

Official Newsletter of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church

CROSSROADS

February 2025



Dear Friends,

“⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends.” – 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

February is the season of hearts, flowers, valentines, and love. Honestly, shouldn't every season be the season of love?

I know that many of us have used or heard the passage from Paul's letter to the Corinthians focused on love at weddings as couples are joined together in the bonds of marriage, but would it surprise you to know that when Paul wrote these words, he wrote them to the church community in Corinth? Just before this passage, he had told them each person was given gifts and talents and together they were all part of the body of Christ, and no part of the body was more important than the other. All were needed to bring glory to God. Paul leads into this section about what love should be like.

Many of us in relationships and families strive to love with patience and kindness. We try not to be boastful or rude. We try not to insist in our own ways and be resentful of others. We try not rejoice when we are right and others are wrong (oops, I may need to work on that one at home). We serve one another by sharing the burdens, the hopes and living together in the day to day while believing the best about one another. It's that kind of love that many of us spend our lives working toward in the commitments we've made to other people.

But imagine if we applied that same kind of love to the community of people we find at church, at work, in our neighbors, at school, and even the strangers we encounter. What would it look like to truly love our neighbors with this kind of patient, servant-oriented love? What if we brought the love that bears and hopes all things to our neighbors, and to one another?

...Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1....

When Jesus says, “Love your neighbor as yourself”, this is the kind of love he’s talking about. When he says, “Love one another as I have loved you,” this is the kind of love he’s talking. The kind where he bears and endures all things for us.

In this season of love and in all seasons, let us not hold back from loving one another as we have been loved, because I know the world can use a lot more love.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Kathy

Worship Notes

By Pastor Kathy Morris

During this season of Epiphany, Pastor Kathy has been sharing a sermon series exploring the ways that Jesus finds us and we find Jesus. We’ve talked about how Jesus comes to us in Baptism, Communion and in the Word. Join us as we continue the series in February and discover some other unusual places where Jesus finds us!

February 4 – Found in Worship

February 9 – Found in Vocation

February 16 – Found in One Another

February 23 – Found in our Enemies?

Looking Forward to Lent:

Ash Wednesday is March 5. We’ll have two services that day at noon and 6:30pm. Both services will have the imposition of ashes as well as communion. (Because of the noon service, we will not have our monthly communion service at 1pm that day.)

In the season of Lent, we’ll be exploring the Scripture by going “A-Z in the Bible: People, Places and Themes.” Pastor Kathy is looking for people who would be willing to write a short devotional to share daily as part of our Lenten practices.

We will also be enjoying our wonderful soup suppers on Wednesday nights, starting March 12, followed by worship using the Holden Evening Prayer service.



Close Knit Friends



Quilt Group News

By Diane Torry

Quilt Tying Party!!---Saturday Feb. 8, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Please join us to tie quilts!! We need everyone's help to tie quilts that we give to our neighbor's in need around the world, in our community and congregation. No experience required. We will teach everyone how to tie a quilt, this is a fun way to learn more about quilt making, help your neighbors in need, and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship.

We just received current information from Lutheran World Relief on the 371,000 quilts given throughout the world last year. People in 14 countries (including the United States) received these quilts during a time of great need and disaster. A homeless veteran whose temporary shelter flooded during Hurricane Helene "I got this quilt when I lost everything. And this is one of the first, nicest things I got. It gave me something to hold on to in the midst of a crisis." Lutheran World Relief is celebrating 80 years of faithful service this year---over the years, through LWR our love has reached our neighbors around the world and right here at home. A fellow quilter in Iowa says: "It's amazing how we can help people we are never going to meet. To me, this is being the hands and feet of Christ. I hope people feel the love of Jesus when they get our quilts". Lutheran World Relief sends thanks to us for our continued dedication to sharing the warmth of Christ's love felt in every beautiful quilt. Quilts completed by Holy Cross are given to our community and agencies worldwide, members and friends of Holy Cross.

Holy Cross Quilters meet in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., come join us!

We dedicate our quilts to Christ's service, trusting that Christ's love will go wherever each quilt is sent, making it more than just a piece of material, making each quilt we have created an expression of love.

Come join us---all are welcome! See you Saturday, February 8 at the special Quilt Tying Party.



