

February 2020

Highlights from the 2020 Congregational Meeting—January 19, 2020

- ♦ 68 voting members were present.
- ♦ Reviewed and approved 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2019.
- ♦ 2020 Spending Plan reviewed and approved.
- ♦ Nomination and Elections of Council Members - Maddy Brown, Kenn Kerr and Pam Walter were elected for 3-year terms. Beverly Prima was elected for a second term.
- ♦ Outgoing Council members - Brian Morgan, Janet Formon and Matt Scannicchio. They were thanked for their time and efforts over the past years.
- ♦ Special recognition - Janet Formon, Treasurer, was presented with a plaque and gift card. She is retiring at the end of the month. Thank you, Janet, for your dedication to Holy Cross for the past 25 years!
- ♦ Council's focus for the new year: balancing upcoming budgets without the use of Memorial funds; exploring the possibility of solar panels for the church.



First Holy Communion instruction begins on Sunday, March 8th at 11:30 with Bible Blast. This is for anyone who has not received First Holy Communion instruction and is in 2nd grade and above. The instruction is family orientated and requires at least one parent or grand-parent to attend. Please contact the church office at 732-255-4455.



Blood Drive Report

By Eric Corbet

The Winter 2020 Holy Cross Blood Drive was held on Saturday, January 18, 2020 from 8 AM to 1 PM in Holmin Hall. Leading up to the drive, Barbara Carlson, Cathy Duriske, Hazel Fotopoulos, Larry Camporini, Dorothy Simon, Nancy Akins and Pam Walter made calls to potential donors to make appointments. There were 67 available appointments, and all were filled up. The drive day dawned cold with snow coming. That didn't stop our donors from showing up. The American Red Cross introduced a new system using a laptop computer to scan in identification from each donor to check them in and tablets to allow donors to answer questions for a RapidPass. This shortened wait times quite a bit. Our drive day helpers were Larry Akins, Larry Camporini, Eric Elsbree and Eric Corbet. It was a good thing that Eric Elsbree was there, because, as an 8 year old, he was far better equipped than the older guys to work the electronics! By the end of the drive, 53 people presented and 50 units of blood were collected to surpass our goal of 46! Thanks to all who called, helped out or donated!





The Holy Cross Theatre Group is getting ready to begin working on the spring production of "The Addams Family", a musical comedy based upon The Addams Family characters as seen on television and films. Creator Charles Addams depicts a ghoulish American family with an affinity for all things macabre. Auditions will be held on February 28th

(7:00 - 9:00 pm), February 29th (10:00 am - noon) and March 1st (noon - 2:00 pm). Those who would like to be considered for featured singing parts should prepare something to sing. Those auditioning do not need to attend all three days; however, they are welcome to come to each audition date. Rehearsals begin the following weekend. Mike Mantel will once again be the director; Robbie Smith, assistant director.

(We will need parents and other adults as volunteers in many areas. We need a chief set builder/designer, costume designer and prop designer. Those who want to help in these areas should contact Debbie Mura at debbiemura19@gmail.com.



Mardi Gras 2020

To make this annual event the best ever, we need YOUR help - to help plan, decorate, set-up, food servers and clean-up.

If you can help please contact Diane McCabe.

(Be sure to fill out the form below and sign-up on the bulletin board what you can bring - NO NUTS PLEASE!)

We love our children and are glad to see them in worship service. There are times, however, when parents may choose to leave the service when their little ones get too wiggly. The "cry room" in the back of the sanctuary is specifically there for wiggly children and their parents



YES! I/We will be attending Mardi Gras!
February 23rd / Noon—3:00

Name _____

Phone# _____

of people _____

____ I can help set up ____ I can help clean up

Please sign-up on the bulletin board what you will bring.
Please put this in basket in narthex - RSVP by February 16th.



"Knights of North Castle" is our theme for Vacation Bible School (VBS). North Castle is hidden in a frozen land. The King's valiant Knights are on a quest in search of the King's Armor. But the armor isn't what they think it is. This year, we invite children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Kids will take on the role of brave Knights and begin their quest each session by opening the King's Book.

They'll explore Old and New Testament stories and discover different pieces of protective armor — the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, the Shoes of Peace, the Shield of Faith, and the Helmet of Salvation — at work in the lives of familiar Bible characters, and explore how that armor works in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

Help kids take up the gauntlet this summer and accept the challenge to "armor up" and be strong by remaining with God.

VBS is Monday, July 6th through Friday, July 10th. The closing program and bar-b-q are on Saturday, July 11th. We are looking to gather a team together to plan for our quest. If interested, please see Janis Provost or Pastor Sue. Date for our first meeting to be determined.



