



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

181 Old Seven Mile Pike, Shelbyville, KY 40065

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Making peace by the blood of his cross – Colossians 1:15-20

Grace, peace, and mercy to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Bill Murray, actor and Cubs fan, said that every Olympic competition should include one average person as a frame of reference for what these elite athletes are doing. Since, then, I've enjoyed picturing Bill Murray in Olympic wear in lane 9, still dog-paddling the 1500m while the next batch of swimmers wait impatiently to start their heats. Or Bill Murray trying to make one rotation on the high bar. Or Bill Murray cannonballing into the diving pool. It's been a fun diversion.

We sometimes lose track of the scale of greatness on display at the Olympics; on the other hand, we have a different reaction when we hear tales of how demanding the athletes' regimens are. These are athletes who have given up nearly all of what we consider regular life. Their time, diets, and body movements are minutely orchestrated for years to attain elite skill levels. When I hear that Katie Ledecky is not just eating oatmeal for the nutrition but also at a heat level designed to raise her body temperature, I never once think, "I should pattern my breakfasts off hers."

I think we fall into the same pattern when we talk about spiritual health. As a pastor, I have encouraged every member of the congregation to practice regular Bible reading, regular prayer, regular attendance at church and Bible studies, and regular home devotions. This does not come close to commandeering all free time. In general, I am speaking about activities that all together take less than the Sabbath's (1/7th) portion of a week once considered standard for all Jews. Yet the sinner within us always reacts rebelliously: "That's just for those super-Christians, and I'm no zealot."

Humility is healthy. If we all walked around thinking we were the best Christians, we'd be as insufferable as the Pharisees. But listen again to Jesus setting the bare requirement for everyday disciples: "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples" (John 8:31). Abiding in His Word is not eating Katie Ledecky's super-oatmeal; it's just eating breakfast. "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst" (John 6:35). When we leave aside God's Word, prayer, and Christian fellowship, we are starving spiritually.

Americans who adopt children from international orphanages are sometimes shocked at what passes for acceptable nutrition. The bare wisps of meals given to those kids for months or years as they await their new families take a tremendous toll on all levels of development. It's when those kids are taken out of orphanages and integrated side-by-side with kids who have had proper nourishment that all the ways they have been held back becomes apparent.

Standards set by others can impact our expectations of ourselves. Sometimes those standards push athletes to their best. Sometimes those standards make us think, "I don't need nourishment if I look no more scrawny than the guy over there." Holy Cross congregation will be blessed if we start talking to one another about the blessings we receive in Christ's Word. We can encourage one another. We can stir ourselves up to goodness and life. Jesus died for us, after all. He suffered to be able to pour out these gifts, in order to rescue us from the world and our own sins. He gives us eternal health and life. He sets a baptismal baseline from which we can begin again, restored in Him.

As we head towards Rally Day, let's start again. Let's run in His Word, strong in his truth and love, for "if you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Your servant in Christ.

Pastor Daniel Guagenti



BIRTHDAYS

3- Tommy Conder
6- Anita Themer
8- Aria Themer
9- Carl Clark
14- Ashley Lancaster
15- Joel Franke
16- Debbie Nelson
16- Lisa McCarty
25- Greg Rutledge
29- Mary Ann Conder
30- David Conder
30- Chris McKinley
30- Robert Myers

BAPTISM

On Sunday, June 6, 2021, Darcy Rose Themer was received into God's Kingdom of Grace through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Darcy is the daughter of Max and Danielle Themer. Sponsors are Stephanie Robinson and Zae McGee. We wish Darcy God's continued blessings.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY: 9:45AM

Adult Bible Study will cover Zechariah and the rebuilding of Jerusalem after the exile. Join us at 9:45am.

HOLY TRINITY INSTALLATION: AUGUST 8

Pastor Jason Reed, currently serving at Messiah, Wolcottville, IN, has accepted Holy Trinity's Call and will be installed by Pastor Brege on August 8 at 3:00pm in La Grange. Congregation is welcome to attend.

BLOOD DRIVE: AUGUST 18

Blood Drive- August 18 (Wednesday), 11am-5pm - we are hosting right here at Holy Cross. Donors are needed for whole blood or double red (2 units of red blood cells). Check out the American Red Cross website for donation qualifications and scheduling. Nearly 100 more donors are needed. Volunteers are also needed for setup, cleanup and baking/making treats. A signup sheet is posted on bulletin board; read carefully to sign up for the correct task. If you have any questions, please see Corrie.



