

# Holy Cross

A Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Congregation

# HAPPENINGS

December 3-10, 2023

[www.holycross-pl.com](http://www.holycross-pl.com) • [www.facebook.com/holycrosspl](https://www.facebook.com/holycrosspl)

**WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS** – Welcome to the Lord’s House. God bless you as you hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.



**ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES** are on **December 6, 13 and 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please join us!

## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!

The volunteer schedule for January to March of 2024 will be coming out in a few weeks. We’d love to have some more volunteers to add to the list! If you’re interested in volunteering for Lector, Usher, Acolyte, Audio/Video, or Offering Counting please let Megan know. Don’t worry if you have never done it before, someone will train you in! Any and all help is appreciated!



**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS** Thank you to all who donated to the exterior Christmas lighting on our building. We have met our goal for contributions to fund the lighting this year! Our church is a beacon to all who drive by every day. Blessings to all!

## WINDJAMMERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The local adult band (Windjammers) has a Christmas concert scheduled for **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm**. It will be held at the Prior Lake High School auditorium. They hold 2 concerts a year, around Christmas time and again around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Our Cory Einarson is in the tuba section, "providing the glue that holds it all together." They are very good! Don't forget to mark your calendar!



**CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE** There will be a bake sale during the fellowship hour **Sunday, December 10** hosted by the Women’s Ministry group. If you love baking, please make extra and donate a dozen or two of cookies or other Christmas treats for the sale. The bake sale offers a chance to load up on Christmas goodies and helps support missions! Contact Joy Anderson at 612-423-1204 if you have questions. Bakers and buyers wanted.

**CHRISTMAS WITH DIGNITY - HOSPITALITY HOUSE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT** We continue to collect new, unwrapped toys through **TODAY Sunday, December 3rd**. Gift ideas for teens are posted on the Missions board in the Commons. Monetary donations for Hospitality House to purchase toys are also appreciated. One can go to [hhyd.org](http://hhyd.org) to donate online. There are also **volunteer opportunities** the first week of December at HHYD to help organize and set up for the sale, which is **Friday, December 8th**.



As mentioned, a major donor is not able to donate a truckload of toys this year. But we know that all things are possible with God!! Thank you to those who have donated toys, the box is overflowing! LET'S KEEP IT GOING!!

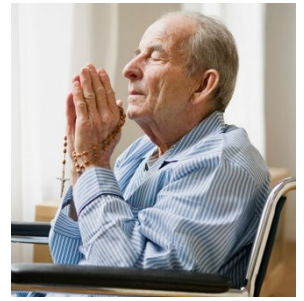


**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** Join us **Sunday, December 10th**, during our worship service, for our Christmas Program, "The Organ is Kaput"! Not to be confused with our organ, the storyline is set in 1818. Written by Bonnie Nowak, we meet an adorable "family" that provides drama to the question, what really happened to the organ? **Practice will take place at church on Saturday, December 9, 10:00 am - noon.** Sheri Brunner will be directing the play.



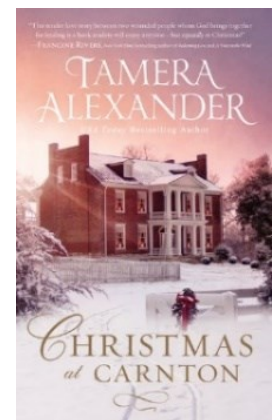
**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** A sincere thank you to all who put together shoe boxes or did so online. Thirty-one boxes were donated and 14 were built online. Forty-five children will be blessed this Christmas by your generosity.

**PRAYER REQUESTS** If you have a prayer request for today, please fill out the form in the pew and put it in the offering plate. Pastor will include them in Prayer of the Church during the service. You can also email weekly prayer requests, and any prayers that should go out to the whole congregation, to [megan@holycross-pl.org](mailto:megan@holycross-pl.org).



**TUESDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY** (Women are welcome!) Join us every **Tuesday from 8-9:00 am** for Community Light Hope Revealed – Revelation Part I (Chapters 1-10). Community Light School of Discipleship is an online Bible study designed to help each of us to grow as disciples to make disciples. These free series equip participants with the resources to go and make disciples wherever God has planted them. Community Light School of Discipleship is a ministry of Cross View Lutheran Church, Edina, MN, in partnership with Concordia University, St. Paul and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod - Minnesota South District.

**BIBLE BOOKENDERS** Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, January 23 at 7:00 pm**. For January Bible Bookenders we will be reading *Christmas at Carnton* by Tamera Alexander. Invite your friends to join us, all are welcome, men, women and teenagers. If you have any questions, please ask Bonnie Nowak, Patricia Harvey or Michele Lein.



**UPCOMING COFFEE SERVERS**  
 December 3 – Randy & Nancy Baldwin  
 December 10 – Steve & Dorene Oak  
 December 17 – Doug & Shari Schulze  
 December 24 – Charlie & Donna Vig  
 December 31 – Chris & Karen Weber



**ON THE LINE PODCAST** presents daily Lutheran insights, drawing from expert voices, addressing the intersection of Christianity and culture today. Culminating in a detailed weekly long-form interview, the discussions offer listeners a unique blend of intellectual exploration and spiritual insight.

Their mission is to cultivate honest, thoughtful, and rational Christians. With content and discussions firmly anchored in Christian teachings, the podcast encourages listeners to engage, reflect, and grow in their understanding of Christianity's impact in our modern age.

**Podcast Schedule**

- Dec 4 | Rev Daniel Broaddus
- Dec 11 | Ryan MacPherson, Ph.D
- Dec 18 | Rev. Joshua Arndt
- Dec 26 | Rev. Dr. David Scaer

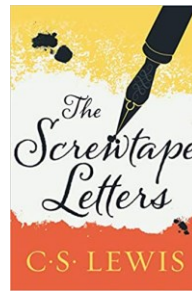
**YouTube** [https://www.youtube.com/@otl\\_podcast](https://www.youtube.com/@otl_podcast)

**Website** [https://trinitywaconia.org/otl\\_podcast/](https://trinitywaconia.org/otl_podcast/)

**HAPPENINGS**

**HAPPENINGS ARTICLES** We are in need of some new and fun ideas to get people reading the Happenings! If you have anything you think would be a good addition, please email it to Megan at [megan@holycross-pl.org](mailto:megan@holycross-pl.org). **Please submit all additions by 10am on Wednesdays.**

**MAIN STREET LIVING** airs each **Sunday at 9 am** on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. Visit [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) for more information.



**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** We continue with the study of C.S Lewis’s book **The Screwtape Letters**. It is a brilliant and satirical look at spiritual warfare and the dynamics of temptation. Screwtape, a senior demon in the bureaucracy of Hell, writes letters to his incompetent nephew Wormwood, a junior devil. The younger demon's assignment is to corrupt a young man living in London during the tumultuous days of World War II. Using Scripture references, discussion questions, and related commentary, we will examine each letter through a Christian lens of morality, temptation, and good and evil. There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight. Join the study if you haven't been here, discussion on these topics should be enriching for all.

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**TIME OF GRACE** connects people to God’s grace—his love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don’t satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever. Subscribe to Time of Grace resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with “Grace Moments” written devotions and “Grace Talks” video devotions. Pastor Mike Novotny, The Core, Appleton, WI, KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am [www.timeofgrace.org](http://www.timeofgrace.org)

**VACANCY PASTOR GADE’S** church hours are **Monday and Tuesday, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.** Other times can be arranged, call 763-333-5896.



