visibly, on a daily basis. In other words, we have to walk the walk as well as talk the talk.

So how do we grow in our faith? Practice, and practicing our faith involves participating in worship, praying, serving others, and spending time in God's Word. The theme we have emphasized for our church this year is Courageous Generosity. Last month we looked at different ways to be generous with our love and this month I would like us to consider how we can be generous with our witness, which I think is a great way to practice our faith. Please join us for the following sermon series as we consider how to be generous with our witness:



### **Witness: Living in Focus**

May 12 – *"Life With God"* – 1 John 5:9-15

May 19 – *"The Spirit of Truth"* – John 16:4-15

May 26 – *"Practicing Faith"* – Isaiah 6:1-8

Witnessing to others, through our words and actions, is an easy thing to do, because we all have a story to share about our faith or how God brought us to Holy Cross. So this month I encourage you to look at your daily routine and ask yourself, "How am I growing in God's grace and knowledge?" The answer: practice, practice, practice.

In God's Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Bill Feyn".

Pastor Bill



### 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. **(Ends May 19th)**

### 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.

**(Ends May 28th)**

### 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. **(Ends May 22nd)**



### Carolinas District LWML CONVENTION 2024



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

Guest Speaker: Deb Burma, author

March Mite Madness  
raised \$547.44.  
Thank you to all  
who donated!



Follow us on Facebook @  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lwmlvents>

# 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 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **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: For babies 6M-3YO.**
- **Wed. Education:** 6:45 pm in Classrooms 4 & 5.
- **Sunday School:** 10:00am in Classroom 4. Our last class will be the 19th.



# YOUTH MINISTRY

holycrossyouth

## Confirmation: Wednesdays

**CY1, CY2, CY3 Students:** Classes start back up on the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> 8am – 3pm.
- ♦ **CY2 & CY3: Fundraiser:** Yard Sale May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>! The money raised will go towards The Gathering 2025!
- ♦ **Acolyte Training:** The 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Sanctuary for all Confirmation Students interested in serving during Worship.

## Youth Ministry

- ♦ **Youth Group:** Meets Wednesday's at 6:45 in the Youth Room.
- ♦ **Party:** 15th at 6:45pm
- ♦ **Serve Others:** 22nd at 6:45 pm.
- ♦ **Fundraiser: Yard Sale: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 5pm – 8:30pm.** The money will go towards the Mission Trip or Gathering 2025!

## Fundraisers for the Youth:

**Yard Sale: Drop off your items Friday 17<sup>th</sup> from 6pm – 8pm in Reese Hall. We take all items except clothing. Yard Sale Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> from 7am – 12pm.**



**Older and Wiser Lutherans  
The OWLs**

Sunday May 26th, a play entitled,  
“Angel Street” at  
“The Neuse Little Theatre”  
104 S. Front Street, Smithfield. 3pm  
Tickets are \$15.00 in advance  
(\$18 @ door).  
Contact Debra at 585-530-9839  
jardes2433@gmail.com

*Prayer Shawl Ministry*



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)*

Contact Joan Neuner via voice or text at 919-412-2064 or email at [wolfpackgirl518@gmail.com](mailto:wolfpackgirl518@gmail.com).



**Cancer Support Group**

2nd Monday of the month at 6:30PM

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

*Marriage Vow Renewal Ceremony*

Saturday **11** May

11:00AM

Contact John or Linda Miesch.  
Sign up on the church bulletin board.



**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”**

# MATTHEW MINISTRY

We need constant supply of  
these items:

- Sports Drinks
- Vienna Sausages
- Men's white crew socks



## 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

**"Ladies' Evening Bible Study"**  
1st Thursday of each month  
7:00 - 8:30pm Church Library  
Debbie Fick, Coordinator (919) 632-3643



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.

**"Seasons of Life"**  
Our journey through grief!



Wednesday May 8, 2024 11:00am – 1:00pm  
in Reese Hall



**"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](mailto:berta37@msn.com)



**Moms in Prayer meets every  
Tuesday at 7:30pm via zoom.**

Contact Lizy Coleman for more info and the Zoom link at  
919-455-8788 or [lizy@e-colemans.com](mailto:lizy@e-colemans.com).

