

THE GOOD NEWS

APRIL 2026

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
8:30am-12:30pm

Worship Sundays @ 9:00am

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May Newsletter
deadline is **April 19th.**

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



HOLY CROSS CHURCH COUNCIL	
President.....	Dave Hahn
Vice President.....	Kathy Owen
Secretary.....	Lisa Streu
Call Committee.....	Lisa Streu
Education.....	Kathy Owen
Evangelism.....	Dan Jones
Finance.....	Charles Polacek
Property.....	David Deterding
Stewardship.....	Kathy Scott
Worship & Music.....	Carol Wheeler

COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE
SECOND THURSDAY
OF EVERY MONTH AT 9:30 AM

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DATE: February 12, 2026 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 Hahn, Dan Jones, Kathy Owen, Charles Polacek, Kathy Scott, Lisa Streu, Carol Wheeler Excused Absence: David Deterding Absent: None Observers: Mike Clark, Janet Cryts, Sue Hahn, Judy Hoover, Dean Smith, Wanda Soutter

DEVOTIONS: Carol gave devotions from Jeremiah 33:27 centering around how the possibilities are endless if we open ourselves to God's help. Nothing is impossible with God when we live a possibility minded life.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Kathy Scott, financial secretary, gave the donations report. January donations were low. The cold and one Sunday service cancelled contributed to the lower amounts. Charles Polacek, church, treasurer, gave the financial report. The building investments have funded necessary maintenance projects around the church, so the balances have dropped. Other investments are accruing interest/dividends/value. Overall expenses remain stable and within budget. Discussion occurred around funding a part time pastor without Christ by the Lake (see new business). Lisa Streu made a motion; seconded by Kathy Owen to accept the financial reports. The motion passed.

MINUTES: The council minutes from January 8, 2026, and the special congregational minutes from February 1, 2026, were reviewed. Kathy Owen made a motion; seconded by Carol Wheeler to approve both sets of minutes. The motion passed.

VISIONING: Dave Hahn presented a rough draft of an updated brochure which was well liked. The previously mentioned discussion of using a postcard mailing to the population was readdressed. The suggestion to use it o help advertise the 40th Anniversary Celebration was made. Mike Clark will contact the ELCA headquarters to see if they have resources to help with advertising the event, updating our brochure, and advertising the church itself.

We will wait for further information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The special congregational meeting on February 1, 2026, approved the suggested council approval change to the constitution. The change will now be sent to the Synod for approval.

Our 40th Anniversary Celebration will be May 16, 2026, held at the church. Several ideas have been approved including planting a tree in a rededication ceremony, a picnic (BBQ grill from First Security and food cost covered by Thrivent), booths to highlight activities and groups within the church, etc. These are being explored. The Chamber does not do ribbon cuttings, but they have a program called Spotlight which has 15,000 followers that we can utilize for advertising. The KTLO treasure chest/site broadcast is not feasible (cost is out of proportion with return). KTLO suggested using radio advertising in the month prior to the celebration to highlight the event. This will be researched. Curved, upright, and half banners will be researched to draw attention to the church (both for the celebration and for after the celebration). A motion was made to approve up to \$1,000 for use by the committee to fund the celebration was made by Kathy Scott and seconded by Lisa Streu. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS: The information for a part time pastor (monetary information regarding what we can pay for salary/benefits within Synod guidelines and how long this is sustainable) will be sent to the Synod and Bishop Becca for review. The call committee will begin the update needed to the ministry site profile for resubmission without CBL. When approval from the Synod is obtained, the council will vote on this matter so that we can proceed with the search.

The bill for the annual Chamber of Commerce membership (\$150) was received. Charles Polacek made a motion to pay this bill; seconded by Kathy Owen. The motion passed. The bill for the Synod Assembly needs to be paid and Charles will take care of this.

The website needs updating. This includes archiving some of the videos that are no longer applicable. Other parts need to be updated and freshened up to be more user friendly, etc. This will be investigated.

Kathy Scott told the council that she and Lenora Walejko will be shredding very old financial records that are no longer needed. This will clean up the storage space and files.

Kathy Scott obtained the council president's signature on the final paperwork for the Gerald Franke estate. The money designated for the Food Pantry from the dissolution of the estate has already been allocated. The estate will be closed shortly.

A request was made by Mark Guth for a gift card for Mark Hines who helped him clear the church parking lot following the January storm. His hard work made our lot safe for people to get to church the next week. A motion was made by Kathy Owen to give him a \$250 Meat Shop (per Mark Guth's request) gift card; seconded by Kathy Scott. The motion passed. Kathy Owen will get the card for him.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CALL COMMITTEE: See information in New Business regarding the new call and MSP.

EDUCATION: Bible Study is going well despite losing members who are deceased.

