

THE MONTH OF
DECEMBER

2014

SENIOR PASTOR'S ARTICLE
Pastor Francis L. Schroeder
Holy Cross Lutheran—Nederland

**PASTOR
FRANCIS'
PROJECTS**

SUNDAY MORNING
ADULT CLASSES

PREPARATIONS FOR
SUNDAY SERVICES &
COMING ADVENT &
CHRISTMAS SERVICES

PLANNING FOR FALL
CLASSES & STUDIES

WEEKDAY SCHOOL &
CONFIRMATION
CLASSES

DECEMBER CIRCUIT
PROFESSIONALS
MEETING

EARLY CHILDHOOD
CHAPEL SERVICES



IS IT REALLY A WONDERFUL LIFE?

Each December, millions of people around the world watch the classic 1946 film “It’s a Wonderful Life.” Although it was not hit when it debuted it has now become a Christmas classic.

One author pondered the film’s continual appeal well into the 21st century. He concluded that the story is really about friendship. That helps to explain why we often get choked up as we watch George Bailey’s family and friends rally around him in his time of greatest need. “Just when George thinks he’s alone in the world, the world shows up to declare its love for him.”

This sentence seems to capture the essence of our celebration at the birth of the Savior Jesus Christ. Just when we thought we were alone in the world, Christ came to declare God’s love for us. Not only did God send His Son into the world at exactly the right time, but He demonstrated “His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”

That is the message of Christmas that opens a door to a wonderful life — the joy of knowing Christ and living in His love.

Enjoy the gift in the manger this Christmas!

Blessed Advent & Christmas 2014!

Pastor Francis Schroeder

SUNDAY & SPECIAL SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2014

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE ONE

2:00 PM & 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th

**THE 2nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT
GERMAN/ENGLISH SERVICE**

10:30 AM Service in the Sanctuary
With Holy Communion
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10th

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE TWO

2:00 PM & 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary
Pastor Davidson—Proclaimer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th

THE 3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:00 AM Sunday Morning Matins Service in the Sanctuary
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer
10:30 AM Traditional Service in the Sanctuary
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer
10:30 AM Fusion Contemporary in the Family Life Center
Pastor Davidson—Proclaimer

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17th

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE THREE

2:00 PM & 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st

**THE 4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

10:30 AM Service in the Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

5:00 PM Service in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion
11:00 PM Service in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25th

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

10:00 AM Service in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28th

THE LAST SUNDAY IN 2014

10:30 AM Service in the Sanctuary
Pastor Schroeder—Proclaimer

DID YOU KNOW THIS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

Our Sunday Morning Elders' Prayers Lift Up...

December 7th

**St. John Lutheran Church - Beaumont, Texas
Pastor Doug Rathgeber**

December 14th

**Hope Lutheran Church - Winnie, Texas
Pastor Richard LeBlanc**

December 21st

**St. Paul Lutheran Church - Sheboygan, Wisconsin
Pastor Alan Kretschmar (Son of Holy Cross)**

December 28th

**Trinity Lutheran Church - Port Arthur, Texas
Pastor Tim Dinger & Pastor Mario Casillas**

January 7th

**Grace Lutheran Church - Orange, Texas
Pastor Tom Haas**

January 14th

**St. Paul Lutheran Church - Groves, Texas
Pastor Richard Turner**

January 21st

**Our Savior Lutheran Church - Centerville, Texas
Pastor Jan "Trey" Rienstra (Son of Holy Cross)**

January 28th

**St. Paul Lutheran Church - Jasper, Texas
Faith Lutheran Church - Woodville, Texas
Pastor Mark Follett**

February 1st

**Redeemer Lutheran Church - Beaumont, Texas
Pastor Fred Kelm**



DID YOU KNOW THIS TOO ?



OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONS (December, January, & February) are available in the narthex of the church.

PORTALS OF PRAYERS (October, November, & December) are available in the narthex of the church.

THE CIRCUIT PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE will be on the second Tuesday of every month at a different church in the circuit.

We gather at 8:30 AM for coffee and refreshments, 9:00 AM for Opening Devotion, 9:15 AM for Bible Study, 10:15 AM for Break, 10:30 AM for Topical Study, 11:15 AM for Circuit Business and Casuistry.

