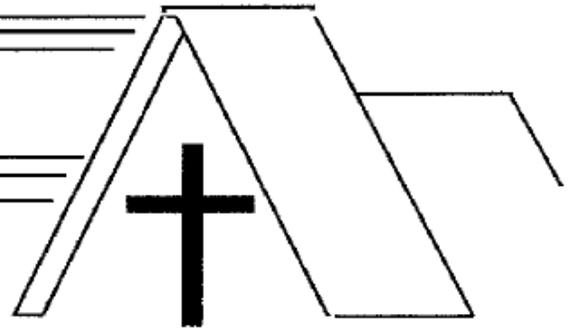


# the CRISS + CROSS



Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
8900 Sheridan Drive  
Clarence, NY 14031  
716-634-2332  
E-Mail: HolyCrossClarence@gmail.com  
The Reverend Randy Rozelle, Pastor

## November 2014

*Working together to connect people to Jesus*

### Much to be Thankful For

In this month of remembering our many blessings, Rob Bell in "Jesus Wants to Save Christians" offers many realities that we often take for granted in this land:

- 1 billion people in the world do not have access to clean water, while the average American uses 400 to 600 liters of water a day.
- Every 7 seconds, somewhere in the world a child under age 5 dies of hunger, while Americans throw away 14% of the food we purchase.
- 3.5 billion people in the world live on less than two American dollars a day.
- 40% of people in the world lack basic sanitation, while 49 million diapers are used and thrown away in America every day.
- 1.6 billion people in the world have no electricity.
- Nearly 1 billion people in the world cannot read or sign their name.
- Nearly 100 million children are denied basic education.
- By far, most people in the world do not own a car; 1/3 of American families own three cars.

- 1 in 7 children worldwide (158 million) has to go to work every day just to survive. ...
- Americans spend more annually on trash bags than nearly half of the world does on all goods.

Indeed, we have much to pray about, give humble thanks for, and be generous with!!!

Pastor Randy

### Christian Education Theme



Continue to pray for the Christian Education year and our theme: "Link†In." In First Corinthians 12:13 Paul declares, "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body." Not only have we been "Link†In" to Jesus in baptism, but we have been "Link†In" to one another—the Body of Christ. We invite you to join one of our age-appropriate groups (Pre-K - Adult) on Sunday mornings as "Link†In" we grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Youth Christian Education



Join us in the Upper Room on Sunday's at 9:30 for video series and relevant topics. Remember also to bring your tithe/offering with you as we continue to

sponsor Godwin in Togo, Africa, through Compassion International. Just \$32 every month provides Godwin with education, Christian instruction, medical and dietary needs. See you soon! Friends are always encouraged!

## Adult Christian Education

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Holy Cross narthex (lobby) from 9:30 - 10:30 as we continue our study in Acts and listen to God speak into our hearts and lives. All are welcome and bring a friend!

## Christmas Decorating Party

Join us on Sunday, November 23rd immediately following 11:00 worship as we decorate Holy Cross for Advent and Christmas. Lunch will be provided. All ages welcome! Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex soon!



## Choir News:

The Choir meets on Tuesday's, @ 7:00pm.



## Visitation Care



If you are or will be hospitalized or homebound and desire Christian care from the Holy Cross staff please phone the church office at 634-2332 and/or email

Pastor Randy at [pastorrandy8900@gmail.com](mailto:pastorrandy8900@gmail.com) and let me know. Please do not assume that we know your situation because for many reasons we often don't. We will do our best to visit you, and if homebound, see that you receive communion. In Jesus, Pastor Randy and Barb Wachtel (Parish Nurse)

## December Criss Cross Deadline:



Please submit any items for the December Criss Cross no later than December 17th. Items can be left on my desk, in my

mailbox, or can sent via email to [holycrosslcarence@gmail.com](mailto:holycrosslcarence@gmail.com)

Thank you Ann

## Women's Bible Study



The Women's Bible Study Group meets every Tuesday morning from 9:30am to 11am in Krampitz Hall. We are in the second half of the study, **THE STORY: THE BIBLE AS ONE CONTINUING STORY OF GOD AND HIS PEOPLE**. About this study: God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what **THE STORY** is all about-- the story of the Bible, God's great love affair with humanity. Condensed into 31 accessible chapters, **THE STORY** sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. Using the clear, accessible text of the NIV Bible, it allows the stories, poems, and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. And like any good story, **THE STORY** is filled with intrigue, drama, conflict, romance, and redemption- and this story is true! (A study guide and DVD will help us in understanding each chapter.)

Scheduled meetings for November are the 4th: "The Birth of the King", the 18th: "Jesus' Ministry Begins" and the 25th: "No Ordinary Man".

So ladies, the coffee pot is always on along with sweets to enjoy, so feel free to join us whenever you can. It's always a great way to start your day, when you "dig" into God's Word!

