

THE QUEST

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



November 2019

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JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

The deadline for inclusion in the December 2019 edition of the Holy Cross newsletter, *Quest*, is Tuesday, November 12th.

Articles can be emailed to the Church Administrator at:
admin@holycrosslutheranchurch.net.

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

Thank you,
Teresa Easterly
Church Administrator

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
1090 Sterling Road
Herndon, VA 20170
703-437-1883

Find us online!

www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net



Holy Cross Lutheran Church Herndon VA

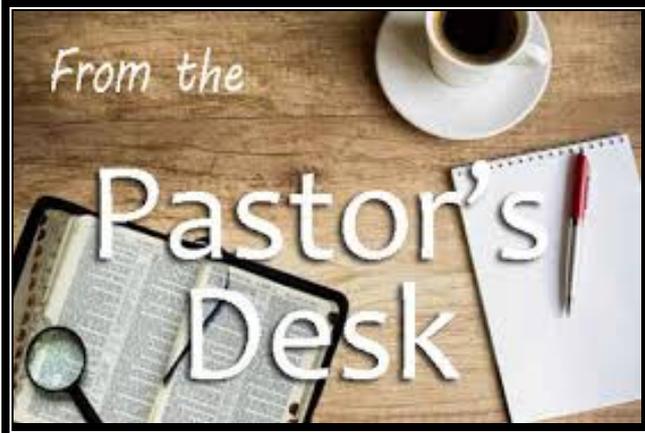


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STAFF NEWS



For All the Saints

Not so long ago, I received a note from an old friend in which she thanked me for being an inspiration in her life and for being a witness to Jesus for her. I was pretty shocked to say the least: first, because I had not seen her in over 30 years and second because, I had absolutely no idea that I had been any kind of influence to her.

That is a grace moment – God using me, in spite of myself, to help another person.

It got me to thinking about all those people who have been important for my faith. Some of those people have died. Many are still active in my life. Some, like my note-writing friend, are still alive, but I haven't really talked to them in a long time. In each case, these people have been used by God to touch my life and I am thankful.

I think about many of those people at Holy Communion. When we gather at the Table, I am often reminded that we do so

surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses” (Hebrews 12:1). Theologians tell us that in the great mystery of the Resurrection, when we gather for communion, we join all those saints at the Table. When we celebrate The Feast, we do so with us a host of people who have touched our lives and strengthened our faith along the way—literally a myriad of mothers, fathers, grandparents, friends, siblings, Sunday School teachers, pastors, neighbors, etc., who have shared with each of us, through word and example, what it means to be a follower of Jesus. These are the saints in our lives. These are the ones who have passed on the faith to us. These are the ones who still mark us and influence us today.

For those I am thankful. Is it any wonder that another word for Holy Communion, “Eucharist” means, “Thanksgiving”?

Who have been those saints in your life? Who was there with patient prayers, or faithful instruction? Who mentored you along the way, or cared enough to make certain that you did not get lost? Who laughed with you in your triumphs, and cried for your tragedies or mistakes? Who was that solid example of integrity and grace? Who were and are those saints that are the faithful cloud of witnesses in your life?

November 1st is All Saints Day, and on Sunday, November 3rd, we will observe All Saints Sunday. Take time to thank God for all the saints—past and present-- that God has given to bless your life. Take time as well to ask, “How is God using me to be that saint for someone else?” In some ways, we may know how we share Jesus to some people, but I suspect that in many ways, we will never really know just how brightly God is shining through us to positively touch another person. And that, my friends, is living in God’s Grace.

And for that, I am thankful.

Pastor Martin

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & LITURGY



My article this month is a unique one. It is a request to the congregation for a sabbatical.