# May Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> <b>8:30a Contemporary Worship</b> <b>10a Sunday School (Christian Education)</b> <b>11a Traditional Worship</b>	<b>29</b> <b>10:30a Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Bill</b> <b>7:30p Mom's in Prayer</b>	<b>30</b> <b>11a Hannah Circle</b> <b>5:30p Family Night Dinner</b>	<b>1</b> <b>7p Ladies Evening Bible Study</b> <b>7p Praise Team Practice</b>	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b> <b>9a Men's Breakfast</b>
<b>5</b> <b>8:30a Contemporary Worship</b> <b>10a Sunday School (Christian Education)</b> <b>11a Traditional Worship</b>	<b>6</b> <b>10:30a Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Bill</b> <b>7:30p Mom's in Prayer</b>	<b>7</b> <b>11a Seasons of Life</b> <b>5:30p Family Night Dinner</b>	<b>8</b> <b>9a Quilting Group</b> <b>7p Praise Team Practice</b>	<b>9</b> 	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b> <b>10a Prayer Shawl Ministry</b> <b>11a Marriage Vow Renewal Ceremony</b>
<b>12</b> <b>8:30a Contemporary Worship</b> <b>10a Sunday School (Christian Education)</b> <b>11a Traditional Worship</b>	<b>13</b> <b>5:30p Council Meeting</b> <b>6:30p Cancer Support Group</b>	<b>14</b> <b>10:30a Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Bill</b> <b>7:30p Mom's in Prayer</b>	<b>15</b> <b>10a Ruth Circle</b> <b>5:30p Family Night Dinner</b>	<b>16</b> <b>6p Elders Meeting</b> <b>7p Praise Team Practice</b>	<b>17</b> <b>6p Youth Yard Sale Drop Off</b>	<b>18</b> <b>7a Youth Yard Sale</b>
<b>19</b> <b>8:30a Contemporary Worship</b> <b>10a Sunday School (Christian Education)</b> <b>11a Traditional Worship</b>	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b> <b>10:30a Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Bill</b> <b>7:30p Mom's in Prayer</b>	<b>22</b> <b>5:30p Family Night Dinner</b>	<b>23</b> <b>9a Quilting Group</b> <b>6p Open Arms Board</b> <b>7p Praise Team Practice</b>	<b>24</b> 	<b>25</b> 
<b>26</b> <b>8:30a Contemporary Worship</b> <b>11a Traditional Worship</b>	<b>27</b> <b>10:30a Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Bill</b> <b>7:30p Mom's in Prayer</b>	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b> 	<b>30</b> <b>7p Praise Team Practice</b>	<b>31</b> 	<b>1</b> <b>9a Men's Breakfast</b>

**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 Yapple, 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
- ♥ Sarah Elliott

**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 Sandy Nesselrode
- ♥ 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
- ♥ 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
Open Arms Board:	Randy Williams	deeran72@gmail.com
	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>
3/3	295 (157 & 138)	\$11,866
3/6 (Wed.)	145	\$ 786
3/10	265 (143 & 122)	\$10,162
3/13 (Wed.)	157	\$ 2,206
3/17	277 (146 & 131)	\$ 7,967
3/20 (Wed.)	158	\$ 1,003
3/24	312 (153 & 159)	\$10,457
3/28 (M. Thrs.)	155	\$ 1,059
3/29 (G. Fri.)	218	\$ 1,575
3/31 (Easter)	550 (104,220,226)	\$12,764
Direct Deposit Offerings (Mar.)		<u>\$11,791</u>
<b>Total Envelope/Plate Giving:</b>		<b>\$71,636</b>

Avg. weekly offerings 13 weeks 2023: \$11,031  
 Avg. weekly offerings 13 weeks 2024: \$13,153

Avg. weekly attendance 13 weeks 2023: 254  
 Avg. weekly attendance 13 weeks 2024: 304

Total offerings received thru 3/31/24: \$170,986  
 Total projected offerings thru 3/31/24: \$151,996

## Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):

Building Fund:	\$500
Matthew Ministry:	\$435
Backpack Buddies	\$ 85
Outdoor Chapel	\$25
Youth	\$122

## 2024 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):

iChoose Pregnancy Support Services:	\$750
Southeastern District (LCMS)	\$13,680



**Holy Cross offers online giving!**  
 Scan the QR code (with your phone's camera) or visit  
[www.holycrossclayton.com/onlinegiving](http://www.holycrossclayton.com/onlinegiving)