

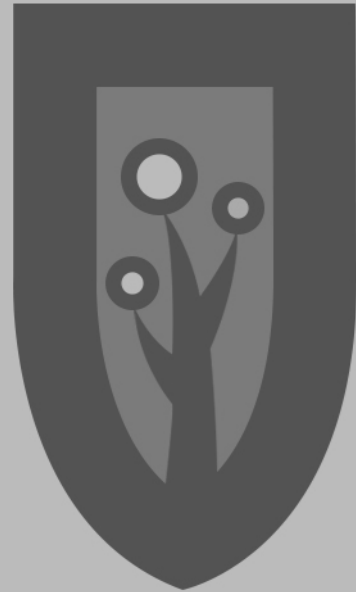
**BELONGING**



**BELIEVING**



**BEARING** 



*Weekly Announcements for December 17 at ...*



**HOLY CROSS**

LUTHERAN CHURCH

BELONGING, BELIEVING, & BEARING  IN JESUS

509-483-4218    [www.holycrosslcms.net](http://www.holycrosslcms.net)    7307 N. Nevada  
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*Pastor Mike: mvonbehren@holycrosslcms.net cell:509-701-6413*

**Worship each week at—8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.:** Each week we offer two services—an early more traditional service at 8:30 a.m. and a later more contemporary service at 10:45 a.m. The blessing of this schedule is that it allows for at least 45 minutes of fellowship over coffee and goodies in our Fellowship Hall with all worshipers from both services together. Please plan to join us for fellowship and worship! Fellowship is at 9:45-10:30 a.m. Weekly Sunday Services will break from this normal schedule on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve with services at 10 a.m. each of these days. The normal schedule will resume January 7.

**Offerings:** We thank each of you for your continued financial support of Holy Cross. Donations may be made through our website, through your bank, through automatic transfers, by mailing a check into the office, or at one of the in-person services. Donations received from Dec.4-Dec. 10, 2023 were \$17,574.50. Questions? Need help? Contact the office at 509-483-4218 or [secretary@holycrosslcms.net](mailto:secretary@holycrosslcms.net).

**Sunday School starts at 10 a.m.:** Sunday School teachers will round up kids from the Fellowship Hall at a few minutes before 10 a.m. and take them to their rooms. Sunday School will run until 10:35 a.m. and kids can be picked up from their classrooms. Kids will be divided into preschool-1st grade and 2nd-5th grade. Parents of little kids are invited to come help their little ones. Sunday School will take a break for Christmas Eve and New Years Eve and resume on January 7.

**Middle & High School Bible Class is in the Youth Room** from 10-10:35 a.m. today lead by Pastor Mike & Ben Anderson.

**“To Be” Groups Studies:** “To Be” groups are our Sunday morning adult small group studies. See details on back and join one. “To Be” groups will take a break for Christmas Eve and New Years Eve and will start again on January 7.

**Stephens Ministry Leader Training has been moved to January:** In our community the characteristics of compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness and patience, serve as a meaningful foundation for what a Stephen Minister is called to be and do. If you are interested, please fill out an application and begin the discerning process to see if this ministry is for you. There are applications on the long oak table in the Narthex. Questions? Contact Don Comi at 509-990-8145.

**Prayer List:** If you would like prayers for needs going on in your life or if you would like to be on our prayer list praying for others, please email Gwen at [prayerlistholycross@gmail.com](mailto:prayerlistholycross@gmail.com) or call Barbara Ammons at 509-328-0213.

**Choir** is meeting Thursday nights at 7p.m. in the sanctuary. Come join us and make a joyful noise.

**Looking Ahead: Life Light in January.** The Gospel of Mark is the next study. Books are ordered and will be available for pick up, along with registration, in a couple of weeks in the lay office. After Christmas they will be on the round table in the narthex.

**Office will be closed December 25-Merry Christmas! and January 1- Happy New Year!**

**Advent Service continues on December 20:** During Advent we have evening service on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and you don't need to worry about dinner as we also host Soup Suppers at 5:30 p.m. before the service begins. Advent soup suppers will include a craft for kids so bring the family and come join us! Our soup supper will be hosted by our Men's Morning Bible Study on December 20. Come join us.