Close Knit Friends News

By Peggy Whitney

Close Knit Friends started the new year by donating over 160 hats, scarves, and blankets to the Domestic Violence Resource Center and to the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra. Many of the items were hand knit or crocheted while others came from thrift stores, after Christmas sales, and gently used. This month, Close Knit Friends will be providing shawls for the Women Veterans Program at the Veterans Hospital. The need for warmth and comfort continues year-round. Local adults and their families face challenges and struggles with poverty, addiction, rehabilitation, sexual exploitation, homelessness, hospitalization, and domestic violence. Many hands make light work and we invite knitters and crocheters of all skill levels to participate. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, February 10 & 17 at 1 pm. We welcome anyone preferring to work at home on a project to drop off the finished items at Holy Cross. We have washable, acrylic yarn available for our projects. There is a display ladder in the Fellowship Hall with a few samples of our projects. Please see Peggy Whitney, Cheryl Eckert, or Becky Bradley for more information or assistance.



Souper Bowl of Caring

By Pastor Kathy Morris

Just a reminder – February 9 our youth will be collecting spare change donations as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring during our worship services. All the money they collect will be donated to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada. \$1.00 can provide 3 meals. Also, be sure to help us fill the food barrel! Let's see how fast we can fill it up!



Youth News

By Pastor Kathy Morris



Youth, plan to help us collect offerings for the Souper Bowl of Caring at worship on Feb. 9 and plan to stay after worship to help us count how much we've collected!

Youth, join us for a sledding overnight retreat on Friday, Feb. 21-22. We'll have a fun lock-in and then go and have a fun day playing in the snow! The cost will be \$50 but let Pastor Kathy know if you need a scholarship. Sign up and let Pastor Kathy know if you can come. More details will follow!

Save the Date: Sunday, March 2 – the youth are hosting a pancake breakfast. There is no cost, but we will be collecting donations to support our youth ministry program. All are welcome! (Youth, we'll need your help getting ready, serving, and cleaning up!).

Confirmation Classes will meet on Tuesdays – Feb. 4, 18, and March 4.

We'll be talking about The Lord's Prayer.

Youth Bowling Outing



Music Program News

By Becky Bradley

The choir took a "chill" month in January and returned to rehearsals after our post-Christmas break later in the month than usual. But we're back at it now, with 2 additional choir members! Welcome, Annie and Mark! We're busy preparing upcoming anthems, including one that we'll be singing at the 9:30 am service on 2/2 just prior to the congregational meeting.

We also welcomed Kaia Duque who played and sang a special in December, and Kelsie Duque who played a flute duet with Brittney as a special in January. We look forward to their adding their talents in worship.

The Praise Team always welcomes additional members. Michael has been keeping busy with his own band. They recently participated in a local Battle of the Bands competition and advanced on to the next level in Sacramento. Congratulations, Michael!



Monday Bible Study

By Becky Bradley

Monday night Lectionary Study meets at 4pm by Zoom. Pastor leads us through the readings for the upcoming week so that we can discuss them in more depth. Please contact Pastor or Becky if you need the Zoom link.

Wednesday Bible Study

By Becky Bradley

We returned from our holiday break with a 4-part series exploring The Binding of Isaac story from Genesis. This is info from a My Jewish Learning webinar that Becky took, so we had more observations and insights from those interpretations of the story. One session even went through a "midrash" version of the story, part of the Jewish tradition of thinking through the details of a story that aren't included in the usual Bible narrative. This was a particularly hard session for us to wrap our heads around, but it did spark a wonderful discussion about faith and trust and our own wrestling with hard situations. As usual, our class doesn't shy away from the tough topics, and we work through our questions and comments with respect and courtesy for each other's thoughts and opinions.

We meet on each Wednesday afternoon from 1:30pm-2:40pm in a "hybrid" format: we meet in person in the Fellowship Hall, but you can also join in by Zoom. Contact Becky at 775-360-0553 or beckyb485@gmail.com for more information.

1. Here is the Zoom information in case you need to join remotely:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633009098?pwd=dUVaYVZaQ2hwUExQRVY5e1BxbHJ4dz09>
2. Or join us by a phone call to bypass needing the Zoom app: Dial either number: 346 248 7799 or 669 444 9171
Enter the meeting ID: 896 3300 9098#
Then confirm the meeting ID: #

February Birthdays

- 2/01 Madeline Murray
- 2/07 Lani Moss
- 2/08 Joliette Marbina
- 2/14 Shelley Rigler
- 2/16 Jan Mann
- 2/17 Jim Morrison
- 2/18 Paula Featherstone
- 2/25 Corrie Volinkaty
- 2/26 Dalton Rains
- 2/28 Arthur Eggers



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Birdie Vario's family
- Pat Schlosser
- Evelyn Goetz's family
- Marissa Christman and Tony Mitchell
- Sarah Borton (Sue's DIL)
- Makayla's family (Meghan Bonnet's friend)
- Paula Featherstone
- Sandi Christman
- So Cal Fire Victims
- Bill P's family and friends
- Kris - Marissa Christman's friend
- Warren Smith Family
- Linda Schlosser and her brother David
- Madeline Murray
- Carol Ritter
- Nellie Namestka



Join us for Lutheran Lobby Day

February 10, 2025
9 AM - 3 PM
St. Paul's Lutheran Family
1201 N. Saliman Road, Carson
City, NV 89701
AND
Nevada State Capitol

[Registration Link](#)

For any questions, please email paullarson@leanforjustice.org.

