



**HOLY CROSS**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# The Quest

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



**Make the Heavenly  
Pathway Wide**

God's Work. Our Hands.

**Rally Day - September 10**

Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 AM  
Fellowship Hour & Ministry Fair: 9:30 - 11:00 AM



## September 2023

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# JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

The deadline for inclusion in the October 2023 edition of the Holy Cross Newsletter, Quest, is Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

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 COB on Tuesdays.

Thank you,  
Virginia Muller and Sarah Schulmeyer  
Church Administrators

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

## Find us online!

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



[www.facebook.com/HCLCHerndon](https://www.facebook.com/HCLCHerndon)



HolyCrossELCA



Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Herndon VA

## STAFF



*Now in peace I will lie down and sleep;  
you alone, O God, make me secure.*

ELW Night Prayer – Compline

This quote from Psalm 4 has long been a beloved one for me. It's also part of the Compline liturgy. Coming at the end of that worship, it serves as a comforting reminder of God's promise and protection in the face of uncertainty. Perhaps that is why I love this worship service so much; it helps me to trust that the concerns and worries of the day are now over, and I am invited to give them back to God for safe keeping.

Some years ago, I was taught a simple spiritual practice that I do my best to maintain. Before I lay down, I try to remember all the major events of the day. For those things that I have done or didn't do, that I believe go against God's will, I ask forgiveness. If there are apologies that I need to make, I try to make a mental note to attend to them the next day. If there are things that were beautiful, acts of kindness I have received, or things that I was able to do that were helpful or good, I give thanks to God. Finally, if there are worries or unaccomplished tasks to do, I try to give them up to God. I don't always fully succeed, but I try.

I spend a lot of my awake time trying my best to run the world. It's rarely successful. At the close of the day my head and heart are pretty full, especially of frustrations and exasperations for the things I haven't or shouldn't have done. When I do this simple evening practice, I find that I can better try to give up impossible expectations and the subsequent

feelings of failure that seem to crowd in my head just as I try to get some rest. It also gives me an opportunity to focus on the good things that I have done or have experienced. In this way, my mind is reset, and I come to realize that it hasn't been such a bad day after all, especially when I stopped playing God and allowed myself to see the Creation for what it is: GOD'S.

September will be for me a month of unknowns and restoration. No doubt, I'll spend most of the month frustrated that I can't just bounce back after my surgery. We all face doubts, we all face unknown things in life. But like all unknowns, including even sleep, we ultimately need to heed the Psalmist words: *Now in peace I will lie down and sleep; you alone, O God, make me secure.*

Rest well my friends. May we all rise to serve God in peace.

Pastor Martin



## Director of Music and Liturgy



***Earth and All Stars!*** is one of my favorite hymns to sing. On its surface, it is one of the stranger texts in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal. With phrases like “Loud rushing planets!”, or “Loud boiling test tubes!”, or even “Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!” you may be asking why on earth are we singing this hymn. However after a brief history lesson in hymnody, one can see the beauty of these phrases and why we sing it in church. Specifically, HCLC sings it every year as the students and teachers go back to school.

Herbert Brokering’s text, *Earth and All Stars!*, calls the universe to unite and “Sing to the Lord a new song.” In addition to addressing the natural universe that Psalm 148 catalogs (“mountains and hills,” “beasts and cattle,” “birds of the air,” etc.), “Earth and All Stars” also calls on music, industry, construction, education, sports, and philosophy, the entire human enterprise, to join the song. Each image is bound together by the recurring phrase found in each stanza, “Sing to the Lord a new song! He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!”

Brokering, a Lutheran minister born in 1926, composed this text in 1964 on the occasion of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Olaf College. With phrases like “Classroom and labs!” and “Athlete and band!” it is easy to see the academic world references in stanzas four and five.

I invite you to use this hymn text in your daily devotionals as students and teachers return to the classroom.

*Classrooms and labs!  
Loud boiling test tubes!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Athlete and band!  
Loud cheering people!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!*

*God has done marvelous things.  
I too sing praises with a new song!*

Soli Deo Gloria!

Jeremy Shoop, Director of Music and Liturgy



## COUNCIL



### **Cranking Back Up!**

Holy Cross Family –

I often approach this time of year with mixed emotions. I begin to realize the relatively carefree days of summer are coming to an end, and fall with all of its activities and exciting events is right around the corner.

