

# THE QUEST

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
*Transforming the world & ourselves,  
together in community,  
fellowship and faith.*



**June 2018**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Staff and Council News	4
Worship	9
Evangelism	13
Christian Education	15
Fellowship	19
Outreach	21
Stewardship	29
Synod and Church-Wide News	31
Serving in Worship	33

The deadline for inclusion in the July 2018 edition of the Holy Cross newsletter, *Quest*, is Tuesday, June 12th.

Articles can be emailed to the Church Administrator at:  
[admin@holycrosslutheranchurch.net](mailto:admin@holycrosslutheranchurch.net).

The **deadline** for inclusion in the **weekly bulletin** is at noon on the Tuesday prior to the Sunday the bulletin will be released.

Thank you,  
Teresa Easterly  
Church Administrator

Find us online!

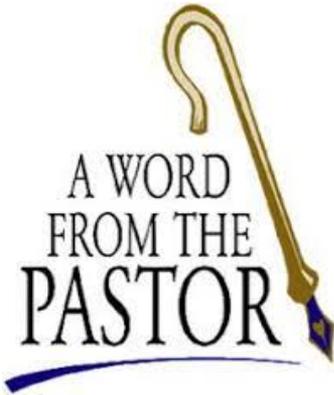
[www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net](http://www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net)

Facebook: Holy Cross Lutheran Church Herndon VA

Twitter: @HolyCrossELCA

Instagram: HolyCrossELCA

## STAFF AND COUNCIL NEWS



### **Building on the Best Capital Campaign**

*According to the grace of God given to me,  
like a skilled master builder, I laid a foundation,  
and someone else is building on it.*

*Each builder must choose with care how to build on it.  
For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has  
been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.*

*1 Corinthians 3:10-11*

The book of Acts tells the story of how the Holy Spirit, working through the women and men of the first century church, spreads the gospel, beginning in Jerusalem, moving out to Samaria, and then into the world. These women and men were Easter people who knew the joy of knowing Jesus. As Easter people, they wanted others to have this same joy. And so, they went out to be a **BLESS**ing, **br**idging boldly, **l**istening with openness, **e**ating with friendliness, **s**erving with compassion, and **s**haring with conviction.

The Christian Church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is the result of countless Easter people who, through the ages, blessed others with the joy of knowing Jesus. Congregations like Holy Cross exist because of the faithfulness of previous generations, generations that **built on the best**.

Holy Cross was chartered on April 29, 1963 and organized on November 24, 1963. This year, Holy Cross celebrates its 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It is a time to be grateful for those Easter people who went before us and mindful of those who will follow us. It is also a time to be mindful of our theme for 2018. How will we **build on the best** so that other may follow Jesus?

Although, the call process is taking longer than we anticipated, God continues to invite us into mission. Mission is why the church of Jesus Christ exists. As the body of Christ, we exist, not for ourselves, but for the sake of the world.

Your council is developing a capital campaign that will be launched next fall. The challenge is to raise an additional \$200,000 in new money, over and above what we normally receive in offerings, during the course of the next three years. This will allow us to cover the costs of necessary maintenance to our facility as well as to fund additional ministries, including our commitment of \$14,000 to the synod's **New Connections** Campaign. It is our way of "building on the best of our past to bridge to our future," as we join in God's mission for the sake of the world.

We will be asking each of you to consider how you can be a part of **building on the best** and **making new connections**. How shall Holy Cross steward its resources, its property, its treasure, its staff time, and its volunteer energy to bring Jesus to a world sorely in need of healing? How will you be a part of this?

We invite you to take to heart the call to be an Easter people, to bring the **BLESS**ing of knowing Jesus to the world, but even more particularly, to Herndon and the communities around it.

**BLESS**ings,

*Pastor Kleiber*

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

### Beside Still Waters

A hymn festival based Christ the Shepherd  
as revealed in Psalm 23

Music Sunday ~ 2018

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Psalm 23 is one of the most well known psalms in the bible, and for good reason. It beautifully portrays God as a caring shepherd who will never abandon His people. For Music Sunday this year we will explore the imagery of each verse in Psalm 23 through hymns, anthems, and scripture. With only six verses, Psalm 23 is a relatively short psalm, but still can bring comfort to us in any stage of life that we may be in. Join us on June 10<sup>th</sup> for a celebration of our music program and a hymn festival full of praise for the Good Shepherd who guides and protects us every day.

