



The Cross Bearer

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

November, 2019

www.holycrosselca.org

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From the Pastor...

Eliminate the Offering?

Someone recently forwarded me an article written by a Pastor named Andrew entitled "Pastors: Let's Eliminate the Offering." Just from the title I thought, "What? That's crazy! What could this guy be thinking!" As I read further, I discovered how wrong I have been so often in my thinking about how, why, and what we give. I was surprised that the word "Offering" has a certain meaning in the modern world. When we "offer" something, we think of it as giving something that is "ours." For example, we offer wisdom, advice, possessions in a way that says, "This is MINE and I'm offering it to YOU." When we buy a car, we usually make an "offer." There's nothing wrong with this, however when we transfer this to a church "offering" setting, it does not jive with the Biblical understanding of offering.

In Deuteronomy 26:10 we find *"And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me." And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God.*" In Deuteronomy 16:17 *"All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you."* Did you catch the difference? The understanding of

giving to God is NOT from our own doing, but instead acknowledging that ALL that we have comes from God and belongs to God. I believe this understanding of what we have changes

our relationship to all of our possessions. It inspires us to see that ALL is a gift from God, and ALL is grace and grace alone. It also helps us to see ourselves as temporary managers of these things during our limited mortal lifetime.

[\(continued on page 10...\)](#)

Church Council

Chairperson: Joey Wagoner
Vice Chair Cindy Dancoff
Secretary: Jennifer Burgin
Youth Rep: Jillian Joyce

Lisa Crowder
Cindy Duncan
Tracy Goodwin
Daniel Hayes
Sharon Hovis
Chelsea Morrow
Joni Smith
Craig Taylor
Mike Wootton

Non-voting positions:

Treasurer: Toni Whiteside
Financial Secretary: Karen Hayes

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Chad Walker
Parish Secretary: Rickie Allen
Communications: Karen Hayes
Worship Leader: Lee Burnette

*We are a place for **ALL**, no exceptions. We think the **TRUTH** about **LIFE** may just be **LOVE** and **LOVE** may just be the **WAY**.*



REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

THE KNITTING CHICS/ANNA'S ARMY—Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30 PM. Shawls are knitted for those in crisis and in need of a tangible symbol of God's love and care. Anna's Army knits shawls and blankets for children in crisis. Peggy Schronce is available at meetings to help teach new knitters.

SASSY SENIORS—Meets on the second Monday of each month at 10 AM. This is our senior group for anyone over 55 and still young at heart.

GOOD SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY—meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 10 a.m. This Bible study is led by Dorothy Carsley.

HOLY CROSS BOOK CLUB meets every other month on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. The next meeting is November 19 at the home of Janice Payseur. The book for discussion is The Pact, by Sampson Davis

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on Sunday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. Committees will meet as scheduled by your chairperson.



Text **holycrosselca** to **77977** to give!

In a move to support your generosity, we're implementing a new way to give.

YOU CAN GIVE WHENEVER AND WHEREVER IT SUITS YOU

Thank you for your support as we continue to grow and impact our community together.

Manage your account at [Pushpay.com](https://www.pushpay.com)

PUSHPAY

Three ways to give!

- To download app: Text "pushpay" to 77977
- Quick give without app: Text "holycrosselca" to 77977
- To give from your home computer: Go to www.holycrosselca.org, click on "connect," then click "give."



Lola Whiteside	11/6
Riley Wagoner	11/7
Misti Walker	11/10
Sue Lail	11/11
Eve Miller	11/12
Maya Wilson	11/12
Daniel Rosenlieb	11/15
Anna Escobar	11/16
Mike Palmer	11/18
Jennifer Taylor	11/24
Lillian Honeycutt	11/25
Gabe Lail	11/29
Max McCotter	11/29



Gail Broome	11/1
Bradley Morrow	11/1
Noah Taylor	11/1
Kendall Harwood	11/9
Chad Walker	11/10
Denise Eurey	11/13
Jim Hovis	11/13
Mackenzie Goodwin	11/15
Katelyn Parker	11/20
Maya Wilson	11/23



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

11/03	10 AM	Pentecost 21
11/10	10 AM	Pentecost 22
11/17	10 AM	Pentecost 23
11/24	10 AM	Christ the King

The Eucharist is served every week.