As Director of Music Ministries at Holy Cross since 2005, I have focused on playing the organ for worship and leading the musical ensembles. In 2016, under Pastor Kleiber's guidance, I began to develop special liturgies and liturgical visuals that enhance worship and engage children and families. This expansion of duties resulted in a title change to Director of Music and Liturgy and I became the Chair of the Family Worship Team. To better equip me for my expanded duties/portfolio, I am requesting an eight-week sabbatical to research Lutheran liturgy and other styles of worship.

I have been thinking about the idea of a sabbatical for a few years and feel that now is the right time. There is a lot going on at HCLC as we continue to learn what it means to be God's church and establish new ministries. Taking some time away now will allow me to focus on three specific areas, worship/liturgy, prayer and family worship. Pastor Martin and I are a great match for HCLC and my time away focusing on these areas will enhance our relationship when I return.

While I am away, I will update the congregation on my work by submitting announcements for the Weekly Update and e-Blast and posting to Facebook periodically.

My proposal has been developed under the guidance of Deb Reilly (President), Kathy Makowski (Worship and Music), Dick Krapf (Personnel) and the Executive Team.

This sabbatical opportunity will be voted on at the congregational meeting on November 17th. It was also discussed and voted on at the September Church Council meeting. I am thrilled to say that it passed unanimously and is being presented to the full congregation with enthusiastic support from the council.

The official motion to be made by Kathy Makowski, Worship and Music Chair at our November 17th meeting will be:

I move that Jeremy Shoop, Director of Music and Liturgy be given a sabbatical from January 2 - February 24, 2020. This is to be a one-time sabbatical and implies no recurring sabbaticals for the Director of Music and Liturgy. There will be no cost to HCLC for this sabbatical. During this sabbatical Jeremy will focus on three topics: Lutheran Liturgy, Prayer and Family Worship (making liturgy accessible to children and families). As part of this sabbatical Jeremy will worship at a different church each Sunday that he is gone, meet with their staff to discuss their liturgies and read books on the three stated topics. Jeremy will provide weekly updates to the congregation via Facebook, the e-Blast and Weekly Update. Upon his return he will have created the following materials: An adult Sunday School class about Lutheran Worship, a collection of new ideas for the Family Worship Team, a collection of new special liturgies, a collection of Prayers of Intercession to use on a three-year cycle and electronic files of all current special liturgies used at HCLC. If time permits, he will also write a new set of texts to use in the weekly liturgy. After the completion of his sabbatical, Jeremy agrees to remain an HCLC employee for at least the next calendar year. A continuing service agreement will be signed prior to January 2, 2020.

I anticipate learning a lot about family worship, experiencing new ideas in liturgy and finding new ways to fully utilize worship as an evangelism tool.

On the following pages of this newsletter you will find my official proposal to the congregation. I would appreciate your time reading over my proposal and prayer in contemplation of it. Please contact me with any questions you may have so I can be sure to have answers by the November 17th congregational meeting.

Thank you for your support during these exciting times at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Jeremy Shoop,
Director of Music and Liturgy

Sabbatical Proposal **Jeremy Shoop, Director of Music and Liturgy**

Purpose:

To research Lutheran worship and develop a vibrant liturgy and other best practices to apply to worship at HCLC as an evangelism tool to attract new members.

Background:

As Director of Music Ministries at Holy Cross since 2005, I focused on playing organ for worship and leading the musical ensembles. In 2016 under Pastor Kleiber’s guidance, I began to develop special liturgies and liturgical visuals that enhance worship and engage children and families. This expansion of duties resulted in a title change to Director of Music and Liturgy and I became the Chair of the Family Worship Team. To better equip me for my expanded duties/portfolio, I am requesting an eight-week sabbatical to research Lutheran liturgy and other styles of worship.