EVANGELISM: Visitations for homebound, hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living, etc., will be emphasized through this committee. Dan Jones, Dean Smith, Sue Hahn, and Dave Hahn, will be working to organize this, with Mike Clark helping to train people to do the visits. Anyone willing to help should talk to Dan Jones. Continue to let Keisha know of individuals needing this ministry.

FINANCE: Written and oral reports.

PROPERTY: The next project will be placing a floating floor over the parlor floor. Several bids were obtained and Village Carpet's bid of \$3,693 + \$70 for quarter round molding. Dan Jones made a motion to accept Village Carpet's bid, seconded by Lisa Streu. The motion passed. The property committee will go forward with this project.

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Written food pantry report.

STEWARSHIP: Kathy Scott's food stewardship article was in the newsletter, and she is looking to place another one in the next newsletter.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC: We will have Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. This will be the only mid-week service in Lent until Holy Week. There will be services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, time TBD. We will be switching to bread for communion. Mike Clark has a recipe which makes 4 loaves which is enough for 4 services.

Motion to accept Committee reports by Lisa Streu and seconded by Kathy Owen. Motion carried unanimously. Motion to adjourn by Lisa Streu and seconded by Carol Wheeler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:35am. The next council meeting will be Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 9:30am. All prayed the Lord's prayer together.

Submitted by Lisa Streu
HCLC Council



Let's celebrate our 40th Anniversary! May 16th from 10am-2pm. We will offer hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks for a donation. There will be a petting zoo for the children, and booths to spotlight our church. Kathy Scott will have information about Loads of Love, Barbara Kampen will give out information about our food pantry, WELCA will show our beautiful quilts, and Men's Group will spotlight their spaghetti dinners for charity. Bishop Becca will rededicate our church to celebrate our past and present members with the planting of a Blue Spruce. Please mark your calendars for May 16th and bring a friend, grandchildren, neighbors!



Men of Holy Cross Meeting 3/21/2026

There were 6 men and no guests present; breakfast was served at this meeting. For the 40th Anniversary Celebration, Dean has arranged for a grill, and we will be serving hot dogs and hamburgers to the visitors. The Men's group will help set up the tables and we have people to cook the food on the grill.

We discussed the Spaghetti Dinner and decided not to hold one this Spring, as we waited too long for proper preparation. We will plan one for the Fall and will have more details after the next meeting. The next meeting will be at 9:00am, April 18th at Holy Cross. All are welcome.

Important INFORMATION

mydmv.arkansas.gov

Make an appointment
Upload Boat HIN photos
Motor vehicle forms
Browse specialty license plates
Order personalized license plates
Many other products and services



Easter Breakfast

Come join together on Easter morning to enjoy breakfast with your church family and friends. Breakfast will be served before church and after the worship service. The meal will be ready at 7:45am, so come enjoy breakfast when you are ready. The menu is as follows: Egg casserole, biscuits and sausage gravy, bakery goods, fruit salad, juice and coffee. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, so please sign up if you are planning to attend! Bring your friends, relatives, and neighbors for good food, good fellowship and rejoicing in our Lord's resurrection! If you have any questions, please call Carol Wheeler at 488-5044.

Easter Flowers

Would you like to donate Easter Flowers for our Easter Sunday worship service? If so, please bring flowers of your choice to the church on Friday, April 3rd or April 4th and place them in the Parlor. The Altar Guild will then arrange them on the altar area for our beautiful Easter Sunday worship. Any questions, please call Carol Wheeler at 488-5044. Thank you.



Memorial for Steve Kampen
Saturday, April 4th
11:00am
Here at Holy Cross



Thank you to the Holy Cross Ladies for my beautiful 90th birthday cake served at Fellowship on March 8th. Plus, I give thanks to all the other thoughtful people for gifts, cards and loving words.

-Almayrene Reinthaler "Al"



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



**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
 FOOD PANTRY
 FEBRUARY 2026**

In February, the food pantry served 21 households which included 3 new families. There were 44 individuals, with 8 between the ages of 0-17, 21 between the ages of 18-59, and 15 at age 60 or older. We served 3 veterans.

Our food pantry volunteers are Barb Kampen, Bob Hamilton, Marita Staford, Jan Clark, Jan Pomeranke and Sue Gust. For the month of February, the total volunteer hours were 45.5. I appreciate our volunteers dedicating their time and effort in helping with the food pantry to serve these families that need food assistance here in Baxter County.

All donated food and money are greatly appreciated to help the families that come to our food pantry. The donated baked goods from Harps provides bread and desserts to the families that appreciate all that is given to them. Our food pantry received 50.02 pounds of donated Harps baked goods, and 35 lbs. of donated ground beef and venison from individuals.

The Love Offering for the month of April will go to the Twin Lakes Shrine Club.

Our food pantry received a check in mid February from the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod ELCA of \$500.00 for applying for a grant for the Feeding Ministry through ELCA World Hunger.