OCTOBER STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Date	General Fund	Special Giving	Attendance
10/06	\$4,628.25	\$2,110.00	100
10/13	2,957.00	395.00	89
10/20	5,397.00	845.00	-
10/27	5,009.00	5.00	89
Thrivent	-----	-----	-----
AmazonSmile	28.98	-----	-----
Total	\$18,020.23	\$3,355.00	93 (Average)
Needed each week: \$5,492.00 Needed-to-date: \$236,156.00 Received-to-date: \$205,100.08 Year-to-date over/(under): \$(31,055.92)			

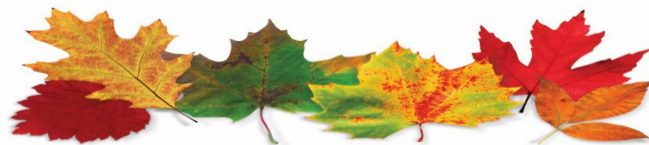
ROOF FUND PROGRESS

Amount to date: \$3,719.17

BECAUSE HE
LIVES *i can face*
TOMORROW →
BECAUSE HE
LIVES *all fear is gone*
← **BECAUSE**
i know **HE** *holds* **THE**
FUTURE *AND LIFE IS*
just because
HE LIVES



- **Marsha Moore** had gall bladder surgery early last month. She has recovered well.
- **Sonya Hoffman** is recovering well from surgery to remove a kidney stone after complications in a first surgical attempt.
- **Kevin and Chelsea Hayes** announce the birth of their son (and Emma's brother), **Atlas Roger Hayes** who was born October 11. He weighed 7lbs, 9 oz. and is 22 inches long.
- **Elaine Wismar** suffered a fall and is recovering at home. Please continue to pray for her.
- **Cole Sigmon** was born on October 03 to **Kevin and Paige Sigmon** (and brother, Reed). Cole is the new grandson of **Debbie and Dale Sigmon**.
- **Joan Elmore** broke two ribs in a fall. Please keep **Joan and Bill** in your prayers as she heals.
- **Bill Alvey** is recovering from pneumonia. Please pray for **Bill and Janet** as he recovers.
- **Melanie Freeman** broke her neck in a fall, but will only need physical therapy and time to heal. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.
- **Abram Hardin** is having surgery to place tubes in his ears. Please keep **Abram** and his parents, **Brad and Kellie** in your prayers.
- Full-time Military: **Danny Nichols, Lyndsey Mendenhall Clark, Kevin Sigmon, Joey Stamey, Jennifer Regan, Jed Beam, Max Fender, Jimmy Angle. Others in the Military: **William Scronce.****



Before you go to bed on
Saturday night, November 2,
set your clocks back one hour.



LOST

One of our members brought a tripod easel to church to use for a specific purpose. It has gone missing. Perhaps someone thinking it belonged to the church used it for a church-related event. If you remember borrowing it or you have seen it and know where it is, please return it or let us know where it is so we can get it back to its rightful owner.

Congregational Meeting



The annual November Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, **November 17** immediately after worship (about 11 a.m.) The purpose of this meeting is to approve the 2020 budget presented by church council and to elect new council members.

VIA DE CRISTO

2020 WEEKENDS

Men's—February 20-23
Women's—March 12-15
Mixed—March 26-29
Men's—September 24-27
Women's—October 8-11
Mixed —October 15-18



Cost for pilgrims is \$90. *Holy Cross will pay the cost for all pilgrims.* After the weekend, if you can afford to reimburse all or part, you may do so. If you would like to attend one of these weekends or get more information, please speak with Pastor Chad, John Dancoff or Karen Hayes. You can also get information at www.wncvdc.org.

If you would like to help with the cost of sending pilgrims to VdC, please donate to the Holy Cross S.O.U.L. fund.

NOVEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:00 AM Sunday Lift 10:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Christmas Play Practice	4	5	6 6:30 AM Small Group 10:00 AM G.S. Bible Study	7 6:00 PM Ensemble	8	9
10 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Sunday Lift 10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Committee Mtgs 7:00 PM Council Meeting	11 10:00 AM Sassy Seniors	12	13 6:30 AM Small Group	14 6:00 PM Ensemble	15	16 10:00 AM Greeting Card Ministry
17 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:00 AM Sunday Lift 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Cong. Meeting 5:00 PM Youth	18	19 7:00 PM Book Club	20 6:30 AM Small Group 10:00 AM G.S. Bible Study 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl	21 6:00 PM Ensemble	22	23
24 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:00 AM Sunday Lift 10:00 AM Worship <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	25	26	27 6:30 AM Small Group	28 6:00 PM Ensemble	29	30



Join us each Sunday morning at 9:00 in the fellowship hall for Sunday Lift. It's a time for people of all ages to gather and learn about and share God's love. There is always good food, fun activities and awesome people! You don't have to have kids to be a part of Lift. Just join in! Childcare for our youngest ones is provided. We are looking for a few more people to lead this ministry. If you are interested, please let Pastor Chad know.



