



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Quest

*Transforming the world & ourselves,
together in community,
fellowship and faith.*



July 2022

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JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

The deadline for inclusion in the August 2022 edition of the Holy Cross Newsletter, Quest, is Tuesday, July 12.

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

The deadline for inclusion in the Weekly Update is noon on Tuesday.

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

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 HolyCrossELCA

 Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Herndon VA

STAFF

Director of Music and Liturgy



7/10 - 10:20 AM warm up (11:00 AM worship)

7/31 - 8:00 AM warm up (8:30 AM worship)

8/14 - 10:20 AM warm up (11:00 AM worship)

8/28 - 8:00 AM warm up (8:30 AM worship)

The Summer Gathering Choir is back at Holy Cross!

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.

Contact Jeremy Shoop (MusicDir@holycrosslutheranchurch.net) if you have any questions.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Jeremy Shoop
Director of Music and Liturgy

COUNCIL



Holy Cross Family –

“Summertime, Summertime”

Those of us of a certain age may remember a catchy, little ditty called, “Summertime, Summertime” by the Jamies. It was a bouncy little folk-rock ditty about the carefree days of summer. The chorus was:

*It's time to head straight for them hills
It's time to live and have some thrills
Come along and have a ball
A regular free-for-all*

I hope you'll take time to relax and recharge after many months of pandemic-induced stress. Shelly Eldred recently retired, and Pastor Martin has gone to Alaska to collect her and their remaining belongings to their home here. Their current plans are to arrive in time for our 4th of July celebration. I hope you'll be able join the festivities. Jeremy has a wonderful American music piano concert planned, and we've arranged for a food truck in addition to our usual homemade ice cream and lawn games as well as the best viewing venue for the Town of Herndon fireworks. Please get the word out and invite friends and neighbors.

We'll continue live-streaming services, so you don't have to miss a thing if you are out of town. I would be remiss if I didn't remind you that expenses continue even when we're away, so please make sure your contributions are here even when you aren't. You can contribute using the Donation link on the church's website or through the Vanco Mobile app (download it and use our invite code, **24A7NT**, to ensure you are linked to the correct church).

We've been able to maintain fairly constant levels of participation and contributions; however, expenses are creeping up and there's increasing need for all of us to do our part to maintain and increase our contribution levels, especially when we're out of town. With that "commercial message" out of the way, it's time to repeat the refrain,

*It's time to head straight for them hills
It's time to live and have some thrills
Come along and have a ball
A regular free-for-all*

Have a wonderful summer and come back from any trips refreshed and renewed. Your Holy Cross family can hardly wait for you to return and share your stories of your summer activities.

Yours in Christ,

Sam

Mask Guidance for HCLC



At the beginning of mask mandates, the Holy Cross Church Council voted to follow the guidance of the CDC and local health authorities. As circumstances have changed, the CDC has developed a new tool to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Both Loudoun and Fairfax Counties have been determined to have **Low COVID-19 Community Levels**. Accordingly, Council approved relaxing our mask requirement, and masks are now optional at Holy Cross. We will continue to monitor the situation, and we hope it will not be necessary to return to stricter policies. We are truly thankful!

What Prevention Steps Should You Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level?

| Community Burden Levels | | |
|---|--|---|
| Low | Medium | High |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines ● Get tested if you have symptoms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions ● Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines ● Get tested if you have symptoms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wear a mask indoors in public ● Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines ● Get tested if you have symptoms ● Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness |

People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

If you are immunocompromised, learn more about [how to protect yourself](#).

FELLOWSHIP






Monday, July 4th Fireworks & Free Parking Lot Event:

6:00 pm - 9:45 pm

**Brought to you by the Music,
Evangelism & Fellowship Ministries**



Come to Holy Cross to enjoy the Town of Herndon Fireworks going off over our parking lot – it is literally the best view in Herndon to watch the fireworks.

-  6:00 pm: Lady K's Café Food Truck and lawn games for the
 - whole family all night
-  6:45 pm: Broadway / Movie / Americana themed music
-  7:45 pm: Enjoy homemade ice cream and toppings
-  8:15 pm: Patriotic / Armed Forces music and more
-  9:30 pm: Town of Herndon Fireworks

All activities are outside on the lawn. Come early to park in the parking lot. Once the parking lot is full, you'll have to park in surrounding neighborhoods and walk to church.

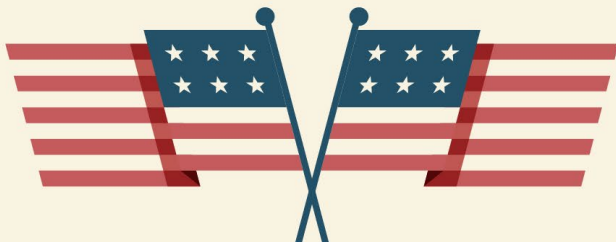
As always, on Sundays you are all invited to stop by the Fellowship Hall for some coffee, tea, juice, or water, and good food (there is always fruit). There will usually be a quilt for Lutheran World Relief to tie if you so choose. It's a great way to meet up with Holy Cross members and visitors.

Anne Geiger
Fellowship Chair



4TH OF JULY

**** CELEBRATION ****



Free Admission!!!

6:00 PM - Food Truck & Lawn Games

Food Truck will be open all night!

6:45 PM - American Music Piano Concert

Broadway/Movie Themes/Americana

7:45 PM - Homemade Ice cream!!!

8:15 PM - American Music Piano Concert

Patriotic/Armed Forces Themes and more!

9:30 PM - Town of Herndon Fireworks

Best view in town!

All activities are outside on the lawn

Lady K's Cafe Food Truck!!!

Fried Chicken Sandwiches ~ Chicken Wings

Mac and Cheese ~ Collard Greens ~ French Fries

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
1090 STERLING ROAD, HERNDON, VA**

OUTREACH



Happy Summer, friends! Here are a few highlights from the Outreach Team from June.

Lunch for Embry Rucker

Before the COVID pandemic, Holy Cross would prepare and serve lunch at the Embry Rucker Shelter every other month. We continued to provide food to the shelter throughout the pandemic. This summer, we are trying to support the shelter in a slightly different way. In June we collected sandwich meat, cheese, bread, fruit, snack bars and water and prepared 60 bagged lunches for the shelter to distribute to their clients. We had fun preparing all the sandwiches and bags together one evening and delivered them to the shelter the next morning. We will do this again in August. Feel free to contact Barb Gouldey (barbara.m@gouldey.net), Anne Geiger (fellowshipchair@holycrosslutheranchurch.net), or Jo Roe (ladybughoo@yahoo.com) with questions. Be on the lookout to sign up to help!

Quilt Blessing

Our amazing quilters completed 36 quilts this Spring for Lutheran World Relief. These quilts were recently dedicated and shipped off

to wherever they are needed most. Previous quilts have gone to Honduras, Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, Tanzania, and Sri Lanka. Many thanks to our phenomenal quilting team!

ELL Celebrates 20 Years!

This year our English Language Learner (ELL) program celebrates 20 years of service to our community! What an amazing ministry. While the program went online during the pandemic, we hope to resume in person classes this fall. We are always on the lookout for new teachers! Please contact Ellen Atwell (ellen.atwell@verizon.net) if you would like to volunteer or have questions. Stay tuned for a celebration of our 20-year!

Lunch for the Soul

Especially during the summer months, our local day laborers strive to get as much work as possible, meaning many are working during our lunch program time. For June – August the Lunch for the Soul program will alternate between delivering lunch to day laborer gathering sites, and meeting at Holy Cross. During the summer, HCLC provides the 1st Wednesday meal that is delivered to gathering sites. Please sign up or contact Deb Reilly (outreachchair@holycrosslutheranchurch.net) to help prepare lunches if you are able.

New Programs

We are hoping to introduce two new community outreach activities soon: a First Aid/CPR/AED Course; and a Habitat for Humanity type program, where we will start by helping our members with small projects in their homes to help them age in place. Please reach out to Vivian Jefferson (vjefferson@gmail.com) or Deb Reilly (outreachchair@holycrosslutheranchurch.net) if you are interested in either of these programs!

Deb Reilly
Outreach Team

English Language Learners (ELL)



We completed our spring semester on May 11th. Our summer semester started June 15th with two classes. We hope to have a third class teaching the beginners in the fall. Currently, we continue to teach through Zoom, but miss the in-person contact with our students and look forward to teaching in the classrooms again soon.

We have another student success story. One of our longtime students from Togo, Didier has recently joined the Navy. Several of our students have bonded and formed friendships. Didier met another student, Gustav, also from Togo, while they were on the flight to the U.S. They became ELL students, friends and ended up working for Belfort Furniture, referred by another former student of our ELL program. Didier and Gustav are doing well. Congratulations, Didier!

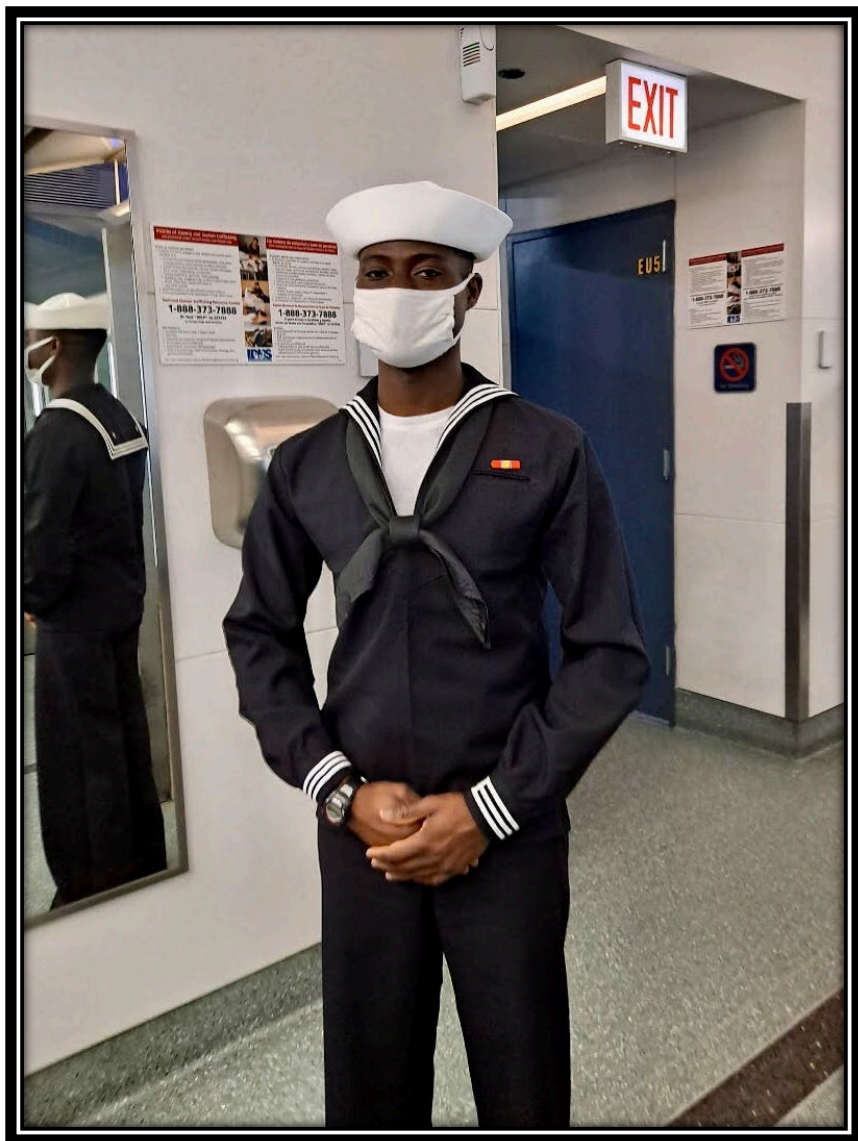
ELL Team,

Ellen Atwell

Suzanne Baggett

Jeanne Maysonett

Chip Edwards



Didier, our longtime Holy Cross student.

EVANGELISM

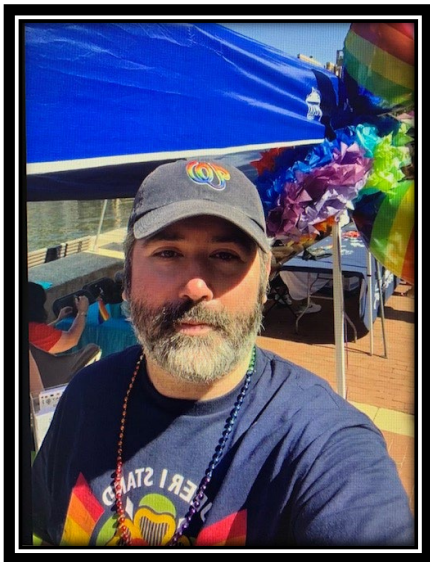
Welcome New Members – Pastor Martin, the Fellowship and Evangelism team were pleased to host an Information and discussion luncheon session on May 22nd for potential members wanting to learn more about Holy Cross. On June 5th, we were excited to have seven new members join our Holy Cross family. Already several of our new members have offered to be a Worship Assistant and to serve on Altar Guild. Welcome to Holy Cross everyone!!



Left to right: Matthew Andersen, Kristin Andersen, Pastor Martin, Brian Liebenstein, Patricia Swanson, Craig Swanson, Cara Swanson, and Vida Khadem

Reston Pride Event – June 4th, Lake Anne Plaza. We had a great turnout for Holy Cross' participation in our community-wide event. Lots of families, kids, grandparents, and quite a few dogs. Many folks who stopped by our booth commented that it was wonderful

to see Holy Cross and other faith communities come out to support our LGBTQ+ friends and neighbors. Thanks to Jeremy and Pastor Martin for taking the lead on organizing the event. A special thank you to Sylvia Moran and Hope Russell for their help and support.



Jeremy Shoop



Sylvia Moran, Karen Faulkner, Hope Russell, and Pastor Martin

July 4th Celebration – Starting at 6 p.m. Evangelism, Worship and Music, and the Evangelism teams will be hosting a big 4th of July event here at Holy Cross. We are now displaying two colorful new banners, designed by Jeremy, to help promote our festive July 4th event. We'll also be taking flyers door-to-door in surrounding neighborhoods to put the word out to those who live nearby. So, with our first-ever food truck, Jeremy's American music piano concert, free homemade ice cream, lawn games, and a great view of Herndon's fireworks . . . what's not to like? Be sure to come out and join us for a fantastic July 4th!!

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Faulkner

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

YOU'RE INVITED!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 13 - AUG 4 (Sun. - Thu.)

6:00 - 8:00 pm

KIDS and ADULTS



YOUTH



Holy Cross is honored to recognize our 2022 graduates:



Callum Ward Hoskins Bain –
Graduated from Canadian International School in Singapore. Callum is the son of William and Diana Bain and grandson of Gene and Katy Bain. He will be attending George Mason University this fall majoring in Government and International Politics.



Daniel Contreras - Graduated from Riverside High School and will be attending Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) for the next two years before going to a four-year college. He will major in Criminal Justice with a minor in Political Science. He aspires to become a criminal defense attorney.

Thomas Newcomb - Graduated from Herndon High school on June 1, 2022. Thomas will be joining the Navy.





Peter Williams - Graduated from the University of Arkansas Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design with a Bachelor of Architecture degree. Peter is working for Rounds VanDuzer, an architectural firm in Falls Church.

STEWARDSHIP



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. There are three ways to give.

When you're unable to attend in-person, you can mail a check to Holy Cross, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170.

Bring your offering with you to worship service at 8:30 or 11:00 am or communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 12:30 pm.

Go to our website, www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net, Click "Donate" and fill out the safe and secure donation form. Download the free Vanco Mobile app. Once it's downloaded, you can use our Invite code, 24A7NT to ensure you are linked to the correct church, and login with your current Vanco credentials (whether from the GivePlus app or our website's Donation page. If you do not have an account, you will be prompted to set one up. 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

ELCA SYNOD NEWS

Synod Assembly – July 2022

On June 10 and 11, Pastor Martin and I attended the 2022 Metro DC Synod Assembly. During the Assembly, we participated in conducting all the “normal business” of the church. This is very similar to what we do at our Annual Congregational Meeting – various groups provide annual reports, we elect and welcome new officers and committee members, express appreciation to those who have served the synod, and approve budgets.

Beyond the normal “business” of the church, there were two major themes discussed at this year’s assembly. First, we talked about racial equity. The recent events in the Sierra Pacific Synod caused ripples throughout the ELCA. We listened, prayed, and talked about racial equity. I’m excited to report that the Synod is using a program called “Sacred Ground” to help groups explore and have difficult conversations about race. I believe Pastor plans to participate, and I believe we will explore offering the program here at Holy Cross.

The second theme was around equipping churches to help achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. During Assembly, we looked at everything from solar panels on church rooftops, to stormwater management from our parking lots to community gardens to feed our neighbors, to beekeeping, butterfly gardens & wildlife habitats. I plan to take some of this learning back to our Property Team, our Boy Scout Troop, and interested congregation members to see how Holy Cross can lean into our call to help global health and prosperity. Want to be part of the conversation? Please contact me (debreilly62@gmail.com). You can learn more about the UN SDGs at <https://sdgs.un.org>.

We will elect next year’s Synod representatives at the November Annual Meeting. Please consider serving! You can learn more about synod assembly (<https://metrodcelca.org/>).

Respectfully Yours,
Deb Reilly

Some pictures from the event courteous of Deb Reilly.







1090 Sterling Road
Herndon, VA 20170