Schedule: January 2, 2020 – February 24, 2020

Sabbatical Activities:

Visit worshipping communities

- Visit a new church every Sunday
 - Luther Place (Washington, DC)
 - Augustana Lutheran Church (Washington, DC)
 - Reformation (Washington, DC)
 - Welcome Church (Philadelphia, PA)
 - Faith Lutheran (Alexandria, VA)
 - Lord of Life (Fairfax, VA)
 - Shepherd of the Hills (Haymarket, VA)
 - Community Lutheran (Sterling, VA)
 - Holy Trinity (Chicago, IL)
- Observe a variety of worship styles
- Meet with the Pastor and music staff from each church

Meet with church colleagues with an emphasis on engaging families in worship.

- Pastor Julia Seymour, Big Timber Lutheran Church, MT
- Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw, Lutheran Theologians

Read books on Christian worship and Lutheran liturgy

- My goal is to read three books a week
 - Worship/Liturgy
 - Prayer
 - Family Worship
- Reading list includes:
 - *Worship Matters* series (11 books)
 - *Why Worship Matters, Truly Present: Practicing Prayer in the Liturgy, A Place of Encounter: Renewing Worship Spaces, Centripetal Worship: Evangelical Heart of Lutheran Worship*
 - *Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down* - Marva Dawn
 - *Inside Out: Worship in an Age of Mission* - Thomas H. Schattauer
 - *The Rites and Wrongs of Liturgy: Why Good Liturgy Matter* - Thomas O'Loughlin
 - *The Religious Potential of the Child: Experiencing Scripture and Liturgy with Young Children* - Sofia Cavalletti

Deliverables:

Adult Sunday School class about Lutheran Worship

Collection of new ideas for the Family Worship Team

Collection of new special liturgies

- Backpack blessing, VBS teacher commissioning, i.e.

Collection of Prayers of Intercession to use on a three-year cycle (tailored to HCLC)

Electronic files of all current special liturgies used at HCLC

- Polished and ready for insertion to a bulletin

Logistics:

Total cost to HCLC - \$0 (Nothing)

- I will organize the January/February music to be used before I leave, including hymns and anthems.
- Suzanne Baggett will play organ for all eight Sundays.
- Marcia Kratzke will direct the choir.
- Becky Morgan will play piano for the choir.
- The Joyful Ringers will divide into four groups of three to five ringers and run themselves as small ensembles

Office Updates

Can you Spare Two Hours or Less?

Do you have a couple of hours to spare every now and then? There is no heavy lifting and no intense thought processing. We need a couple of people each month to help stuff



envelopes and get the monthly Quest Newsletter ready for bulk mailing. If enough people volunteer, you'd only be needed a few times a year. Please contact Teresa, Church Administrator (Admin@HolyCrossLutheranChurch.net or 703-437-1883), if you can spare a few hours. We can use your help!

Office Closed: November 28th & 29th



COUNCIL NEWS



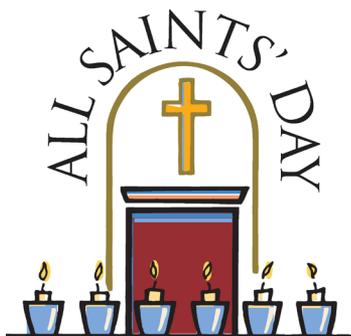
Sunday, November 17, 2019
Following the 11:00 AM Service

WORSHIP

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY SERVICE

November 3rd - 8:30 & 11:00 AM

As we celebrate the saints who have gone before us, we look to how we can stand on their faith and continue reforming God's church. During worship this morning we will have a special time of prayer where names of loved ones who have passed will be read and remembered.



OUTREACH



Join us! *Shop Fair Trade*

AT HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

9:00 AM-2:00 PM • GIVE BLOOD & SHOP

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

FOLLOWING ALL MORNING SERVICES

— 10% OF SALES WILL BE DONATED TO STUDENT PEACE AWARDS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY —



BUYING **FAIR** IS AN **EXTENSION** OF OUR **FAITH**

We Believe...



People and the planet should not be exploited for the things we buy.



People should be paid fairly for their work.



Small, local businesses are the heartbeat of our communities.