This year we have had an unusual number of problems to address with our building and property. Fortunately, our Property Chair, Gary Wolfe, and his team (esp. Joe Makowski and his son) have been able to supply much of the labor needed to address them. However, as these expenses were increasing, we were experiencing a decrease in contributions. Thus, there is a growing need to collectively add to the Infrastructure and Development fund. We also ask that you consider including Holy Cross in your estate planning as was done with the Gouldman Fund which has grown from a relatively small bequest in 1977 to benefit us numerous ways. The stalled bathroom project is now moving forward after the injection of the Rebuild Virginia grant replaced the shortfall in Building on the Best pledge fulfillments. Additionally, a small amount of the Rebuild Virginia grant was used to procure an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and its cabinet that will be installed in the narthex opposite the restrooms during September.



We had another successful Vacation Bible School (VBS) thanks to Suzanne Baggett and her staff. Pastor Martin (AKA Super Meerkat), Jeremy Shoop (AKA Professor) provided a dynamic opening skit. Adult Study led by Pastor Martin filled the large classroom, Katy Moran shared her growing skills and infectious enthusiasm, Amy McNaughton led the kids to make casseroles for Lunch for the Soul participants, and Chris Nelson worked directly with the kids to make creature boxes for HCLC's habitat. So much work was done by so many to ensure another successful VBS! Thanks to these amazing people; we really appreciate all you do for Holy Cross!

Rally Day is coming up on September 10<sup>th</sup>. This is when we traditionally focus on our ministry teams and kick off a new year of Sunday School. This year we will have a special focus on Outreach Ministries at Holy Cross. Activities will be held between services, so please plan on staying later or coming earlier depending on which service you normally attend.

In November, Holy Cross will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Our celebrations will culminate with a special worship service and a catered luncheon on All Saints Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars now for this wonderful event!

Finally, please keep Pastor Martin in your prayers for a successful surgery and recovery. He is blessed that the top surgeon in the country on this procedure is at Johns Hopkins, and she is his doctor!

I'm looking forward to us moving our activities into high gear with the entire Holy Cross Family as summer concludes and fall begins!

Yours in Christ,  
Sam



## WORSHIP & MUSIC



**Whether you love to bake or love to eat,  
We Need You!**

*Scrumptious!*

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>! The Altar Guild will have its Annual Bake Sale!

Last year's bake sale was such a huge success that it will be an annual event. The proceeds will go to supplying flowers in the Sanctuary on Sundays!

*Delicious!*

We need bakers and buyers! Whether it's savory or sweet—pies, cookies cakes, Gluten-Free or sugar free, all baked goods are welcome. We need **YOU** to make this event successful!

To participate, please contact Carol Shaffer at [foxlady@aol.com](mailto:foxlady@aol.com)

Carol Shaffer, Worship & Music Chair

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WAS A SUCCESS!

***We are HEROS FOR CHRIST!***

HCLC Vacation Bible School (VBS) took place Aug 6-10 (Sunday-Thursday) from 6-8pm. Though we had to cancel Monday night due to an extreme weather threat, we resumed Tuesday with great enthusiasm!

## HOW OUR SCHEDULE WORKED

- 6:00 pm Kids and Adults gathered **DINNER**
- 6:30 Kids and Adults **OPENING ACTIVITY**
- 6:45-7:45:
  - a. Adults gathered to **STUDY THE LORD'S PRAYER**
  - b. Kids cycled through Bible Hero-themed activities: **RECREATION. HYDRATION STATION, BIBLE STORYTELLING, SCIENCE and CRAFTS**
- 7:45 All gathered for **CLOSING EXERCISES** led by Jeremy and Pastor Martin in character.

***“So let’s strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up.” Romans 14:19***

### THE ADULT CURRICULUM:

The Lord’s Prayer: Jesus’ Plan for Radical, Powerful Discipleship,” was led by Pastor Martin. This was well attended and very much enjoyed, as related to me by many participants.



# KIDS

The KIDS' VBS curriculum was **Hero Hotline!** Once again, Cokesbury Publishing delivered with a format that engagingly taught us how easy it is to be a faith-driven hero. EVERY NIGHT, kids and adults spoke a verse during an exceptionally dynamic OPENING SKIT with the Professor (Jeremy) and Super Meerkat (Pastor) drawing us all in.



