

MAY 2026

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sharing God's Word, Living His Love

Monthly Newsletter

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



"Saved To Serve"

"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." – Matthew 20:28

If you were to ask a group of children, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" you would get a variety of answers, such as "baseball player, teacher, dancer, etc." However, I'm sure no one would say, "I want to be a servant." A servant is someone who anticipates the needs and desires of others, but that doesn't appear to be very fun or exciting. Jesus said, though, that if you want to be great become a servant.

What made Jesus great in His Father's eyes was that he placed himself below everyone in the world. Jesus made Himself the servant of the world as He gave His life as a payment for all sin. This is the message of Christianity – that God lowered Himself and suffered for us as our Savior to take away our sins.

Therefore, during the month of May, we will look at how God created us and shaped us for service to others in a sermon series titled, *"Saved To Serve."*

- May 3 – "Shaped For Service" – 1 Peter 2:2-10
- May 10 – "Serving With Hope" – 1 Peter 3:13-22
- May 17 – "Selfless Service" – 1 Peter 4:12-19
- May 24 – "Empowered By The Spirit" – Acts 2:1-21
- May 31 – "Bold In Witness" – Matthew 28:16-20



Also, in the spirit of service and as part of our 25th Anniversary Celebration, we would like to encourage everyone to participate in our "25 Weeks of Service" challenge, beginning Sunday, May 10 and ending on our anniversary Sunday, November 1. Each week we will suggest ways that you can serve others by highlighting different ministries in our church and our community. Listed below are the items or ministries that will be featured during the month of May:



- May 10 – Plastic Bags
- May 17 – Canned Food
- May 24 – Baby Bottles (iChoose)
- May 31 – Homelessness

In God's Service,

Pastor Bill

Pastor Bill

FAMILY & YOUTH

SHARING GOD'S WORD

CONFIRMATION

- **Don't forget** to fill out **one** sermon note each month for Sunday worship.
- **Last Class:** *Wednesday, May 20th*
- **CY3:** Confirmation *Sunday May 31st at 11am.*

ADULT EDUCATION

- **Family Joys and Heartaches:** How to apply principles in the Bible in family life. Last class is *May 20th.*
- **Pastor Bill's Tuesday Bible Study:** Last class is *Tuesday, May 19th.*

YOUTH MINISTRY

- **Youth Group Last Class:** Wednesday, May 20th.
- **Mission Trip Dates:** July 19th—24th, 2026
- **Mission Trip Meeting:** Sunday, the 24th at 1pm. Meet in the Youth Room.

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, visit the well for registration info.

YARD SALE FUNDRAISER

Youth Yard Sale

Saturday
May 9th, 2026



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



REGISTER NOW!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 15th-19th

Registration Info: In The Well



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 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 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

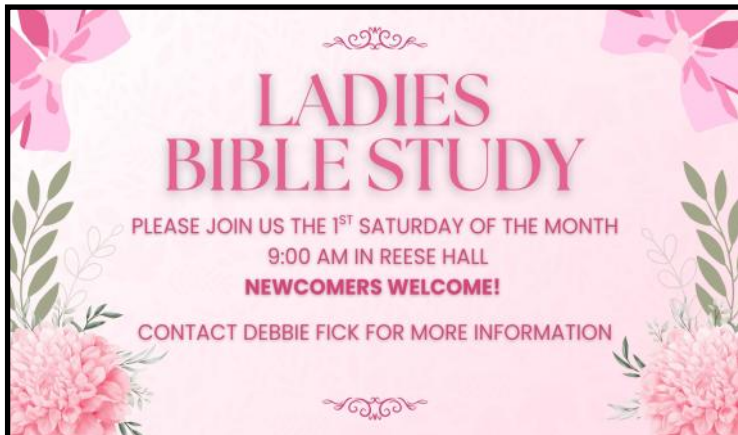
ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE “TANGIBLE”
HELP TO THOSE WHO HAVE NEEDS FOR MEALS,
RIDES, MOVING, ETC?