HOLY CROSS RUMMAGE SALE: SEPTEMBER 18

Time to clean out those closets and garages! We are planning a rummage sale for September 18. We will need help the week prior for setting up and pricing, working the day of the rummage sale, and afterwards with cleaning and boxing up the unsold items. A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board at the back of the church prior to the sale. If we do not get enough volunteers the rummage sale will be canceled. We appreciate any donations for the sale! Proceeds from the sale will go towards the storage building. For more information please see Kathy or Merrie.

RALLY DAY: AUGUST 22

Sunday School resumes with Rally Day in August. We need to regather volunteers and children. Also, see the board for post-its for things we need brought for the Rally Day celebration. Thanks!



HOLY CROSS COUNCIL MEETING: AUGUST 29

Council meeting, following church service, Sunday, August 29, 2021. Please prepare for the annual church budget. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATE.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

The link for our YouTube channel is:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyEYS2vyKx1PLc45wHJcJnw/videos>

LADIES LUNCH OUT: AUGUST 16

We are having Ladies Lunch Out on Monday, August 16 at Panera in Middletown at 11:30am. We will meet at church at 11:00 and car-pool. Please let me know if you plan to go so we will know how many to expect. My phone is 751-4303. You may call or text. We are looking at different days that may be better for some of our ladies that may be working on our normal Tuesday. So if you have a day that is better for you please let me know and we'll try to find one that works best for everyone. It's just a relaxing lunch where we can catch up with each other and have a relaxing meal. Rita Whitehouse.

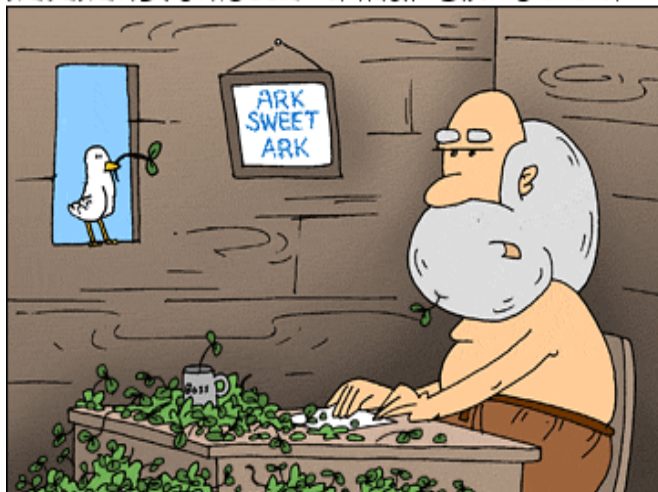
LUTHERANISM 101: SATURDAYS 10AM

We're having a new 10-week run of **Lutheranism 101** on Saturdays at 10 AM. This is a great class for the basics on what the Bible teaches, the history of Jewish and Christian faith and what makes a Lutheran a Lutheran. Give it a try!

YOU KNOW YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN IF...

- Every time something changes, the old one was better.
- You hold your family reunion in the church basement.
- A capital fund drive is needed to finance the new one million cup coffee urn.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 6-8)

YEAH, YOU FOUND LAND, I GET IT
ALREADY

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

On Wednesdays we have a new Zoom Bible class on **The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit**. We'll start talking about the old Jewish feast of Pentecost, then the Pentecost in Acts where the disciples' proclamation of Jesus were heard in every language. What does the outpouring of the Spirit mean for us today? How does the Holy Spirit form us into a church, full of God's gifts?

"BACK TO NORMAL"

Volunteer service has been a hallmark of Holy Cross' life together. We have so many people offering so many gifts, it is wonderful! For the past year plus our regular volunteer schedule for acolytes, readers, nursery workers, and Sunday School teachers have read "N/A." We are excited to start putting names back into that schedule! To do so, we need to hear from you that you are ready to pick up that work again. This is a great time to join the rolls of a new service, too. Let us know!



