



## Holy Cross Herald February 2024

Aiming  
our lives toward  
Christ!

Proclaiming  
Christ crucified!

Reclaiming  
lost lives for Christ!

The strongest muscle in the body is the masseter, it is responsible for closing your mouth, with up to 200 pounds of force. Our mouths, our tongues, our speech, also have the ability to close down on others, to destroy others, to tear them down, to discourage, to control. But we also have the power to build up, encourage, inspire faith, share the gospel, and bring peace. The following is a compilation of verses for us to contemplate through the Holy Spirit. Let us use the power of our speech at **Holy Cross to build up God's church (his Body) to greater faith, love, and good works.** Glory to Jesus Christ! - Pastor Eric

Psalm 34:13: Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

Psalm 37:30: The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice.

Proverbs 4:24: Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you.

Proverbs 11:13 He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy conceals a **matter.**"

Proverbs 12:18: There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 15:28: The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

Proverbs 16:21: The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness.

Proverbs 16:23: The heart of the wise makes his speech judicious and adds persuasiveness to his lips.

Proverbs 20:19 He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, therefore do not **associate with a gossip."**

Proverbs 22:11: He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech is gracious, will have the king as his friend.

Proverbs 25:23: The north wind brings forth rain, and a backbiting tongue, angry looks.

Proverbs 25:9-10 **...don't reveal the secret of another, lest he who hears it reproach you, and the evil report about you not pass away."**

Proverbs 26:28: A lying tongue hates its victims, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

Proverbs 28:23: Whoever rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than he who flatters with his tongue.

Ephesians 4:15: Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

Ephesians 4:25: Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Ephesians 4:29-30: Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians 5:4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

Colossians 3:8-9: But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices

Colossians 4:5-7: Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

1 Timothy 5:13: Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.

2 Timothy 2:16 But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness,

James 3:4-17: And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and saltwater? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water. Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

James 4:11: Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law.

## Looking forward to the LENTEN / EASTER SEASON



Lenten Film Service - Wednesdays, 7:00 pm,  
from 2/21/2024 through 3/20/2024

Holy week begins with Palm Sunday Weekend -  
March 23, 5:30 pm & March 24, 10:00 am

Maundy Thursday - March 28, 7:00 pm

Good Friday - March 29, 11:00 am & 7:30 pm

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 30, 10:00 am

Easter Celebration - March 30, 5:30 pm &  
March 31, 8:45 & 11:00 am with Easter  
Breakfast between services

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a special place for me and for you. It is our Heavenly Father's house where we worship Him and receive Word and Sacrament. We have fellowship with the LORD and with each other.

Also, it is where we participate in the Communion of Saints with those who have gone to Heaven before us. The Universal Church (invisible church) is the Body of Christ, made of living stones. See 1 Peter 2:4 and 5.

At Holy Cross we have connections with family, with old friends and new friends. God places people in our lives so each of us can share our faith, life experiences (blessings and trials), and the Fruit of the Spirit, and prayers.

Each official member of Holy Cross is assigned to an Elder. Elders assist the Pastor in his Office of Public Ministry and spiritual care of the people. The members of Holy Cross are grouped into Zones for each Elder.

I am encouraging you to get to know your Elder and your Zone members. To facilitate this, look at the HC Membership Directory. The Zone numbers are printed next to each household. Elder phone numbers and their Zones are printed on the back page of worship bulletins.

Your Elder is praying for you and other members of your Zone. Please feel free to contact your Elder when you have a prayer request or want to talk with someone.

“Carry one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” GALATIANS 6:2

Pray for each other. Jesus is listening.

Peace in Christ.

Steve Northcott - Elder, Zone 8

CARRY ONE ANOTHER'S  
BURDENS, AND SO FULFILL  
THE LAW OF CHRIST.



# MEMORIALS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

## IN MEMORY OF MARCUS COON

### For the General Fund

Gerrie Bufford  
Sharron Haggerty  
Carol Heidenreich  
Cathy Zeckzer  
Ken & Karen Lobert  
Arlene Meyer  
Randy Falk  
June Moore  
Frances Schaefer  
St. Paul Lutheran Church

## IN MEMORY OF ELEANOR TACKE

### For the General Fund

Carl Tacke

### *Memorial Gifts*



## NEW HOPE FOOD PANTRY

For the month of November, New Hope Food Panty served an additional 39 families, 117 people, and gave out two Bibles. These figures were not included in those that were reported last month. In December we served 41 families, 152 people, gave out two Bibles and six packages of diapers. We also gave out 40 Christmas food baskets. The year-end totals are 578 families served, 2030 people, 589 units, and we gave out 108 Bibles and 50 packages of diapers.