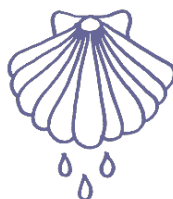
SPLASH Family Worship Event

The first Sunday of
every month at 9:00 am.

(Feb. 2, March 1, April 5, May 3)

This is an interactive event for our
SPLASH children and their families.
All children ages 0 thru kindergarten
and their families are welcome!

(There will be no
Communion at this service.)



*We welcome the
newly baptized.*

Zoey Rose Currie, Dec. 8
daughter of Stephanie
and Walter Currie

Astrid Ostara Homer, Jan. 15
daughter of Ashley Kopf;
granddaughter of Laurel
and Morgan Reis

*We rejoice with you in the life of
baptism. Together we
will give thanks and
praise to God and pro-
claim the good news to all
the world.*



Cultivating Missional Capacity (CMC) Workshops.

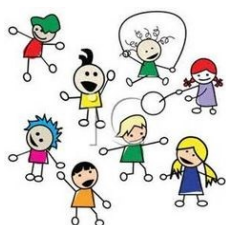
Saturday, February 15th at Holy Cross AND Saturday, May 30th at St. Thomas in Brick.
(9:00 am—3:00 pm, breakfast and lunch included.)

This NJ Synod-led program helps congregations build a foundation for growing good disciples, leaders and stewards of all ages to understand a missional and sustainable approach to ministry. If you are interested in attending that final two workshops, please speak with Lisa Fobian (732-245-8070) or Pastor Sue.



And now, a note from Diane McCabe...

"The spaghetti luncheon (after the Annual Meeting) was a huge success thanks to everyone involved. I had such an abundance of help this year from the youth along with their parents and grandparents. It was such an amazing thing to witness all the help and it even looked like they were having fun doing it. I was even able to get myself out of the kitchen for a bit to mingle with people! Thank you so much! I would also like to thank the congregation as none of this would happen if it wasn't for your generous support to the youth."



Nursery School News 2020 -2021 School Year Registration

"In-House" Registration began on Monday, January 27. This is to ensure that all families within Holy Cross will have their 1st choice of classes and be guaranteed a spot for the 2020-21 school year. Once the "In-House" Registration is complete, our classes will be open to families outside of our school that would like to register for the fall. If you know anyone that would like more information on our school or would like to schedule a tour, contact our nursery school director, Kathleen Governale (Mrs. G).

Dates for Registration:

January 27 - February 9: "In-House" Registration
February 10 - Open Registration (for families outside the school)



Concert with Patrizsha and the Soultierior Motives Worldwide Band

Patrizsha and the Band perform gospel-inspired rock songs about love, joy, power, peace, and great forgiveness!

Concert date: Saturday, April 4th, 2020, 7pm in Holmin Hall.

Invite your friends to hear the message of hope through Jesus Christ.

This is a free concert, but reservations are recommended.

To reserve your free tickets, go to [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

Snacks and Refreshments will be available.





2020 Who's Who on Council

Pastor Susan Jones sjones@holycrosstr.com	732/349-5108 (h)
President, Janis Provost janis1455@aol.com Family Faith Formation	732/267-1428
VP, Mark Stemmermann markinbrick@gmail.com Worship and Music	732/228-0246
Secretary, Lisa Fobian mspmsn@aol.com Discipleship	732/245-8070
Maija Cullen magic357951@yahoo.com Family Faith Formation	732/232-2031
Bonnie Hegarty bonniehegarty@gmail.com Property	732/859-3757
John Kane jkane1620@gmail.com Community Outreach	732/674-8642
Diane McCabe dmccabe04@yahoo.com Fellowship	908/421-4488
Bev Prima beverly.prima@pr1mabuilders.com Community Outreach; Discipleship	732/664-3350
Laurel Reis laurelreis71003@gmail.com Worship and Music	609/709-8613

dates
to
Remember

Ash Wednesday

February 26



Services at
11:00 AM and
7:00 PM



Presidents' Day
Monday,
February 17th
Office is Closed

21st Annual Ecumenical
Handbell Festival

February 23rd at 6:30 pm
Presbyterian Church of Toms River

Gertrude Hawk.
C H O C O L A T E S

fundraiser for the Youth
February 10th - 28th
You can pick-up order forms
in the Youth Room,
or contact Ali Giberson
or Lisa Fobian.



Copies of the ELCA Prayer Ventures for February are in the rack in the narthex. These monthly prayer petitions are offered as guides for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. You can also download the prayers from the ELCA website at elca.org.

Church Office: P (732) 255-4455
Christian Preschool & Day Care:
(732) 255-3112

www.HolyCrossLutheranNJ.com

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Worship Services:

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Sunday, 10:00 am

Sunday School, 9:45 am