The Circuit Professionals Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9th

HOLY CROSS HOMEBOUND MEMBERS receive on a weekly basis an audio copy of Holy Cross' Sunday morning services. They also receive on a monthly basis a DVD from Lutheran Ministries Media.

WORSHIP BULLETINS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS

Redeemer Lutheran Church—Austin, Texas

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—PORT ARTHUR is in need of volunteers to work in their **THRIFT SHOP** on Tuesday, Friday, & Saturdays from 8 AM until 12 Noon. Please contact Trinity Lutheran at 983-1130.

TRINITY LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY has temporarily suspended operations. It will resume sometime in 2015.



Message from Pastor Seth

Grace, Mercy, and Peace be to you and yours this Advent Season in preparation for the Birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

I wanted to take a moment to say thank you my brothers and sisters at Holy Cross. Thank you for your prayers and support as my family and I prepare for the new journey ahead of us as we have accepted the call to another congregation. Your support in this decision has been more than I could have imagined. Thank you.

As we await the birth of our Lord Christ, there is much time to be taken in meditation and preparation. In my own life, I prepare for the ministries ahead. In the life and growth of Holy Cross the same can be said. Without the Lord Christ to guide this time of preparation and meditation on the Lord's will, ministry could not happen. Sometimes it is better to slow down and take the time to meditate on the Lord's will instead of ours.

Perhaps we all ought to slow down and meditate on God's will. We know in the church that God sent His only Son into this world, but the world doesn't. As we prepare the ministries ahead of us in whatever venue that is, meditation on what God's will is essential. He guides our paths, He lightens our way. He shows us the direction we ought to go. God led Mary and Joseph. God led the wise men. God led the Shepherds. God leads us to the Christ child. God leads us today to Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are blessed.

What would it mean during this time of preparation and meditation if God showed us Christ in a new way? What would it mean if we followed God leading us in a new way? What would it mean if God led us to those who don't know Him yet? What if God is leading you to introduce and lead others to the Christ child for the first time?

Christ calls us to be His disciples, to be a light to the nations. We are called to lighten the paths of those struggling in the darkness. We are called to show the world by example what it looks like to follow God and to bring others with us.

As we prepare for Christ's birth, may the God of all mercy guide you in all of your ministries to lead others to Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor Davidson

December



*Deadline for
January
Newsletter is
December 19.*

MIDWEEK CLASSES

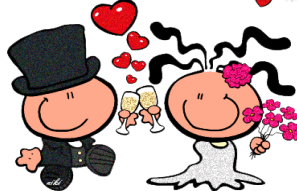
5:30pm Midweek Meal

6:00 pm Midweek Classes, Confirmation Classes, & High School Youth.

A light meal will be served on Wednesday evenings for anyone who is participating in Wednesday night classes: Weekday School, Confirmation, high school class. The meal will be served from 5:30-6pm in the Family Life Center.

Dec 3-nachos, fruit, & dessert
Dec 10-chipped beef sandwiches, chips, & fruit
Dec 17-pizza, fruit, & dessert
Dec 24-Christmas Eve Service *(no meal or classes)*
Dec 31-New Year's Eve *(no meal or classes)*

Happy Anniversary



- 5—Sharon & Doug Teinert
- 9—Shelly & Leo Benoint
Jeannie & John Ford
- 12—Brenda & Shawn Dunlap
- 17—Cheryl & Mike White
- 20—Elna & Ron Ermel
June & Bruce Greer
Leitha & Kevin Gunter
Anna & Todd Shuford
Sara & Andre' Wimer
- 28—Deborah & Glen Rose
- 29—Pam & Steve Vincent
- 31—Brytni & Tony Borel
Angie & Ben Hanks
Nancy & Jon Longlet



**COME VISIT
OUR CHURCH
LIBRARY**
in the Education Building.



We have new books coming in! Just sign the checkout card & leave it on the desk.
Any questions, call Lynne Hollomon, Pam Vincent, or Kathy Pinnt.