Communication Tips!

We try to get important information to you in a number of ways: monthly newsletters, weekly e-mail reminders, FaceBook posts, Sunday bulletins and announcements, phone calls and texts. Please let us know if you aren't receiving communications and we will try to help you track down the problem.

Are you on our e-mail lists for prayer requests, reminders and monthly newsletters? Keep your e-mail address current with us by sending a note to holycrosselcanc@gmail.com

Important information such as cancellations, schedule changes, and prayer requests of a serious or emergent nature are sent out by phone and/or text blasts. Please make sure we have your phone number (cell number for texts) and let us know if you prefer calls, texts or both. Update your preferences with an e-mail to holycrosselcanc@gmail.com or a phone call at 704-732-0251.

If you would like to share a prayer request with the church family via our mass email, please call, email or place your request in the prayer box in the narthex. Please be sure the subject of your prayer request approves of sharing .

Announcements for the Sunday bulletin should be given to Rickie no later than Tuesday of that week. Newsletter articles and info are due in the church office no later than the last Sunday of the month.

Worship Assistants Schedule

Date	Service Time	Greeter	Aco/Crucifer	Lector	C. Assist.	Slides	Nursery	Lay Pastor
11/03	10:00 AM	D. Eurey	P. Joly	V. Joly	K. Park	E. Anderson	J. Joly	E. Miller
11/10	10:00 AM	J. Smith	C. Hayes	G. Nichols	S. Harrill	H. Smith	N. Melson	J. Dancoff
11/17	10:00 AM	L. Hummrich	J. Joyce	S. Hoffman	B. rosenlieb	C. Wilson	T. Whiteside	B. Elmore
11/24	10:00 AM	E. Miller	L. Hummrich	B. Morrow	R. Ulicny	J. Payseur	K. Harrill	M. Freeman

Service Time	Ushers	Deacon	Altar Guild
10:00 AM	G. Nichols, R. Hayes, C. Duncan, T. Wilson	L. Crowder	G. Broome C. Dancoff

Youth News



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

- > We had a great time on the Amazing Race Against Hunger and raise over \$200 to help feed people in our community.
- > We are asking parents to help with 1 or 2 meals this year, as an opportunity to serve our youth.
- > **CALLING ALL MUSICIANS AND SINGERS** – come on **Thursdays at 5pm** and learn from Lee and others how to better play

together in a Praise Band, and eventually play for some of our Sunday morning worship times.

- > **November 3rd** YOUTH NIGHT 5-7:30PM (with Christmas Play practice)
- > **November 17th** YOUTH NIGHT 5-7:30PM
- > **December 1st** OUTING TBA
- > **December 15th** YOUTH NIGHT
- > Don't forget to come to **SUNDAY LIFT** on **Sundays at 9am**.
- > Youth are also welcome at our Jesus @ the Center Small group on Wednesday mornings.

LAUGHTER CLUB

Join us for something different!

Hosted by **Fox Laughter Club** and **Holy Cross ELCA**

Thursday, November 21, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

All ages!



SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY for ALL

AGES

Jesus @ the Center



there I Am in the midst

Join us on Wednesdays @ 6:30AM -7:30AM

where we will gather around with friends, coffee, and scripture – with Jesus at the center. Come grow in faith and Love.

If you would like to get a new small group started, and 6:30am is a bit early for you, we are looking to start additional groups. You can sign up for possible times on the bulletin board next to the pastor's office.

BOOKBAGS OF LOVE



We have begun sending food to school for Bookbags of Love. If you would like to donate money, make your check out to Holy Cross with "Bookbags of Love" in the memo, or designate it on

an envelope with cash, or use Pushpay and note "Bookbags of Love" in the misc. fund. We need \$100 a week to do this ministry.

