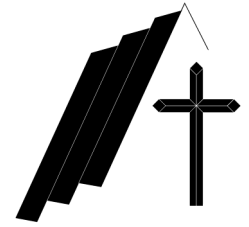


# HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

## REFLECTIONS FROM THE CROSS



### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

#### Where is God's Kingdom?

This time of year our readings are speaking much of God's kingdom. Reformation reminds us His kingdom is at war. All Saints' celebrates those who fought the good fight, but are now at rest in the heavenly kingdom. Toward the end of the Church Year, we're reminded the King is coming in Judgment. In Advent we're repentantly-yet-joyfully anticipating this. Then, at Christmas we celebrate that He - the King- has already come and begun establishing His Kingdom with us.

So, where is this kingdom? The fact is, we can't point to any geographic place or building where it always is or will be... at least until Jesus comes in glory. Rather, God's kingdom is where there is faith in Christ. As the Small Catechism states, "God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit; so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity."

As you trust in Jesus as your Savior, this means God's kingdom is in you. By the Holy Spirit He creates faith in you as you hear His goodness and salvation spoken to you in His Word and Sacrament. Faith means God reigns in and over you. For this, we're thankful. And you, as a citizen of His kingdom, show forth that reign as you live a godly life by faith in the midst of this world that is full of ungodliness, sin, and death.

St. Augustine (c.400 A.D.) at the time the Roman empire was falling apart wrote one of the most and influential books in history called "The City of God." To give Christians understanding and vision for the future amid perilous times, he described how the "city of man," i.e., structures of civil society and how it's governed, is temporal, ever changing, and will one day collapse. He set this in contrast to the "city of God," i.e., the Church, or "kingdom of God", both in heaven and on earth. Unlike the city of man, the Church will live forever. Furthermore, "the city of man" was dominated by sin and self-love. But the city of God was defined by the love of God and was righteous.

These two kingdoms were more sharply distinguished and divided than how we commonly think of them today. As Augustine framed it, the two were fundamentally different and even opposed. To be in one essentially meant you were not in the other. This led many after Augustine to abandon "the world" to join monasteries or sign up for clerical vocations, thinking they could leave man's city for God's. Meanwhile, in the Middle Ages Christian kings thought of themselves as fighting for the kingdom (city) of God against non-Christians, which were ruled by the devil, hence, wars like the crusades. There was little distinction between church and state, as most people in a territory were baptized Christians, albeit with a much greater degree of holiness if people were clergy.

A little over a thousand years later, however, amidst a time when the Church wasn't preaching or acting very godly, Luther set forth a different paradigm for describing God's rule of the world, which is Scriptural. This became known as the doctrine of the "Two Kingdoms." Luther argued that God's rule is not just in heaven

NOV/DEC '24

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or the Church, but also *in* the world now. The worldly kingdom or “kingdom of the left” (a bit different from Augustine’s “city of man”) is indeed also ruled by God, but it is simply *ruled in a different way* from the “Kingdom of the right” or “spiritual kingdom” or “kingdom of God.”

According to Luther, the kingdom of the left God rules by laws being enforced. The devil is indeed also at work amidst this kingdom. He is even said to be ruler of it, although his rule is false. God is truly ruling even over him, using the devil’s evil for the ultimate good of His faithful.

The *spiritual* kingdom, however, is where Christ rules by the Gospel. It is recognized by the preaching of the Gospel, the Sacraments, and where there is true faith. Having received God’s love in these, and having faith in Christ, a Christian does not seek to escape the world, hostile as it may be. Rather, a Christian seeks to love his neighbor and do God-pleasing works. It leads him into the world, which he knows ultimately belongs to God also.

In this way, we do much like Jesus Himself. He had the Father’s throne but chose to come here in the flesh to show us His love and win our salvation. So, we, as baptized Christians, sons of God and heirs of heaven, now serve God by serving our neighbor in our vocation. The battle is not against the physical world itself, but against the world-as-it-belongs-to-the-devil, as well as the devil himself, and our sinful flesh.

