## THE MONTH OF

2022

## HOLÝ CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH NEDERLAND, TEXAS

## Message from Pastor

## LCMS Youth Gathering 2022 – IN ALL THINGS

Last Month, 10 students and 4 adults from Holy Cross attended the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering in Houston. Almost 20,000 Lutherans from all over the nation (and from 11 other countries) descended upon Space City for Bible Study, fellowship, learning, prayer, praise, and the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our party set forth from HCLC on a Saturday morning after almost three years of planning. Having made the requisite stop at Buc-ee's (try the Beaver Nuggets), we arrived at our downtown Houston hotel mid-afternoon. As with any trip, there were some travel snafusthe hotel only had a few of our rooms ready so we spent the rest of the afternoon hanging out together in one of the rooms. Come evening, we embarked upon our daily trek toward the George R Brown Convention Center and Minute Maid Park.

On the main programming days, our mornings started with Bible Study at GRB where we spent time in God's Word. The Gathering theme- In All Things- was taken from Colossians 1:15-20, in particular "In [Christ] all things hold together. ... For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross." Students were encouraged to mark their Gathering-issued Bibles with special icons to help them remember important points.

Following Bible Study, our students had options to hear dozens of speakers covering many topics throughout the day. When it was time to take a break, a large exhibit hall gave students access to games, challenges, service opportunities, crafts, and exhibitors from various organizations, including a booth featuring Concordia University-Texas. At one point, I even did an hour of live radio on worldwide KFUO!

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Minute Maid was the location of our Mass Events- nightly gatherings of all 20,000 participants for singing, skits, keynote talks, and considering the problems of our world and its need for the redemptive work of Jesus. Texas District President Mike Newman was featured the first night and reminded us that "Jesus is FOR you. For your highs, for your lows, in all things. Your Savior, Jesus, gave his life for you. You are his precious child." Following each Mass Event, we walked back to our hotel and circled up for family group time (my favorite event each day), where we reviewed the day and shared what influenced and impacted each of us the most.

In and around all of these activities were shared meals, long-ish walks around downtown Houston, inside jokes, one-on-one conversations, and lots of the general goofiness and shenanigans you get when you throw ten sleep-deprived teenagers together for a week. It was a great experience that will provide life-long memories for all involved.

I wish to personally thank everyone at Holy Cross who supported our trip to the Gathering. Your dedication to our students is unwavering and at times brings me to tears. Special thanks to our Quilters, who made limited edition pillowcases for each of our participants.

Planning is already underway for the 2025 Gathering, which will be in New Orleans. We are already lifting this event up in prayer and looking forward to the work Jesus will do there.

I'll leave you with the blessing we spoke each night at the end of our Mass Events -

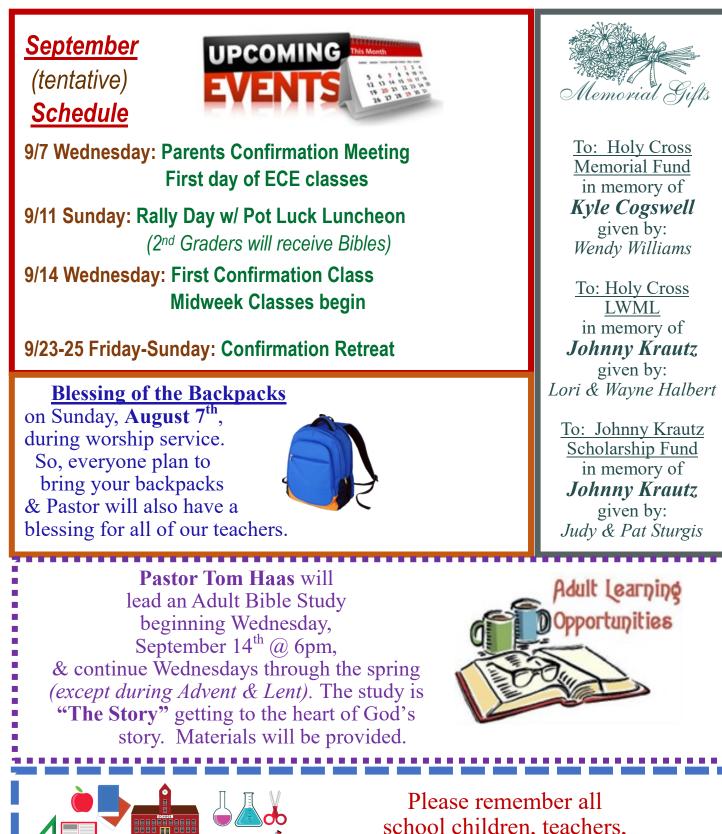
This heart. This life. This story. Every story. Is held by the One who holds all things

God's peace and all the best, Pastor Joshua Knippa









BACK TO SCHOOL school children, teachers, staff and administrators, in prayer as the 2022-2023 school year begins.

$\mathcal{IX}$		Fri Sat	<u>в</u>	13	19 20 Ipm LWML Luncheon @ Wheelhouse Pt. Neches	27	7—Jim L <mark>ushers:</mark> Romie Vize 14—David Prioux 21—Charles Schrader Steve Vincent 28—Pet Surgis
Holy Cross Lutheran Church—Nederland, $\mathcal{IX}$	2022	Thu	4 9:30am Quilting 6pm Board of Mission 8 Assimilation	11 9:30am Quilting	18 9:30am Quilting 6pm Band Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	25 9:30am Quilting Bpm Band Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	Lay Readers: To be announced
ran Churc	<b>just</b> 2	Wed	m	₽	11	1 G	R
ross Luthe	Aug	Tue	2	m	16 1-3:30 pm Fit & Fun Fellowship 6pm Church Council	23 10:30am Prayer Card Ministry 6pm Bd of Ed Meeting	R
Holy C		Mon	_	œ	ñ	22 Deadline for the <b>September</b> Newsletter	52
A MARTINE	Survey Strange	Sun	Elders: Bo <u>Smalley</u> 254.913.4205 Altar Guild: Connie Weber Christie LeJune	7 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service with Communion Blessing of the backpacks	<b>14</b> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Blended Worship	<b>21</b> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service with Communion	<b>ZB</b> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service <b>Voter's Meeting</b> after Worship