THE GOOD NEWS

DECEMBER 2024

A monthly publication of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, ELCA 48 Carnation Drive Mountain Home, AR 72653

"ALL ARE WELCOME HERE"

Keisha Henning, Office Secretary 870-492-6636 - Office holycrosssecretary.1@gmail.com



Monday-Friday 8:30a-12:30p

Worship Sunday 9:00a

Food Pantry Wednesday 9-11a, 1-3p

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January Newsletter

deadline is <u>December 22nd.</u>

Sunday Bulletin

announcements are due Wednesday afternoon.

If you would like something included in the Sunday bulletin or monthly newsletter, please submit it to the church office.



LIKE Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Facebook (HCLC72653)

Questions?
Contact Dan Schmidt
or Charlie Newsom



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DATE: October 10, 2024 9:30 AM

Holy Cross Lutheran Church's mission is to reach out to all people with the Gospel of Christ:

- By worship
- By proclaiming God's saving grace, and
- By serving human needs, so that all may live together in peace and the love of Christ.

ROLL CALL: David Deterding, Frank Fusco, Dave Hahn, Judy Hoover, Steve Kampen, Charles Po-

lacek, Kathy Scott, Lisa Streu, Carol Wheeler.

Excused Absence: Rod Zuck

Absent: Kathy Owen Observers: None

DEVOTIONS: Judy Hoover presented devotions from *Our Daily Bread*. The devotion was based on 1 Peter 4:10-11 and asks us to use our gifts from God to help, encourage, and serve others with the gifts given to us by God, as Peter encouraged those Christians in exile in the first century Church. This caring and compassion for others reflects God's love.

Carol Wheeler has November devotions.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Steve Kampen, financial secretary, gave the giving report. Giving was above average in September. Charles Polacek, church treasurer, then presented the financial statements. The bequest from Ken Apel was received and placed in a separate Thrivent account to be used for the church needs for growth and a new pastor. With this and regular giving, we are doing well with income for now. Expenses were mostly stable; the new insurance premium increased but we no longer have the costs of a part time pastor. The church is staying within the budget overall. He then presented the quarterly review of miscellaneous funds: Hand Bell fund, Food Pantry fund, Endowment fund, and Mission Plus. The food pantry fund was the beneficiary of a nice Love offering in September from the church, but food costs are increasing, so they can always use our help to keep their shelves stocked. Thank you for your giving to this important ministry. The endowment fund is increasing. The Mission Plus accounts have shown a nice return. The Hand Bell fund remains low but open for donations.

Steve Kampen made a motion to accept the financial reports and Dave Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES: The minutes from the council meeting on September 12, 2024, were reviewed and no changes were made. Steve Kampen made a motion to accept the minutes and David Deterding seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VISIONING: No new information was presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday, November 10, 2024, in the sanctuary following the service. Please consider attending. The annual report will be available to members by October 27, 2024. All committee reports are due by October 20, 2024.

The finalized budget and income statement were presented with explanations of changes from last

year's budget to the council. Some discussion occurred regarding the format of the income statement to make it more understandable. The income statement will be written in a way that is the most understandable to all. Charles Polacek made a motion to accept the finalized budget and submit it to the congregation at the annual meeting. Steve Kampen second the motion and it passed unanimously.

All council members that are ending their terms are eligible for another term and have agreed to have their names put up for reelection.

Judy tried to call George Ellieff to see how he is doing and see where he will be moving. The phone kept ringing and did not go to an answering machine. We will continue to try to contact him and find out where he will be so visits can be scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS: A parishioner offered a rifle from a spouse that has passed as a donation. Discussion occurred regarding how to utilize it to earn some income. Ideas that were discussed were to sell it on consignment or raise money by placing it in a raffle type event. Further discussion will occur.

A parishioner suggested using some of the Church's land to keep bee hives to earn money from the honey. Discussion concluded that we do not have the volunteers to provide the constant maintenance and care that bees require, so this would not be cost effective.