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



Be Still & Know
A STUDY OF REST AND REFUGE

**Ruth
Circle**

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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



Join Us
MOMS IN PRAYER

MONDAYS
@ 7:00 PM

Contact Lizzy Coleman
lizzy@e-colemans

Meeting ID:
883 7635 2383

Passcode:
702958

Scan me

momsinprayer.org



JOIN US FOR

GALATIANS

THE 3RD MONDAY
OF EVERY MONTH
@ 6:30 PM IN REESE HALL



**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



**PRAYER
SHAWL
MINISTRY**

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

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



**VOTERS'
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20th
@6:30 PM

To elect our church council members and
approve our elders.





HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH
2001-2026
Celebrating 25 Years

Save The Date
Upcoming events

MISSIONARY FAIR	AUGUST 29-30
LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES	SEPTEMBER 19-20
PASTOR MIKE MERKER	OCTOBER 11
CELEBRATION WEEKEND	OCT.-NOV. 31-1



We are taking applications for the
upcoming retreat weekend
at Camp Agape
September 17-20, 2026

Please contact Lizy Coleman:
lizy@e-colemans.com

Also, more information can be found at
encvdc.org

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
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
Derryck Sauls
Candy Robinson, mother of Robin Oelrich
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
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
Mark Spinazzola, brother of Traci Via
Tim Johnson, friend of Frank Daughtrey
Dorothy Connolly, friend of the Mackenzies
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

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MAY

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 7:00 pm High School Lock-in	2 9:00 am Ladies Bible Study 9:00am Men's Breakfast 3:00 pm Family Camping
3 9:00 am Cont. Worship 10:00 am New Member Classes 11:00 am Trad. Worship 12:00 pm Important Docs. 12:15 pm LWML Board	4 5:30 pm Elder's Meeting	5	6 LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner: Jersey Mikes 6:30 pm LIFT Games 6:45 pm Education Breakout	7	8 5:00 pm Yard Sale Drop Off	9 7:00 am Yard Sale
10 8:30 am Cont. Worship 10:00 am New Member Classes (Reese Hall) 11:00 am Trad. Worship	11	12	13 11:00 am Seasons of Life LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner: Veneros 6:30 pm LIFT Games 6:45 pm Education Breakout	14 9:00 am Quilting Group	15	16
17 8:30am Cont. Worship 11:00 am Trad. Worship	18 6:30 pm GALatians (Reese hall)	19	20 10:00 am Ruth Circle 5:45 pm Dinner: BBQ Cookout 6:30 pm Voters Meeting 6:45 pm Education Breakout	21	22	23
24 MITE SUNDAY 8:30am Cont. Worship 11:00 am Trad. Worship	25 10:00 am Mite Counting	26	27	28 9:00 am Quilting Group	29	30 CONFIRMATION Sunday, May 31st @ 11:00am Service

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

Jim McCormick & Chris Urban:

Board of Properties

james.mccormick@gofilta.com

curbanus@yahoo.com

BJ Johns: Financial Secretary

bjjohns@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>
3/1	326 (170 & 156)	\$ 9,919
3/4 (Wed)	132	\$ 906
3/8	247 (122 & 125)	\$ 11,084
3/11 (Wed)	119	\$ 498
3/15	300 (154 & 146)	\$ 6,937
3/18 (Wed)	125	\$ 996
3/22	300 (169 & 131)	\$ 8,066
3/25 (Wed)	146	\$ 819
3/29	322 (161 & 161)	\$ 7,494
Direct Deposit Offerings (March)		\$ 18,685

Total Envelope/Plate Giving: \$ 65,404

Total offerings received thru 3/31/26: \$171,567

Total projected offerings thru 3/31/26: \$170,495

Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):

Hurricane Helene Relief Fund: \$ 400

Matthew Ministry: \$ 560

Backpack Buddies: \$ 335

Youth: \$ 215

2026 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):

iChoose Pregnancy Support Services: \$ 750

Southeastern District (LCMS): \$ 15,345

**DID YOU KNOW
HOLY CROSS OFFERS
ONLINE GIVING?**

**SCAN
ME! >>>**

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sharing God's Word, Living His Love

**HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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www.holycrossclayton.com

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