- 15—Raymond Rice
- 16—Vic Escobar
Victoria Wolfe
- 17—Holly Heisner
Carrigan McCullough
Hailey Zampini
- 18—Penelope Davidson
Luke Matthews
Kyle Spinks
- 19—Andrew Bruney
Lynne Hollomon
- 20—Tom Canton
Whitney Elisar
Amy Pinnt
Radmon Rice
- 24—Sandy Crow
Rita Davis
Allison Mitcham
Klara Smits
- 25—Russell West

Happy Birthday Jesus

- 26—Leah Elisar
Phillip Parks
- 27—Betty Anderson
- 28—Chase Caswell
Jordan Rash
- 30—Ryan Rice
Carlene Singleton
- 31—Chalen Armstrong
Taryn Dunlap
Taylor Dunlap
Gene McCorkle



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 1—Britni Melancon
- 2—Troy Ford
Bryan McEachern
Holly Terrell
- 3—Darryl Carter
Ronald Gribnau
Jessica Redding
Laurie Stevenson
Mark Winstead
- 4—Brienne Caswell
Bruce Greer
- 5—Betty Davis
Stephanie Dirba
- 6—Ed Zizmont, Jr.
- 7—Monica Bresee
Kyle Cogswell
Greyson Elisar
Florine Green
Patrice Kihlken
Nathan Stansbury
Ryan Wolford
- 8—Chase Gordy
- 9—Erin Prioux
Calvin Rising
- 10—Dennis Dunlap
Nancy Longlet
David Tindel
- 11—Marlee Woodruff
- 12—Jeannie Ford
Heather Jones
- 13—Addi Barnes
Christopher Lovelace
Danielle Viator
- 14—Bonnie Albright
Clint Laird
Adam Longlet
Mia Woodruff



News from our: **Lutheran Women's Missionary League**

*LWML is: Lutheran Women who are:
In the Word, of the Word, walking with their Lord!
We have many opportunities for the congregation
to help us with our worthy mission projects.*



LWML

December 9 @ 6pm

Hostesses:

Executive Committee-
Laurenda Wolford,
Donna Gunn, Judy Alvarez,
Lauri Ford, & Pat Biar

Program:

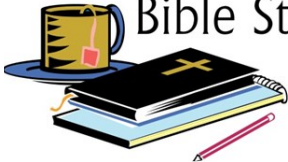
"Advent Joy-A-Tude"

Activity:

Christmas Party,
Reveal Secret Pals, &
draw for 2015 Secret Pals.

All Ladies are invited!

Women's Bible Study



LADIES SMALL GROUP
Thurs., December 18,
at 2:30pm at
Evelyn Ludwig's.

Oh what "**Grateful Hearts**"
there are just because of you.

Our **Trash to Cash**

project of collecting stamps
is a "**grateful**" gift.

Over \$20,000 has been
collected for postage.

So many of these stamps or
even **one** stamp has come with
a treasured memory.

What a gift you give. One stamp
plus another just add up. Never
think any are **too few**.

Holy Cross LWML has "**grateful
hearts**" for your help in
this mission project.

Put your used stamps in
the Narthex
mailbox of

**Judy Alvarez or
Sharon Teinert.**



Any questions, call Sharon
at #718-5906.

QUILTING THURSDAYS

**December
4, 11, & 18
@ 9:30am in**

Conference Room A.

If you're unable to quilt, *with
the group*, you can work on the
quilts at home. Call Rosie at
201-5710, and she will give
you the fabric. We are still
accepting donations of blue
jeans. You can call or drop
them at the church office.
Questions, call Rosie Herring.



THANK YOU

Many **thanks** to our
members for your
generous donations of
cell phones, glasses, &
hearing aids for the
Lions Club Project.
Also, thanks for your
donations of books for
**M.D. Anderson &
The Anayat House**.
Finally, thank you for
continuing to collect &
donate your stamps for
LWML's **Stamps to Cash
Project**.

LWML will be collecting items for their
Human Care Kits to be sent to **Lutheran World Relief**.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

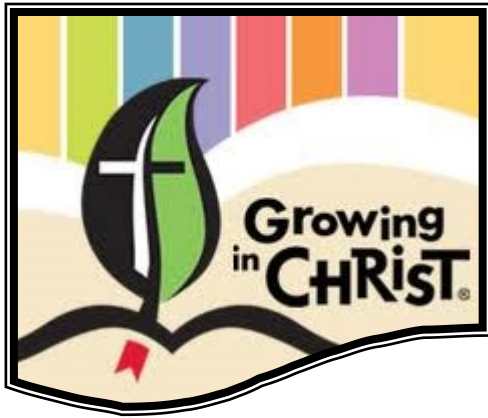
Items that are being collected are as follows:

- ◆ One sturdy **comb**
- ◆ One adult-size **toothbrush** in its original packaging (*multi-packs will be accepted*)
- ◆ Two bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) of **soap**, (*any brand—in original wrapping*)
- ◆ One light-weight bath-size **towel** (*maximum 52" x 27"—dark color recommended*)
- ◆ One metal **nail clippers** (*attached fil optional*)

We will begin collecting now through **March 2015!**

Happy Birthday Jesus





Holy Cross Lutheran Church is **"Growing In Christ"** and we have a place for everyone in your family.