*And so, through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never.*

*Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.*

- Henry W. Baker



Soli Deo Gloria!

Jeremy Shoop  
Director of Music Ministries

## CALL TEAM UPDATE

Everyone –

Just a quick update from the Call Team to let you know that we are still waiting for candidates from the Synod. This past week, I spoke to Pastor Leila Ortiz—Assistant to the



Bishop for the Metro DC Synod—who indicated that the Synod currently does not have a candidate that has the requisite experience and skills to serve as our pastor. Leila assured me that she is constantly on the lookout for strong talent and is constantly pulsing her networks for potential candidates. As difficult as the wait is, we continue to have faith that the right candidate is out there and God will bring us together.

Leila did invite our members to offer any names of potential candidates to the Call Team for consideration. However, there is a very strict protocol for this. NO ONE should approach a pastor about becoming a candidate for Holy Cross. Only clergy from the Synod office may approach a potential candidate after first having a conversation with the pastor's respective bishop. So, if you have a name you would like us to consider, please provide me their name (the Church office has my contact info) and I will forward it to Leila.

In the meantime, the Call Team will be updating our Ministry Site Profile—the form that prospective candidates review—to ensure that our information is up to date and to highlight some of our recent successes.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who participated in the recent survey. The data from the survey will help the Call Team provide

answers to questions from candidates that are representative of Holy Cross.

As always, please feel free to reach out to any member of the Call Team with questions. The other members are: Suzanne Baggett, Mike Berg, Sam Carter, Vivian Jefferson, Mike Rose, and Lauren Weatherhead.

God bless,

Sylvia Moran  
Chair, HCLC Call Team

## WORSHIP



### **PASTOR KLEIBER'S SCHEDULE IN JUNE**

Pastor Kleiber will be taking a week of continuing education from June 18<sup>th</sup> to June 24<sup>th</sup>, and attending the Interim Ministry Network Conference in St. Louis Missouri. Pastor Paul Opsahl, who is no stranger to Holy Cross will preach and preside on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

From June 25 to July 8<sup>rd</sup>, Pastor Kleiber will be on vacation. She and Tony will be spending time in Madrid, Spain. The Rev. Bill Perry will preach and preside on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Pastor Opsahl will return on the pulpit on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **GUEST PREACHING MINISTER ON SUNDAY JULY 1st**

Holy Cross is honored to welcome ELCA Chaplain, Captain Bill Perry, as our guest preaching and presiding minister on Sunday, July 1!

Captain Bill Perry, Chaplain Corps, U.S. Navy (Retired) began his ministry as the Associate Pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Springfield, Ohio. A graduate of the Hamma School of Theology and Carthage College, he holds a Bachelor of Science, Master's of Divinity and an honorary Doctor of Divinity.

Chaplain Perry served more than 27 years in the Navy, on destroyers and the amphibious assault ship, USS BELLEAU WOOD (LHA-3); with the U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa and North Carolina; in naval hospitals in Illinois and Puerto Rico; as Chaplain of the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean; and at naval stations in Florida, Louisiana and Guam, He received the Louis B. Parris Award from the Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation.

In August 1989, he served as chaplain of the Navy's historic friendship visit to Sevastopol, USSR. For nearly thirteen years he hosted "Celebration," a program syndicated to over 500 AFRTS radio stations around the world. He is the only chaplain of any military service to host a syndicated program in the over seventy year history of AFRTS. During this period, he assisted Rod McKuen publish a book of poems.

In the early '90s, Chaplain Perry served as Chaplain, Naval District Washington, was the Major Claimant Staff Chaplain for the Chief of Naval Operations, and Pastor to both the Chief of Naval Operations and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. He accompanied the CNO on a 1993 Christmas trip to visit 20,000 troops on 15 ships in 8 countries in 8 days. In 1994 he was the escort chaplain for the body of former President Richard M. Nixon, assisting Dr. Billy Graham and serving as pastor to the Nixon family throughout the presidential funeral. Dr. Graham recounted the experience with Chaplain Perry in his autobiography, *Just As I Am*.

