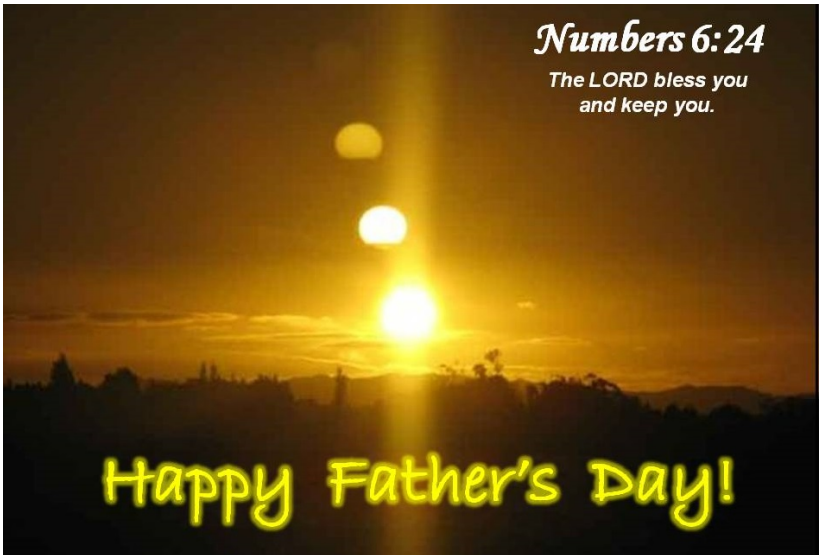


# THE QUEST

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



**June 2020**

## Blessing of Fathers

God of all creation,  
pour out your blessing on all fathers  
and those who provide fatherly care.  
You have made them in your image  
and given them children to love and care for in your name.

Bless them with a heart like your heart:  
discerning and thoughtful, bold and decisive,  
compassionate and loving.

As they model for their children  
the life that is lived by faith and not by sight,  
grant them courage under pressure  
and confidence in your power.

When troubles threaten to overwhelm them,  
grant them your coping calm.

When doubts give rise to anxiety,  
shore up their trust in your promises.

When joy fills their days,  
grant them a keen gratitude for your abundant supply of grace.

Season them with a lively sense of humor, Lord,  
for it will make life richer for us all.

In all circumstances preserve them as your own.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Staff News</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Council News</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Worship and Music</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Christian Education</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>22</b>

# JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

The deadline for inclusion in the July 2020 edition of the Holy Cross newsletter, *Quest*, is Friday, 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 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](http://www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net)



Holy Cross Lutheran Church Herndon VA



@HolyCrossELCA



HolyCrossELCA

## STAFF NEWS



### **ORDINARY TIME IN EXTRAORDINARY TIMES.**

In June we begin the long, “green” season of Pentecost, sometimes termed in church lingo, “Ordinary Time.” Given what we are experiencing today, however, nothing seems very ordinary, does it? In Virginia, some parts of the state have opened-up a bit, which may cause us to yearn even more for things to get back the way they were. When can we get back to normal again? When can we worship together, like we used to? When will we be in “ordinary” times again?

To be honest, there are no real clear answers to these questions. If we are learning anything these days, it is that these days are presenting us with extraordinary changes and challenges. What has become clear to me and to our leadership at Holy Cross, is that safety should be our chief concern as we move forward. While the government may give a green light at some future date for churches in our area to open up for “normal” worship, that still may not make it the right thing to do for the safety of everyone in our congregation. When it is safe, we will gather. Until then, the leadership is exploring options on a month-by-month basis. For now, we will continue an on-line presence. Later, we may look at some sort of outdoor worship, where we can gather in physically-distanced safety. At this point, we just are not sure.

Believe me, I, like you, long to be together again. I miss you all. I miss singing and worshipping together. I miss Holy Communion. I miss those all-so-ordinary things that are so extraordinarily

special, particularly when we are prevented from doing them for a time.

In extraordinary times, the church has always adapted, shifted, and met the challenge. We are not the first of Jesus' followers to suddenly find the world around them vastly different from before. We are not the first believers to find themselves unable to worship together due to circumstances beyond their control. We certainly are not the only people of faith who have cried out to God, "when will things be normal again?" Through it all, the faithfulness of God has carried us through. Through it all, the love and grace of God – those precious, essentially ordinary aspects of God's nature, have nourished us through the extraordinary times.