God’s kingdom includes you as you are baptized and have faith in Jesus. This faith, as said, leads you do the work of your vocation, serving your neighbors according to God’s word... much like saints of Scripture and former times did. You also are a saint in that respect. And as Jesus’ word is on your tongue the kingdom goes forth with joy, doing spiritual battle and expanding until our Lord comes again. At that time, what we call the “kingdom of grace” will give way to the “kingdom of glory,” and our Lord will still be with us and all His saints with nothing to threaten.

Therefore, continue to be in God’s word, and waiting for His coming... now in word and Sacrament, and ultimately in glory. Amidst the turmoil we see in the world, be bold, knowing you have a wonderful inheritance. You know the Lord Jesus who rules all things, and who specially loves you.

*Pastor Meissner*

### A Special Appeal – Missouri Amendment 3

Dear members, most of you know I’ve been preaching and writing about this already, and know it well yourself. This issue is something that is in both the realm of politics and religion (see above), because it involves our neighbor, and what Christians believe and how they exercise their faith. Yes, here I’m not only telling you *how* to vote, I’m outright telling you: Go and VOTE NO on Amendment 3 of our November election ballots. It is clear: Many babies for whom Christ shed his blood will die if this amendment passes.

As St. James writes (Jas. 2:15, *ESV*): “If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to him, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving him the things needed for the body, what good is that?” Such is a dead faith, he says! More than just being hungry or thirsty, here human life is directly on the line, glaringly before us, and we can do something about it. To not do something about it, if knowing and physically able, is simply cold and risking God’s judgment.

God be with you, and may He preserve us from such evil! -Pastor Meissner



“SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE, AND I SHALL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.” - PSALM 23:6



### IN LOVING MEMORY OF...

#### Marian Johnson

#### Blanch Weymuth

- |                        |                         |                     |                       |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| * Carl & Shara Pigors  | * Sid & Roberta Keltner | * Gene & Toni Bosse | * Carl & Shara Pigors |
| * Curt & Elenita Wendt | * Gene & Toni Bosse     | * Jackie Mulford    |                       |

*Why? A Layman's Guide to the Liturgy*

by Burnell F. Eckardt Jr., Editor-in-Chief, *Gottesdienst*

**Why do we make the sign of the cross?**

The making of the sign of the holy cross is perhaps the oldest rubric in the history of the Christian Church, likely dating to the times of the apostles themselves. It is good to know this, inasmuch as there are those who are reluctant to make the sign on themselves, calling it “Catholic.” Indeed, it is catholic, that is, in the best tradition of the holy Christian Church of all time (for that is what *catholic* really means; the term is more than a designation for a certain church body).

The sign of the cross is made with the right hand, fingers touching first the forehead, then the breastbone, then right shoulder, then left, and finally both hands coming together in the posture of prayer. This is actually the reverse of the way the sign is made in the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches; Lutherans make the sign, rather, in the same manner as the Eastern Orthodox (right to left, rather than left to right). The reason for this is that we consider the making of the sign of the cross on ourselves as a response of faith to the activity of God among us. The sign of the holy cross was made first by the pastor (in the stead of Christ) on the recipient of Holy Baptism, with the words: “Receive the sign of the holy cross, both upon the forehead and upon the heart, in token that you have been redeemed by Christ the Crucified.” In Baptism, Christ the Crucified is given to the one being baptized; the giving and receiving of the sign of the cross is a token of this truth. Since the pastor makes the sign with his right hand, he signs toward his own right, which on the recipient is a movement from right to his left across the heart. From Baptism, faith begins to respond: the new creature born at the font is perpetually returning thereto, in prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving. Thus it is most appropriate for the faithful, who have been baptized, to be making the sign of the cross upon themselves, in effect retracing the sign first made upon them in Baptism. The retracing of the cross moves across the same lines the pastor made; hence, from top to bottom, and then from right to left.