THE CHOSEN



“THE CHOSEN” Discussion Group

by Pastor Kathy Morris

Join us to watch The Chosen at 6:15 on Tuesday nights:

- February 4 – Season 4, episode 3
- February 18 – Season 4, episode 4
- February 25 – Season 4, episode 5

It's been a fascinating way to think about the how stories of Jesus may have affected those who walked with him. All are welcome!

Close Knit Friends
1 pm
February 10, 2025
February 24, 2025

Invite a friend and join us!
No experience necessary.

Senior Lunch
FEBRUARY 19 @ 12 NOON
BRING A SACK LUNCH

Quilt Tying Party
February 8th 9am - 12pm

You've always wanted to learn to quilt—or see what quilting is all about—here is a great opportunity to check out quilting. The coffee pot and doughnuts will be on—so just come by.

Supporting Aging Seniors: Senior Transitions Program

By Diane Torry

This three-week program is offered February 15, 22, March 1, Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall at Holy Cross. Coffee pot is on at 9:30!

Supporting Aging Seniors is designed for Seniors, their families and support networks, to learn about and explore options for safe senior independent living and alternatives when living totally on their own is no longer safe or desirable for the senior.

It is human nature to put off or even ignore life's difficult decisions. The challenges of aging may intimidate us and conversations between parents and adult children or seniors and loved ones are avoided. In the worst-case scenario, no discussion has taken place and no plans are made until a crisis hit.

Program Overview

Session 1: Beginning the conversation: signs that you need help, changing relationship, values: what matters to you, critical conversations with loved ones.

Session 2: Living arrangements: Staying at Home, Safety, Care; Alternative Living Options/Senior Communities; Downsizing; Resources.

Session 3: Planning for the future: Financial Concerns; Planning; Legal issues related to aging: wills, trusts, power of attorney, medical directives and POLST.

Attend individually or with your adult children, or support network. If you cannot attend all sessions, come to those that fit into your schedule or interest. Invite your friends to join us. All are welcome.

Brochures and fliers about the program are available in the Narthex, or by contacting the church office.

Register with Lanai, in the Church Office, holycrossreno@gmail.com, 775-827-4822 or Program Coordinator Diane Torry dbtorry@att.net — 775-771-3365.





The Reno Sunrise Rotary Club donated \$360 to purchase extra sweet potatoes and applesauce for 84 low-income households during the "Shared Harvest" Christmas food distribution. Six Lutheran congregations—Faith, Holy Cross, Good Shepherd, Lord of Mercy, Our Savior, and St. Luke's—contribute non-perishable foods monthly. Thrivent Financial Services also provided a grant for canned hams for each household.



Thank you for your continued support

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8-5 High Desert Harmony using Fellowship Hall
2 930am Worship 1030am Annual Meeting	3 4pm Zoom Study 6pm High Desert Harmony	4 430pm Confirmation Class 615pm Chosen Study 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	5 1pm Midweek Communion 130pm Bible Study 230pm Community Fellowship	6 9am Quilting	7 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	8 9am Quilt Tying Party
9 9am Worship 1030am Worship 1030am Godly Play 1130am Youth Outing	10 1pm Close Knit 4pm Zoom Study 6pm High Desert Harmony	11 615pm Chosen Study 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	12 130pm Bible Study	13 9am Quilting	14 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	15 12pm-7pm Birthday Party in Fellowship Hall 10am-12pm Supporting Aging Seniors
16 9am Worship 1030am Worship 1030am Godly Play	17 4pm Zoom Study 6pm High Desert Harmony	18 430pm Confirmation Class 615pm Chosen Study 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	19 12noon Senior Lunch 130pm Bible Study	20 9am Quilting	21 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	22 10am-12pm Supporting Aging Seniors
23 9am Worship 1030am Worship 1030am Godly Play 1130am Youth Outing	24 1pm Close Knit 4pm Zoom Study 6pm High Desert Harmony	25 Newsletter Deadline 615pm Chosen Study 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	26 130pm Bible Study	27 9am Quilting 5-8pm Community Fellowship Potluck	28 7pm Casa Del Alfarero	

Every Sunday: 130 pm Tongan Church & 530 pm Casa Del Alfarero