



October 2024



Thoughts in Print—from Pastor Sue



Well, we are rockin' and rollin' into another program year here at Holy Cross. As you will see from the other information to be found in this edition of the Newsletter, we are working on planning ministry and service events and activities for all ages. The reality that we are still without the Parish Center for a little longer presents a few challenges, but overall, we are beginning to make things happen again, not just for the Fall, but beyond.

We are also looking to grow into our future together. That is likely to mean that there will be some new things we do, some older things we let go of, and some new ways of making even the good stuff we have always done continue to happen.

My sincere thanks to all of you, especially all of you who faithfully show up to serve. You make good things happen and it is greatly appreciated!

1 Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to "...pray without ceasing." Please pray for Holy Cross, her ministry, and her people as we continue to seek the leading of the Holy Spirit!

Peace,

Pastor Sue



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

Cindy Williams, Evelyn Hees, Leah Morgan, Valerie Horlacher, Scott, Maie Currie, Frank Lukasavage, Barbara Carlson, Dee Barbara, Kristine Schley, Susan and Sean Buglio, Jim Goubeaud, Lyn Fenwick, Carl, Audrey Lund, Carole and Jerry, Robert Rively, Anna Ricciardelli

Confirmation Orientation Session

Sunday, Nov. 3rd at 4:00PM; For all youth in 6th grade and above who have not participated in the past or who are continuing into their second year. Please note, the addition of 6th graders is new this year. At least one parent needs to accompany those interested. We will discuss expectations and discuss how we can best make the schedule work given all of the other activities these young people are involved in. Please contact Pastor Sue if you have any questions.



Coffee Hours - If you would like to host a coffee hour, please sign-up on sheet on the bulletin board. Pastries, coffee, tea, etc. are provided. All you need to do is set-up the coffee, put out the pastries, cups and napkins, and clean-up afterwards. Thank you!!

Family Faith Formation Ministry



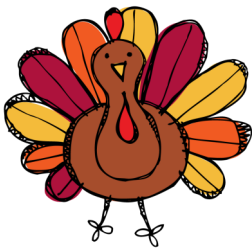
HELP NEEDED! - Do You Like to Work with Children? Read Bible Stories? Do Crafts? - Do we have an opportunity for you!!!! We have two Sunday School classes up and running. We have the children to support it and now WE NEED YOU! Volunteers are needed to be teachers and helpers for Sunday mornings. The groups are split with Pre-K/K in one group and 1st through 5th grade in another. A sign-up sheet for the Fall is located on the FFFM bulletin board in the main hallway by the Church Office.



You're invited to SPLASH Family Halloween Party

Saturday, Oct. 26th at 10 AM

*This is open to all children kindergarten and under and their families. Pumpkin patch, trick or treat, games and more!
Wear your costumes!*



Thanksgiving Dinner

Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28.

We will be preparing and serving at Christ Episcopal Church again this year as the PC will not be ready. We will begin collecting gift cards and signing up volunteers on the weekend of Oct. 19 & 20. Food collection and cooking sign-ups will follow in November.

Volunteer shifts are as follows on Thanksgiving Day:

8:00 to 11:00 AM - Food Prep and Serving:

11:00 AM to 12:30 PM - Food Serving & Distribution

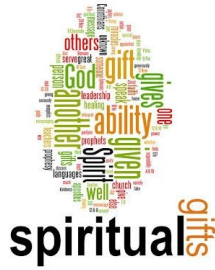
12:30 PM to 2:30 PM - Food Distribution and Clean-up

Please call the church office at 732-255-4455 to volunteer or to sign someone up to receive meals. Meals will be served in two shifts - 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, or 12:30PM to 2:00.

This is a wonderful tradition we have here at HC that is such a blessing to those in need.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Please do not bring in any fresh or frozen turkeys—we do not have room to keep them.



Some Fun Facts About Holy Cross

submitted by Lisa Fobian

On average, for every two feet that walk through the door there are usually eight ears accompanying them.

Even members who are legally blind in one or both eyes have some of the best vision in our church.

We have a shortage of “kidneys” in our church membership. Folks who are kidneys serve as filters to help us know what things are healthy for us as the body of Christ and what things are not.

I know what you are all thinking - fake news. But it is true. We learned these interesting facts as a group of us participated in God’s Work Our Hands for 2024. This year we focused on the needs within our own church by completing a spiritual gifts survey.

The focus was to help us understand how the church is one body, and we are all the parts. This not only helped us to identify how special our spiritual gifts are but also how impactful they are.

It was a feeling of great connection to each other. We shared laughs, ideas, and pizza. This was much needed as we hope to get back to our fun gatherings and continue to increase our presence in our community as we transition back to the parish center.

Thank you to Pastor Sue for engaging all of us in a fun afternoon.

Thank you to all who attended.

Look for another session in the future for those who missed this last one.



**The Toms River
Clergy
Association
Interfaith**

Thanksgiving Service.
Sunday, November 24th / 4:00 pm.
Location to be determined.



*We welcome the
newly baptized.*
Iris Louise Pasquali Oct. 13
Daughter of Jenna Hicks
and Nicholas Pasquali

*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.*



Do we have your current contact information??

We are continually updating our records and want to make sure that we have your correct information. We especially need your current email address and phone number. You can email us with your information (even if you think we already have it!) to info@holycrosstr.com. (Please note - your information will NEVER be shared with anybody outside of church.)



Lutheran Disaster Response

Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a Category 4 hurricane on Sept. 26 and has ravaged communities in the southeast, from Florida to Virginia. As the floodwaters have started to recede, the extreme devastation — especially in North Carolina and Tennessee — has become clearer. You've seen the news. Entire towns, roads and bridges have been washed away, and millions remain without power and cell service.

"We can't yet know what we're facing in terms of damage ... but I do know [this]," says the Rev. Timothy Smith, bishop of the North Carolina Synod. **"Lutheran Disaster Response, in partnership with our synod, along with other helpers, will be there for the long haul, and we will rally around our congregations, camps and communities."**

**To contribute, go to:
disaster@elca.org**

(Please, DO NOT write a check to Holy Cross. Thank you!)

Miss Chocolate

Fundraiser for Holy Cross Nursery School

Visit the website at:
<https://shop.misschocolate.com/SelectCatalog.asp?PID=172107>

Online orders only.
Orders due by October 21st.



If you would like to place an order, but don't want to do it on-line, please talk to Pastor Sue. She can place the order for you. There are catalogs on the table in the narthex.



Thank you to everybody who donated food and other items for Your Grandmother's Cupboard. Cindy Williams took a packed car of items to the "Cupboard."

The HOPE Center's Annual "GIFTS OF WARMTH"

Saturday, November 2
from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
253 Chestnut Street
Toms River, NJ

Winter Clothing Drive



The HOPE Center will be distributing FREE coats, blankets, hats, scarves, mittens and gloves to those in need. In partnership with OPERATION BBQ RELIEF, warm meals will also be provided to visitors.

The HOPE Center is currently collecting donations of winter essentials to ensure we can help as many people as possible. If you have GENTLY used or new winter essentials, please them drop off at The HOPE Center. Thank you!

(PLEASE, DO NOT BRING ITEMS TO THE CHURCH.)

2024 Who's Who on Council

Pastor Susan Jones
sjones@holycrosstr.com

President, Janis Provost
janis1455@aol.com

VP, Janice Hutchison
jjhutchison47@gmail.com

Secretary, Pam Walter
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Treasurer, George Phillips
GPhill497@aol.com

Karen Brandt *Community Outreach*
kaybea@comcast.net

John Burgdorfer *Rebuilding Team*
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Lisa Fobian *Discipleship*
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Nicki Nesbihal *Family Faith Formation*
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Joe Ombres *Fellowship*
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Peter Riemschneider *Worship and Music*
riemschneiderrecycling@gmail.com

Nikki Schley *Community Outreach*
schley33@aol.com

Andrea Stemmermann *Fellowship*
emmajane801@gmail.com

- Oct. 13 Grief Group, 11:15 am
- Oct. 14 Office Closed for Indigenous People's Day and Columbus Day
- Oct. 26 SPLASH Family Halloween Party, 10:00 am
- * * * * *
- Sundays 8:45 am, Adult Forum
10:00 am, Worship Service and Sunday School
- Wed. 4:30 pm, Bell Choir
- Thursdays 7:30 pm, Sanctuary Choir
- Saturdays 5:00 pm, Worship Service
- 2nd Tues 6:30 pm, Council
- 2nd Sunday 11:15 am, Grief Group



Church Office: P (732) 255-4455
 Christian Preschool & Day Care: (732) 255-3112
 Info@holycrosstr.com
 www.HolyCrossLutheranNJ.com
 www.facebook.com/holycrosstr
 Twitter - @HolyCrossTR

Worship Services:
 Saturday, 5:00 pm
 Sunday, 10:00 am (and Facebook Live)

Office hours:
 Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 2:00

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