New Hope receives most of our food from the county, which we pick up the first and third Wednesday morning of each month at their warehouse at Hall Road and Groesbeck. This requires a truck. Unfortunately, we no longer have a truck available and are in need of anyone who can help us. The food is loaded for us, and we have volunteers who help unload at the church. We would greatly appreciate your help. If you have questions or can volunteer, please contact Joanne Vollbrecht.



Only personal care items (bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo) are needed at this time if you would like to donate.

Please consider joining New Hope. New people are always welcome. Our next meeting is Saturday, February 3, at 10:00 a.m.

01/12/2024

Dear Holy Cross Members,

I am sure that many of you have noticed that I have some difficulty in walking and standing. Over the last year or so I have been experiencing pain in both my hips and legs. When standing I start to get pain in both legs and as for walking I can only walk short distances before I have to stop and let the pain subside in both my legs and hips. I am under a doctor's care and have had some tests run. The tests show some wear in both of my hips and narrowing of the discs in my lower back. I just went through a test to check blood flow in my legs and that came back as all good. At this time I am not sure what the doctor will recommend as to what tests I need to have done next.

My main concern in this whole matter is while assisting with the service and communion my legs may give out while stepping down from the steps to the communion rail. This could result in serious injury not only to myself but as well as the person kneeling at the communion rail. To make matters worse is if I were carrying the tray of Individual cups.

After much prayer and careful thoughts about this matter I decided for the interest of not only my personal safety and those around me that it would be best for all for me to retire my position as deacon here at Holy Cross.

It has been an honor and a privilege to have served you all these past nine years. I am turning my deacon duties over to Deacon Larry and pray you all will support him as you have supported me.

God bless you all,  
Tony





**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Jeff Hobert	2/2
David King	2/2
Alex Stokes	2/3
Julie Bastian	2/6
Margaret Yusko	2/6
Linda Conger	2/10
Mason Wojciechowski	2/10
Mary Hintze	2/11
Amanda Mills	2/12
Harriet Ermler	2/13
Charles DeMoss	2/14
John Pepperman	2/14
Mike Yuhase	2/14
Connie Difatta	2/15
Pat Ratzow	2/15
Jennifer Grable	2/16
Jennifer Prewitt	2/16
Brian Williams	2/16
Jim Jorgensen	2/17
Wayne Haugan	2/18
Vivian LaCoss	2/20
Jane Bennett	2/21
Graddie Hall III	2/25



**FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

Chuck & Sue Schroeder  
2/5/1972 52 years

Pastor & Teryl Eisinger  
2/5/2000 24 years

**REMEMBER THOSE  
IN HOSPICE  
CARE.**



Paul Meyerand  
Jim Cantwell

Barb Ugo	Vern & Ruth Parker
Shirley Pontious	Shirley Tallman
Donna Marshall	Barbara Unger
Lotte Weber	Donna Kaip
Linda Troppman	Shirley Handy
Harry Roberts	Jane Bennett
Dolly Ferries	Barbara Unger
Siegfried Tyburski	





LOVED  
Beyond  
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# HOLY CROSS WOMEN'S MINISTRY



## Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)

Clark Park Street Ministry= \$5,000,  
Mission Grant #6

Family of God Lutheran Church is

a non-profit Lutheran ministry committed to bringing the gospel to the lives of those living in Southwest Detroit. They are committed to building relationships with those they serve and offering programs that support them physically, spiritually, and emotionally.

One such way is through their Lunch Bag program which they started in 2020 during the pandemic. In their efforts to continue to do ministry within the confines of the Covid-19 restrictions, Family of God began delivering food to area residents. They also noticed large gatherings of homeless and addicted people in Clark Park who would be waiting for the FOG team at the same time each day. These gatherings turned into opportunities for prayer and a worship service.

Family of God realized they needed a place to store essential items year-round for basic hygiene needs, a tent, and a propane heater. They applied for and received an LWML Mission Grant for \$5,000 to help them purchase a used trailer to store these essentials.

We here at Holy Cross have been a part of this ministry by making and delivering lunch bags to Family of God since 2020. We are serving these residents as Christ Our Lord has first served us. Thank you, Holy Cross members and please continue to contribute to your mite box to help fund this grant.

**Women's Small Bible Study** will be Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 9:30 am in the conference room. We are using the book, *Promised Rest, Finding peace in God's presence* by author Michelle Diercks. This is a study on the various names and characteristics of God to deepen your understanding of Him and your identity as His child. The names of God reveal important aspects of His character as well as how He relates to you and how He offers the peace we crave. Come and join us and bring a friend!