The HCLCFP purchased \$92.64 of food on 2/3/26 and \$157.48 of food from the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas on 3/4/26. The balance of the HCLCFP credit account at the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas is \$214.93 as of 3/4/26. The First Security Bank checking account balance as of 2/27/26 is \$9, 279.96 with \$0.00 deposits and checks totaling \$296.60.



Twin Lakes Shrine Club

Barbara Kampen
 Chairperson for HCLCFP

**TREASURER'S
 REPORT**

FEBRUARY 2026

INCOME:

This month....\$9,693

This year.....\$15,212

EXPENSE:

This month....\$6,096.19

This year.....\$11,960.81



Bible
Readings *for the Month*

April 5

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2,14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

April 12

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

April 19

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4,12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

April 26

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10



Bible Trivia

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

Last Month's Correct Answers:

- 1) C. Potiphar
- 2) D. Daniel
- 3) A. Ethan

1. Who killed Eglon, the king of Moab?

- A) Enoch
- B) Shem
- C) Ehud
- D) Tobias

Need a hint? Check out Judges 3:15-25

2. How was the king of Moab described in Judges 3:17?

- A) Very fat
- B) Very tall
- C) Very short
- D) Very hairy

Need a hint? Check out Judges 3:17-22

3. What did Jael use to kill Sisera?

- A) Tent nail
- B) Poison
- C) Mighty sword
- D) Statue of false deity

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

Prayer Requests



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 the list.

The Prayer Chain is handled by the One Call Tell All System. The Prayer Chain call list of just a select group of people has been eliminated. When you have a prayer chain request, everyone in the congregation will now receive these calls.

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

Faith & Fellowship

ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

-WELCA's Monday Morning Workshop: The ladies gather every Monday morning at 9:00am to sew and share in fellowship.

-Senior Exercise Class: A gentle exercise class that accommodates senior aches and pains. Most exercises can be done sitting or standing. Join us for some fellowship, good stretching and movement.

-Hope Circle on the **fourth 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.

How can YOU help?

- ◆ 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 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:

Worship Ldr.'s/ALM.....Sue 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 Chain.....Church Office, 492-6636
 Ushers.....Sue Hahn, 254-768-9651

The Easter Story

Word Search

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

ALIVE
ANGEL
APOSTLES
BELIEVE
BETRAYAL
CHURCH
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFY
DIED
DISCIPLES
FAITH
FORGIVEN
GOOD FRIDAY
JERUSALEM



JESUS CHRIST
LAMB
LAST SUPPER
LENT
MARY
MIRACLE
NEW TESTAMENT
PENANCE
PENTECOST
PILATE
PRAYER

REDEMPTION
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SACRIFICE
SAVIOR
SIN
SON
STONE
SUNDAY
THORNS
TOMB





APRIL



DATE	WORSHIP LDR. & ALM	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTERS
4/5/26 Easter Sunday	Pastor Mike Clark & Carol Wheeler	Charles Polacek & David Hahn	Lisa Streu	
4/12/26 2 nd Sunday of Easter	Kathy Scott & Charles Polacek	Kathy Owen & David Deterding	Kathy Scott	Lisa Streu & Judy Hoover
4/19/26 3 rd Sunday of Easter	Sue Hahn & Kathy Scott	Judy Hoover & Pete Cvengros	Carol Wheeler	Judy Hoover & Lenora Walejko
4/26/26 4 th Sunday of Easter	Pastor Mike Clark & Jan Clark	Dean & Jane Smith	Jane Smith	Pat Jones
	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Sue H. 254-768-9651	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Sue H. 254-768-9651	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Carol 870-488-5044	Questions? Willing to Serve? Call Kathy S. 870-492-2155

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Calendar

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 5 Easter Sunday 7:45am Easter Breakfast 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship	 6 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 9:00am WELCA Workshop	 7 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 1:00pm Exercise Class	1 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 10:00am Bible Study	2 Maundy Thursday 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 3:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	3 Good Friday 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 3:00pm Good Friday Service	4 11:00am Memorial Service for Steve Kampen
12 2nd Sun. of Easter 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship Love Offering for Twin Lakes Shrine Club	13 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 9:00am WELCA Workshop 11:30am WELCA Monthly Birthday Celebration @ Pizza Hut	14 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 1:00pm Exercise Class	15 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 10:00am Bible Study	16 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 9:30am Church Council Mtg.	17 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open	18 9:00am Men's Group Mtg.
19 3rd Sun. of Easter 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship *Newsletter Deadline*	20 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 9:00am WELCA Workshop	21 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 1:00pm Exercise Class	22 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 9-11am; 1-3pm Food Pantry 10:00am Bible Study	23 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open	24 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open	25
26 4th Sun. of Easter 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship	27 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 9:00am WELCA Workshop	28 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 10:00am Hope Circle 1:00pm Exercise Class	29 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open 10:00am Bible Study	30 8:30am-12:30pm Office Open		



10-Eileen DeMoulied
24-Dorothy Meyer



10-Mike & Jan Clark

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect, please inform the Church Office Secretary.