For over twenty years, he served with the White House Commission on Remembrance, and No Greater Love, For seven years he served as master of ceremonies for the Washington Redskins - No Greater Love Christmas parties and has conducted worship services for the Green Bay Packers, New Orleans Saints and Atlanta Braves.

He is married to retired Captain Carol G. Ricciardello, Judge Advocate General Corps, U.S. Navy. Her final active duty

assignment was as the Chief Trial Judge of the Navy and Marine Corps. She is currently an Administrative Judge in the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary of Defense. Chaplain Perry and Captain Ricciardello's daughter, Kate, is a student at Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin. Chaplain Perry is on the board of Alice's Kids, teaches ESL (English as a Second Language), serves as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) to aid abused and neglected children and preaches in metro area churches.

## New This Summer at HCLC!



June 24 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal at 10:20 AM Worship at 11:00 AM	July 15 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal at 7:50 AM Worship at 8:30 AM
August 5 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal at 10:20 AM Worship at 11:00 AM	September 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rehearsal at 7:50 AM Worship at 8:30 AM

This summer, Holy Cross will try a new activity in the music program. A summer gathering choir will meet once a month to provide music for worship. **This is a great opportunity for anyone who can't commit to the schedule of choir year round.**

All you have to do is show up on any or all of the Sunday's listed above for rehearsal and sing with us in worship that same day. The total time commitment is less than two hours! You do not need to come to all four dates on the schedule, just come as you can and enjoy the singing.

**Childcare will be provided during summer gathering choir rehearsals and worship services.**

Contact Jeremy Shoop ([MusicDir@holycrosslutheranchurch.net](mailto:MusicDir@holycrosslutheranchurch.net)) if you have any questions.

# EVANGELISM

## *Have You Had Any BLESS Card Conversations Yet?*

Many thanks to Pastor for her informative, inspiring and helpful sermon series about how we all can use our BLESS cards to start conversations with friends, relatives and the friends we don't even know yet!

Didn't get a BLESS card – or need more? Don't forget we have our Holy Cross information cards. These business-sized cards are easy to carry in your wallet, purse and/or pocket ready to give folks if you start talking with them about Holy Cross. We have plenty of both; the BLESS and information cards. Just contact Roy Geiger ([gei2@verizon.net](mailto:gei2@verizon.net)), at 703-401-3934 or the church to get more cards.

Please let me know if you've had some "BLESSed" conversations – and how they went! I'd love to share your success stories with others!

Thanks,

-- Roy Geiger



## IT'S HERNDON FESTIVAL TIME!!



**MAY 31 – JUNE 3**

Holy Cross is participating in this year's **HERNDON FESTIVAL!**

Thanks to great financial support from Thrivent Financial, Holy Cross and Thrivent are "Friend Sponsors" of the Festival and specifically sponsoring a table of kid's arts and crafts activities throughout the Festival. You will also see Holy Cross listed as a Friend sponsor on volunteer t-shirts, in the pocket guides to the festival, and on major "Thank You Sponsors" banners around the Festival.

**Many thanks** to the Holy Cross volunteers who are both helping to provide 30 volunteer hours to the festival **and** helping to staff our Holy Cross exhibit at the festival all day Saturday, June 2nd. Working with our partners from the Dulles Group of Thrivent, we're planning a wonderful interactive and fun exhibit that will showcase the best of Holy Cross and Thrivent. **Please come visit us and say hi!**

Got questions? Please contact Roy Geiger ([gei2@verizon.net](mailto:gei2@verizon.net)), at 703-401-3934 or the church for more details. Also, check out <http://www.herndonfestival.net/> for just about everything you might want to know about the festival. ***Come join the FUN!***

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### KINGDOM KIDS

Last Day of  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
June 3rd!



## **KINGDOM KIDS made their MOM's DAY . . .**

Kingdom Kids stuffed-chicken entrées and chocolate chip cookie dough, which could be baked at home or frozen for a fun meal at a later time.