## November Calendar Dates



Mon: Family Days  
Nov 3rd @ 7:00 pm CAYA  
Special date: Nov 5th - 7th: District Convention in Lancaster, PA  
Nov 14th - 17th: PLI in AZ  
Thu: 13th Bake n Pray, Hunt Real Estate  
20th He-Brew @ 7:30pm TBA  
Fri: nothing  
Sat: 8th Men's Breakfast at 9:00 AM in K-Hall  
Sun: All of them = Worship 8:00; 11:00  
Confirm from 9:30-10:30 on 2nd, 9th, and 23rd (NO 16th or 30th)  
SS from 9:30-10:30 on 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd (NO 30th)  
23rd = Christmas Decoration Set Up after 11:00 Worship

Council Meeting for November TBA

## Heritage Home



"The people were quiet while Jesus thanked His heavenly Father for the bread and fish." "Jesus Feeds 5,000 People" is the Bible story for our November 23 visit, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. We will make placemats with stickers for the things we are thankful for and will sing "Thank God" and "God Bless America" as part of our worship.

## Habitat Buffalo

Thank you, Holy Cross, for your September benevolence gift of \$140. Habitat puts faith and love into action as we hit the nail on the head until the house is built, and the family moves in.

## Hearts for the Homeless



Thanks to everyone who donated to the Hearts' toiletries collection. The response was amazing!!

### Council News:

#### Holy Cross Happenings:



As we hope everybody knows by now, these are exciting times at Holy Cross and if you missed the Voters Meeting on October 5th, we hope you can spend a few minutes reading this summary. Of specific importance are the topics of Pastor Rozelle's departure and the status of the Kitchen and Bath renovation.

First, on the "Pastor Replacement Process", we are blessed that Pastor Rozelle has given us as much notice as he did. In August, when the Council was first notified by Pastor Rozelle, our LCMS Eastern District President, (and Holy Cross member), Rev. Chris Wicher met with us to go over the process to find and call a new Pastor. He suggested that if Holy Cross was interested in considering a recent graduate, ("a seminarian"), then now was the time to start that process. Pastor Rozelle, President Wicher and Council all considered the possibility of calling another seminarian, and we concluded that Holy Cross would be a good fit for another seminarian. Holy Cross's vision to be a church that welcomes and equips young families and youth to a Christian life also fits with the seminarian call. There are two important points here. First, our vision to be a church that 'welcomes young families and youth' does NOT mean that we are a church of young families and youth.

It relies on a mature Christian fellowship to be role models, mentors and gracious sharers of God's gifts to us. The second point is that there has been NO decision to call from seminary. The decision was only to investigate calling from seminary. It turns out that preliminary screening telephone interviews for next May's graduating class need to be conducted by the late fall of the year before. So, in order to not exclude the possibility of calling a seminarian and under the guidance of the district leadership, we have created a steering committee. This committee will help with the initial work necessary to describe ourselves to the seminary's placement office and to describe what characteristics in a pastor that we think will be successful in our congregation. The other role of the steering committee will be to be the sounding board for the rest of the members that can't be practically seated on this committee. And to that end all members are encouraged to share ideas, questions and concerns with any Council or Steering committee member. The steering committee will also use tools like surveys and self-studies to collect and organize the congregations thoughts. As to who is on the Steering Committee, we tried to find a members that would represent the breadth of our congregation and we are blessed to have the following members:

- Nancy Cote
- Jen Dulaney
- Laurie Garner
- Mercedes Handley
- Joe Hughes
- Tom Marzano
- Peter Olsen

The second topic of much discussion is the status of the kitchen and bathroom renovation. The short story is that in the two years since the project started and with additional Holy Cross design requirements in our bid package; our original estimate of \$75K to \$90K has come back to us with firm quotations between \$115K and \$130K. We originally estimated that \$60K in fundraising combined with our building fund cash reserve would be enough to cover a project that might cost up to \$90K. On the bright side, our "Fill the Cross" campaign has raised \$68K to date and donations still come in. At the Voters Meeting, and in consideration of the unknowns within the "Pastor Replacement Process" and the gap between funds raised and quotations received, the council recommended that the project be put on hold until either we have more clarity on the pastor's position, we raise enough money to fund the project, or we receive bids that are compatible with our current funding. The congregation agreed with the Council's recommendation and breaking ground on the project is on hold. In the meantime we will continue to take donations to the "Fill the Cross" fund, and we will look for more competitive bids. It should be pointed out that the option of doing this project in phases, bathrooms then kitchens, was discussed, but we still believe in the value of doing this project completely, and we respect that the donations received were for the combined vision of bathrooms and kitchens and we would not want to change this vision in mid-stream. So, while this project is on hold, and while we build more funding and wait for God to show us His vision for the next chapter in Holy Cross's spiritual leadership, we will make necessary repairs to the

facilities without using the funds dedicated to the renovation.

The last thing Council and Pastor would like everyone to remember is that Holy Cross is a very special family of believers, but what makes us special is not our Pastor, it is all the members and their service and commitment to our mission that makes us special. We are sure that we will complete the kitchen and bathroom renovation and we are sure that God will give us a new spiritual leader in His time and to His best purposes. With faith in that, we look forward to next chapter in Holy Cross's history. As always, please feel free to contact any council member with ideas, question and concerns.