Our everyday purchases can have a positive impact on the world.



Every product has a story.



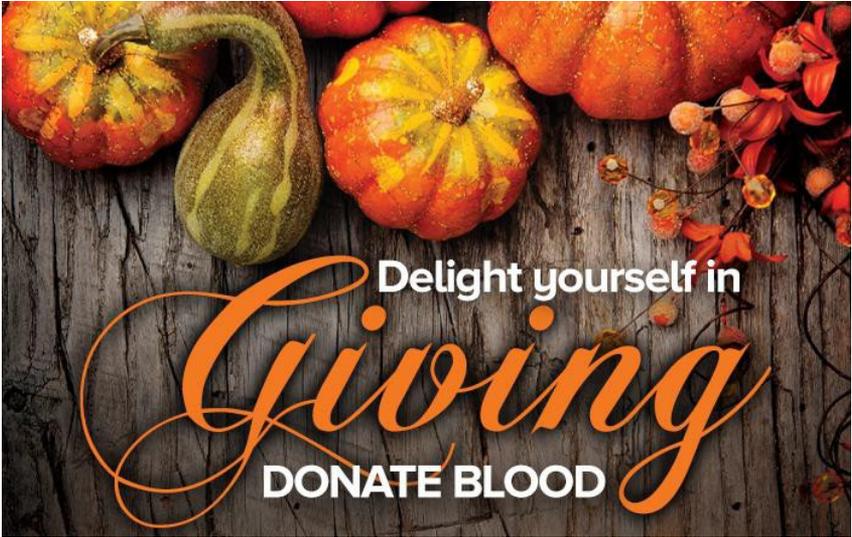
Your purchase is an important part of the fair trade cycle.

HELP TO CREATE A **CYCLE** OF **EMPOWERMENT**

LEARN MORE AT WWW.FAIRTRADEWINDS.NET



The Herndon Woman's Club Blood Drive at
Holy Cross Lutheran Church



Saturday, November 9, 2019
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

1090 Sterling Rd., Herndon, VA
The Inova Blood Donor Services Bloodmobile
will be in the Parking Lot.

Make your lifesaving appointment today!

Visit <http://bit.ly/HCLC1109> or call us at **1-866-BLOODSAVES**
(1-866-256-6372) and use **Sponsor Code 5087**
Photo ID Required. Allow one hour for donation.



Cocoa and Coats Supporting Herndon Middle School

This year our Fall/Advent Outreach appeal will continue our support of Herndon Middle School and its Cocoa and Coats event. The event will be held on December 11. At the event families are able to select needed winter apparel for their family.



Here's information from the Middle School about what is needed.

We accept all sizes: adults and kids. Families can shop for themselves or for items to give as gifts, so we like to offer a variety of sizes. We also accept winter accessories like gloves, scarves, hats, socks etc. We've even accepted snow boots. Any type of winter gear is appreciated. Yes, our families love hoodies! We find that students in particular tend to not wear the heavier coats because they are bulky and difficult to keep track of here at school.

The Drive will start on November 1st and goods will be delivered to HMS on December 6. Please be as generous as you always are!

QUILTING



Our partnership with Lutheran World Relief (LWR) continues, strong. LWR's Mission Quilts will distribute the quilts to hospitals, orphanages, schools and homes for the elderly. HCLC's quilting group have scheduled sessions for October and November and hope you can join us. All are welcome to attend!

Bring your sewing machine, if you have one. If not; no worries, sewing skills are not required. There are tasks for everyone on any level. The quilts will be a blessing to everyone that receives one.

Saturday: November 2nd & 16th
10:30 am - 3:00 pm
Classroom 202



To the Community of Faith at
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

I wanted to make sure you all know how much your support of our school community means. Thank you for your generous donations and willingness to contribute to our Herndon Middle School families. This has been evident in your donations over the summer and during the year and your commitment to address any need through generosity of time and products. We look forward to working with you in the future. The gratitude of the families this summer especially, was evident each time they came!