Dave Hahn asked about the Synod costs for attending Synod Council and if the Synod would consider covering some of them. As of now, all members of Synod Council (or their home church) must provide their own travel expenses. This has gotten more costly, as the Synod Council meeting moves from church to church and can be a long drive to western Oklahoma from Mountain Home. This will be investigated.

Kathy Scott informed the council that Gerald Franke, a friend whom she helped extensively, has left a bequest to HCLC Food Pantry. HCLC Food Pantry will receive a portion of the estate after it is finalized. He has had an interest in HCLC in the past. We will need to send a letter from the council to help expedite the processing of the estate. Kathy Scott will draft the letter and give to Judy Hoover, council president, to sign and give to the attorney who is executing the estate. Steve Kampen made a motion to accept the letter and the bequest, seconded by Kathy Scott. The motion passed unanimously.

Arkansas-Okłahoma ELCA Synod will have their annual 2025 Synod Assembly on May 2, 3, and 4, 2025, at the Fellowship Church in Tulsa, OK. Delegates will be asked for at the annual congregational meeting.

Reformation Sunday is October 27 so wear red that day! All Saints Sunday is November 3. A slip will be in the next few bulletins to fill out if you want loved ones who have passed in the last year recognized. The sand table with candles will be used that day.

There will be a Thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving Day at noon at the church. Dave and Sue Hahn will work with Carol Wheeler to organize this.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CALL COMMITTEE: No suitable candidates available per the Synod. A change in the application wording will be sent to the bishop for approval.

EDUCATION: No report.

EVANGELISM: Frank will be announcing in church a new program to keep in touch with members, especially those who live alone. He will be looking for people to call others on the list to check on them to just say hello and talk, and then follow up if there is no answer after multiple attempted contacts. He is also looking to have special programs (services) that travel from place to place to attract people. They will be advertised in print and on radio if possible to get non-members to attend.

FINANCE: Written and oral reports given.

PROPERTY: The lower siding on the church is in bad repair (cracked, broken, and discolored). It is rather old and needs replacing. Two bids between \$9,000 and \$12,000 were obtained for the materials and labor required to replace the siding. The work needs to be done before damage occurs to the underlying structure. A motion was made by Dave Hahn and seconded by Frank Fusco to take a request to approve up to \$12,000 for siding replacement for the lower portion of the church to the annual congregational meeting in November. This was approved unanimously.

The insurance company has completed the landscaping part of the claim for the sign damage. The Church received \$4700 from the claim. A motion was made by Dave Hahn and seconded by Charles Polacek to approve \$5600 (\$900 more than has been received from the insurance company) to be applied toward the needed landscaping around the church (some plants, some rocking of beds, cleaning of planters, etc.). The motion was approved unanimously.

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Nothing to report. **STEWARDSHIP:** Nothing to report.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC: Nothing to report.

FOOD PANTRY: Written report.

MEN'S GROUP: Spaghetti supper is October 12, 2024.

Motion was made to accept the Committee reports by Steve Kampen and seconded by Charles Polacek. Motion carried unanimously. Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Kampen and seconded by Charles Polacek. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

All prayed the Lord's Prayer together.

The next council meeting will be Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 9:30 am.



Submitted by Lisa Streu HCLC Council Secretary

HOLY CROSS CHURCH COUNCIL

President	Judy Hoover
Vice President	Dave Hahn
Secretary	Lisa Streu
Call Committee	Lisa Streu
Education	Kathy Owen
Education	
Evangelism	Frank Fusco
Finance	Charles Polacek
Property	Dave Hahn
Social Ministries	Steve Kampen
Stewardship	Kathy Scott
Worship & Music	Carol Wheeler
TBD	David Deterding

COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE

SECOND THURSDAY

OF EVERY MONTH AT 9:30 AM



Our quarterly General meeting of the Women of Holy Cross was held Thursday, November 21 in the Fellowship Hall. We had a very productive

meeting discussing the charities we will be donating to in 2025. The annual bazaar was discussed, as well as, Christmas cookie trays to be distributed to various parish members and their friends. Our officers were elected and our new President is Sue Hahn, Vice President is Lori Zuck, Secretary is Lisa Streu, and Treasurer is Judy Hoover. Thanks to these gals for watching over our organization and continuing our productivity! Many other issues were discussed and if you weren't present at this meeting, please mark your calendar for our next quarterly General Meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 1:00pm.