During the Mass, there are several opportunities for making the sign of the cross. These are most easily discerned by paying attention to the times the pastor signs the congregation. At these times it is good to sign oneself. Also, it is appropriate at the Invocation, which is a repetition of the baptismal formula, at the close of the Our Father and of the Creed, and indeed, whenever the Trinitarian name is uttered. It is also proper just before receiving each kind in the Sacrament: this is a way of saying to oneself, I need not fear unworthy reception of these Holy Things, knowing that in Baptism I am washed in Christ whom I also receive here.

The sign of the holy cross, when it is accompanied by faith, is a most powerful weapon for the faithful. Indeed, St. Paul exhorts the Ephesians to take the breastplate of righteousness, which we might consider his own way of saying, as Luther also does in the Small Catechism, make the sign of the holy cross. ✠

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** - Starting November 10 our regular Sunday Bible Class is planning to dive into a resource that is timeless yet ever relevant, easily accessible yet infinitely deep, intellectual yet practical. I'm talking about our Catechism, specifically the *Large Catechism* (we already review our *Small Catechism* every Sunday).

Since the time of the Early Church “Catechism” has referred to the Ten Commandments, Apostles’ Creed, and Lord’s Prayer – basics of the Christian faith. Composed of the same with concise explanations for each part, our Lutheran catechisms particularly have been extolled and used beyond our circles because of their timeless, Biblically-faithful brilliance that opens greatest truths to both children and adults. It’s essentially the “laymen’s Bible.” Parents who sit in on lessons with my youth catechism students without fail tell me how they wish they learned more of the same more when they were younger, even as I still do myself. More than a structural foundation, it gives newcomers as well as long-time Christians a reliable, broad, yet high-powered lens thru which to see the Bible and the world God has made and redeemed by His grace in Christ.

**This is a great time to get reacquainted with basics of God’s word!** Sunday School and Adult Bible class meet together in the church basement at 8:45am for opening prayers, before kids dismiss to their classes by age. Adults will then plan to stay to read and discuss the *Large Catechism*. *Donuts, coffee, and Catechism copies will be provided. Please join us!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION



**MISSOURI DISTRICT NEWS:** Did you know that you can direct up to 50% of your state tax dollars this year to provide scholarships for kids attending LCMS schools in our District? Head to [mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars](http://mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars) to learn more about MOScholars and begin the tax credit reservation process. At no additional cost and with minimal effort, it's a win for taxpayers, students, families, and Lutheran schools in our state. Thank you for your participation in MOScholars through the Missouri District!

**Pastor Meissner is available** for private Confession and Absolution by appointment during the week or on Sunday mornings, following Corporate Confession and Absolution which is held at 8:00 am each Sunday. You can also join Pastor Meissner for the service of Matins on Tuesdays, at 8:00 am after Men's Bible Breakfast, or on Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays at 7:30 am & Saturdays at 8:30 am.



**Portals of Prayer**—The October-December edition of Portals of Prayer are available in the Narthex. Please consider making a donation in exchange for your copy. A standard copy costs the church \$2.00, while the large print copy costs the church around \$3.00. Thank you!



**Church office hours:** The church office is open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 am-3:00 pm. The office is closed on Fridays. The ECC office is open Monday-Friday. Please contact us at 816-452-9113 or [church@holycrosskc.org](mailto:church@holycrosskc.org) if you have any questions. **Please submit any announcements** to be included in the weekly information notes to the church office by Thursdays at 7:00 am.

**Siberian Lutheran Mission Society Donor Match**—A long-time donor has stepped forward to offer a matching gift of \$20,000 for contributions received before the end of 2024. Will you help fulfill this matching gift? You can donate online at <https://siberianlutheranmissions.org/donate/>.