In a conversation today, I tried to describe these extraordinary times by using the image of walking through a cave with only a candle as our light. We can see just a few feet ahead and as we travel we are surrounded by darkness and uncertainty. Yet we walk step by step, not certain what lies ahead but only in the light the illumines our way. That is where we live and breathe and have our being today. We don't know the exact way or the precise time when this part of our journey will end. What we can trust is the presence of the One who has promised to walk with us and be our light – a light that the darkness cannot overcome.

We will gather as a church together again. We will gather again to celebrate the extraordinary-made-ordinary that is the promise of Christ to gather with us in Word, in The Meal, in Baptism, and in the Assembly. When that will happen is unclear, but we trust in the promise of its fulfilment in our midst.

Until then, let us continue to be the Church: the Body of Christ in the world, ordinary people living in extraordinary times doing our best to live out the presence of Jesus in our lives.

Peace to you all,

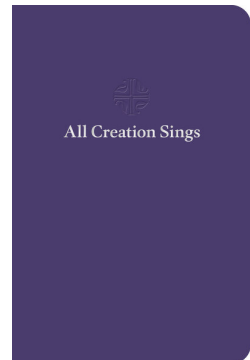
*Pastor Martin*

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND LITURGY



I am very excited to announce a new hymnal supplement coming out from Augsburg Fortress for the ELCA! The average shelf life of a hymnal is about 20 – 25 years. This can be extended with the publication of a hymnal supplement. As was the case with the life of the *Lutheran Book of Worship* (LBW) hymnal being extended with the publication of the *With One Voice* (WOV) supplement. Our current hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) is almost 15 years old. It is a wonderful resource that still breathes new life into our worship.

To address evolving needs in worship and to keep our services relevant with society today the ELCA is releasing a hymnal supplement for the ELW titled, *All Creation Sings* (ACS). ACS has been in the works for two years. At the start of the project church musicians were given the opportunity to submit hymns (old and new) that they think should be included in the hymnal supplement. You may remember my Facebook post a few years ago asking for suggestions of hymns that you think should have made it into the ELW.



ACS will be about the same size as WOV was. It will contain the following:

- Two liturgies of Holy Communion with new musical settings
- A Service of Word and Prayer designed especially for contemplative worship
- More than fifty new prayers and liturgical forms for diverse occasions and circumstances
- Approximately 200 hymns and songs, many of them newly created over the last fifteen years, supporting the church year and a wide range of topics

A sample of the new hymnal supplement was released in mid-April. I think it looks like another wonderful resource for our congregation. It is not a resource that will upend our style of worship, rather it is a resource that is the next logical step in our style of worship. As was the case with the ELW, there are a few new hymns that I can tell right now will become “old favorites” of the congregation after the first singing. There are familiar tunes paired with new texts that will expand the image of God in our minds and help us see Christ in our neighbor. There are also beautiful new tunes composed to inspire our finest praises to God.

*The title, All Creation Sings, evokes a recurring scriptural theme. In the psalms and in Revelation we are invited into a vision where earth and sky and sea and all their creatures— including human beings—sing the glory of God. Yet the song of creation and our song with it includes also words and melodies of lament, of indignation, of pleading and ultimately of hope in God’s presence and mercy. These prayers and songs concern not only the health of our planetary home and its various creatures but also the health of human beings in community. Hand in hand with the ELW, this supplement invites us to expand*



*our prayer and song, joining our voices with the praise, and sighs, of the whole creation God so marvelously made.*

- Deacon John E. Weit, Assistant to the Bishop and Executive for Worship

The full copies of ACS will not be available until October 15. With our current pandemic situation there is every possibility that the release of the new hymnal supplement will be delayed. Over the coming weeks and months, I will post some of the new hymns that I think HCLC will particularly enjoy on Facebook and include them in our weekly e-blast.

If you would like to view the ACS preview, go to [www.AugsburgFortress.com](http://www.AugsburgFortress.com) and search “All Creation Sings”.