Amy McNaughton, our amazing lead, planned, purchased, prepped (including a separate cookie dough station in the Fellowship Hall) and instructed nine kids, all while working two stations each for the chicken and the dough. This should have been daunting, but with incredible and joyful help from Jennifer Beatty and Chris Nelson (both with two kids in Sunday School) it was doable and fun!

Additional food was prepared that will be delivered, in the very near future, to persons who might enjoy an unexpected gift delivered by one of the Kingdom Kids.

As you can see from the pictures, taken by Tommy Woods' Mom, Claudia, everyone seemed to have a good time!



*Tommy's meal baked at home.*

**WE INVITE ADULTS TO PARTICIPATE IN  
LIFETREE CAFÉ.**



*An hour of stories and  
conversation to feed your soul.*

Lifetree Café is a casual and welcoming “conversation cafe” where great discussion is served up every week.

After our Vacation Bible School supper (Mon., Aug. 13 – Thurs., Aug. 16) we will stream an inspiring 20-minute video, followed by a host-lead discussion.

# Evening Vacation Bible School

**Save the Dates: AUGUST 12-16**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Intergenerational Vacation Bible School!**

- Who: Kids & Adults (ages 3 to 93+)  
What: Provided Dinner (first night Viva Puerto Rico menu) followed by Interactive Classes for all ages!  
When: **Sun., Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> – Thurs., August 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Time: **6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
Where: Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Fee: \$20 per person or family



## KIDS GET READY

Ages: 3 – 12  
Strap on your life jacket  
for a rip-roaring, river ride with  
*Splash Canyon: God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride*,  
where VBS kids discover  
through art, music, bible memory challenges,  
games and bible storytelling,  
that on life's wild ride, Jesus is always by our side!

## FELLOWSHIP



### 1ST SUNDAY LUNCH IS BACK

1st Sunday Lunch for May was a huge success! Thanks to all that provided food! The next 1st Sunday lunch will be **June 3rd after the 11:00 am service**. Let's get into the summer mood and have a barbecue lunch. More details to come.



## Ice Cream Social

### Independence Day Ice Cream Social

We are looking to do an ice cream social on the 4th of July. The 4th is on a Wednesday, so come join us and celebrate with some ice cream and fun! Details will follow, so keep your eyes out for more information.

## A Night of Bluegrass Featuring - Sideline



Sideline is a pedigreed six-piece powerhouse whose style has set the pace in Bluegrass for over two decades. Founders: Steve Dilling, Skip Cherryholmes and Jason Moore can all claim their own historical significance to the genre

as members of highly awarded groups, multiple Grand Ole Opry appearance and years of national and international touring.

What started as a side project for the seasoned players soon moved to the front and center as the three were joined by talents of Bailey Coe, guitar; Troy Boone, Mandolin; and Daniel Greeson, fiddle.

A band that started as an off-season fun experiment has become a full-time dream team of players and singers. Sideline released three national projects and currently records for the highly awarded Mountain Home Music Company based near Asheville, NC.

### **Holy Cross**

**Friday, June 29th**

**8:00 pm - Doors open at 7:00 pm**

**Tickets: Ages 13+ - \$15**

**Ages 12 and younger - Free**

# OUTREACH

## Outreach Coming Events and Opportunities to Serve



### Reminder Sunday food offering goes to:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - Embry Rucker
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - LINK

The Community Garden is growing! Contact Tammy Breene or the church office if you are able to help with watering and other chores

- [tammybreene@gmail.com](mailto:tammybreene@gmail.com)
- [admin@holycrosslutheranchurch.net](mailto:admin@holycrosslutheranchurch.net)

At our Outreach meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> we discussed exploring other ways to serve our community in addition to what we do now. We are exploring having an information event on scam prevention, partnering with the Neighborhood Resource Center here in Herndon or Herndon Middle School and furthering our involvement with Building Puentes. We will share more news as we learn more. Your input is most welcome!