There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to volunteer to pack and/or deliver bags.

Unapproved Council Minutes

October 13, 2019

Present: Joey Wagoner, Jennifer Burgin, Pastor Chad Walker, Joni Smith, Tracy Goodwin, Chelsey Morrow, Cindy Duncan, Cindy Duncan **Absent:** Sharon Hovis, Mike Wootton, Craig Taylor, Daniel Hayes, Jillian Joyce, Lisa Crowder

With Quorum established, Joey Wagoner called the meeting to order: 7:05 p.m.

Devotions: Jennifer Burgin

Approval of minutes from September: approved unanimously

Committee Reports

Christian Ed - Sunday Lift taking a break until November

Finance - credits outweighed debits, committee spent entire time working on 2020 budget

Property – Joey reported he spoke with Doug Queen to inquire on getting the ceiling fans fixed from where they put the new roof on. Mr. Queen advises that he was going to look at it about a month ago and got hurt. His arm is now immobile and probably has to do some physical therapy. He is hoping his doctor will release him to go back to work by the end of the month. Hopefully by then it will be cool enough to start pulling off shingles to see what the problem is. He send the church and the council his deepest apologies.

Social Ministry/Fellowship – Collection for Project Matthew has started

Youth - Oct. 26 Haunted House; Amazing Race - good collection

Pastor's Report-band playing at Reformation Service
New Business -

- Joey Wagoner made a motion for the council to officially welcome/approve new members Marsha Moore, Casey & Rodney Buckner, Janet & Bill Alvey to the church. Chelsey Morrow seconded and the council approved unanimously.
- Six people have agreed to be on church council ballot.
- Joey presented the 2020 budget as suggested by the finance committee. Cindy Duncan made a motion to increase budgeted annual income of \$2000 for Pastor Chad, Cindy Duncan seconded and council approved unanimously. Cindy Duncan made a motion to increase budgeted annual salary by \$500 for Secretary and \$500 Communications Director, seconded by Cindy Duncan and approved unanimously. Cindy Dancoff made a motion to take budget to congregation as edited, Joni Hunter seconded and council approved unanimously. Budget will be presented to congregation on November 17.

Next Council Meeting November 10, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Closing Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.



Project Matthew

It's time to begin collecting for Project Matthew 2019! Money will also be collected throughout the next couple of months for the purchase of turkeys. If you feel led to donate, you can do so through PushPay, or note it on your check or cash donation as "Project Matthew."

*We will be having the COAT CLOSET again this year, so please remember this ministry as we go through our closets in preparation for Fall. We will be accepting new or gently used: **blankets, sweatshirts, sweaters, jackets, and coats as well as children's books for our Book Nook.***

September 29:	Family size cans of CORN
October 6:	Family Size can of GREEN BEANS
October 13:	Family Size cans of YAMS/SWEET POTATOES
October 20:	Cans of CRANBERRY SAUCE
October 27:	STUFFING (bags or Stove Top mix)
November 3:	16 oz. boxes of INSTANT MASHED POTATOES
November 10:	Frozen PIES
November 17:	Make up week

Distribution: November 23, 1:00-3:00 PM



If you know a family that would benefit from receiving the groceries for a Thanksgiving meal, please put the name and a contact phone number—either yours or theirs, in the offering plate, or let the office staff know. We will have coupons available so that we can have a better count on how many families to expect, and have an easier time at the registration table.

Get the word out! We want those in need in our community to know where they can get their holiday groceries.

Ministry Leaders: You are invited to prepare flyers with info about your ministry (church or community) to be added to the bags.

Pastor Andrew then goes on to write that we might change from the term “offering,” with its modern understanding, to the term “returning,” which falls more in line with the type of giving we see in the Holy Scriptures. “Returning” seems like a better term to describe what it is we do when we give to our congregation. It is different than “offering” money for goods and services. It is different from “offering” wisdom or advice. What we do when we give to church, is to RETURN a portion of what has first been given to us.

God has given us all so much. We have been given time to share with those we love. We have been given talents to work at jobs. We have been given resources to live on. We have been given air to breathe and space to inhabit. God has given us all so much. May we grow together in the ways in which we RETURN a portion of those gifts to God’s great work!

Christ Makes Returning Exciting,

P. Chad

The Cross Bearer-November, 2019

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

2639 East Highway 150

Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

God’s
Grace

Dated Material

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