(S.A.G.E.S. - Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving)

**SAGACITY** The new SAGACITY newsletter is on the tables outside the sanctuary.

**2024 SUMMER CAMP STAFF APPLICATION**

Do you know a college-aged Jesus-lover? Encourage them to apply for Camp Omega's 2024 Summer Staff! Applications are now open to serve at camp this summer. Faith growth, marketable skills, and lifelong friends are just a few of the things gained during a summer serving at Camp Omega. Please share this opportunity with your kids, grandkids, nieces/nephews, neighbors, coworkers, friends, and everyone else! Apply today at:



<https://campomega.org/get-involved/employment/summer-camp-counselors>



**STEVEN C. ANDERSON CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Gather your friends and family for a festive evening of music and celebration at the Cathedral of Saint Paul! Multi-platinum recording artist and composer, Steven C, will perform his 7th annual Christmas Together concert. Shows take place at **7:00 pm December 7 and 8th**. Anyone wanting to carpool can contact Dave and Carol Albrecht. To purchase tickets, visit <https://bit.ly/47o4h6p>



**HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated weekly. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We

receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you. **Note: Communion Kits are available, if needing one please contact Pastor.**

**ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED**

This holiday season, consider signing up to be an election judge. The paid position



requires no experience, simply a desire to help your community during the 2024 Election. Students 16 and 17 years-old can be election judge trainees too. Voting starts early so judges are needed today. For more information visit

<https://www.priorlakemn.gov/government/elections/election-judges>

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023 - 9:00 AM ATTENDANCE**

**Worship:** 46

**Communion:** 46

**Bible Study:** 10

**Sunday School:** 7

**SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 3**

- Elder:** Dave Albrecht
- Lector:** Mary Deluhery
- Ushers:** Steve Oak
- Acolyte:** Colin Kruse
- AV:** Rostina Vannett
- Offering Count:** Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

**SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 6**

- Elder:** Doug Brunner
- Lector:** Lance Lerum
- Ushers:** Denny Case
- Acolyte:** Allie Wagner
- AV:** Dinah Gilberts
- Offering Count:** Wendy Fitzwater & Doug Schulze

**SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 10**

- Elder:** Dave Albrecht
- Lector:** Michele Lein
- Ushers:** Dinah Gilberts
- Acolyte:** Daniel Vannett
- AV:** Eric Brown
- Offering Count:** Carol Albrecht & Pam Hunter

**SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 13**

- Elder:** Dave Albrecht
- Lector:** Mike Harvey
- Ushers:** Eric Brown
- Acolyte:** Tate Kruse
- AV:** Dinah Gilberts
- Offering Count:** Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

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# THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

## SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent

3

9:00 am  
10:15 am  
10:15 am

Worship with Holy Communion  
Bible Study  
Sunday School

## MONDAY

4

## TUESDAY

5

8:00 am  
4:00 pm  
7:00 pm

Adult Bible Study  
Confirmation  
Elder's Meeting

## WEDNESDAY

6

10:00 am  
7:00 pm

Happenings Articles Due  
Advent Worship

## THURSDAY

7

7:00 pm

Choir Practice

## FRIDAY

8

## SATURDAY

9

## SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent

10

9:00 am  
10:15 am  
10:15 am

Worship with Holy Communion  
Bible Study  
Sunday School



## December Birthdays

Dinah Gilberts .....	December 4	Jason Kruse .....	December 20
Ben Huston .....	December 7	Lois Helms .....	December 25
Mui Cheng .....	December 9	Carol Albrecht .....	December 26
Earl Drangstveit .....	December 9	Bo Brunner .....	December 28
Karly Oak .....	December 19	Nivedita Fulbert .....	December 30

# IMPORTANT DATES

<b>Dec 3</b>	Advent Worship 1	<b>Dec 17</b>	Advent Worship 3
<b>Dec 5</b>	Elder's Meeting	<b>Dec 20</b>	Midweek Worship 3 (7:00 pm)
<b>Dec 6</b>	Midweek Worship 1 (7:00 pm)	<b>Dec 24</b>	Advent Worship 4 (9:00 am)
<b>Dec 10</b>	Advent Worship 2 - Children's program	<b>Dec 24</b>	Christmas Eve Worship (5:00 pm)
<b>Dec 11</b>	Church Council	<b>Dec 25</b>	Christmas Day Worship (Mon) (9:00 am)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Midweek Worship 2 (7:00 pm)		



14085 Pike Lake Trail NE, Prior Lake, MN 55372 • Phone: 952-445-1779  
 Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng • Praise Band: Nathan Hentges & Greg Albrecht  
 Office Ministry Assistant: Megan Luckfield • Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Dean Gade