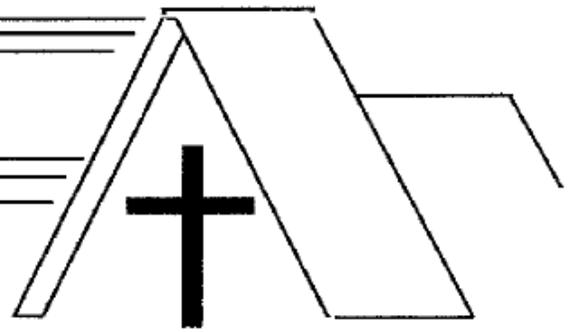


the CRISS + CROSS



Holy Cross Lutheran Church
8900 Sheridan Drive
Clarence, NY 14031
716-634-2332
E-Mail: HolyCrossClarence@gmail.com
Website: www.holycrossclarence.com

September 2015

Working together to connect people to Jesus

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Willkommen! Bienvenue! Benvenuto!
Welcome to Buffalo! I must say your Holy Cross welcome to my wife, Rachel, our daughters, Natalie and Laura, and to me has been overwhelming in its kindness and generosity. Your welcome to our family surpasses my ability to express it in just one language! Thank you so much. I am reminded of what Jesus says in Matthew 25:35, "... I was a stranger and you welcomed me..."

Jesus says He will recognize this when He returns, and the faithful will say, "Lord, when did we do this?" Don't be too surprised if He mentions something about July/August 2015 to you. In fact, He will make many things clear that we do not recognize today. One of things He will show us is actual good works that we did without realizing it. The fact that we don't always realize we are doing a good work is simply that it proceeds from the heart of a baptized Christian because that is who the Holy Spirit is remaking you to be. Remember the prayer in Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." He is doing it!

And when we don't even realize we're doing a good work, it's because it arises

from our new identity - our identity as one Baptized and claimed by the Triune God. It's just who we are.

St. Paul explains the wonder of our new life in Christ this way: "Even when we were dead in our sins, [God] made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and [God] raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." - Ephesians 2:5-10.

I pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work in the hearts of all the faithful at Holy Cross, that we may be renewed in the power of our Baptism so that we will serve Christ continually through acts of hospitality and mercy to others.

Pastor Nickel



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

RALLY DAY:

Sunday, September 13th at 9:30 am
Please join us in the Holy Cross Christian Center

NEEDED:

Teachers, helpers, and subs. Please consider helping to teach or assisting a teacher with our children's Christian education.

PICNIC:

Sunday, September 13th after the second service, under the tent. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex. Please consider helping out with set-up, clean-up, games, etc. Bring a dish to pass, hot dogs, condiments, and beverages will be provided.

We are looking forward to welcoming our students back for another blessed and exciting year!

We hope you will consider being a part of it!

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



SEPTEMBER 2015 WORSHIP CALENDAR

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 6: | 9:00 Divine Service (note: last 9am service of the summer schedule) |
| | 11:00 Divine Service |
| Sept. 13 | HOLY CROSS RALLY DAY
AND ALL CHURCH PICNIC |
| | We celebrate observance of Holy Cross Day and kick-off our new year of Christian education for all ages. |
| | 8:00 Divine Service |
| | 9:30 Christian Education Hour |
| | 11:00 Divine Service |
| | Noon - Holy Cross All Church Picnic |
| Sept. 20 | 8:00 Divine Service |
| | 9:30 Christian Education Hour |
| | 11:00 Divine Service |
| Sept. 27 | 8:00 Divine Service |
| | 9:30 Christian Education Hour |
| | 11:00 Praise Service (with Praise Band) |



Habitat Buffalo

Thank you to Holy Cross for the summer gifts that have been used to build/rehab housing with low-income families and volunteers across the city of Buffalo. Home ownership is a dream that has come true for 271 families over the past thirty years. We would also ask your prayers for former President Jimmy ad Mrs. Rosalyn Carter, Habitat's most famous and long-term volunteers, as they face their current battle with his cancer.
(for more information contact Margaret and Ron Talboys)



Heritage Home

Sunday, September 27, at 10 a.m. will be the next visit with our friends at the Heritage Home just west on Sheridan Drive. The Bible story will be "Friends Bring a Sick Man to Jesus," Mark 2:1-12. We will talk about Jesus' love and staff and friends who care about us when we are sick. We pray, talk, sing, and make a simple project appropriate to the story. These visits have been happening for some 25 years. What a blessing our Lord has given!
(for more information contact Margaret and Ron Talboys)

Special Thanks!