**Save the Date**, for the LWML Michigan District convention, June 28 – 30, 2024 in Grand Rapids, MI. Watch for more information!!

# HOLY CROSS WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## LADIES GUILD

A belated thanks to the following ladies who helped purchase 11 turkeys for our Food Pantry Christmas Baskets - Vivian Badalamenti, Gerrie Bufford, Gail Caldarea, Linda Conger, Carol Dehnke, Jean Dennis, Roberta Hanka, Lynn Marshall-Hintz and Maurya Withrow.

Pastor Tyler Cronkright and David Crittendon, Chairman of FOG Ministry sent a letter to Holy Cross stating their deep appreciation for the individuals and church family of Holy Cross in our Lunch Bag efforts in 2023. This year the Ladies Guild will be handling this project for FOG. Our scheduled dates are March 10, April 7, May 5, August 4, September 22 and October 6th. Any monetary donations should be made through the church with a notation on the bottom that your check is intended for FOG. Thanks to everyone who helps out in this effort.

Our thanks to all the committees who use the kitchen and help us when they clean up afterwards. Maurya Withrow oversees the kitchen, if you notice any issues while using the kitchen please let Maurya know. Vivian Badalamenti and Shirley McClenahan assist Maurya in maintaining the kitchen. Thank you ladies!!

Ladies Guild is contributing \$200 to the Council of Lutheran Women, for the Scholarship Fund which is earmarked for next year's seminarian and deaconess students, plus two memorial scholarships at Concordia University-Ann Arbor.

Cathy Zeckzer, our Sunshine Lady, reported that in 2023 she sent out 300 cards. Becky, helps her with a current list of shut-ins, address labels and return address labels. Thank you ladies for helping with this project.

Ladies - save the date of Saturday, May 18th. Details are just coming together so watch your bulletin for further updates. This event is designed to appeal to women of all ages. See you there!!

# HOLY CROSS WOMEN'S MINISTRY

*Woman  
of the Year*

Congratulations to  
Carol Dehnke  
our 2024 Woman of the Year!

Please use the sign-up sheet on the Women's Ministry Bulletin Board and provide your payment to Linda Conger by February 11. Please indicate if you want to carpool. We will meet at the HC parking lot by 9:45 AM.

## Luncheon Information

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

11 AM - 2 PM

The Mirage

16980 18 Mile Road

Clinton Township, MI 48038

Price: \$38

Entertainment: Living Truth 2

The Council of Lutheran Women is also celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!  
[www.clwmichigan.com](http://www.clwmichigan.com)

## **SHROVE (FAT) TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER AND PANCAKE RACES**

Join us **Tuesday**, February 13 starting at 5:30 pm for the return of our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Pancake Races.

On the menu will be traditional pancakes, potato pancakes & ham and for dessert – your favorite & mine...Paczki!!

This event is sponsored by the Board of Elders. Men of the congregation, if you would like to help with setup, cooking, and/or cleanup please contact Mark Coon. Your help is greatly appreciated.



**SHROVE TUESDAY**

## FEBRUARY 14 IS ASH WEDNESDAY AND THE BEGINNING OF LENT

Come and prepare yourselves for Jesus' death and resurrection. The Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion will be offered at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. Lenten midweek services will be on Wednesdays through March 20. This year during the Lenten midweek services we will be watching the film, "The Gospel of John" with famous actor Henry Ian Cusick. We'll split up the 3-hour film into 5 Wednesdays with prayer, discussion, popcorn and drinks in Haggerty Hall, 7:00 - 8:00 pm. Bring a friend, bring a neighbor, bring your kids. See you there.



### **Greetings Holy Cross from the Church Council.**

A few thoughts for this month.

