

August 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

It seems we have begun to move beyond our time of quarantine, cancellation, and isolation. While this thing called COVID is still, and probably will always be, a part of our present reality, it appears as though we are finally able to move forward toward a more normal existence once again. In some ways things will never be the same, particularly for those who have lost so much along the way. But in other ways we have been longing to return to the things of life that allow us to live life to the fullest and with an absence of constant fear.



As a new program year rapidly approaches, Holy Cross is about to resume many of our programs that have been on hold, or dramatically altered, during these last 2 1/2 years and to begin a few new ones. Most obvious will be resuming as many of our Family Faith Formation programs as possible as well as our Fellowship events. My hope and prayer is that even though many of us have gotten out of the habit of participating in the mission and ministry of Holy Cross in person, that the Holy Spirit may draw all of us toward being part of a faith community that worships, studies, and celebrates together in the real world and not so much in the virtual one. While the temporary loss of the Parish Center is an ongoing challenge, we will move forward nonetheless with hope and determination!

As we look toward celebrating our 60th year this December, may this be a time when we can all reconnect, refocus, and restore in relationship for the sake of our mission as disciples of Christ and in service to one another and the world around us!

1 Peter 5:10 "And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."

See you soon!

Pastor Sue

**Our Church's
Anniversary**



Save the Date / Sunday, December 11, 2022

Holy Cross 60th Anniversary Luncheon

Clarion Hotel, Route 37 West, Toms River from Noon to 4 PM.

Join us for a special Worship Service at 10.

*Bishop Tracie Bartholomew, Bishop of the NJ Synod
will be a special guest.*

Further details will follow in bulletins and newsletters.

Family Faith Formation Ministry



Confirmation Information Session/Orientation-

Sunday, Aug. 28th at 6:30PM. All those wishing to be part of our Confirmation Ministry this Fall are strongly encouraged to participate in this gathering for Confirmation age youth, 7th grade and above, with at least one parent. Please RSVP to the church office as soon as possible.

Sunday School Returns - Sunday, Sept. 18th, Sunday School will begin again. Please note it will now be **during the 10 AM worship service**. Everyone will begin in worship together and our Sunday School students and their leaders will be dismissed after the children's message to their classroom. Children age three through 6th grade are eligible. Please note - this means no "drop-offs" as we believe it's important to begin in worship together as a family. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

SUNDAY
SCHOOL



Sunday School Teachers and Volunteers Wanted -

If you are interested in helping with our Sunday School program, either in teaching or helping out as a second adult in the room on a rotating basis. Please contact Lyndsay Tricarico at lyndsay.tricarico@gmail.com as she is coordinating the Fall schedule.

Blessing of the Backpacks - Sunday, Sept. 18th during the Children's Message at worship. Everyone is encouraged to bring a backpack, school or work bag and participate in this important opportunity to begin a new program year with a special blessing.



And.....a special thank you to everybody who helped with VBS!

We had over 50 children register (from age 3 through 5th grade). We collected food for Plentiful Plates and had special closing with Scott Cullen's food truck, A Fork in the Road.

FFFM Coordinator Position - Council has approved the hiring of a Family Faith Formation Ministry Coordinator to assist in the administrative, clerical and communication coordination of our learning ministries, with particular focus on our programs with children and youth. The position will begin at 12 hours per week and \$15.00/hour. More information will be available by the end of August. However, if you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please contact Pastor Sue, sjones@holycrosstr.com, or Janis Provost, janis1455@aol.com.




The HOPE Center School Supplies Drive

Help us make a difference in the
lives of youth by setting them
up for a successful school year!

 **Backpacks** *Most Needed*

 **Notebooks** (3 & 5 subject)

 **Folders**

 **Binders** (1 & 2 inch)

 **Loose Leaf Paper** (wide & college ruled)

 **Monetary Donations**



ALL ITEMS NEED TO BE
BROUGHT TO THE
CHURCH NO LATER THAN
SUNDAY, AUGUST 21st.

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*Keep the following people in your prayers
(long-term illnesses)*

Leah Morgan, Valerie Horlacher, Maie Currie, Frank Lukasavage, Janet, Barbara Carlson,
Paul Stenzel, Dee Barbara, Bill Kaier, Karen Ryan, Kristine Schley, Jackson, John M.