### Coming Events:

- August Works Sunday
- Fall Blood Drive
- Back to School collection of school supplies

There are many ways we can serve our community as individuals. Here's one I've been asked to share-- The Little Free Library (LFL), located on the brick walkway on the east side of the Herndon Depot, could use some children's books for young ages (e.g. pre-school through ~3rd grade). The kids' books are running low and our local children will start hitting up the LFL soon as school lets out and as the Farmer's Market Fun Days start up. If you have any children's books to donate, please take them to the LFL and place them on the lower shelf. Feel free to donate children's books to the LFL any time during the year!

Thanks for all the noise you made for our Noisy Collection for SafeSpot on Mother's Day. We'll post the amount as soon as we're finished counting!

If you want to volunteer or just talk about Outreach, contact me at [suzflegal@verizon.net](mailto:suzflegal@verizon.net) or through the office, [admin@holycrosslutheranchurch.net](mailto:admin@holycrosslutheranchurch.net).

The end of the school year is the perfect time to offer special thanks to our ESOL teachers:

- ✓ Ellen Atwell
- ✓ Jeanne Maysonett
- ✓ Suzanne Baggett
- ✓ Chip Edwards
- ✓ Dayna Sowd
- ✓ Karen Faulkner

A special thanks to Anne and Roy Geiger who supply meals for the students. All contribute immensely to this most important outreach program.

## Embry Rucker Shelter 2nd Saturday Lunches

Members of Holy Cross and Martin Luther King, Jr. congregations split the 2nd Saturday lunches for the Embry Rucker Shelter in Reston. Our congregation is responsible for the meal as well as servers for the even numbered months. Our next lunch is scheduled for **Saturday, June 9th**. The meal is served from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm; however, set-up starts at 11:00 am.

A Perfect Potluck sign-up link is sent out about three weeks prior to the lunch date. We have a set menu with specific items needed, which makes it so easy for everyone. If you are interested in being included (or having your name removed from the mailing), please contact Barb Gouldey at [barbara.gouldey@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.gouldey@gmail.com).

This is a very hands-on act of kindness. Some of those served are employed, but lack adequate funds for a food budget so they take advantage of what the shelter has to offer. Please consider participating in this very community-oriented activity. No prior experience is needed. There is always a seasoned volunteer there to manage the lunch and guide any new servers.



## End of Spring Semester



Holy Cross Lutheran Church ESOL is finishing another successful semester. Our 15<sup>th</sup> year teaching English to immigrants started September 11, 2017 and ended May 14, 2018.

### **Beginner’s ESOL—Chip Edwards and Dayna Sowd**

- In the Beginner ESOL class we focus on vocabulary, reading, and basic grammar. We have students with no familiarity with English or the English alphabet, and we have students who understand some English but lack confidence in their language skills. Most students are familiar with many English words but struggle to understand spoken English and to put together their own sentences in English.
- Our Beginner classes average 9-12 students, mostly native Spanish speakers. Generally, our classes include grammar and reading, and we often address topics that will be immediately useful to our students and we work through practice conversations and vocabulary associated with the activity such as calling the doctor, calling a school, renting an apartment, and how to order food in a restaurant.
- We also regularly work on fundamentals of English grammar. This spring, we especially worked with the verb “to be” in the present and past tense including in the negative form, in questions, and contractions.

- Each week, the class also learns a variety of new vocabulary words, and we work on pronunciation. The “th” and “v” sounds are among the more challenging English sounds for our students. We often use our textbook to read through illustrated stories to practice vocabulary and pronunciation.
- Early in the spring session, two of our students, Olivia and Norma, were able to move up to the Intermediate class. They gained confidence in their English in our beginner class, so we were able to encourage them to challenge themselves further. Two more students will move to the next class very soon. Dailing and Martin consistently participate and complete their grammar exercises successfully.

### **Basic ESOL—Jeanne Maysonett and Amy Kirkpatrick**

- Students have different ability levels in vocabulary and forming sentences. Our “Side by Side” textbook, in conjunction with worksheets, help the students with their pronunciation and comprehension. Additionally, we cover employment and housing exercises, and our students also read American history stories.
- Shrilashkmi comes from a small village in India where they speak Telequ, learned English very quickly and credited our church and ESOL classes for the success in her work life. She received an IT scholarship and had to move to another state for further training.
- Javier (The Horse Whisperer) works in several different stables around the area. He advanced to the next class very quickly and managed to get married at the same time!