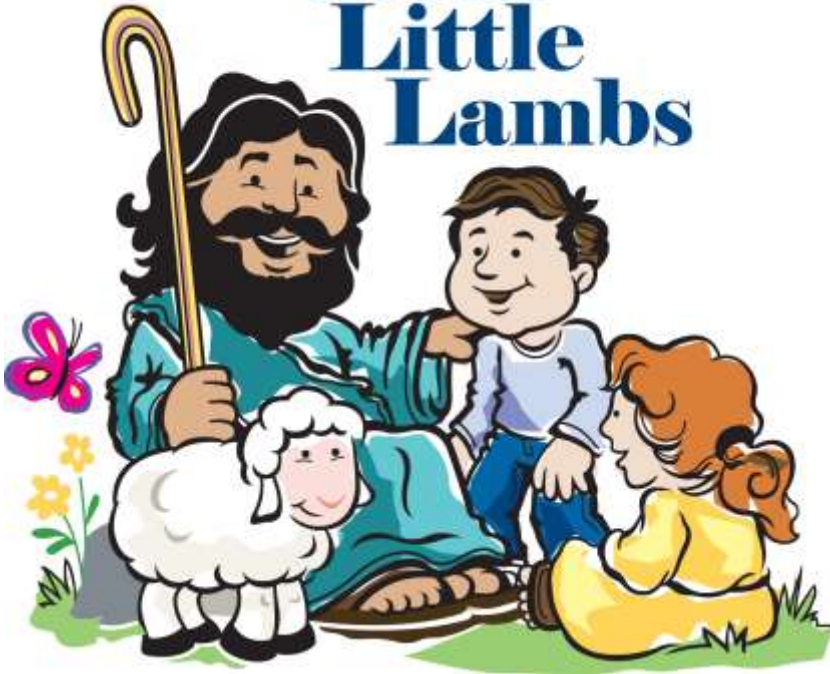
I am sorry I have not been very consistent with Council Corners. I am trying to do a better job in the new year. We had some changes this year. I would like to thank Mike & Vickie Yuhase for serving Holy Cross cleaning the church for many years.

I would also like to introduce Alley Hall, serving as the head of our janitorial staff. She will be working closely with myself and Building & Property to develop a schedule and plan to keep our church clean for everyone to be proud of. If you see anything that needs attention, please let me know and we will take a look at it. We are developing a schedule and best practices to keep Holy Cross looking great.

We are bringing back Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper! It will be on Tuesday, February 13th. Ham, regular pancakes, potato pancakes and more. There will be the pancake races as well, so bring your favorite skillet to flip pancakes!

Gods Blessings, Mark Coon, Council President

# Jesus' Little Lambs



## Sunday School & Youth News!

Happy February! We are looking forward to another month of fun! Please join us!

Sunday School  
(Preschool-6th grade) and  
Youth Bible Study  
(7th-12th grade)  
9am-9:45am

Craft Sunday & Valentine's Day  
Party

**Sunday February 11th** (during  
Sunday School/Youth Bible  
Study)

### Save The Date(s)

#### Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday March 30th @ 10:00am**

Invite your family and friends.

We will be collecting WRAPPED candy and plastic eggs for the event. Please place donations in the basket outside of the Sunday School office.

#### VBS 2024

**June 17th-21st**

We are looking forward to another week of VBS in 2024! More details to come!

#### Jr. Youth/Youth Group

**Sunday February 4th & 18th**

**6pm-7:30**

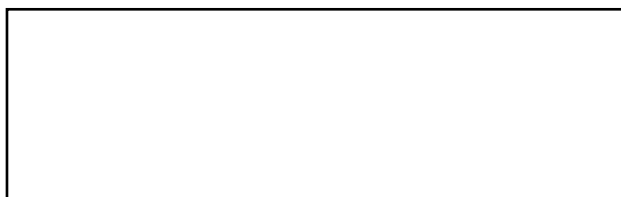
Join us for fellowship and fun

#### Fundraiser

Jr. Youth/Youth Group will be collecting bottles and cans as an ongoing fundraiser. The proceeds will go to help offset the cost of the 2025 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans! Donations can be placed in the box by the basement stairs.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
30003 Ryan Road  
Warren, MI 48092

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**CHURCH OFFICE**  
586-751-2550  
office@holycrosswarren.com

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!**  
Saturday - 5:30 pm  
Sunday - 10:00 am

**BIBLE STUDY CLASSES**  
Saturday - 6:30 pm  
Sunday - 9:00 am for all  
Adult, Youth & Sunday  
School for Children

**Church Staff**

Eric Shanburn, *Pastor*  
pastor@holycrosswarren.com

Michael Katopodes, *Organist*  
michaelkatopodes@gmail.com

Becky Northcott, *Adm. Asst.*  
office@holycrosswarren.com

Larry Hoeft, *Deacon*  
Lhoeft1961@gmail.com

Michelle Hoeft, *MA*  
Mhoeft1965@gmail.com

**Church Council**

**Mark Coon**  
*President*

**Graddie Hall**  
*Vice-President*

*Treasurer*

**Denise Vandenberghe**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Jenny McCoy**  
*Council Secretary*

**NEW HOPE  
FOOD PANTRY**  
586-751-2517