### **Holy Cross Joins the Joyful Response Program:**

Tired of writing a check every Sunday? (Tired of having to pay for more blank checks?) Holy Cross is pleased to announce that we have joined the Lutheran Church Extension Society's "Joyful Response" program. This automatic banking system enables Holy Cross members and friends to use electronic banking for their donations. The donor can select any amount for their donation, and have this done at whatever frequency the donor desires. This system even allows donors to designate their gift to established restricted funds, (e.g. Dream Fund or Building Fund, etc..). Best of all, the LCES does not take any fees or

commissions for doing this. Please feel free to see any council member if you have questions. Enrollment forms are in the narthex, and for your privacy, completed forms should be returned to our Financial Secretary, Susan Brooks. Thanks for considering!

### Dash's Receipts



Please remember to save those Dash's receipts and get them turned in! The money we receive goes to Habitat for Humanity. Thanks to Lorraine Woodman who continues to tabulate the receipts.  
Jill Carl

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Kick off was Sunday October 26th and the filled boxes need to be returned to church by Sunday, November 23rd.

Please be watching for any updates in the bulletin each week.

If you'd like to help with this project please see Pat Garlapo or e/mail her at: [pgarlapo@msn.com](mailto:pgarlapo@msn.com)

### Shop with Scrip:



As our Christmas season is fast approaching, we are once again promoting the Great Lakes Scrip gift card program which is a wonderful and easy fundraiser that benefits our youth attending the 2016 Gathering in New Orleans.

As a reminder this program offers gift cards to hundreds of local and national retailers. You purchase these gift cards at face value and a percentage of that value remains with Holy Cross. Since you will likely purchase several gift cards over the course of the Christmas season, what better way to do so AND help out our Holy Cross youth? You can encourage friends and families to participate as well. The more, the merrier!!

And I remind you that it's not just about giving these cards as gifts but also using them for your every day purchases. Places like Home Depot, Walmart, Target, Kohl's, etc., we shop at these stores daily - so why not purchase gift cards to them BEFORE you shop and raise some money, too?

Updated Family Order forms are on the table in the Narthex. We will be placing two orders between now and Christmas so take a look at the awesome retailers and order, order, order!! The first order is due on Sunday, November 2. The second order will be due Sunday, December 7. Please make checks payable to Holy Cross for the full face value of the cards you are ordering.

As always, I am happy to field any questions you have about this program. I can be reached at [thewieperpts@gmail.com](mailto:thewieperpts@gmail.com) or at 688-0864. We've already raised over \$500 so let's keep it going! Thanks very much.  
~Andrea Wiepert ~ Holy Cross Youth Coordinator ~ DV

# November Servants

## Altar Guild:

## Elders and Communion Assistants:

D. Chalmers & K. Grek  
F. Cote & D. Hartley

## Ushers:

R. Corneck & D. Garlapo  
P. Cocco & S. Gugliuzza

## Lay Readers:

November 2	Joe Hughes Marlene Hiemenz
November 9	Ann Craig Russ Ponivas
November 16	Rich Craig Brain Humphreys
November 23	Bob Corneck Sue Tichy
November 30	Jo Corneck Cory Shelton

## Acolytes:

November 2	Volunteers Needed L. Roberts & J. DiCostanzo
November 9	Morgan Chalmers E. Brooks & C. Wood
November 16	Volunteers Needed K. Rozelle & A. Ludwig
November 23	Lindsey Chalmers M & H Olsen
November 30	Volunteers Needed E. Scarantine & C. Wood

## AV Team:

November 2	Kenny Handley
November 9	Bill Cook
November 16	Scott Brooks
November 23	Stephen Marzano
November 30	Preston Kelkenberg

## Greeters:

**Volunteers Needed**

## Coffee Fellowship:

November 2	Jill Carl, Linda & Nancy
November 9	Linda & Eleanor
November 16	Kelkenbergs
November 23	Volunteers Needed
November 30	Volunteers Needed

## Happy November Birthday

Lindell, Jill	11/1
Zachau, John	11/1
Roland, Traci	11/4
Brooks, Scott	11/5
Handley, Sophie	11/6
NeGron, Logan	11/6
Hughes, Joseph	11/9
Sperling, Alice	11/11
Stefanik, Cassandra	11/11
Shelton, Cory	11/12
Tomaino, Alycia	11/12
Bauer, Linda	11/14
NeGron, Ryan	11/15
Braunscheidel, Kathy	11/16
Kelkenberg, Mason	11/16
Schmude, Peter	11/18
Carl, Jack	11/21
NeGron, Alinee	11/21
Garner, Elija	11/23
Garner, Ethan	11/23
Cocco, Megynn	11/26
Ropach, Elizabeth	11/26
Diem, Robert	11/28
Hare, Stephen	11/28
Olsen, Peter	11/28
Pellnat, Robert	11/30



## November Anniversaries

Carl & Sue Fay Klingenschmitt	11/16
Larry & Sallye NeGron	11/18
Brian & Joely Vain	11/18
Doug & Kristy Hartley	11/23
Jack & Jill Carl	50th 11/26