*Karyn Niles,
Director of Student Services on behalf of SS Department*

Volunteers of the Quarter

It is a great pleasure to share this news from the Closet.



This quarter The Closet is recognizing Rita and Ron Hacker, a wife and husband team who have long provided and continue to provide, superior service to The Closet. Rita is a frequent volunteer at The Closet, is a Closet board member from Holy Cross Lutheran Church and served for many years as The Closet's co-treasurer. As the co-treasurer, Rita's expertise was key to the on-going growth and financial health of The Closet. Ron Hacker is the computer expert who is the "go-to" person when one of The Closet's computers needs upgrades or repairs, as well as checking donated computers to ensure they are suitable for sale at The Closet. Together, this team has contributed enormously to the growth and success of The Closet, so if you see either of them, thank them for their service to The Closet.

Thank you, Rita and Ron for your service! You are a blessing to the community and to Holy Cross."

STEWARDSHIP

Advent Appeal 2019



Women Giving Back (WGB) is a top-rated nonprofit Sterling based organization. Their mission is to support women and children in crisis and build their confidence and self-esteem, by providing great quality clothing at no cost, assisted by caring and committed volunteers who offer personalized service and interaction.

WGB's mission is more than clothes – their committed volunteers provide personal service and uplifting interaction in a unique boutique-like atmosphere, focused on helping women arrive at a level of self-confidence that enables them to improve their lives and achieve independence. The increased self-esteem that comes from securing and maintaining employment not only helps individual women, but contributes to stable families, which, in turn, improves to the viability and safety of our communities.

Please consider giving to this organization for your Advent Appeal this year. If you'd like more information, visit www.womengivingback.org.

Online Giving

We appreciate your online giving. There are two ways 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

EVANGELISM

many
THANKS
FOR YOU!

November is here and with it our season of thanksgiving and to give thanks. Here at Holy Cross, the time to give thanks is every day of every week. First, and most importantly, are our daily efforts to thank our generous God who gives us everything and tolerates us claiming

everything as our own. Secondly, the Evangelism team want to thank the many of you who helped make our Evangelistic Outreach efforts this year:

- ✓ Name Tag Sundays
- ✓ Herndon Easter Egg Hunt
- ✓ Herndon Festival
- ✓ Our growing connections with Herndon Middle School
- ✓ SterlingFest
- ✓ Herndon Homecoming Parade

All were very successful! **Thank You!**

There's more to come, "Beer & Carols" and great Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas seasons with lots going on here at Holy Cross! It's a great time to invite neighbors, friends, co-workers, relatives, etc. to **come with you** and visit Holy Cross and check us out! Please make sure to add a magnet to our "Visitors' Board" in the Narthex as we join our efforts together to bring **48 and more new members** to the family of Holy Cross!

Pardon the paraphrase – ***"Come along with us – the BEST is yet to be!"***

Got Interest in Helping Holy Cross Become Better Known?

We need your help to become better recognized in our community. We also need marketing expertise in organizational logos, messaging, etc. As we embark on this effort, we need your help and guidance. Volunteers and/or ideas and recommendations are all greatly appreciated!

As the “Building on the Best” Capital Campaign team develops new plans for renovations, the guidance of a professional interior designer or design team experienced in churches or commercial efforts would be greatly welcome!

If you or someone you know might be interested in any of these new and exciting events and projects at Holy Cross, please contact Roy Geiger (703-401-3934 or gei2@verizon.net). Stay turned for more information coming your way!

Thanks!

Roy Geiger and the Evangelism Team

SYNOD AND CHURCH-WIDE NEWS

CONGREGATIONS

Satisfying spiritual hunger

The soothing strains of live music create a relaxed, meditative environment at the Open Space program, hosted by Church of the Apostles, a Seattle-based worshipping community of the ELCA and the Episcopal Church.