Ladies Lunch Out at Cracker Barrel,
July 22, 2021

LIFE QUOTES

"Our youth are a gift of God—our future voice and our For Life voice, now! Take a moment and read Titus 2 and ponder Paul's teaching in light of Proverbs 1:5: 'Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.' Then invite, encourage, and mentor youth in your circle today." *Rev. Jeff Duncan, Mission and Ministry Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



KNOW YOUR BIBLE



Swift King

What Old Testament king was known for his fast and furious chariot driving?

Look for the answer in the September's Newsletter
June/July's Answer: Melchizedek (see Gen. 14:18-20)

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Sunday	ACOLYTE	READER	USHER	USHER	CLEANING	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD	MOWING
August 1	Gabriel Guagenti	Charlie Moody	Don Saltzman	Bob Myers	Sandy Runner	Anita Themer	Brenda Moody Karen Hite	Alex VanPelt Mike Carlson Aug 4-7
August 8	Zoe Shreve	Dave Themer	Charlie Moody	Rita Whitehouse	Don Williams Bob Myers	Suzanne Rutledge	No Communion	Ricky Spreitzer Charlie Schufer Aug 11-14
August 15	Eden Guagenti	Nancy Kovach	Alex VanPelt	Charlie Adams	Theresa Tippet Jennifer Harrod	Danielle Themer	Rita Whitehouse Karen Hite	Dave Pontius Jack Bink Aug 18-21
August 22	Brenyn Botkins	Dave Franke	Corrie Brian	Greg Rutledge	Roxanne Pontius Guagenti family	Brenda Moody	No Communion	Dave Themer Brian Gehrman Aug 25-28
August 29	Gabriel Guagenti	Jeff Wilson	Cindy Alvano	John Feole	Dave Pontius Don Saltzman	Merrie Feole	Jennifer Harrod Karen Hite	John Feole Steve Rusch Sept 1-4
September 5	Zoe Shreve	Charlie Moody	Don Saltzman	Bob Myers	Charlie Adams	Anita Themer	Brenda Moody Rita Whitehouse	Greg Rutledge Pastor Guagenti Sept 8-11

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON THE APPOINTED DAY, PLEASE CALL SOMEONE TO SERVE IN YOUR PLACE.

Please join us as we kick off the Sunday School year with a

Summer Splash!

Food • Inflatable • Slip 'n' Slide • Dunk Tank • Activity Booths

Sunday, August 22

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11 a.m. Divine Service

With food & fun to follow!

Children are welcome to wear a modest swimsuit and cover-up and bring a towel since the day will involve lots of water activities!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

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(502) 647-3696 • holycross.360unite.com

BATTLE of the BADGES BLOOD DRIVE



Jana Park Jennen

Aug 4 at 11:40 AM • 🌐

Today I am so thankful for those of you who donate blood. It always made me a little nervous and a few months ago I finally got the courage to donate plasma, but they told me I'm never able to give due to a blood clotting disorder that I had when I was pregnant. So, those of you who can and do, I thank you so much! Blood does a body good! ❤️

Donate Blood In Memory of Jana Park Jennen
Or In Support of your favorite Shelby County First
Responder Department/Station

Holy Cross Lutheran Church will have delicious, homemade treats for all donors!

This can be a real battle of the badges!

The department/station with the most participants will receive a homemade meal of your choice!

Blood Drive **Shelbyville** **Battle of the Badges &** **Jana Park Jennen** **Commemorative Blood Drive**

August 18 - 11am-5pm
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
181 Old Seven Mile Pike



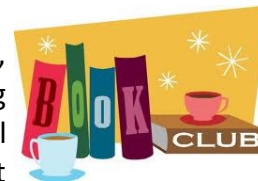
For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



American Red Cross

BOOK CLUB & PROGRESSIVE DINNER UPDATE

Alleluia and blessings to all! It is wonderful to be back with one another at church, and since we are now able to gather again, with guidelines in place, we are seeking interested parties for a regrouping of Holy Cross Lutheran's book club. Since social distancing is still encouraged, and we generally attempt to share a meal, I had put forth the idea of a picnic-type of lunch, perhaps under the covered portion of the driveway out front. For our initial meeting, I would request that members come prepared to nominate books. This does not mean you need to give us a book report; rather, convince us that your book is the one we should read!! We keep a multitude of possibilities on our reading list, and you are free to read as many of them as you like. Please email Shelah Shreve at sesme@bellsouth.net if you are interested in attending a book club meeting, and we will prepare from there!