Finally, regardless of which hymnal we are using and whatever hymns we sing, I cannot express how much I look forward to the day when we can worship together in person again! It has been a rough couple of months for everyone. I know that the church is still alive when I see all the volunteer efforts being made on social media, but I miss hearing our voices as one in worship. At the first time we can gather in the sanctuary and sing, I expect that our voices will be so full of joy that the walls will shake, and our neighbors will know that nothing can stand in the way of God’s kingdom on earth.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Jeremy Shoop, Director of Music and Liturgy

# CHURCH UPDATE COVID-19

Based on Governor Northam's latest order for Northern Virginia, and in consultation with the DC Metro Synod, **Holy Cross continues to provide worship services only in an online format.** As previously stated by Pastor Martin, “. . . safety should be our chief concern as we move forward.” Staff will continue to work from home. Council and Staff will continue to monitor the situation, and inform the congregation of any changes, as appropriate. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office or Deb Reilly at 202-359-7450.

## COUNCIL NEWS

# *the* President's message

### Peace, Hope and Gratitude

I miss you. Yes, it helps to have Zoom, email, telephones and FB Live, but I really miss you. I pray that you and your families are well ~ physically, spiritually, emotionally, and financially.

**Reopening:** The Executive Team met (virtually) in mid-May to discuss options regarding reopening. Based on the Governor's Stay at Home order and in consultation with the Synod, we continue to worship exclusively online at least through May and likely into June. The Executive Team members are exploring options to potentially offer worship outdoors later and would welcome your input as we think through the logistics of doing so. Bob Thompson is thinking through sound needs, Pastor is exploring options for Communion and I am measuring the parking lot (ha ha!). We are fortunate to have the QuarantTeam ensuring worship continues each week and making micro corrections each week to make the services accessible online. I should also note that worshipping together again will be a gradual process with a number of new logistics to consider. We anticipate continuing to offer worship online via FB live for quite some time.

**Capital Campaign Update:** Thanks to your generosity, we wrapped up project #2 of the Capital Campaign in May! The project included removing asbestos in the Fellowship Hall and Copy Room, replacing flooring in the Fellowship Hall, hallway and

offices, repainting some of the offices and installing some new cabinetry, necessitated by removing the old cabinets to deal with the flooring. Temporarily moving out of those spaces provided an opportunity to pitch and purge some “stuff” that accumulated in nooks, crannies and cabinets. Thank you to all who helped box, move and sort!

The Capital Campaign Team will begin planning project #3 later this summer, though execution of the work will be sometime in 2021. Giving to the Capital Campaign passed the \$100K mark in March, so we are well positioned to begin thinking about the restroom renovation. Again, I am so grateful to all of you for your generosity and “can do” attitude in moving these projects forward.

**Outreach:** At the risk of stealing Suzanne Flegal’s thunder, the continued generosity of our congregation overwhelms me. Not only are you giving CARLOADS of food each week in support of our neighbors in need, but you are providing financial support to Herndon Cares AND Food for Neighbors. I am so grateful for the generosity of the church to continue serving our community.

**Church Finances:** Again, I don’t want to steal Bob Thompson’s report, but I wanted you to know that the church applied for and received an SBA PPP Loan. Our Finance Team and bookkeeper are working together to ensure we account for it properly so that the loan will be forgiven. This loan, combined with your continued generosity and support, make it possible for us to continue our worship and work in the community. Thank you!

Please keep me posted on how you and your family are doing and please reach out if you need help from us. You can either contact the office, or reach me by email at [debreilly62@gmail.com](mailto:debreilly62@gmail.com) or my cell: 202-359-7450.

Peace be with you,

Deb



**Weekly Online Schedule:  
Worship, Devotion, Prayer and Music**

Holy Cross is live on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/HCLCHerndon> and Zoom, several times during the week with a worship experience for you and your family. It is important for us to remember that we can still gather as a community in this fashion.

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Sun	10:00 pm	Worship Service
Sun	11:30 am	Adult Bible Study via Zoom
Mon	7:30 pm	Music with Jeremy Shoop
Wed	7:30 pm	Night Prayer with Pastor Martin
Fri	7:00 pm	Devotion time for families with school-aged children lead by Suzanne Baggett

## OUTREACH



In my time as Outreach Lead, I've learned a few things. One of the biggest is how little I knew about how much need exists in our community. Another is how many people are ready and eager to help and how generous they are in their helping. Since the quarantine started, we have been collecting food for those who need it on an ongoing basis. Since we have started, we have been making deliveries to LINK and to schools two to four times each week, and each time we've usually had a full car-load. We will continue the collection as long as the need is there.

The Lenten Appeal offering of \$1,370, was sent to Food for Neighbors who will use it to support Herndon Middle School students who would otherwise go hungry. We also delivered books that were donated to be distributed to the students as they picked up the computers Fairfax County Public Schools supplied. We are storing the clothing pending a time when it can be given out. I know Holy Cross is not alone in these efforts and I know many of you are contributing in other ways, in addition to what you do through HCLC. As Mr. Rogers famously said "Look for the

helpers. You will always find people who are helping”. Thank you for being among the helpers.

We have postponed our annual ‘Noisy Offering’ to support SafeSpot, the Children’s Advocacy Center of Northern Virginia, until we are able to meet in church again. If you want to learn more about their work or how to donate online, visit their website <https://www.safespotfairfax.org/>.

Finally, if you have ideas about how we can broaden our Outreach efforts or would like to be more involved please contact me, [suzflegal@verizon.net](mailto:suzflegal@verizon.net).



## **STATUS OF ELL DURING CORONAVIRUS TIMES**

We miss our English Language Learners very much. This is a strange and scary time right now. My hope was that we would be able to teach our summer semester, but that's not possible now, due to the coronavirus. I think we will be very lucky if we can teach our fall semester this year. We need a vaccine to be ready to teach again. Several of the teachers and students are in the high-risk groups and cannot afford to put themselves in jeopardy.

Social distancing is not possible for our students and teachers in our classrooms. I considered teaching in our Fellowship Hall, if it was available, but decided against it. We do not have whiteboards there, and again, not enough space for every student. Childcare is an essential part of our program, but it is too dangerous to have children together in such close quarters. Allowing fewer students to attend class is not an option either, because the majority has young children and they would not be able to go our nursery.

I continue to keep close contact with our students by emailing them online lessons every 7-10 days. I have emailed them information on where to get free food, medical and dental help. I am looking at possible Zoom or Google classes. I am also in the



process of finding students who could join in these classes with us. Not every student has a computer, but most have a cellphone. We also call our students to make sure that they are doing well. Many have lost their jobs or work-reduced hours.

Here is a sampling of my online lessons:

English Vocabulary for Beginning Spanish Speakers:

<https://www.engvid.com/easy-english-vocabulary-spanish-portuguese> (Lesson starts at 3:24 minutes)

Learn the difference between “can” and “can’t”:

Do you have trouble hearing the difference between the words "can" and "can't"? Many people do. That's because they sometimes sound very similar. Also, "can" can be pronounced two different ways and "can't" can be pronounced four ways!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmm5F\\_o4c0w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmm5F_o4c0w)

As always, I'm very grateful that we have such wonderful teachers ready to teach ELL again. Thank you, Suzanne Baggett, Jeanne Maysonett, Chip Edwards, Dayna Sowd, Allen Williams, Daniela Basciano and Keesha Caldwell.

Please let me know if you have any thoughts about ELL or additional online class information. I would like to hear from you.

Be well and stay safe.

God Bless,

Ellen Atwell

HCLC ELL Coordinator

[ellen.atwell@verizon.net](mailto:ellen.atwell@verizon.net)

(703) 201-2900

# PRAYERS AND THANK YOU!!

*You call all people of the world your children. Be with our English Language Learning students and all newcomers to our country whose efforts to learn English have been put on hold, and who are greatly affected in this and many ways by the virus and quarantine. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

As Ellen Atwell, our ELL Coordinator, previously stated, our classes for English Language Learners, like so many other things in our lives, were put on hold because of the Pandemic. The students have been affected in many ways and like so many others of our neighbors face serious problems.

Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

While we hope to resume classes at some point, we missed the opportunity to celebrate the teachers and the students at the end of term party. So instead of real flowers, we will do the best we can, virtually.



## Closet News

Thanks to the foresight of The Closet's Board of Directors, The Closet previously designated



\$45,000 for funding The Closet's 2020 College Scholarships at five local high schools (Herndon, Mountain View, Oakton, Park View and South Lakes). They are currently contacting this year's student winners, selected by their respective schools and will be announcing them later in June.

The Closet is excited to announce that the construction of the new addition to the donations area at the rear of our building has begun. This addition will greatly improve the work area where Closet staff and volunteers receive and sort the donations, which are so essential for The Closet's mission. Along with construction of this addition, the rear customer entrance has a fully accessible access ramp, facilitating customer access to the shopping area. This work is being accomplished through the generous work of HomeAid Northern Virginia and Richmond American Homes, along with other construction company members of the HomeAid consortium. The Closet thanks them for this work, which will make game-changing improvements to the work of The Closet and will improve their ability to give back to the community!

The Closet remains closed for donations and shopping due to the corona virus; but hopes to re-open soon. Please check their website and social media pages, for information, when finalized, on re-opening plans.

Web site: [theclosetofgreaterherndon.org/](http://theclosetofgreaterherndon.org/)

Facebook: [facebook.com/TheClosetofGreaterHerndonArea/](https://facebook.com/TheClosetofGreaterHerndonArea/)

Instagram: [instagram.com/theclosetofgreaterherndonarea/](https://instagram.com/theclosetofgreaterherndonarea/)

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## 2020 HCLC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The past three years of VBS have been joyful; a great learning experience and very well attended. Last year's VBS was the largest attended one since starting VBS three years ago. It is great to see this growth in attendance.



Vacation Bible School plans are in progress. Currently, the dates for this year's VBS is August 9 -13. Mark, your calendars and check Holy Cross newsletters and social media for updates as we deal with these uncertain times.

Kingdom Kids *Bi-Weekly Saturday*  
Zoom Gatherings



**Kingdom Kids**, **Kingdom Kid Siblings** and **Kingdom Kid First Timers** are all invited to bi-weekly Saturday Zoom Gatherings, **at 9:00 AM**. Kids will catch up with each other, sing a favorite Sunday School song, do a craft or activity and hopefully plan for our next Kingdom Kids Act of Kindness project.

**Safety First**, for each Zoom Gathering, Suzanne Baggett will use a new meeting ID, generate a separate password and enable the waiting room. If you are not on the Kingdom Kids email list, please email [sbaggett8826@gmail.com](mailto:sbaggett8826@gmail.com), the name(s) of your child/children and the best email address to send the invitation. Hoping to see you there.

**June Schedule:** June 13<sup>th</sup>  
June 27<sup>th</sup>

## STEWARDSHIP



### **Lenten Appeal Herndon Middle School/ Food for Neighbors**

*"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that will overwhelm the world.*

*- Desmond Tutu*

*Dear Holy Cross,*

*Thank you for your donation to Food for Neighbors! Your donation will help feed children who struggle with food insecurity.*

*We received your donation of **\$1,370.00** on 5/5/2020.*

*We confirm that you received no goods or services in exchange for this donation. This confirmation email serves as your tax receipt. **Please keep this email for your tax records.***

*To learn more about the exciting things happening at Food for Neighbors, please visit [www.FoodForNeighbors.org](http://www.FoodForNeighbors.org). Thank you again for your donation to help feed children who struggle with hunger.*

*Karen Joseph, President  
Food for Neighbors"*

## WAYS TO GIVE

We must keep the Church alive. If we aspire to keep Holy Cross Lutheran Church a thriving, serving community of God's people, we will each need to make a determined effort to ensure that our offerings can sustain us through this time. Your generosity makes all things possible.



You can:

1. Drop a check in the mail.
2. Go to our website, <http://www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net>, Click "Donate" and Fill out the safe and secure donation form.
3. Download the **Give+** app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store, Search for Holy Cross Lutheran Church. (It will appear near the bottom of the list) and follow the prompts as desired.

Together, we will ride out this storm. We are not afraid. We trust in God's grace and take peace and comfort in God's promise:

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; who will never leave you or forsake you."  
Deuteronomy 31:6*

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
1090 Sterling Road  
Herndon, VA 20170