The monthly gathering is open to the public and regularly attracts 10 to 40 people. Attendees enter quietly, silencing their phones. They set up yoga mats, pillows or cushions to relax on as they take time to enjoy the present in a comfortable, candlelit space.

"A lot of people who go to [Open Space] have nothing to do with [our congregation]," said Ivar Hillesland, pastor of Church of the Apostles. "It answers a longing they have for safe spiritual experiences within community."

The Seattle area has many who aren't affiliated with a church, and who may be wary or distrustful of religion, he noted.

"We're hosting a communal, spiritual place without the programming involved," Hillesland said. "It is evangelism, but we're not trying to get [visitors] to join the church."

Alex Mrakovich, a regular attendee, enjoys the serenity of Open Space.

"It's a space where my questions and judgments and fears can slowly be suspended as I practice being present to both myself and the vibrations and sound around me," Mrakovich said.

Mission Support funding from the churchwide organization enables Church of the Apostles to provide this community program as well as other ministries.

"It is because of the freedom granted to us through this funding that we are able to serve God and our neighbors most fully," Hillesland said.

He believes Open Space is satisfying Seattleites' deepest cravings. "Some churches offer food pantries that respond to the physical need for food. We offer a spiritual, musical experience for people who are hungry for that. ... It is spiritual food for people."

To find a video story about Open Space, visit ELCA.org/SOFIA.



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

SERVING IN WORSHIP

November 3	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Pastor	Martin Eldred	Martin Eldred
Dir. of Music & Lit	Jeremy Shoop	Jeremy Shoop
Worship Leaders	Sarah Moran Sylvia Moran Thomas Newcomb	Daniel Contreras Samuel Contreras Brianna Fautley
Asst. Minister	Becky Morgan	Kathy Makowski
Altar Guild	Lori Newcomb Thomas Newcomb	Sharon Carter Nancy Jones
Greeters/Readers	Sylvia Moran	Samuel Contreras
Ushers	Joe Baggett Suzanne Baggett	Mike Faulkner Roy Geiger Howard Miller

November 10	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Pastor	Martin Eldred	Martin Eldred
Dir. of Music & Lit	Jeremy Shoop	Jeremy Shoop
Worship Leaders	Deb Reilly Rick Garverick Betty Skelton	Brianna Fautley John Breene Tammy Breene
Asst. Minister	Joy Heuer	Becky Morgan
Altar Guild	Denise Robinson	Pam Darby
Greeters/Readers	Rick Garverick	John Breene Tammy Breene
Ushers	Sally Moser Mark Roe The Setlik Family	Joel Flegal Suzanne Flegal Gary Wolfe Helen Wolfe

November 17	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Pastor	Martin Eldred	Martin Eldred
Dir. of Music & Lit	Jeremy Shoop	Jeremy Shoop
Worship Leaders	Vivian Jefferson Chip Edwards Chris Nelson	Kyla Gordon Rob Coffman Virginia Muller
Asst. Minister	Anne Geiger	Andy Krueger
Altar Guild	Sally Moser Lynn Russo	Cathy Pfisterer Brian Virnelson Hope Russell
Greeters/Readers	Chris Nelson	Rob Coffman
Ushers	Lynn Russo Vince Russo	Joe Makowski Kathy Makowski Marge Nafey

November 24	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Pastor	Martin Eldred	Martin Eldred
Dir. of Music & Lit	Jeremy Shoop	Jeremy Shoop
Worship Leaders	Thomas Newcomb Lori Newcomb Joe Baggett	LeRoy Wallin Frank Podczerviensky Chip Edwards
Asst. Minister	Mike Faulkner	Len Owens
Altar Guild	Jane Pattison Karen Faulkner	Beulah Medikonda Carol Shaffer
Greeters/Readers	Joe Baggett	Frank Podczerviensky
Ushers	Jane Pattison Dennis Pattison	Roy Geiger

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
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