MEN OF HOLY CROSS Meeting 11/16/2024

There were 7 members and 1 guest present. Breakfast was Men's fellowship served at this meeting.

We approved a donation of \$200 to the Go Fund Me for a former member of Holy Cross, Matt Zipperer, who was severely injured in a motorcycle accident and lost one of his legs and the other foot.

There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be at 9:00 am on Saturday, January 18th at Holy Cross.



OCTOBER 2024

INCOME: This month....\$8,120 This year......\$95,541

EXPENSE:

This month....\$5,674 This year......\$77,857



A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is scheduled for Tuesday, December 24th at 6pm here at Holy Cross. Pastor Mike Clark will be presiding.



Christmas Cookie Trays

WELCA will be assembling and delivering cookie trays to our homebound congregation members on December 9th. Participants are asked to

bring 2 dozen cookies. If you would like to participate/contribute cookies, please be at the church no later than 10:30am on Monday, December 9th.

Lunch will follow at 11:30am at Little B's in Mountain Home.

All women of Holy Cross are welcome.

Holy Cross Women's Christmas Luncheon

Holy Cross ladies please mark your calendars for a Christmas luncheon on Monday, December 9th at 11:30 at Little B's. If you do not plan to help assemble Christmas cookie trays on that morning, meet us at the restaurant at 11:30. There will be a sign up sheet for the luncheon in the Narthex. If you have questions, please call Carol Wheeler, 488-5044.



"Tis the Season":

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, December 14th at 1:00p.m. to help with decorating our church for the Christmas season. Please contact Carol Wheeler for any questions, 488-5044.



Poinsettias: If you would like to help adorn the altar area with a poinsettia of your choice, please bring them to the church by December 20th. Any size or color would be wonderful. Thank you for your help! If you have

any questions, please call Carol Wheeler at 488-5044.



BLANKET DRIVE

WINTER MONTHS

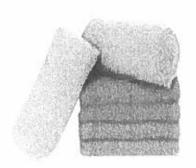


PLEASE HELP OUR FAMILIES STAY WARM

Ozark Center of Hope will be accepting <u>NEW</u> blankets in the winter months to be distributed to our clients during the winter months. Most needed are queens, full size, but twins will be accepted, we prefer not King. We ask that you not buy throws or rolled blankets, please.

Blankets may be dropped off at the Ozark Center of Hope or your local church. Information for drop offs or Cash donations to the Ozark Center of Hope is located at the bottom of this page.

Please call with any questions: 870-508-4374



Location: 307 West North Street, Mountain Home, AR 72653 Mailing address: P.O. Box 1317, Mountain Home, AR 72654

Phone: 870-508-4374



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY OCTOBER 2024 REPORT



In October, the food pantry served 41 households which included 10 new households. There were 77 clients, 16 between the ages of 0-17; 42 between the ages of 18-59 and 19 at the age of 60 or older. Four clients are veterans.

Our volunteer staff worked a total of 64.25 hours during the month of October. Our food pantry volunteer staff consists of Barb Kampen, Bob Hamilton, Marita Stanford, Eileen DeMoulpied, Jan Clark, Jan Pomeranke, Pat Jones and Sue Gust. I want to thank our volunteers for their time and effort helping out with the clients, inputting in the laptops, the client information in Oasis which is a site that the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas requires of us. Our food pantry only serves families of Baxter County. This month we saw an increase of families coming to our food pantry for food assistance.

For the month of November, we are giving each family a boneless turkey breast and other holiday fixings besides the bags of food that we normally give to each family that come once a month to our food pantry. For December, we are giving a small boneless ham with holiday fixings. We appreciate the additional food items and monetary gifts to our food pantry. It definitely helps to keep this food pantry open to serve these families.