**Advent devotional books are available on the round table in the narthex.**

**Holy Cross Family Christmas Party is TODAY,** Sunday, December 17, 6-9 p.m. The Ellwanger family will be hosting, at their home (4357 S. Greystone Ln.) the Holy Cross Family Christmas Party. If your last name begins with A-M—bring an hors d'oeuvre to share and if your last name begins with N-Z—bring a dessert to share. You may also bring a wrapped gift (\$10 or under) if you wish to participate in the gift exchange. Questions? Contact Art or Mardi Ellwanger at 509-710-8425 or 509-868-7354 or *mfcgirl@aol.com*.

**Sunday School Christmas Program is TODAY, December 17 at the 10:45 a.m. service.** If all the kids can meet in the large Sunday School room at 10 a.m. we will have a dress rehearsal and the teachers will bring the kids down the hall to the church for the program. Immediately following the program, the kids will return to the large Sunday School room to return their costumes and receive a small Christmas gift from their teachers. If parents can pick up their kids from the classroom following the program that would be greatly appreciated. The kids are excited to share the wonderful Christmas story from Luke 2:1-2 with you all!"

**Poinsettia Order Forms** are on the round oak table for you to fill out and turn in if you'd like to help beautify our church this Christmas. Please return this order form to the church or place it in the offering plate. Last day to orders is December 20th.

**The Bethlehem Tree:** Thank you to all who purchased Christmas gifts and placed them back under the Bethlehem Tree. They will get distributed and help some family's have a very Merry Christmas.

**Invite a friend, relative or neighbor to one of our Christmas services.** There are flyers on the round table in the narthex, so pick up a few and pass them out to those you know. This is an easy way to share Christ's love with those around you.

**THANK YOU TO ALL** who beautified our church for this Christmas season. It is so festive!

**The Lost and Found Box** has found a few things lately, so if you're missing something, go take a look. It's located in the hallway to the south of the sanctuary.

**Coffee Call:** Needing regular coffee again. No decaf please, we have plenty. Please bring to the kitchen. Thank you!



## **Adult Bible Study Opportunities**

Sunday Morning “To Be” groups will take a break for Christmas Eve and New Years Eve and will start again on January 7.

**Sunday Moring “To Be” Groups:** Please sign up for “To Be” groups in the Narthex. Room numbers are indicated on the sign up sheets and also below. All are welcome. Join us!

**9 am Loving Jesus,** a study on various aspects of the life of faith as found in the Gospels. Written by a Lutheran New Testament scholar, this is a great study for living a meaningful Christ-centered life. The study will be facilitated by Lisa Key. Room 036.

**10 am 2nd Peter and Jude,** a Bible study of the New Testament books of 2nd Peter and Jude. This is a shortened 35 minute study to accommodate parents with kids in Sunday School or Youth Bible Class. These two short letters at the end of the New Testament seek to root every believer’s faith deeply in God’s word as we wait the soon coming return of Jesus. This study is a God’s Word for Today publication of Concordia Publishing House and will be facilitated by Margie Indahl. Room 029.

**10:30 am Church Year Bible Studies,** a Bible study of the readings used in worship for that particular Sunday of the Church year. This will take you deeper into the scriptures for the week giving you more out of every Sunday service. This study is published by Concordia Publishing House and facilitated by David Gannaway. Room 003.

**10:30 am Provoking Proverbs and the Ten Commandments,** a Bible study produced by Concordia Publishing House that looks at the ten commandments through wisdom of the book of Proverbs. It’s a great study for learning to navigate God’s way of wisdom in a wayward world. This study will be facilitated by Alan Meyers. Room 036.

**10:30 am The Spirituality of the Cross,** a study of the fundamental themes in Lutheran theology and how these impact the way we live our everyday lives as believers in Jesus. This book is published by Concordia Publishing House and the study will be facilitated by Mike Shannon. Room 030.

**GLOW meets on Fridays via Zoom:** This is our Friday morning Women’s “To Be” group, currently meeting via Zoom. If you would like more information please contact Mardi Ellwanger 509-868-7354

**Men’s Bible Study:** This is a small group study on Thursday mornings at 6 a.m. in the fellowship hall, currently studying 1 Peter. Participants may join any Thursday by entering through the back doors by the kitchen.