### September & October 2024

#### Transfers Out/Releases

- \* Brad & Taylor Smith (St. Stephen, Liberty, MO)
- \* Duck & Kim Schuler (St. Matthew, Lee's Summit, MO)

#### Confirmations/Transfers In/ Profession of Faith/Baptisms

- \* None

### Sunday School Corner

The children God has entrusted us to raise and teach are precious in His sight. Each one has been given life by God and His love for them is shown in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus. We need to teach our children to put ALL of their trust in God for their life and salvation. Teach them to know His Word and their poems in life should be that of the Psalms, expressing the faith God gave them in Christ. This portion of Psalm 62 is what we should teach each child in our care so their witness of salvation in Christ is strong and life eternal in heaven.

*"For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God. Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us." Ps 62:5-8*

This is the kind of witness we want to leave our loved ones in this crazy world we live in, a witness of sure hope, of eternal joy, of merciful promise, of victory in Christ. We never know when our poems in life will be read by someone else, so by the grace of God in Christ, let us teach the Poems of the Psalms to our children now!

In His Name and Service / Carl Pigors  
Sunday School Superintendent



Dear Fellow-redeemed,

St. Paul wrote to the Church of Christ in Corinth: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, Abel gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, Abraham prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel’s God and they His people.

What more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything, yes, even His life, enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us – like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ – give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart – for the joy set before us – the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.

A pledge card is provided for you below if you would like to commit to writing your promise to thank God through your time, talents, and treasure! The collection of pledges will take place on **Harvest Sunday, November 24**. If you are unable to be at services on Sunday, November 24, please mail your card in to the attention of: Financial Secretary, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 2003 NE Englewood Road, Kansas City, MO 64118

Giving to the Lord is giving thanks. Let us give thanks not in one way or the other. But rather in all things, everything that we do and say, whether it be in word or deed, in prayer an praise, in teaching and giving. And let us do it cheerfully and with great joy!

Your fellow servants in Christ,  
The Board of Stewardship



**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
PLEDGE CARD 2025**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Names of both husband and wife when applicable)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

By faith, as God enables me, I will-

- Pray regularly for the ministry of Holy Cross Lutheran Church.
- Attend worship services and seek to interest others in attending with me.
- Be available to follow God's leading in working in and through my church
- Give support to the work of the Lord in General Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how you plan to give the amount above:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month

I understand I may change my pledge amount at any time by contacting the church office.



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**November**

- Elizabeth Pohl
- Patrick Schroeder
- Reece Schroeder
- Joshua Duncan
- Sandy Hiatt
- Ann Miller
- Kelli Strandberg
- Paul Neill
- Kent Schroeder
- Jerry Nance
- Thomas Woitasczyk
- Nancy Arnold
- Kristen Marshall
- Ellie Strough
- Norma Koehler
- Emiko Pettijohn
- Eric Claussen
- Gregory Schmidt
- Carol Wilson
- Rebekah Meissner
- Carl Pigors
- Samantha Kent



**December**

- Chase Bradley
- Roman Bradley
- Rev. Craig Meissner
- Judy Zimmerman
- Terrie Reece
- Riley Addington
- Alan Bahl
- Alexis Hammock
- Josh Kueck
- Nathaniel Simon
- Stephanie Miller
- Irma Kerkсиеk
- Corbin Dexter
- Irene Anderson
- Dolly Brauer
- Kimberly Meier
- Noel Madeleka
- Richard Reece
- Toni Bosse
- Jacob Kueck
- Linda Rusche



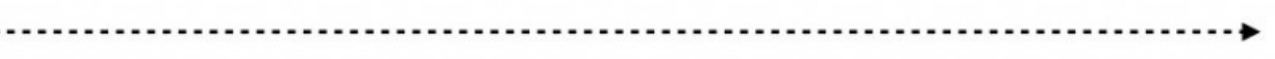
**HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY!**

**November**

- M/M Fred Sarrach
- M/M Carl Pigors
- M/M David Brown
- M/M Michael Crawford

**December**

- M/M Wally Hiatt



Please cut on the dotted line and fill out the pledge card on the opposite side.  
Return your pledge card to Holy Cross on Harvest Sunday, November 24th or mail card to:

Financial Secretary  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
2003 NE Englewood Road  
Kansas City, MO 64118

## Music at Holy Cross

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Psalm 98:4*

It was wonderful to join with many other choir members from our circuit congregations to sing for the Circuit Reformation Service held at Holy Cross on Oct. 27.