Our **"MISSION FOCUS"** was to live discipleship by making and serving the meal for the Lunch for the Soul gentlemen on Wednesday, Aug 9. With incredible planning and leadership, Amy McNaughton lead the kids in making enough chicken rice and broccoli casseroles to feed as many as 25 men for Wednesday's lunch AND 30+ VBS participants that night. Even more enriching, 4 of our 5 kids were able to come to HCLC to serve the lunch they had made. This was an extraordinary experience for all!

## Thank you Nelsons!

Under Chris Nelson's wonderful leadership, our VBS kids made creature boxes for HCLC's habitat!

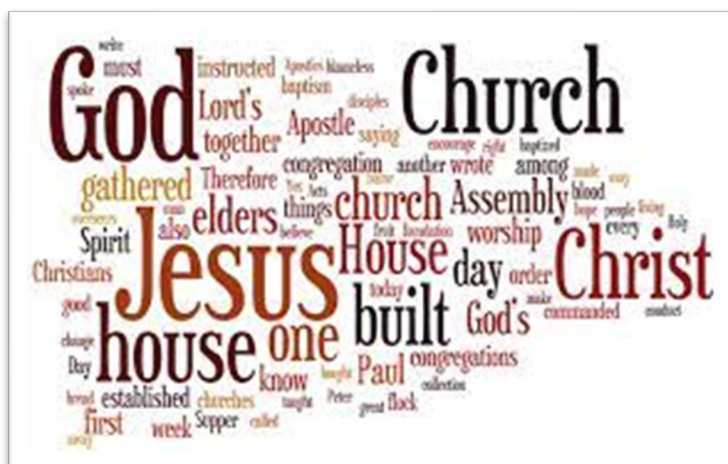




FINALLY, I wish to express eternal gratitude to our VBS team who seamlessly led the final night of VBS, despite two medical emergencies, since resolved. One involved a family member, which precluded my attendance for the last night. This was not only personally disappointing, but also engendered much extra work for our VBS leaders who made it all work seamlessly. I cannot express my appreciation enough.

Suzanne Baggett

Sunday School Superintendent



## **CONGRATULATIONS to SEMINARIAN**

### **KATY MORAN**

Our seminarian, Katy Moran, successfully completed her yearlong internship at United in Christ Lutheran Church on July 30. Vicar Katy has been living and working in Lewisburg, PA, since August 2022 to complete her internship—a requirement for ELCA pastoral candidates. She is a student at United Lutheran Seminary and has one more semester of classes to complete her academic requirements for a Master of Divinity.



Vicar Katy spent most of August at home in Herndon, and during Vacation Bible School, she served as the storyteller for the children's curriculum.

In September, Vicar Katy is returning to Lewisburg as a Senior Seminarian. She has been given a wonderful opportunity to continue working with her internship supervisor Pastor Justin Lingenfelter. While she completes her seminary classes online, Vicar Katy will help lead Sunday worship at United in Christ and also spends part of his time as Christ Lutheran's interim pastor.

Please keep Vicar Katy in your prayers as she completes the final phase of her seminary journey.



## FELLOWSHIP

While I was out of town in August visiting family, the Fellowship “hour” after services went on seamlessly. Many thanks to **Roy Geiger, Jared Lem, Nan Lem,** and **Lynn Russo** for so ably taking over those duties – it is appreciated!



### RALLY DAY & NAME TAG SUNDAY

Come early for late service and stay late after early service to visit the **Ministry Fair!** Holy Cross’s Ministries and our **Community Partners** will have tables in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall to answer all your questions about the vibrant ministries here at Holy Cross and in our Herndon Community. There will also be a **bake sale** to support the Altar Guild – eat your breakfast at church that day! *(Psst: Also sign up to help with Fellowship!)*

### JOKE OF THE MONTH – in honor of school starting!



*What’s the difference between a cat  
and a comma?*

*One has claws at the end of its paws, and  
the other has a pause at the end of its clause!*



## **BLOCK PARTIES WILL CONTINUE**

Starting this fall, Holy Cross will hold **monthly social events called Block Parties!**

The idea is to have different members of the congregation sign-up to coordinate an event. We'll kick off with a cookout and lawn game day on Sunday, September 24th after the late service. We'll provide the burgers & hot dogs, you bring an appetizer, side or dessert to share! We'll be looking for help, so check the weekly e-blast and Weekly Update for more information!