- Orlando managed to obtain his G.E.D., trucking and hazardous trucking licenses, raised his income and moved to better housing.

### **Intermediate ESOL—Ellen Atwell and Susan Baggett**

- We focus on reading comprehension, conversation, grammar, vocabulary, including teaching of idiomatic expressions. We often discuss current events and try to reinforce it with a relevant article. We also work with our book, “What a Life!” stories of amazing people. New vocabulary includes slang, idioms and common American phrases.
- In grammar we work on identifying parts of a speech, homonyms and subject verb agreement. We use our textbook “Painless English” for some of these lessons.
- By discussing current events or describing special events in our lives, we practice conversations with each other.
- We challenge our students to write short stories in English.
- We try to have a spelling test once per semester.

Teaching ESOL is extremely rewarding. We are still looking for more teachers. We also need a helping hand on Wednesday evenings to register any new students and to help with food set-up.

Free babysitting is essential to ESOL. Most students could not attend classes if we didn't have our nursery attendants. We are very grateful to Beatriz Orellana and Madeline Vargas.

A very special thanks to Karen Faulkner for assessing and registering students every Monday and to Anne and Roy Geiger for providing food for our students twice a month. We appreciate each of you in our congregation for fully supporting our ESOL program.



*The semester ended with a fun night of BINGO!*

Thank you,

Ellen Atwell  
ESOL Coordinator

## HCLC Garden 2018

With all the rain we've gotten in May, the Holy Cross Lutheran Church garden is looking great! Many thanks to all the HCLCers and friends of HCLCers who are quietly gardening away!

Check out the children's garden! It is the inspiration of Claire Angstadt.



## STEWARDSHIP



*“Dear Rev Kleiber and Holy Cross -*

*I recently received a wonderful supply of AFPB’s from your thoughtful congregation! Thank you so much! I am an ELCA Pastor and Army Chaplain servicing at a Level 1 Army hospital which serves the front line, major injuries of all branches of military service. Your gifts will find ready and welcoming hands in my fellow service members and their families. Please know that the blessing you give in prayers and books are much needed and lovingly received!*

*Peace and Grace,  
CH Terri King”*



*“Pastor Kleiber,*

*On behalf of the Sailors who call the USS George H W Bush home I extend heartfelt thanks. There is no doubt in my mind that the prayer books will be used and appreciated. Please express our thanks to the great people of Holy Cross Lutheran. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!*

*God Bless,  
John D Connelly”*

## ELECTRONIC GIVING



We appreciate your online giving. To give electronically:

1. Go to our website, <http://www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net>
2. Click “Donate”
3. Fill out the safe and secure donation form

OR

1. Download the **Give+** app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.
2. Search for Holy Cross Lutheran Church. (It will appear near the bottom of the list.)
3. Follow the prompts as desired

## SYNOD AND CHURCH-WIDE NEWS

### THE 2018 METRO D.C. SYNOD ASSEMBLY JUNE 16TH LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH FAIRFAX, VA

This year's Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod Assembly Theme is "Connecting Up, In, and Out."

Attending as voting members are HCLCer's Gene Bain, Joe Baggett, Cecilia Brown, and Nicole Lopez. In addition to conducting the business of the synod, assembly participants will have an opportunity to hear reports and attend workshops, including one led by Holy Cross' own Council President Mike Berg!



Our Church-wide representative this year will be Ms. Christina Jackson-Skelton, who currently serves as the Executive Director of the ELCA Mission Advancement Unit. Prior to her role with this unit, Jackson-Skelton served as President of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA and Treasurer of the ELCA from 2002-2011. She also just completed a seven-year term on the Council of the Lutheran World Federation



where she was a member of the LWF Council's Executive Committee.

Join us on Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, for a recap of Assembly highlights between the two services.