Organists from the greater Kansas City area will come to Holy Cross on Saturday, November 16 for an organ workshop. Our presenter is Kantor Bethany Johnson from St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Topeka, Kansas. She will give three presentations: Introductions and Improvisations, Organ Registration, and Service Music Repertoire and Ideas.

You are invited to join the Adult and Youth Choirs as we go caroling on Dec. 1. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:45 pm. Look for more information in the bulletin.

The Adult Choir continues to rehearse on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. We will sing a couple of Sundays in November and are working on music for the Lessons and Carols service on Sunday, Dec. 22. You are invited to join us!

If you would like to play an instrument for the Lessons and Carols service, please contact Myla Miller or Rebekah Meissner.

### **Message from Missie and the Youth Group Kids!**

Our YG calendar for the 2024-25 year is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Remember the \* items are "congregation invited"! Join us on those dates!!

- We received the information for 2025 HT registration and have forwarded it to the families and Pastor. Christ Lutheran will not be going this year. YG funds will pay for YG kiddos and one parent per family.
- In September, we hosted our Pizza Ranch FUN-Raiser. Approximately 40 people joined us for a buffet of pizza or fried chicken or BOTH!! The YG kids raised \$214.43 in tips and we will be receiving a check for 10% of sales, around \$136. Also, in September, we had 28 people attend the "Make your own Sundae on Saturday" with the Bingo FUN-Raiser. Bingo winners were: Greta Meissner (Chief's Frisbee); Evelyn McConnell (large jug of cheese puffs); Jackson Pohl (Main Event gift certificate for activities & Chief's outdoor metal display sign); Mike Schaunaman (\$100 Gift certificate for T-Shotz) & Rich Rusche/\$25 gift certificate for Stone Canyon. All of the Bingo prizes were all donated except the Chief's metal display sign so the only other expense was for Bingo cards & chips. The YG kids raised \$122.00.
- In October, the YG kids went on a Trailer Ride at the Neill Farm. We had hotdogs and s'mores. Thank you to Paul and Nancy for a fun outing!
- In November, the YG kids plan to pass out thank you cards to our Veterans at a US flag retirement ceremony on Nov. 3rd. Also in November, the YG kids are planning to donate to a local charity (instead of Samaritan's Purse) and will also fill out Christmas cards for our Homebound members.
- In December, the YG kids will present a service project Advent Calendar to support Swaddling Clothes. They will also go Christmas caroling with the choir to our Homebound members on December 1st at 12:30 pm. Everyone is invited to carol with us! The youth will also participate in the Lessons and Carols service on December 22nd.

Please continue to pray for the YG Kids that they always walk a path in life pleasing to God while focused on Him!

Missie Schroeder & Terrie Reece  
Youth Group Co-Chairs  
Proverbs 22:6



**From the Board of Christian Mercy:****Swaddling Clothes**

Our mission statement: The mission of Swaddling Clothes is to share the mercy of Christ with our neighbors through the gifts of clothing, food, friendship and the forgiving Word of God. Children are a gift from God. They are a blessing not an inconvenience. *"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Psalm 127:3*

In September and October, 2024 our Swaddling Clothes Center was very busy. We served 94 families - 24 new and 70 returning. We handed out 141 packages of diapers (5,700), 134 packages of baby wipes (9,500) and 57 big items that included strollers, highchairs, play mats, seats, swings, big toys, etc.