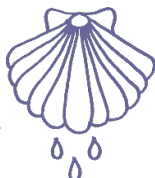
*We welcome the
newly baptized.*

Luke Michael Kunis

June 4

Son of Sabrina and Adam Kunis

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



Daily Prayers from the ELCA

Copies of the ELCA Prayer
Ventures for August are in the
rack in the narthex. These
monthly prayer petitions are
offered as guides for the global, social and out-
reach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the
needs and circumstances of our neighbors,
communities and world.

*Blessed are those who die in the Lord.
Arnold "Arnie" Johnson,*

August 2, 2022

*Rest eternal grant him O
Lord, and let light perpet-
ual shine upon him.*



Parish Center Fire Update—We have made progress regarding finalizing the contents and building fit out portions of the claim. However, the status of the structure itself has still not been finalized for a number of reasons. We are also negotiating the repayment value of the other parts of the claim as the insurance company is very low with its offer of financial compensation. We will continue to update everyone as more information becomes available.



Sunday, Sept. 25 following worship, sponsored by our Discipleship Team. Have you been visiting with us for a while and would like to officially become part of us at Holy Cross? Are you a returning member that we simply haven't been able to invite to a New Member gathering because of COVID? Well then... Consider yourself invited to a luncheon in your honor. Pastor Sue will be reaching out to those already on our list but please feel free to call the church office if you are interested in being part of this gathering and a partner in mission and ministry here at Holy Cross.

God's Work. Our Hands
September 18th after worship. Bring a lunch and join us for a variety of service projects.



Sunday Adult Forum -

As part of our Fall Program Kick-Off on Sunday, Sept. 18, Pastor Sue will begin an Adult Study and Discussion opportunity on Sunday mornings at 9:00AM each week. Those participating are welcome to suggest topics of interest. See you there!

AUGUST 14th and 15th AND AUGUST 18th—20th

(Sunday, Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday)



**CHURCH
WORKWEEK**

There are plenty of jobs (big and small) that need to be accomplished as we prepare for the fall and children return to school. We have scheduled carpet cleaning and other repair work, but there is still plenty of time for other jobs, including: small painting jobs inside and out, washing some screens and windows, some furniture moving (esp. August 14th after church), ceiling light bulb replacement, classroom ceiling fixture repairs, organizing the long shed (team of people needed), weed the playground (family or team of people needed).

Someone will be at church from 9 AM to noon and 1PM to 6PM to get you started. Some jobs are for one person while others need two to six people. If no one signs up (or calls ahead) for certain time segments, we may not be there. PLEASE let us know if you are coming.

If you are available to help with any of these projects, please contact Beverly Hirseman at 848-238-7286 or bhirseman@comcast.net, or the church office at 732-255-4455.

2022 Who's Who on Council

Pastor Susan Jones

sjones@holycrosstr.com

President, Janis Provost

janis1455@aol.com

VP, Kenn Kerr

kennkerr75@gmail.com

Secretary, Pam Walter

pwalter21@comcast.net

Treasurer, John Kane

jkane1620@gmail.com

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Maddy Brown

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Nikki Schley

Schley33@aol.com

Lyndsay Tricarico

Lyndsay.tricarico@gmail.com

August 14, 15; 18-20 Work Week

August 28 Confirmation Orientation
6:30 PM

Sept. 10 Synod Day at Great
Adventure, 10:00 AM
(must register with Synod by
August 15th)

Sept. 18 Adult Forum, 9:00 AM
Sunday School Kick-off
and Blessing of Backpacks
10:00 AM
God's Work. Our Hands.
11:00 AM

Sept. 25 New Member Luncheon
11:00 AM

Welcome to Dawn Ferrentino!

Dawn is our new bookkeeper,
replacing John Kane (but who
can ever really replace John?).
She has been working here for a
couple of weeks and is really
getting into how we roll here at
Holy Cross!

Next time you're in the office,
stop by and say "hi" to Dawn.



To make an electronic donation
using your phone, just scan the
QR code.

Fobs and Security System

We are updating our security system. If you have
a fob that you are no longer using, please return it
to the office. If you have a fob and still need it,
please inform the office. It may need to be repro-
grammed. And if you have problems with your
fob, inform the office as well.

Church Office: P (732) 255-4455

Christian Preschool & Day Care: (732) 255-3112

www.HolyCrossLutheranNJ.com

www.facebook.com/holycrosstr

Twitter - @HolyCrossTR

Worship Services:

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Sunday, 10:00 am (and Facebook Live)

Office hours (summer hours):

Monday - Thursday, 9:00 - 2:00