## FAITH IN NATURE

Visit New Life Lutheran Church in Dripping Springs, Texas, on a Sunday and you'll be greeted by friendly faces as well as three giant, century-old oak trees that frame their worship space—the great outdoors.

Although some might describe New Life's venue as nontraditional, its pastor, Carmen Retzlaff, says this outdoor worshipping community is actually a return to ancient times when everyone worshiped outside. The central Texas climate makes outdoor worship possible nearly year-round, but New Life also has a large event tent and outdoor heaters to use when it's cold or raining.

How did the new congregation land on worshipping outside? In 2010, the ELCA Mission Investment Fund purchased 12 acres of land and was holding it for New Life until members had enough money to erect a building on the site.

After a few years of using a rental property, the congregation decided that they had fallen in love with the land and didn't need to wait to have a building, Retzlaff said.

"I can only credit the Holy Spirit that [our members] were so willing to know that our mission was to reach out to people with the good news of God's love and not to build ourselves a church like the one we came from," Retzlaff said.

Without having to worry about constructing and maintaining a building, the congregation has more energy to focus on outreach, including its regular community-service Sundays, which have found members cleaning up a portion of a highway and pausing for communion at the site to make their work part of the liturgy.

▶ Watch video footage of New Life's beautiful outdoor worship space at [ELCA.org/SOFIA](http://ELCA.org/SOFIA).

*Your Mission Support dollars are used by the ELCA churchwide organization to fund new congregations like New Life Lutheran Church.*

To read more stories, visit [ELCA.org/SOFIA](http://ELCA.org/SOFIA) and download a copy of *Stories of Faith in Action*.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

<b>June 3</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 PM</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	Margrethe Kleiber	Margrethe Kleiber
<b>Worship Leaders</b>	Sarah Moran Craig Reichow Joy Heuer	Daniel Contreras Samuel Contreras LeRoy Wallin
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Becky Morgan	Kathy Makowski
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Lori Newcomb Thomas Newcomb Alice Shaw	Sharon Carter Nancy Jones
<b>Greeters/Readers</b>	Craig Reichow	LeRoy Wallin
<b>Ushers</b>	Joe Baggett Suzanne Baggett	Mike Faulkner Howard Miller Roy Geiger Diana Virgo

<b>June 10</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 PM</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	Margrethe Kleiber	Margrethe Kleiber
<b>Worship Leaders</b>	Thomas Newcomb Lori Newcomb Clay Newcomb	Jon Morgan Frank Podczerviensky Gary Wolfe
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Joy Heuer	Becky Morgan
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Pat Berg Denise Robinson Judy Keller	Pam Darby Claudia Woods Erin Woods
<b>Greeters/Readers</b>	Lori Newcomb Clay Newcomb	Frank Podczerviensky
<b>Ushers</b>	Sally Moser Mark Roe	Joel Flegal Suzanne Flegal Gary Wolfe Helene Wolfe

<b>June 17</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 PM</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	Margrethe Kleiber	Margrethe Kleiber
<b>Worship Leaders</b>	Sarah Moran Sylvia Moran Linda Butler	Katelyn Hunter Pam Darby Marcia Kratzke
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Andy Krueger	Anne Geiger
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sally Moser Lynn Russo Cecilia Brown	Kathy Phisterer Brian Virnelson Hope Russell
<b>Greeters/Readers</b>	Sylvia Moran	Pam Darby
<b>Ushers</b>	Lynn Russo Vince Russo	Joe Makowski Kathy Makowski Marge Nafey

<b>June 24</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 PM</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	Paul Opsahl	Paul Opsahl
<b>Worship Leaders</b>	Jordan Louie Vivian Jefferson Karen Faulkner	Briana Fautley Betty Skelton Helen Wolfe
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Mike Faulkner	Mike Rose
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jane Pattison Karen Faulkner	Beulah Medikonda Carolyn Rose Carol Shaffer
<b>Greeters/Readers</b>	Vivian Jefferson	Betty Skelton
<b>Ushers</b>	Jane Pattison Dennis Pattison	Roy Geiger



Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
1090 Sterling Road  
Herndon, VA 20170  
Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
HERNDON, VA 20170  
Permit #10