In October, we celebrated our one year anniversary of being open by sharing cookies with our families and volunteers. It was a fun day for all! We are also coming to an end of our Million Dollar Life Match of \$1,000 through LCMS Life Ministry. We used funds for many items like diapers, baby wipes, garage sale clothing and toys, baby wash, shampoo, pacifiers, formula, etc. Soon the project will come to an end and the final paperwork will be submitted.

We thank God for all of our SC volunteers from Holy Cross and ECC, Christ Lutheran Church and from our surrounding community that have helped in so many different ways of providing the supplies that we need to keep our center going to help our families in need. God bless you all! It is amazing the bond we are forming with these families and getting to know about their lives. We continue to share Christ's love with them as it is our sanctified life. *"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."* Ephesians 2:10 ESV

Some of the continuing monthly needs of SC are monetary gifts, diapers (size 0 -7), baby wipes, baby formula, baby food & teething biscuits, pacifiers, shampoo, baby wash, baby lotion. At Holy Cross, beginning in January 2025, our offering envelopes will have quarterly envelopes for Swaddling Clothes. We included this for your convenience if you so desire to support SC with a monetary gift. You may also give through our Holy Cross website.

Something new that you will hear about in the future is an organization called Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri/LFCS. They provide counseling services for children and families. We will be able to make referrals to them if we have families in need of counseling, pregnancy support, adoption services, pregnancy testing, etc. This is all new to us so we are taking the process very slowly.

In November, we will once again have the opportunity to collect items for our center from Rhea Lana. Watch your church bulletin for updates on that. Our next center opening will be November 9, 2024. Please sign up if you would like to help on the SC bulletin board in the narthex by old office. Starting January 2025 SC will be holding quarterly meetings on the fourth Monday at 5:30pm in the conference room in the months January, April, July and October. Everyone is invited to attend. Please also watch for SC sorting times in your weekly bulletin.

If anyone has questions or comments please see Shara Pigors text(816-654-2294) or email [arabs2016@gmail.com](mailto:arabs2016@gmail.com).

Please note: I will be out of town December 2024 thru February 2025 and Nancy Neill will head up SC. Her phone number is (816)556-6555 or email [nancyneill78@gmail.com](mailto:nancyneill78@gmail.com). Thank you! Shara

One continuous need we have is diapers and wipes. Please take a look below for the list of other items needed.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ongoing Needs List for Swaddling Clothes – New, or Slightly Used and Clean**

Bottles	Burp Cloths	Breast Pumps	Nursing Covers	Cupboard Locks
Baby Wipes	Pack'n'Plays	Lovies	Play mats	Boppy & Cover
Baby Wash	Diaper Bags	New Pacifiers	Baby Quilts	Crib Sheets
Bassinets	Baby Swings	High Chairs	Baby Dishes	Bath Blankets
Baby Cups	Swaddles	Shampoo	Bottle Warmers	Baby Chairs
Bibs (no ties)	Safety Gates	Diapers (NB-Size 5)	Knitted items	Crocheted Items
Strollers	Potty Chairs (clean)	Twin/Full Sheets	Pack'n'play sheets	Books (age appropriate)
Baby Silverware	Small Toys (age appropriate)	Baby Formula (not expired)		
Grocery Cart covers	Towels/Washcloths	Baby Food (not expired)		

Boys & Girls Clothing, Jackets, Sweaters, Shoes, Boots, Snowsuits, Hats, Gloves, Mittens, Leggings, Tights & Headbands (NB – 2T)

Items we will not be accepting: NO Cribs, NO Beds, NO Mattresses, NO Exersaucers, NO Car seats, NO Stuffed Animals, NO Large Toys



**From the Board of Christian Mercy**

We need food and personal care items for the three parties we support. MLM, Turning Point and Northland Cathedral. Please bring any of the following items to church at any time and place them in the coat room. There is continual need in our community. While out shopping, pick up some extra items!