The material we will be using for Sunday morning children's classes is called **"Growing in Christ."**

Growing in Christ is a traditional classroom Sunday School for all ages. This same-age classroom model helps students learn and grow in faith alongside their peers as they explore the Bible, draw connections to the Small Catechism, and learn the traditions of the Lutheran Church.

Questions? Contact DCE Kristy Witek at 722-1609 or email at dcekristy@sbcglobal.net for more information!

We hope you will join us.
Bring a friend!

Sunday Morning Classes

**9am - Classes &
10:30am - Worship**

**Where Do Classes Meet on
Sunday Mornings?**

Nursery (0-4 years)
Nursery in Sanctuary

Kindergarten to 1st Grade Class
Education Building
Room #3

2nd to 4th Grade Class
Education Building
Room #1

Middle School Youth
5th-8th Grade Class
Education Building (*downstairs*)
Room #4

High School Youth
(9th-12th Grade) Class
Education Building (*upstairs*)
Room #12, #13, #14
(*aka: HS Youth Room*)

Pastor Francis Schroeder's
Adult Bible Class
Conference Room A
(*New Office Building*)

Pastor Seth Davidson's
Adult Bible Class
Conference Room B
(*New Office Building*)

Birthday Party for Jesus

Sunday, December 7
9am
Education Building Big Room



A Birthday party for Jesus

All children through the 8th Grade and their families are invited to join us as we celebrate Jesus' birthday on Sunday, December 7 @9am in our Education Building Big Room. It's a Birthday Party for Jesus, which will include singing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus, blowing out the birthday candles, cake and ice cream, the reading of the real "Christmas Story," and a Christmas craft.

You and your children will not want to miss it! Invite your friends!

**Mid-week/Kingdom Quest (K-4th) and
Confirmation (5th-8th) Classes**

**5:30pm – M&M Time (“Meal & Memory” Work Time)
Family Life Center Foyer
6pm-7:15 — Classes**



FREE MEAL: Holy Cross serves a light supper at 5:30pm for anyone who attends the Wednesday evening classes: kids in Weekday School and Confirmation Classes, young adults in the high school / college class, adults in the Life Light classes, and all teachers. Even if parents are running late, the kids can take their plates to the classroom at 6:00pm. Adults and children will know ahead of time what is being served!

Pastor Schroeder leads our 8th Grade Confirmation class and he uses his own curriculum.

Mr. Michael Rose leads our Young Adult Class - 9th Grade through 21 years.

Adult LifeLight Classes will resume in January and are led by Johnny Krautz & Nancy Beckcom. More details about our Confirmation Classes, Memory Work and Class Schedules, please go to our website

www.holycrosstexas.org

If you have any questions or would like to know more about our Midweek, Kingdom Quest and Confirmation Classes, please contact DCE Kristy Witek at 722-1609 ordcekristy@sbcglobal.net

We can't wait to see you Wednesdays @ 6pm! BRING A FRIEND!

Parents—Please drop off all children at Family Life Center, and use the covered walk-way when traveling from one building to another. K-4th Children will stay in the FLC from the time they arrive until 5:55pm and will walk together with teacher to classroom. Thank you!



**Kingdom Quest
Christmas Cookie Project**

Wednesday, December 17 @ 6-7:15pm
Education Building Big Room

On Wednesday, December 17 the Kingdom Quest Students (*Kindergarten through 4th Grade*) and the *5th-8th Grade* will be frosting and decorating Homemade Christmas Cookies which will be given to the Hospitality Center in Port Arthur, Texas. The Coordinator at the Hospitality Center says the guests who eat there, rarely ever get a special dessert like a homemade Christmas cookie and will be elated to feast on something other than a dried out donut.

Let's help make their Christmas super special!

HELP NEEDED

We are looking for families and/or individuals who are willing to **BAKE** Sugar Cookies that the students can decorate. We need **35 dozen sugar cookies** (Please do **NOT** frost cookies). Drop off cookies by **Tuesday, December 16!**

Sign the clipboard sheet if you can bake some cookies for us!

The LITTLE LAMBS CHOIR sings on the 4th Sunday of each month (*usually!*)

The Little Lambs Choir is for any and all children 0 years through the 4th grade.
Practices are 9:15am each Sunday morning.

Sunday Morning Schedule for 0 years to 4th Grade

9am-9:15am - Craft/Coloring Sheets and Fellowship Time

9:15am - Song Time for Little Lambs Choir

9:30am-10:00am - Sunday School Classes

10:00am - Dismiss Children

If you would like a CD of the songs so you can practice at home,
please stop by DCE Kristy Witek's office or contact her at
dcekristy@sbcglobal.net



Little Lamb's Choir Schedule

Sunday, December 21 (Christmas Program)

Sunday, January 25 - "Go"

Sunday, February 22 - "God's Love"

Sunday, March 29 -Palm Sunday— "Hosanna"

Sunday, April 5—Easter Sunday Service @10:30am "1,2,3"

Questions? Contact DCE Kristy Witek @722-1609 or dcekristy@sbcglobal.net.

Can We Invite Friends to Church/Youth Events?

This question is asked just about every time we have a special event for youth or adults and I often wonder why?



Luke 14:23 says, *"Then the master told his servant, Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full."*

So, can we invite friends, family, neighbors to functions, events, worship, Bible studies and youth or adult events at Holy Cross?

The answer is —YES!

In fact I believe, we should always, always, always be inviting someone to join

us for everything we participate in at Holy Cross: Worship Services, Bible Study, Confirmation, Youth Events, Adult Fellowship Events, potluck dinners.

If our doors are open, then we should...

ALWAYS INVITE A FRIEND!

Reception for Pastor Seth and Sarah

Davidson

Sunday, December 14

Immediately after Worship

Education Building Big Room

Please join us immediately after church in our Education Building for a cake and punch reception to say farewell to our Associate Pastor, Seth Davidson and his family.

Pastor Seth has taken a Divine Call to be the Senior Pastor at St. John Lutheran Church in Athens, Texas. His last Sunday at Holy Cross will be on Sunday, December 14.

We ask that you continue to keep Pastor Seth and Sarah and their family in your prayers as they make this transition!





Adult Fellowship Christmas Party

Sunday, December 7
Tequila's Mexican Restaurant

8550 Memorial Blvd

6:00pm—Cocktail Hour

**Wine, Beer, Margaritas will be available for purchase*

7:00pm – Devotion & Buffet Dinner

8pm—“Chinese Auction”

Cost: \$11.99 (Buffet) + \$15 gift (optional)

**Chinese Auction—Ladies bring a lady's gift (\$15); Men bring a men's gift (\$15)*

No Tickets— Just pay when you arrive!

(\$11.99 per person for Buffet; \$1.99 for soda, \$2.05 Tea, other drinks available also)

Contact Teresa and Peter Wolfe or Erin and David Prioux for other info or to RSVP!

Adults 18 years old or older are encouraged to join us for this very special event!

Babysitting is available—please contact us in advance if you need a sitter!

Christmas Program

“Angel, Angel!”

Sunday, December 21 @10:30am

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Practices:

Wednesday, December 3 @7pm-7:30pm in Education Big Room

Wednesday, December 10 @7pm-7:30pm in Education Big Room

Saturday, December 13 @10am in Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 17 @7pm-7:30pm in Education Big ROOM

Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal

Saturday, December 20 @10am in Sanctuary

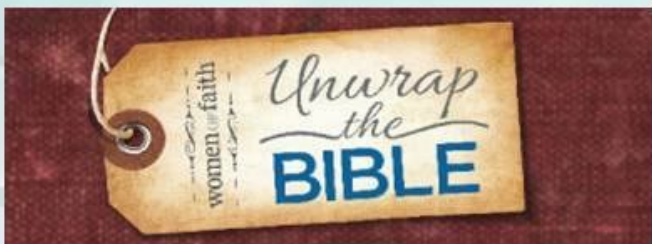
Christmas Program in Sanctuary

Sunday, December 21 @10:30am



Practice and prepare during SS hour on Sunday, December 21 at 9am! We only have one Saturday rehearsal scheduled in addition to the Dress Rehearsal, so practices are very important! We encourage you to get a CD and practice songs at home as often as you can.

Questions call Christmas Program Director Kyra Day, 409-718-8256.



LIVE Simulcast

(From Lifeway Church in Houston)
at Redeemer Lutheran Church
4330 Crow Road, Beaumont
409-892-3286

Fri., Feb 20, 2015

doors open at 530pm
starts at 630pm

Sat., Feb 21, 2015

doors open at 730am
starts at 830am

A transformational weekend with Women of Faith, a perfect event to invite other women outside of your church to attend, and a two-day delivery of in-depth, expository Bible teaching from teachers you know and trust. Women of Faith Presents: Unwrap The Bible, one of its most popular events, for the first time via simulcast for your church to participate.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Mail:	*OR*	Scan & Email to:
Redeemer Lutheran Church 4330 Crow Rd, Beaumont TX 77706		millerbarbara27@yahoo.com
Name: _____		
Home Phone: _____		Cell: _____
Address _____		
Email: _____		Home Church: _____
Date Registered: _____		Payment: \$ _____
Cash <input type="checkbox"/>	Check <input type="checkbox"/>	Credit Card: <input type="checkbox"/> # _____
		Exp Date: ____ / ____ CC Code _____
Name of Card _____		
ZIP Code: _____		

Registration Deadlines:

\$40 by 12/15/14
\$45 by 1/15/15

After 1/15/15
\$55
(prices include lunch for Saturday)

Speakers:



Holy Cross has a group of 20+ women planning to attend the Women of Faith Conference in Houston on February 20-21, however, if you haven't yet purchased a ticket or it is difficult for you to travel to Houston for the weekend, please prayerfully consider participating in this LIVE Simulcast at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Beaumont.

**Contact Redeemer Lutheran Church at 892-3286
 if you are interested in purchasing a ticket.**

GUYS and DOLLS & SPICY Meatballs!

Featuring **BARBERSHOP** at its **BEST!**
Spirit of SETexas Chorus
& the Harmony Exporters

Saturday, February 28th

6 pm Spaghetti Dinner & 7 pm Show

Doors open @ 5:15 pm

Silent Auction closes at intermission

Advance Dinner & Show Tickets \$12

(After Sunday, Feb. 22nd, tickets are \$20)

Complete table reservations available

6 person table - \$100, 8 person table - \$120, 10 person table - \$140

For **TABLE RESERVATIONS**, contact Kristy Witek (409) 722-1609

Only 15 reserved tables available!

*Proceeds will help support the Holy Cross Youth,
 Spirit of SETx Chorus and Harmony Exporters*

Tickets available from any chorus or youth group member!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Family Life Center

2711 Helena Ave., Nederland, TX



**Spaghetti
Dinner**



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.™

A reminder to our Thrivent Financial members that if you have not yet allocated your **Thrivent Choice dollars for 2014**, please take a few minutes to visit Thrivent.com, or call 1-800-Thrivent and ask for **“Thrivent choice”**. Remember, these can be allocated to your church, or any qualified 501c3 charity listed in our system.

We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Thank you, **Brian W. Orner,**

Financial adviser, FIC, CLTC, 713-298-9558



To: Holy Cross Memorial Fund

In memory of
**Steven Wiley
Twyla Nau**
given by
Catherine Bruney
Pat Biar

In memory of
Twyla Nau
given by
Mildred Yanta
Jim McNeill
Sam, Frank, & Avery LeBlanc
Raymond & Carol Bass
Faith Clotiaux
Dale & JoAnn Rienstra
Herb & Myrna Wukasch
Jane Convery
Beth Harris
James & Stacy Timmons
Billy Cogswell
Keela (Cogswell) Johnson
Jerry McNeill
Beatrice Sauer

In memory of
Steve Wiley
given by
Cheryl Doyle

To: Holy Cross Youth

In memory of
**Twyla Nau
Steve Wiley
Elsie Beckcom
Annie Granger**
(Joyce Ewing's mom)
given by
Ida Trojczak

Memorial Gifts Continued

**To: Holy Cross ECE
Scholarship Fund**

In memory of
**Twyla Nau
Elsie Beckcom**
given by
Rosemarie & Frank Herring

In memory of
**Joan Canton
Becky-Babin Potts
Steve Wiley
Jonathon Wolfe
Twyla Nau**
given by
Cary Erickson Family

To: Holy Cross Adult Choir

In memory of
Twyla Nau
given by
Carolyn Barras

To: Holy Cross Library Fund

In memory of
**Elsie Beckcom
Steven Wiley
Twyla Nau**
given by
Lynne Hollomon

To: Holy Cross LWML

In memory of
Twyla Nau
given by
Ida Trojczak



Interested in looking at beautiful works of ART?

If so, then join us on **Thursday, December 4** to tour the **Stark Museum of Art in Orange.**

We want to leave from the church at 10am, have lunch and tour the museum.

The fee is Adults \$6, Seniors \$5 for the museum, plus lunch.

Call **Lynne Hollomon**

#727-2421 or Beth DeVillier

#724-6340

to book a seat! There's a **Newcomb Pottery Exhibit.**

Also, let us know if anyone is interested in touring the

W.H. Stark House.



Smithsonian NEWCOMB POTTERY Tulane University

CIRCUIT 34 MISSION COUNCIL NEWS

We continue to move toward our goal of establishing a new Hispanic congregation in Port Arthur. Pastor Casillas comes to our area for ESL classes each Wednesday. He is present at the Thrift Store on Saturday to make contact with those who come there to shop. Sunday morning worship is held each week at Trinity at 9:00 AM.

The tentative name of the new congregation is La Trinidad. They are in the process of identifying members who could serve as officers of the congregation, so the group could apply to the Texas District for a charter. In addition to the Pastor, they would need a president, a secretary and a treasurer.

We are in need of a bi-lingual teacher! Rosie Cabrera, a member at Trinity, teaches an ESL Bible study each Tuesday from 9 AM to 10 AM. She teaches simple Bible stories using Sunday School lessons and some Arch Books.

Rosie is moving away in December, so we need someone who could work with this group. If you can help, please contact Pastor Tim Dinger at 409-983-1130 or revtdinger@gmail.com.

Food Pantry: The Circuit 34 Mission Council board met on Sunday, November 9. **The board decided to suspend operation of the Food Pantry until March 28.** Our bank balance had reached the point that if we continued the Food Pantry, we would not be able to support Pastor Casillas properly. If our financial condition improves, we will resume the Food Pantry in the spring.

We thank the **Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League** for their gift to the Hispanic Mission. They have allotted \$7700 for our mission.

The November issue of **The Lutheran Witness** has an excellent article about our work to establish this new congregation.

As always, remember **The Thrift Store** at Trinity. It is open Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM. They always need help at the store.

Please consider giving a few hours of your time to serve in this way. The Thrift Store sells any kind of items: clothing, household furnishings, dishes, tools, etc. Be sure all your unwanted items go to the Thrift Store. Proceeds from the store fund the ESL program at Trinity.



Please pray for the success of our mission outreach and consider how you and your congregation can help with this kingdom work.

LIFE LIGHT BIBLE STUDY

1, 2, 3 John

January 7, 2015

The spring LifeLight nine-week study materials need to be ordered by mid-December, so **THE TIME IS NOW** to decide if **YOU** would like to join in this venture of an in-depth study of 1, 2, and 3 John. The studies are designed for adults (*mid-to-older teens might also be LifeLight participants*) who desire a deeper study of Scriptures than is available in the typical Sunday morning Bible class. Classes meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

LifeLight does not assume or require an existing knowledge of the Bible or special experience or skills in Bible study. However, it does assume a level of commitment that will bring participants to each of the nine weekly assemblies **having read the assigned readings and attempted to answer the study questions**. No one is graded. Often questions ask for an 'opinion' answer. If one cannot answer all the questions—no problem. Come to class regardless!

Time does not allow for all the assigned Scriptures to be read during the class, thus it is important that participants do the assigned readings beforehand.

Each week has five (5) lessons. It takes 20-30 minutes to complete one day's lesson. Doing one lesson a day makes it manageable. Waiting until the day before or of the assembly to do all five can put one in a bind.

Everyone—participants and small-group facilitators—are learning together. The small-group facilitator has the advantage of having a leader's manual which has the answers suggested by the writers of the lessons.

So, if you'd like to have access to the answers, and if you have the desire to be a small-group facilitator, please contact DCE Kristy Witek.

The Apostle John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, is the author of these three books of the Bible. How should Christians demonstrate the love of Christ to each other and to the world? Where does that love originate? