

Monthly Newsletter

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

Thanksgiving – More To Come

Thanksgiving Day is designated as America's one-day holiday to formally, officially, legally, and sincerely express gratitude to God. On October 3, 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln designated the last Thursday in November as the day of observance, which has become our traditional Thanksgiving Day.

While many of our modern day celebrations focus on a feast and football and family, it's very easy to overlook our generous God in the midst of our plans and preparations. However, maybe looking simply at the place settings on our tables on Thanksgiving day will help us to remember all that God has done for us and His promise that there is more to come beyond this life.

There is an interesting story about keeping your fork that I read recently that I thought made a great point about how as believers in Jesus there is more to come after this life here on earth. *A woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness had been given only 3 months to live. As she was getting things in order for her memorial service, she told her pastor, "I want to be buried with a fork in my hand." The pastor was a little surprised and asked, "Why?" The woman explained, "When my grandmother would fix dinner for the family as I was growing up, she would always tell us at the end of the meal as she was clearing the dishes from the table to 'keep your fork,' which meant dessert was coming and my grandmother always made wonderful desserts. So I want people to see me in my casket someday with a fork in my hand so they will know that this life is not the end, there is more to come, something wonderful, eternal life with God in heaven."*

Therefore, I would like to do a sermon series this month, leading up to Thanksgiving titled, "More To Come," as a reminder that this life is not the end, there is more to come someday when we will see our God face to face. Please join us for the following worship services, including a Thanksgiving Eve worship service, as we prepare for our national day of Thanksgiving.



"More To Come"

Sunday, November 9: "Life After Life" -Luke 20:27-40

Sunday, November 16: "Keep Trusting God" -Luke 21:5-28

Sunday, November 23: "Giving Thanks In All Circumstances"

-Malachi 3:13-18

Wednesday, November 26: Thanksgiving Eve Worship—7:00pm

So as you reach for your fork on Thanksgiving Day (or maybe any day) to enjoy a wonderful meal with family and friends, remember that with God there is truly "more to come."

In God's Service,

Pastor Bill

Pastor Bill

FAMILY & YOUTH

SHARING GOD'S WORD



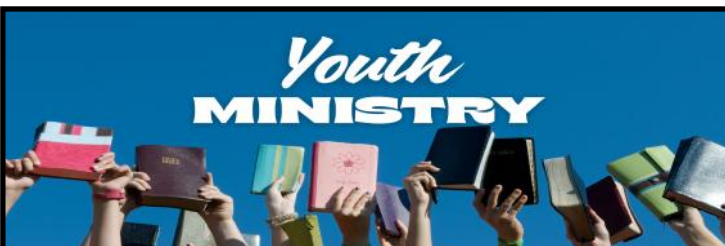
- **Family Night:**
 - Join us for L.I.F.T. at 6:30 in Reese Hall on Wednesday's.
 - Youth Room at 6:45pm.
- **No Class Wednesday, 26th**
- **Children's Church:** During the 8:30 am Worship after the Children's Message.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A
HOLY GHOST
WEENIE ROAST
NOVEMBER 2ND FROM 3PM - 7PM
A FAMILY EVENT FOR PRE-K - HS!
HOT DOGS & BEVERAGES PROVIDED. FAMILIES WITH THE LAST NAME A-K BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE. L-Z BRING A DESERT TO SHARE. JOIN US FOR A COOKOUT, GAMES, AND FAMILY FRIENDLY COMPETITION.



- **First Communion Training**
Friday, 14th 7pm—11pm
- **No Class Wednesday, 26th**
- **Join us for L.I.F.T.** at 6:30 in Reese Hall on Wednesday's.
 - *Breakout classes start at 6:45.
 - *Don't forget to bring your materials.
- **Sign Up** to bring in food to help restock!

**PACK A SHOE BOX,
SHARE
GOD'S LOVE**



- **Youth Group**
 - Join us for L.I.F.T. at 6:30 in Reese Hall on Wednesday's.
 - Youth Room at 6:45pm
- **No Class Wednesday, 26th**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world. Through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box packed full of quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items becomes a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. For many, it is their first gift ever! Delivered by our local church partners, shoebox gifts provide an opportunity to present the Gospel to boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way.

BOXES DUE NOVEMBER 16th

FUNDRAISER

- **Thank You** for your support with our Butter Braid Sale. We raised over \$2000. You'll be contacted once we have a delivery date.

A LETTER OF THANKS

YOUR GENEROSITY IN ACTION

October 23, 2025

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
2920 NC Highway 42 West
Clayton, NC 27520



Heartfelt Thanks for Your Generous Support

Dear Friends in Christ:

On behalf of everyone at Mountainside Lutheran Church, again, I want to extend our deepest gratitude for the generous donation collected by your VBS students in the amount of \$1,900.00 as well as the gift cards for Lowes and Home Depot to help us help our neighbors rebuild after the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene. The damage from the flooding impacted our entire area.

Your support will go a long way in aiding our neighbors in their cleanup and rebuilding efforts. We are blessed to have caring individuals like you by our side as we work to help our neighbors in their restoration efforts. Through this challenging time, we've been reminded of the strength of our community and the many blessings God has provided us, including the helpers and tools needed to overcome this disaster.

Thank you once again for your kindness and commitment to Mountainside Lutheran Church to assist our neighbors. With your help, we are confident that we will emerge from this tragedy stronger than ever.

May God continue to bless you and our journey ahead.

Mountainside Lutheran Church


Glynis Burns
Administrative Assistant

PASTOR APPRECIATION

Holy Cross Family,

A special "Thank You" to all of you for your warm, loving, and generous gifts and cards that you gave me for "Pastor Appreciation Month." I was overwhelmed by your love and kindness. It is a tremendous joy to serve as your pastor and I thank God for the blessing of serving in ministry with all of you.

**In God's Service,
Pastor Bill**

To My Holy Cross Family,

Thank you very much for your kind words of encouragement and gifts. It means a lot to me and my family. I appreciated you all very much. I look forward to many more years in ministry together.

**Blessings,
Rebekah Bajwa and Family**



HOLY CROSS PRAYER MINISTRY

“YEAR OF PRAYER 2025”

PRAYER is VERY POWERFUL.

Philippians 4:6-7 says: *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.”*

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

In NOVEMBER we at Holy Cross are offering up PRAYERS for
“military & those who serve us”

In this stressful time of uncertainty

PRAYER is as important as ever AND is one thing we all can and should do.

Everyone is invited to join in. PRAY together with your whole family. It is really simple!!

You can PRAY from home, work, in the car, anywhere and
anytime 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,

Thank You for our military and all first responders; men and women who protect us, our community and this nation! Father, as they protect us, protect them! You know where they will be today, and what physical and spiritual challenges they will encounter. Grant them courage when they are afraid, Godly wisdom when they must make quick decisions, strength when they are weary, and compassion in all their work.

Many of our first responders and troops don't know You. I pray that You would provide men and women of faith to share the Good News to those who have not made Jesus their Lord and Savior. Father, may they feel Your presence **today!** Draw them to You! Be with all of them and their families.

We pray these things in the name of JESUS. AMEN

Ask GOD what role HE has designed for you and then contact
John & Linda Miesch, Prayer Ministry Leaders

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE JOIN US

SAT, 1	MEN'S BREAKFAST 9:00 AM Lobby Area	CONTACT RALPH FICK 919-429-2301
SAT, 1	LADIES BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM Reese Hall	CONTACT DEBBIE FICK 919-632-3643
SUN, 2	BIBLE IN A YEAR INTEREST MEETING 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM	CONTACT LEE QUAST or AL POPILEK
SUN, 2	HOLY GHOST WEENIE ROAST 3:00 PM Reese Hall	CONTACT REBEKAH BAJWA 919-553-4784
WED, 5	SEASONS OF LIFE 11:00 AM	CONTACT DEBBIE FICK 919-632-3643
SAT, 8	LWML CRAFT FAIR 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Reese Hall	CONTACT VAL FEICK or DONNA HARLOW
SUN, 9	VETERAN APPRECIATION RECEPTION 9:30 AM	CONTACT DEBBIE FICK 919-632-3643
MON, 10	CANCER SUPPORT GROUP 6:30 PM	CONTACT CHUCK MUNSON, JR. Chuckmunsonjr@gmail.com
THU, 13	QUILTING MINISTRY 9:00 AM Classroom 1	CONTACT DEWIE FRANCIS 919-302-6193
WED, 19	RUTH CIRCLE 10:00 AM Classroom 1	CONTACT Brenda Gay 919-763-7117

LORD IN YOUR MERCY, *Hear Our Prayers.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOLY CROSS FAMILY

*Sonja Coull
Jacob Boyd
Kathy Savoy
Rebecca Lavery
Tom Hansen
Judy Fowler
Mark Wilson
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*

*Lanny Scroggs
Kim Ruggero
Berta Hinton
Carol Matino
Donna Gracey
Beth Szalecki
Betty Winkle
Ellie Shep
Eric Roeser*

*Julie Roeser
Traci Via
Nadene Kilburn
Bobbi Hall
Jane Schoenberg
Margaret Lee*

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

Angela Stancil, niece of Terri Pelle
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
Donna Sappington, niece of Joyce Smith
Dave & Leslee, brother & his girlfriend of Cindy Barnes
Jennifer Hawkins, sister of Victoria Sullivan
Ron, brother-in-law of Evelyn Scheller
Doug Anderson, friend of Frank Daughtrey
Cheryl Webster, friend of Diane Reczek

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
Jim 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
Nancy Morse, friend of Ellie Shep
Kim Welch, cousin of Jaime Brannon
Kris Jaeckle, friend of Doug Aitken
Francis Larry Overby, friend of John Paul Keon
Ralph Hendrex, father of Travis Bjorklund
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
Keith & Cynthia Brown, friends of Ed & Leslie Leigh
Peggy & Buddy Roberts, family of Ella McBrayer
Kyle, son of Amy McCormick
Stephen Bippes, brother of Wendy O'Brien
Robert Hosenfeld, brother of Jim Hosenfeld
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
Fran Bove, mother of Michele Smith

November

2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 9:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:00 am Ladies Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
2 8:30 am Cont. Worship 10:00 am Bible in a year 11:00 am Trad. Worship 1:00 pm Bible in a year	3 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	4 NO BIBLE STUDY	5 11:00 am Seasons Of Life LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner 6:30 pm LIFTed kick-off 6:45 pm Edu. Breakout	6	7	8 9:00am LWML Craft Fair & Luncheon
9 8:30 am Cont. Worship 9:30 am Veteran Appreciation Reception 11:00 am Trad. Worship	10 5:30 pm Council Mtg. 6:30 pm Cancer Support Group 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	11 10:30 am Adult Bible Study (Sanctuary)	12 10:00 am Ruth Circle LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner 6:30 pm LIFTed kick-off 6:45 pm Edu. Breakout	13 9:00 am Quilting Group (Classroom 1) 6:00pm Open Arms Board Meeting	14 7:00 pm First Communion Training	15
16 8:30 am Cont. Worship 10:00 am Adult Bible Study 11:00 am Trad. Worship	17 5:30 pm Elders Meeting 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	18 10:30 am Adult Bible Study (Sanctuary)	19 LIFTed (Family Night) 5:45 pm Dinner 6:30 pm LIFTed kick-off 6:45 pm Edu. Breakout	20	21	22
23 8:30am Cont. Worship 10:00 am Adult Bible Study 11:00 am Trad. Worship	24 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer	25 10:30 am Adult Bible Study (Sanctuary)	26 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service	27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	28	29
30 MITE SUNDAY 8:30am Cont. Worship 10:00 am Voters Meeting 11:00 am Trad. Worship	10:00 am Mite Counting 7:00 pm Mom's In Prayer					

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:**
robertbennetiii@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>
9/7	322 (185 & 137)	\$ 10,241
9/14	287 (141 & 146)	\$ 8,027
9/21	320 (192 & 128)	\$ 9,263
9/28	322 (188 & 134)	\$ 9,507
Direct Deposit Offerings (Sep.)		<u>\$ 14,537</u>
Total Envelope/Plate Giving:		\$ 51,575
Avg. weekly offerings 39 weeks 2024:		\$ 13,075
Avg. weekly offerings 39 weeks 2025:		\$ 13,018
Avg. weekly attendance 39 weeks 2024:		285
Avg. weekly attendance 39 weeks 2025:		294
Total offerings received thru 9/30/25:		\$507,700
Total projected offerings thru 9/30/25:		\$465,114
<u>Special Gifts (to Holy Cross):</u>		
Hurricane Helene Relief Fund:		\$ 1,000
Matthew Ministry:		\$ 690
Backpack Buddies		\$ 270
Youth		\$ 145
<u>2025 Mission Offerings (from Holy Cross):</u>		
iChoose Pregnancy Support Services:		\$ 2,250
Southeastern District (LCMS):		\$ 41,862

VOTERS' MEETING

SUNDAY, NOV 30TH, AT 10:00AM

We will have our biannual voters' meeting on Sunday, November 30th to approve our spending guidelines for 2026. The guidelines will be emailed to you to this month. If you have an any questions, please contact a member of our church council. (Their names and email addresses are located on the back of the newsletter.)

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH	919.553.4784 www.holycrossclayton.com
Ginger.Urban@holycrossclayton.com	2920 Veterans Parkway Clayton, NC 27520