In the meantime, **we'd love for YOU to sign up to lead an event** starting on Rally Day, September 10th! Here are some of the ideas we've tossed out, but would love to hear YOUR ideas as well:

- ***Pizza & Board Games Night***
- ***Hike & visit a brewery/vineyard with live music***
- ***Movie Night***
- ***Bonfire & S'mores with hot chocolate***
- ***Nature Walk***
- ***Attend a soccer, baseball (Go Nats!!), rugby, or cricket game***
- ***Progressive Garden/Dinner Party***
- ***Chili Cook-Off***

Questions? Feel free to ask Shelly Eldred, Deb Reilly, Karen Faulkner, or Anne Geiger.

And, On That Note...as always on Sunday, you are invited and encouraged to stop by the Fellowship Hall for some coffee, tea, juice, or water, and good food (there is always fruit and a LWR quilt to tie!). It's a terrific way to meet up with Holy Cross members and visitors!

Anne Geiger, Fellowship Chair  
[fellowship@holycrosslutheranchurch.net](mailto:fellowship@holycrosslutheranchurch.net)



## **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!**

### **November 5, 2023**

Holy Cross is 60 years old this year!! Led by Deb Reilly, the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee has set the date for the main celebration for All Saints Sunday, November 5, 2023.

We will have one combined worship service on that day. Former HCLC Pastor Ed Harper will be the Preacher, and Bishop Leila Ortiz the Presiding Minister. Seminarian Katy Moran and Pastor Martin will serve as Assisting Ministers. There will be a catered luncheon after the church service.

*If you would like to help with the set-up, serving and clean-up for the catered luncheon after the service, please let Anne Geiger know at [fellowship@holycrosslutheranchurch.net](mailto:fellowship@holycrosslutheranchurch.net). It will be a busy day!*

# **OUTREACH**

## **Herndon MS School Supply Drive**

Thank you to all who donated school supplies for Herndon Middle School! We delivered more than \$1,700 worth of binders, paper, writing implements, backpacks, and more. The school is very grateful for our support! Special thanks to Karen Faulkner, Shelly Eldred, and the Nelson family for helping to sort and package the donations.



## **What is “God’s Work Our Hands” Sunday?**

September 10, 2023

“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor!

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.

**“God’s Work Our Hands” Sunday**  
**September 10, 2023**



***Holy Cross will be celebrating  
“God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday  
on Rally Day, September 10<sup>th</sup> with two projects:***

1. Donations to the [Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area \(LSS-NCA\) Resource Center.](#)

The LSS-NCA manages a resource center to provide household items, clothes, and personal care supplies for people who participate in the organization’s programs, including refugee and immigrant services; foster care and adoption services; and the Trafficking Victim Assistance Program.

The Resource Center is in urgent need of the following items:

- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Soap bars
- Queen blankets
- Toilet paper
- Hair combs
- Hair brushes



2. Donations of gently used shoes to [Soles4Souls](https://soles4souls.org/).

Here is an opportunity for you to clean out your shoe storage! Instead of sending your old shoes to the landfill, donate them to our shoe drive. Gently used shoes are sent to developing countries, where small business owners sell them for income and their customers receive affordable quality shoes. Our goal is to collect 100 pairs of shoes to send to Soles4Souls.

Please tie the laces together to keep pairs of shoes organized.

Bring all items on September 10 and deposit them in the boxes in the Fellowship Hall when you attend the Community Partner Showcase.



# Community Partner Showcase On Rally Day! Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

The Holy Cross family is always generous when asked to contribute supplies, volunteer time, or supplies to the organizations that serve our community and world. However, we rarely get to have personal contact with the people who manage the work of those organizations to find out more about their services and what else is needed.

The 60th Anniversary Team and the Outreach Team are excited to announce that 8 of our partner organizations will have representatives participate in a Community Partner Showcase at Holy Cross on Rally Day from 9:30 until 11:00.