The Love Offering for the month of December will go to the Holy Cross Lutheran Church Food Pantry's account at the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas. We do purchase canned goods and other food items from the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas. All other food items we purchase from the Dollar Tree and Walmart here in Mountain Home. When writing out the check for the Love Offering in December, you can abbreviate Food Bank of North Central Arkansas with FBNCA but make sure in the memo section on your check, write: For-Holy Cross Lutheran Church Food Pantry.

The balance as of 10/31/24 in the HCLCFP checking account with First Security Bank was \$2,797.29. Expenses were \$994.97. An expense of \$225.62 was for a 8'x10' thermal blanket ordered from the company-ULine. This was required by the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas as of Nov. 1, 2024, if our food pantry purchases or receives any refrigerated or frozen food items and transports to our food pantry. Deposits were \$175.00 in the checking account.

Barb Kampen Chairperson for HCLCFP





HCLC Food Pantry



December 1st- 1st Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

December 8th– 2nd Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6

December 15th– 3rd Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18

December 22nd-4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-55

December 24th- Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-20

December 29th– 1st Sunday of Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18-20,26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52



Test your Bible knowledge! The answers will be revealed in next month's newsletter!

Last Month's Correct Answers:

6) C. Jacob

7) B. Grandmother

8) B. She laughed.

- 9. Who was Hannah's firstborn child?
- A) Miriam
- B) Joseph
- C) John
- D) Samuel

Need a hint? Check out 1 Samuel 1:20

- 10. In Luke 1, what baby leaped for joy in Elisabeth's womb in the presence of Mary?
- A) John the Baptist
- B) Moses
- C) Isaac
- D) Samson

Need a hint? Check out Luke 1:41

- 11. Who was Jethro's grandchild?
- A) Tamar
- B) Dinah
- C) Gershom
- D) Naomi

Need a hint? Check out Exodus 2:21-22



We have two types of prayer lists at Holy Cross: the Prayer Concerns in the Bulletin and the Prayer Chain.

If you would like someone listed in the weekly bulletin please get that information to the office by Thursday morning. You can leave a note in the secretary's box, by the computer, or email it to: holycrosssecretary.1@gmail.com

Be sure to let us know when that person can be taken off of the list.

The Prayer Chain is handled by the <u>One Call Tell All System</u>. Once a prayer has been requested, a recorded message will go out to those on the chain. No further action will be required.

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Chain you can do so by calling the office at 870-492-6636.



- You can donate flowers for the altar on Sunday. It costs \$17 per bouquet. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Talk to Carol Wheeler if you have any questions.
- You can sign up to host the fellowship time after worship on Sundays. Talk to Phyllis Hamilton for more information.
- You can put your loose change in the Pennies, ETC. jar to support the Ozark Center of Hope.
- You can donate food to support the Food Pantry.
- If you are the last person out of church, you can check to make sure all the lights are off, the heat set to unoccupied, and all doors are locked.
- You can lift up our church and its members in prayer.



We are always looking for new people to help with our ministries. Some jobs are "behind-the-scenes" — Altar Guild, Counting, Food Pantry, and Prayer Chain. Some jobs are an integral

part of the service — Greeters, Ushers, Readers, and Communion Assistants.

For more information contact:

Faith lellowship

ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

- --WELCA's Monday Morning Workshop: The ladies gather every Monday morning at 9:00am to sew and share in fellowship.
- -Hope Circle on the <u>second Tuesday</u> of each month at 10:00am. We study the lessons in *Gather* magazine, a publication of WELCA.
- -Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10:00am. We study the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday as well as engage in good discussion and fellowship.

Winter

Find and circle all of the Winter related words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a Japanese proverb.