Likewise, we had intended to finally have another go at a Progressive Dinner, and had this planned for March 22nd of last year. Unfortunately, our plans were derailed by COVID lockdowns. There is still a keen interest in this endeavor, which takes us into the homes of families from our church, who have volunteered to host, and share different courses of a dinner meal. We could, if enough yard space is available, do this more as a Progressive Picnic/BBQ/Backyard dinner, weather permitting. First, I will need volunteer families to offer up their homes and/or yard spaces for church members to gather. You will also need to be willing to prepare and serve (don't worry, Lutherans love to help!) one course of our progressive meal. If you have an interest in offering up your home and culinary skills, please contact Shelah Shreve at sesme@bellsouth.net. If it is easier for you to text or call, my number is 502-640-4293.



May the peace of the Lord be with us all!

KFUO.ORG RADIO

Listen to Worldwide KFuo.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at KFuo.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. You can also find our programming wherever you get your podcasts! Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUOradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

LUTHERAN HOUR PROJECT CONNECT

The booklets we have on the turning display are on-line, several of them in audio format so you can listen while doing other things. It's a great way to get solid Bible-based content in a digital way. There are the adult-focused booklets we're familiar with as well as content for children, too.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

LHM is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of *Bringing Christ to the Nation—and the Nations to Church*. Lutheran Hour Ministries produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast, as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials, to reach the unchurched in more than 30 countries. **The Lutheran Hour**, is the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program. It airs Sundays at 9am on 102.7FM. For more information, visit www.lhm.org (<http://www.lhm.org>) or call 1-800-876-9880.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter article – August 2021

When it comes to stewardship, a favorite Bible verse is the account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4). It's a moving account. Our Lord praises the seemingly small gift of two copper coins given by a poor widow above the abundance of gifts given by the rich, saying, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them" (Luke 21:3). And that is usually where we stop. But the text goes on. "For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" (Luke 21:4).

"She ... put in all she had to live on." She gave everything. She held nothing back. She trusted that the Lord who made her and all creatures; who gave her everything she had; who redeemed her from her own sin, from death, and the power of the devil; who called her by the gospel and enlightened her with His gifts of Word and Sacrament; would continue to do this. He would provide her with all that she needed for this body and life because that is the character of the God she had.

But this is not why we give small gifts. Her gift, though it appeared small, was actually large. When we are tempted to give small gifts, it is precisely because we want them to be small! We don't trust the Lord to provide for us. We give small gifts because we lack faith in the One who created us, redeemed us, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith. We give small gifts because we doubt that God will really give us what we need and desire. We give small gifts because we are not content with what God has already given.

We are not slaves, children of the slave woman, under the Old Covenant (Galatians 4). We are adopted sons of the free woman. And since we are sons, we are also heirs. And heirs receive the inheritance. For everything is already ours in Christ. And thus, moved by the willing spirit of adoption, we do the will of God in financial matters far beyond all that done by those under the Old Covenant who were forced by legal demands.

So, what have you decided to give? How do I decide what to give? Let the Scriptures be your guide.

We are to give proportionally to what we have received from God's giving to us (Luke 12:48; 1 Corinthians 16:1–2, 2 Corinthians 8:12). But you have not been set free to give nothing. See that you excel in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7)!

We are not free to live selfishly outside the Gospel, without regard for God who gives us all good gifts, without generosity for our neighbor who needs us and our gifts, without supporting the community of faith in which we live, without care for our spiritual fathers and those who teach and help raise our children in the faith, and without resources for the poor and needy.

In short, we are not free to live unto ourselves, hoarding what God has given us only for us. For love is the fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10). And the sum of the law is this: Love God and love your neighbor (Matthew 22:34–40). We love because He first loved us. We give because He has given to us.

Luther once said, "Possessions belong in your hands, not in your heart" (LW 14:240). There is a reason your 10 fingers spread apart. With your hands you catch God's gifts for what you need and let the rest fall through your fingers to your neighbors – your family, your friends, your community, your church.



SHARING THE POWERFUL GOSPEL

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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EVERY SUNDAY
BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE-11:00AM

AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2021

If my people, who are called by
my name, will humble themselves
and pray and seek my face and
turn from their wicked ways,
then will I hear from heaven
and will forgive their sin and
will heal their land.

- 2 Chronicles 7:14 -

