

THE GOOD NEWS

JANUARY 2025

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

"ALL ARE WELCOME HERE"

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

**Worship
Sunday 9:00a**

**Food Pantry : NEW SCHEDULE
2nd & 4th Wednesdays 9-11a, 1-3p**



February Newsletter
deadline is January 22nd.

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

The logo features a circular emblem containing a detailed illustration of a church building with a steeple, set against a dark background. The emblem is centered between the words "CHURCH" and "COUNCIL" which are written in a large, serif, all-caps font. The entire title is framed by two horizontal lines.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DATE: November 14, 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, Charles Polacek, Kathy Scott, Lisa Streu, Rod Zuck.

Excused Absence: Steve Kampen and Carol Wheeler

Absent: Kathy Owen

Observers: Sue Hahn, Wanda Soutter, and Lori Zuck

DEVOTIONS: Devotions were given by Lisa Streu based on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. In these verses, Paul encourages all of us to rejoice, pray, and give thanks in all circumstances, even if things don't seem to be going our way. At this time of Thanksgiving in our country, we should remember all the things God has given us, even if they are not what was requested. God knows what is best for all.

SPECIAL CALL COMMITTEE REPORT: The members of the call committee, Sue Hahn, Wanda Soutter, and Lori Zuck, attended the meeting to present the status of the committee. Lori Zuck informed council that Bishop Becca requested that parts of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) be reworded as they were too generic. She requested that more specific details be worked into the MSP to catch possible candidates' attention. The MSP will also need to be resubmitted in February 2025 (an MSP is only valid for one year). They have reworked some of the wording and presented it to the council, but other suggestions were made that will be added/revised and then a finalized version will need council approval, prior to resubmission. These changes will hopefully make the church seem more attractive and easier to find with electronic search functions on the portal site.

An additional point was made by the call committee that advertising by an individual church is not allowed. It must be sent to the ELCA nationwide portal site through the Synod. Word of mouth is the only way advertising is allowed per the ELCA by individual congregations. Per the Bishop, there isn't much interest in the AR-OK Synod specifically on the portal site, but there is a fair amount of interest in lay ministry personnel help for pastors and in part time work.

An idea for a possible contractual sign-on bonus (monetary grant, property loan/down payment help with forgiveness, etc.) was discussed. This is not forbidden by the Synod or ELCA, so it is an option. Christ by the Lake would have to agree with this idea and any suggestions would be brought to the congregation for approval. Further information will be forthcoming on this idea when details are solidified. This will not be in the initial portal advertising but can be brought up during the financial package discussion during the interview process.

Other discussions occurred on which parish would be offering any call and doing the hiring (primary church). Right now, CBL is the designated primary church.... possibly a holdover from Pastor Sherman's situation. Further negotiation and clarification will occur on this point.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Kathy Scott and Charles Polacek will be covering Steve Kampen's financial secretary duties for the present while Steve is recuperating. Kathy presented the giving report and stated that giving is slightly decreased but in line with the YTD budget.

Charles Polacek, church treasurer, presented the financial statements. The checking account is at a point that another \$10,000 can be pulled from that account and placed in the Mission Plus interest bearing account. A check that was sent to Ken Apel's grandchild to pay what was owed from the settlement was not cashed. That check was voided, and another check was cut and sent. We continue with neither interim nor called pastor expenses. Other expenses are in line with the budget taking into consideration the exceptions noted in previous months, i.e. insurance premium increases, etc. Overall financials are in line with the budget.

A decision was also made to open another Thrivent account to have an interest-bearing account for excess general funds. Kathy Scott made a motion to take the excess \$10,000 out of the checking account and open a new Mission Plus checking account for general fund use. Dave Hahn seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Discussion occurred regarding naming or adding comments in the financial software to specify what each fund is and its uses. Charles Polacek will look into what can be done to differentiate the accounts.

MINUTES: The minutes from the October 10, 2024, council meeting were reviewed. Charles Polacek made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Kathy Scott. Motion was approved.

VISIONING: Nothing new was presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The siding request for no more than \$12,000 will be taken a special congregational meeting as soon as possible.

Follow-up will be made with the Synod regarding having the Synod offset some of the Synod Council meeting costs.

The Franke estate is in probate and will hopefully soon allow the administrator to liquidate the assets. The HCLC Food Pantry will receive half the assets when probate is finalized.

NEW BUSINESS: Christmas Eve candlelight service will be at 6 pm on Tuesday, December 24, 2024, and presided over by Pastor Mike Clark. Addendum: This is being clarified.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CALL COMMITTEE: See call committee member report/discussion.

EDUCATION: Nothing to report.

EVANGELISM: Nothing to report.

FINANCE: Written and oral reports given.

PROPERTY: Siding request will be taken a special congregational meeting as soon as possible.

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Nothing to report.

STEWARDSHIP: Nothing to report.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC: See new business.

FOOD PANTRY: Written report.

MEN'S GROUP: Nothing to report

Motion made to accept Committee reports by Rod Zuck and seconded by Charles Polacek. Motion carried unanimously. Motion to adjourn made by Lisa Streu and seconded by Dave Hahn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11 am. The next council meeting will be Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 9:30 am. All prayed the Lord's Prayer together.

Submitted by Lisa Streu
HCLC Council Secretary



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY NOVEMBER 2024 REPORT



In November, the food pantry served 41 households which included 8 new households. There were 97 clients, 27 between the ages of 0-17; 49 between the ages of 18-59; and 21 at the age of 60 or older. Six clients were veterans.

Our volunteer staff worked a total of 70.25 hours during the month of November. Our food pantry volunteer staff consists of Barb Kampen, Marita Stanford, Bob Hamilton, Jan Clark, Jan Pomeranke, Pat Jones and Sue Gust. I want to thank our volunteers for their time and effort helping to assist the families that come to our pantry and inputting client information in Oasis which is a site required by the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas. There is a lot more work involved with the food pantry such as the inventory, buying the food, transporting the food bought back to the food pantry, stocking the shelves and required monthly reports.

For the month of November and December, Holy Cross Lutheran Church Food Pantry would like to thank- the Thrivent Financial Action Team for the two- \$250 Visa cards. The \$250 Visa cards were used to purchase the boneless turkey breasts which each family received, one during the month of November and for December; a ham was given to each family.

The Love Offering for the month of January will go to the Ozark Center of Hope of Mountain Home. Ozark Center of Hope helps poverty level income families in crisis situations by helping with utility assistance, housing assistance, personal care items and spiritual counseling.

On November 1, at the location of the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas, the North Central Board of Realtors had their annual food distribution which was given to the food pantries serving Baxter and Marion counties. Our food pantry received 285 lbs. of non-perishable food on that day which certainly will help our food pantry. Our food pantry received 20.28 lbs. of donated bakery goods from Harp's and 13.61 lbs. of donated non-perishable goods from individuals during the month of November.

The balance as of 11/29/24 in the HCLCFP checking account with First Security Bank was \$2,949.69. Expenses were \$1,352.60 and deposits of \$1,505.00.

Barb Kampen
Chairperson for HCLCFP



Ozark Center of Hope

****LOVE OFFERINGS ARE COLLECTED ON THE 2ND
SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH****

HOLY CROSS CHURCH COUNCIL

President.....Judy Hoover
Vice President.....Dave Hahn
Secretary.....Lisa Streu
Call Committee.....Lisa Streu
Education.....Kathy Owen
Education.....Rod Zuck
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



Bible Readings *for the Month*

January 5– 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:1-18

January 12– Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17,21-22

January 19– 2nd Sunday After Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

January 26– 3rd Sunday After Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

TREASURER'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 2024

INCOME:
This month....\$9,863
This year.....\$105,404

EXPENSE:
This month....\$4,523
This year.....\$82,379

Bible Trivia

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

Last Month's Correct Answers:

9) D. Samuel

10) A. John the Baptist

11) C. Gershom

12. What was the name of Rachel's firstborn son?

- A) Jacob
- B) Joseph
- C) Laban
- D) Gad

Need a hint? Check out Genesis 30:22-25

13. Noah cursed this grandson.

- A) Gomer
- B) Cush
- C) Canaan
- D) Aram

Need a hint? Check out Genesis 9:24-27

14. Who was NOT a child of Zebedee?

- A) James
- B) John
- C) Peter

Need a hint? Check out Matthew 4:21-22

PRAYER TEAM MESSAGE

Message from the Holy Cross Prayer Team Members: Jan Clark, Kathy Owen, Pamela Guth, John Eitenmiller, David Deterding, Fritzi Cvengros, Barbara Buffon, & Kathy Arnold

It is hoped that every member of Holy Cross has been praying for everyone concerned in the call process. This includes praying for these five entities: our congregations, our church councils, our joint call committee, the candidates involved in this process, and Bishop Becca (including the synod office staff.)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Call Committee Members

Lori Zuck

Sue Hahn

Wanda Soutter

Christ-by-the-Lake

Call Committee Members

Marilyn Pool

Anna Mattson

Tim Koenig

The Prayer Team first met on Sunday, April 23, 2023. The following is a prayer that we have been using in addition to our own individual prayers. This prayer was developed after reviewing the information in the Handbook for the Call Committee provided by Bishop Mike Girlinghouse.

Each of us plans to pray every day. We can choose to pray our own prayers or use the prayer below or use both according to our individual prayer times and places. We do plan to try to pray the prayer below on Fridays at 9:30 AM. The goal is to be able to pray "together" even though we are in different locations.

Dear Heavenly Father,

We give you thanks for the prayer from page 4 of the Lutheran Book of Worship, as we seek our path toward calling a new pastor. "Almighty God, giver of all good gifts: Look on your Church with grace and guide the minds of those who shall choose a pastor for Holy Cross Lutheran Church and Christ by the Lake Lutheran Church, that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Bless our call committee, our congregations, our church councils, the candidates applying to be our pastor, and Bishop Becca (including her office staff.) Help us all to remember that what we say and do should be for the glory of God. Help us to put aside our individual agendas and remember the mission of our church body as we journey through our call process.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH'S mission is to reach out to all people with the Gospel of Christ

- *through worship*
- *by proclaiming God's grace, and*
- *by serving human needs*

so that all may live together in peace and the love of Christ.

We pray all this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.



Ozark Center of Hope

BLANKET DRIVE

WINTER MONTHS

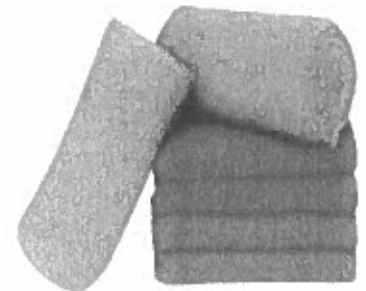


**PLEASE HELP
OUR FAMILIES
STAY WARM**

Ozark Center of Hope will be accepting NEW 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



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 One Call Tell All System. 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.



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:

- ALM/LectorsSue Hahn, 254-768-9651
- Altar Guild.....Carol Wheeler, 488-5044
- Building / Property.....Dean Smith, 424-8707
- Counting.....Kathy Scott, 492-2155
- Fellowship Hour.....Phyllis Hamilton, 425-9546
- Food Pantry.....Barb Kampen, 405-0776
- Prayer ChainChurch Office, 492-6636
- UshersFritzie Cvengros, 492-2020



- ◆ 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.

Faith & Fellowship

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 **second Tuesday** 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.

New York City

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell a secret message.

T S H G U O R O B H S R E P A R C S Y K S E
 S G R O B R A H S T A T E N I S L A N D T X
 T T R O P R I A A I D R A U G A L A T N N E
 U E S A O N F L B A S K E T B A L L E O M S
 E I T B N E E R R F S B F D Q T Y M R P S E
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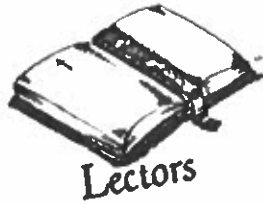
BASEBALL
 BASKETBALL
 BOROUGH
 BROADWAY
 BROOKLYN
 CHINATOWN
 CONEY ISLAND
 CULTURAL
 EMPIRE STATE BUILDING
 ENTERTAINMENT
 FASHION

FERRIES
 FIFTH AVENUE
 FINANCE
 FOOTBALL
 GRAND CENTRAL
 TERMINAL
 GREENWICH VILLAGE
 GROUND ZERO
 HARBOR
 HIGHRISES
 HOCKEY
 HUDSON RIVER

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 MUSICALS
 NASDAQ
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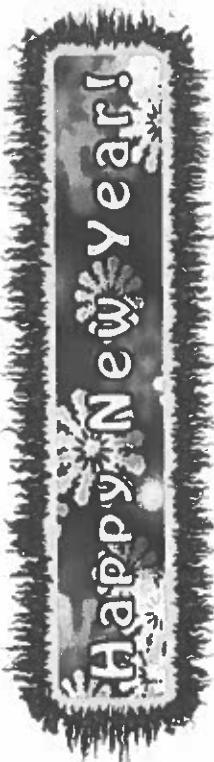

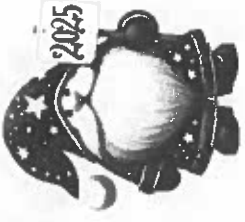
SKYSCRAPERS
 SOCCER
 SPORTS
 STATEN ISLAND
 ST PATRICKS CATHEDRAL
 SUBWAY
 THE BIG APPLE
 THE BRONX
 TIMES SQUARE
 UNITED NATIONS
 WALL STREET

JANUARY 2025 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



DATE	ALM & LECTOR	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTERS
1/5/25 2nd Sunday of Christmas	Carol Wheeler & Sue Hahn	Charles Polacek & Lori Zuck	Jane Smith	Nancy Thoren & Dan Alderman & Marita Stanford
1/12/25 Baptism of Our Lord Holy Communion	Pastor Mike Clark & Jan Clark	Sue & David Hahn	Carol Wheeler	
1/19/25 2nd Sunday Aff. Epiphany	Kathy Scott & Charles Polacek	Dean & Jane Smith	Lisa Streu	
1/26/25 3rd Sunday Aff. Epiphany	Sue Hahn & Mark Guth	Pete Cvengros & Judy Hoover	Kathy Scott	
	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 JANUARY 2025

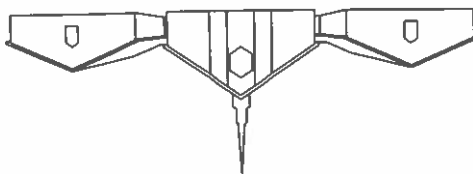
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY 			
5 2nd Sunday of Christmas 9:00a Worship 10:00a Fellowship	6 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 9:00a WELCA Workshop	7 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 1:00p Senior Exercise Class	8 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 9-11a, 1-3p Food Pantry 10-11a Bible Study	9 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 9:30 Church Council	10 8:30a-12:30p Office Open	11
12 Baptism of Our Lord 9:00a Worship 10:00a Fellowship Love Offering for Ozark Center of Hope	13 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 9:00a WELCA Workshop	14 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 10:00a Hope Circle 1:00p Senior Exercise Class	15 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 10-11a Bible Study	16 8:30a-12:30p Office Open	17 8:30a-12:30p Office Open	18 9:00a Men's Group Mtg.
Holy Communion						
19 2nd Sun. Aft. Epiphany 9:00a Worship 10:00a Fellowship	20 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 9:00a WELCA Workshop	21 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 1:00p Senior Exercise Class	22 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 9-11a, 1-3p Food Pantry 10-11a Bible Study	23 8:30a-12:30p Office Open	24 8:30a-12:30p Office Open	25
Newsletter Deadline						
26 3rd Sun. Aft. Epiphany 9:00a Worship 10:00a Fellowship	27 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 9:00a WELCA Workshop	28 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 1:00p Senior Exercise Class	29 8:30a-12:30p Office Open 10-11a Bible Study	30 8:30a-12:30p Office Open	31 8:30a-12:30p Office Open	



Phyllis Hamilton	1/15
Rod Zuck	1/15
Cheryl Newsom	1/21
Roberta Dulaney	1/22
Barb Kampen	1/28
Jane Smith	1/31

Dean & Jane Smith	1/15
Jami & Rick Scott	1/16

* * * * *
 * If your birthday or anniversary is *
 * missing or incorrect, please put *
 * the information in the Church *
 * Secretary box in the office. *
 * * * * *



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