L	S	0	S	E	K	Α	L	F	W	0	N	S	Ε	L	С	1	С	1	Ν
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T	С	F	I	R	E	W	0	0	D	Н	Α	1	L	S	Т	0	0	В	L
E	Н	S	S	Т	Ν	Α	Р	-	K	S	С	Н	Р	Α	С	T	1	Ν	K

BLACK ICE
BLIZZARD
BOOTS
CARNIVAL
CHRISTMAS
COLD
EGG NOG
FIREPLACE
FIREWOOD
FOG
FREEZE
FROST
GLOVES

HAIL HEADBAND HIBERNATION HOCKEY HOLIDAYS **ICE FISHING ICICLES** KNIT CAP LONG UNDERWEAR SNOW CASTLE MITTENS OLYMPICS PARKA SCARF

SEASON SKATES SKI DOO SKI PANTS SKIING SLED SLEET SLIPPERY SNOW PLOW SNOW SHOVEL **SNOW TIRES** SNOWBALL

SNOWBOARD SNOWFLAKE **SNOWMAN SNOWSHOES** SOLSTICE SOUP STEW **STORM SWEATSHIRT TOBOGGAN** VACATION WIND CHILL **WOOL SOCKS**

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS









DATE	ALM & LECTOR	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTERS
12/1/24 1st Sunday of Advent	Carol Wheeler & Mark Guth	Dean & Jane Smith	Lisa Streu	Wanda Soutter & Nancy Thoren & Pat Jones
12/8/24 2 nd Sunday of Advent Holy Communion	Pastor Mike Clark & Jan Clark	Kathy Scott & Kathy Owen	Kathy Scott	Judy Hoover & Lisa Streu
12/15/24 3 rd Sunday of Advent	Kathy Scott & Charles Polacek	David Deterding & Eileen DeMoulpied	Carol Wheeler	Judy Hoover & Lenora Walejko
12/22/24 4th Sunday of Advent	John Eitenmiller & Sue Hahn	Charles Polacek & Lori Zuck	Jane Smith	
12/24/24 Christmas Eve	Pastor Mike Clark	Judy Hoover & Charles Polacek	Carol Wheeler	
12/29/24 1st Sunday of Christmas		Pete Cvengros & Judy Hoover	Kathy Scott	Wanda Soutter & Nancy Thoren & Marita Stanford
	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Sue 254-768-9651	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Fritzie 870-492-2020	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Carol 870-488-5044	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Kathy 870-492-2155

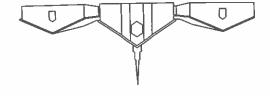
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH DECEMBER 2024

Saturday	7	14 1:00 Decorate the Sanctuary	21	28	
Friday	6 8:30-12:30 Office Open	13 8:30-12:30 Office Open	20 8:30-12:30 Office Open	27 8:30-12:30 Office Open	
Thursday	5 8:30-12:30 Office Open	12 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9:30 Church Council	19 8:30-12:30 Office Open	26 8:30-12:30 Office Open	
Wednesday	4 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9-11, 1-3 Food Pantry 10-11 Bible Study	11 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9-11, 1-3 Food Pantry 10-11 Bible Study	18 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9-11,1-3 Food Pantry 10-11 Bible Study	Closed (Holded)	
Tuesday	3 8:30-12:30 Office Open 1:00 Senior Exercise Closs	10 8:30-12:30 Office Open 10:00 Hope Circle 1:00 Senior Exercise Class	17 8:30-12:30 Office Open 1:00 Senior Exercise Class	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 8:30-12:30 Office Open 1:00 Senior Exercise Class 6:00p Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 8:30-12:30 Office Open 1:00 Senior Exercise Closs
Monday	2 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9:00 WELCA Workshop	9 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9:00 WELCA Workshop 10:30 Cookie Tray Assembly 11:30 WELCA Luncheon @ Little B's	16 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9:00 WELCA Workshop	23 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9:00 WELCA Workshop	30 8:30-12:30 Office Open 9:00 WELCA Workshop
Sunday	1 14 Sunday of Advent 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship	8 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Love Offering for HCLC Food Pantry *Holy Communion*	15 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship	22 4th Sunday of Advent 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship *Newsletter Deadline*	29 14 Sunday of Christmas 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship





Bob Hamilton	12/11
David Deterding	12/12
Kathy Scott	12/15
Fritzie Cvengros	12/19
Sue Gust	12/29
Diane White	12/29



Holy Cross Lutheran Church 48 Carnation Drive Mountain Home, AR 72653