**Suggested items to donate to local food pantries:**

1. Proteins: peanut butter, canned or packets of tuna or chicken, canned stew
2. Dry goods: dry beans, dry milk, brown or white rice, pasta, corn meal or polenta, cereal, oats, crackers, Macaroni & cheese
3. Canned: vegetables, fruits, beans, tomatoes, soup, broth, juice
4. Condiments and spices: ketchup, mustard, hot sauce, bbq sauce, mayonnaise, salt, pepper, dry spices, dry mixes (chili, taco, spaghetti etc), packets of condiments from fast food restaurants
5. Miscellaneous: fruit cups, dried fruit, oil, salad dressing, granola or protein bars, trail mix, breakfast bars, coffee, tea, pudding cups
6. Paper products: toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, paper plates, cups, plastic ware
7. Personal hygiene items: shampoo, deodorant, soap, combs, tooth paste, toothbrush

**Other Considerations:**

1. No glass packaging
2. No expired items
3. No junk food such as chips, cookies or candy
4. Try to donate flip top cans whenever possible
5. Consider donating a can opener

**A Little Levity...**

- A pastor was talking with a group of young children when he asked, “Why do you think I wear this collar?” One child looked questioningly at the pastor and said, “Because it kills fleas and ticks for up to 30 days?”

# NOVEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service 11:30 am <b>Veteran's Recognition &amp; Flag Ceremony</b>	4 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	5 7:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Matins 7:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting	6 7:30 am Matins 9:00 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Catechesis	7 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	8	9 8:30 am Matins 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00-1:00 pm Swaddling Clothes Store
10 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service	11 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel 5:30 pm Church Property Meeting	12 7:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Matins 10:30 am Chancel Guild Meeting	13 7:30 am Matins 9:00 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Catechesis	14 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel 9:30 am Winkler at Mt. Calvary	15	16 8:30 am Matins 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Organ Workshop
17 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service	18 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	19 7:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Matins	20 7:30 am Matins 9:00 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Catechesis	21 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	22	23 8:30 am Matins 9:00 am Handbell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
24 <b>Harvest Sunday</b> 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service	25 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	26 7:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Matins	27 7:30 am Matins NO Bible Class NO Catechesis 6:00 pm Divine Service	28 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>Offices Closed</b>	29 <b>Offices Closed</b>	30 8:30 am Matins 9:00 am Handbell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal

# DECEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service 12:45 pm Choir & Youth Caroling	2 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	3 7:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Matins 7:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting	4 7:30 am Matins 9:00 am Bible Class TBD Catechesis 6:00 pm Evening Prayer	5 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	6	7 8:30 am Matins 9:00 am Handbell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
8 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service	9 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel 5:30 pm Board of Church Properties Meeting	10 7:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Matins	11 7:30 am Matins 9:00 am Bible Class TBD Catechesis 6:00 pm Evening Prayer	12 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel 9:30 am Winkel at Christ Lutheran Church	13	14 8:30 am Matins 9:00 am Handbell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am -1:00 pm Swaddling Clothes Store
15 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service	16 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	17 7:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Matins	18 7:30 am Matins 9:00 am Bible Class TBD Catechesis 6:00 pm Evening Prayer	19 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	20	21 8:30 am Matins 9:00 am Handbell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
22 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service 6:00 pm Lessons & Carols	23 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel 10:00 am Chancel Guild Meeting	24 <b>Christmas Eve Offices Closed</b> 7:00 pm Candlelight Divine Service	25 <b>Christmas Day Offices Closed</b> 10:00 am Divine Service	26 NO Matins NO ECC Chapel	27	28 NO Matins
29 8:00 am Confession & Absolution 8:45 am Bible Class & SS 10:00 am Divine Service	30 7:30 am Matins 9:15 am ECC Chapel	31 <b>New Year's Eve Offices Closed</b>	1 <b>New Year's Day Offices Closed</b>			



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### **Return Service Requested**

Rev. Dr. Craig A. Meissner,  
Pastor

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# REFLECTIONS FROM THE CROSS

A NEWSLETTER OF HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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