A very special "thank you!" goes out to our long time member, Bob Mank, for his generous gift to the Holy Cross Building Fund. Bob's gift, in excess of \$20,000, was made in the memory of his late wife, Helen. Bob made it quite clear that he isn't doing this for plaudits from us, but rather he was O.K. with us announcing it, as he hopes to be an inspiration and role model for us to follow. There is an ancient Greek proverb, and although not biblical, it is still fitting: "A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in." Thanks Bob, and not that YOU are old, but we do hope you do get the chance to enjoy fellowship with us in the shade you are giving us.





Women's Bible Study

Hello September! On Tuesday, September 1st, our member Alfrieda Schurkus will lead us in the meaning of the symbols within the sanctuary of Holy Cross Church. We will meet at Kramptiz Hall at around 9:30am, then proceed into the church. All are welcome to enjoy this informative hour. Coffee and sweets will be available too!

Beginning, Tuesday September 15th, the group will begin an 8 week study on BUSYNESS-Finding God in the Whirlwind by Juanita Ryan. As she writes: "Much of our busyness is necessary to our survival or to our own and others well being. In the whirlwind of our lives, however, it may seem impossible to focus beyond the noise of daily demands. We long for a greater awareness of God with us. This guide explores way of conversing with God in the midst of things, so we can see our day's work as the joyful service of kneeling before Jesus."

With this in mind, our first study is based on Matthew 6:19-34 "Live in the Present with Eyes Wide Open". For September 22nd, we study Isaiah 40:25-31 in the lesson titled: "Receive Strength for the Day from God". We end the month looking at James 1:1-5, 17, 3:13-17 in the lesson called: "Seek and Live in God's Wisdom".

Our usual meeting place is HCCC in the conference room on Tuesday mornings from

9:30 am - 11:00 am. The coffee pot is on and we always have wonderful sweets made by the women! So join us when you can. We would love to have you! It is a great way to begin the day in the study of God's Word!

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

holycrossclarence@gmail.com

to let us 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.

October Criss Cross Deadline:



Please submit any items for the **October Criss Cross no later than September 12th**. I will need to edit and publish by

Thursday the 17th due to be away for a conference. Items can be left on my desk, in my mailbox, or can sent via email to holycrossclarence@gmail.com

Thank you Ann

September Servants

Elders and Communion Assistants:

K. Grek & J. Hughes
P. Olsen & P. Cocco

Ushers:

M. Zubrzycki & S, Kelkenberg
R. Ponivas & D. Hartley

Lay Readers:

September 6 Joe Hughes
 Nancy Cote'
September 13 Ann Craig
 Marilyn Cook
September 20 Bob Corneck
 Russ Ponivas
September 27 Jo Corneck
 Brian Humphreys

Acolytes:

September 6 Morgan Chalmers
 E. Brooks & H. Olsen
September 13 Volunteers Needed
 Charlie Wood
September 20 Lindsey Chalmers
 M. Olsen & E. Garner
September 27 Volunteers Needed
 E. Scarantine & J.
 DiCostanzo

AV Team:

September 6 Matthew Wiepert
September 13 Kenny Handley
September 20 Bill Cook
September 27 Scott Brooks

Coffee Fellowship:

**Thank you to all who volunteer.
Volunteers are still needed.
Please contact Nancy Cote for
information!**

Happy September Birthday

Braunscheidel, Ronald	9/1
Chalmers, Katherine	9/1
Wiepert, Andrea	9/1
Zachau, Scott	9/1
Herdic, Nancy	9/4
Ludwig, Jim	9/5
Scarantine, Emma	9/5
Langiewicz, Nicholas	9/6
Allen, Sue Fay	9/7
Rozelle, Adam	9/7
Rayner, Justin	9/11
Schettler, George	9/11
Scarantine, Laura	9/12
Platt, Robert	9/13
Pionessa, Ray	9/15
Harrison, Carol	9/19
Donnelly, Connie	9/20
Ludwig, Grace	9/21
Ludwig, Ryan	9/23
Eckertson, Henry	9/27
Tomaino, Michael	9/28
Ludwig, Patricia	9/29
West, Madison	9/30



Brian & Lori Ropach	9/4
Richard & Donna Meka	9/8
Larry & Andrea Wiepert	9/14
David & Katherine Chalmers	9/21
Duane & Laura Connors	9/30