You will have an opportunity to meet staff members from:

## Chaplaincy Ministries

The ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Ministries Office supports pastors who serve as federal chaplains for the U.S. military, Veterans Affairs hospitals and federal correctional institutions. These individuals bring the hope, help and healing of Christ to service members, veterans, the imprisoned and federal law enforcement. For ELCA Deacons and Pastors, the ELCA Chaplaincy and Specialized Pastoral Care office facilitates required endorsements and supports chaplains through prayer, providing worship materials, and partners with others to send care packages to deployed military chaplains.

**HCLC Connection:** Funds raised from the HCLC Beer and Carols event in December are dedicated to the ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Ministries Office.



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Rally Day ~ September 10, 2023





## The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc.

The Closet is a nonprofit thrift shop in the heart of historic downtown Herndon, Virginia. Founded in 1974 by a handful of churches to assist low-income families by selling used clothing at nominal prices, The Closet's mission has expanded to become a significant resource for the greater Herndon area. The shop continues to be a source of low-cost clothing and household necessities for families and individuals on a tight budget and also gives away clothing at no cost to truly needy individuals. Profits from The Closet go to support local community service organizations as well as post-secondary education scholarships for students from local high schools.

**HCLC Connection:** HCLC is one of 20 faith-based organizations that manages The Closet. HCLC members volunteer at the shop.

## Cornerstones

Cornerstones is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that promotes self-sufficiency by providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, as well as supported housing, food and financial assistance, employment services, and community and family strengthening programs.

**HCLC Connection:** HCLC collects donations of food for the Embry Rucker Community Shelter on the third Sunday of each month.

## LAWS - Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter

LAWS Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services is Loudoun County's designated provider for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and child abuse. We provide free and confidential services, including our 24/7 survivor hotline, advocacy and brief trauma therapy, legal

services, and violence prevention programs. LAWS also operates Loudoun County's domestic violence shelter, the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center, and The Resourceful Woman Thrift Store.

**HCLC Connection:** HCLC has donated items for the domestic violence shelter.

### LINK Against Hunger

LINK, Inc. is a 501c(3) non-profit organization that provides emergency food and financial assistance to qualified people in need. Supported primarily by donations of food and funds, LINK is comprised of dedicated churches, organizations, and individuals serving the Herndon, Sterling, and Ashburn, Virginia communities. The all-volunteer staff at LINK believe in the power of selfless service and the importance of providing people in crisis with unconditional love. Volunteers deliver emergency food supplies to families in need on a weekly basis. The organization also operates a mobile food pantry and holiday distributions of food, coats, and gifts.

**HCLC Connection:** HCLC collects donations of food for LINK on the first Sunday of each month and members of HCLC deliver groceries to recipients on a weekly basis. We also have a seat on the board of directors.

### Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area

Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA) accompanies those in need to foster resiliency, self-sufficiency, and access to opportunities by creating, connecting with, and engaging welcoming communities. LSSNCA specifically focuses their efforts on some of the most vulnerable in our community: refugees, asylum-seekers, unaccompanied refugee minors, children needing foster homes, and family and youth wellness. LSSNCA has served the Metro DC area for over a hundred years.



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**HCLC Connection:** HCLC has sponsored refugee families through the Immigration and Refugee Services. On Rally Day, we will collect supplies for The Resource Center managed by LSS-NCA.

### Mobile Hope

Mobile Hope provides support and emergency shelter to youth up to age 24 who are at-risk, precariously housed or homeless and empowers them to become self-sufficient and experience improved well-being. Mobile Hope's Listen for the Honk fleet, including our iconic bus, has delivered fresh food, diapers, hygiene items, books, and toys to more than 320,000 family members since March of 2020. Our homeless youth and youth in crisis pitch in, working alongside Mobile Hope staff, corporate volunteers, and elected officials.

**HCLC Connection:** HCLC has collected donations of supplies for the organization to distribute to the youth they serve.

### Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County

The Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County was begun in Herndon in 2006 to encourage everyone to think more about peace as both a means and an end, and to recognize young people who work as peacemakers. The program grew over time and is now offered to every public high school in Fairfax County. Each school is asked to nominate a student who has demonstrated a desire to bring kindness into the world around them, whether within their schools, their community, or on a larger scale. The students see conflict and injustice and respond with creative problem solving. Recognized students receive a monetary gift and may identify a peace-focused charity for a donation by the organization.

**HCLC Connection:** HCLC is a sponsoring organization of the Student Peace Awards, contributing annually to the scholarship fund.

# EVANGELISM

## SterlingFest

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>  
11 am – 5 pm

**WHERE:** Sterling Community Center



Come and enjoy tons of exciting vendor booths (ours included), along with a wide variety of family activities! There will be a volunteer sign-up sheet in the Narthex after Labor Day to help out with this event.

## Herndon Homecoming Parade

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 – 11:30 am

**WHERE:** Across from Herndon  
Middle School

Come out and volunteer to help at these two great events! Sign-up sheets will be available in the narthex after Labor Day.



## **Pet Blessing Service**

**WHEN:** Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm

**WHERE:** Holy Cross Lutheran Church



## **Trunk or Treat!**

*More details coming!*

**WHEN:** Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>

**3:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

**WHERE:** Holy Cross Parking Lot



## **HCLC Card Brigade!**

HCLC Card Brigade is looking for a faithful volunteer to help during the month of December. Do you have a couple free hours to send out cards and greetings to our members? For more information, please contact [kfaulkner464@aol.com](mailto:kfaulkner464@aol.com).



Respectfully Submitted, Karen Faulkner, Evangelism Chair

## PROPERTY



Our Property Workdays have gone exceedingly well! With one more to go on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, **MUCH** has been accomplished!

We began on May 9<sup>th</sup> and will end on September 12<sup>th</sup> with our monthly, second Tuesday Work Nights through the summer.

**THANK YOU** to the many folks who have braved the weather and conditions! From yard work to plumbing, to tree trimming, no job has been too big or small!



**STAY TUNED FOR :**  
**October Saturday Clean-up Day!**



## **ELL Coordinator Needed!**

After many years, Ellen Atwell is stepping down as the coordinator of the HCLC ELL program. We are grateful for her leadership and dedication to helping immigrants improve their English skills.

If you have an interest in helping others and you enjoy organizing logistics, please consider taking on this role. Ellen is happy to train whoever will replace her!

### **DUTIES of the ELL Coordinator:**

- ❖ Oversee ELL program
- ❖ Assist teachers
- ❖ Register students
- ❖ Coordinate and conduct assessment tests
- ❖ Keep attendance records
- ❖ Create English/Spanish flyers for each semester
- ❖ Take the flyers to different stores, also McDonalds and email the flyers to the Herndon Resource Center, which is now part of Cornerstone
- ❖ Support teachers, students and their families.

Contact Ellen Atwell for more information:

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



### **Thank You!**

Holy Cross's Church Council approved the implementation of the Stephen Ministry to begin in our congregation! God is so good by providing an anonymous donor to match funds needed to implement the program immediately!

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called *Stephen Ministers*—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Congregations and other organizations use these resources to strengthen and expand ministry. Individuals use them to improve their ability to relate to and care for others, grow in faith, and journey through life crises. The Stephen Ministry is based in St. Louis, Missouri. (visit [www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org))

### **The Blessings of Stephen Ministry Include:**

- Equipping People to Use Their Gifts in Ministry.
- Helping People Grow in Their Faith.
- Providing Care and Support for Hurting People.
- Building Up the Congregation as a Caring Community.
- Reaching Unchurched People with the Love of Jesus.

Stay tuned as the Stephen Ministry plants its roots to:

“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)

The Stephen Ministry Team

## 3 WAYS TO GIVE

We aspire to keep Holy Cross Lutheran Church a thriving, serving community of God's people. We each need to make a determined effort to ensure that our offerings sustain us. Your generosity makes all things possible.

Bring your offering with you to worship service at 8:30 or 11:00 am or to drive-thru communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 12:30 pm. You can also mail a check donation to the church (Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170)

### There are three ways to give when you're not in the sanctuary:

1. To give online, simply go to our secure website and click **"Donate"** to set up an automatic donation plan.
2. 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. An even easier method of sending a single or recurring check donation to the church is by using Bill Pay with your bank or credit union online account or mobile app. Those payments are guaranteed and are shown in your bank or credit union records. Also, there is no fee to you or to the church.
3. Lastly, you can scan the QR code:





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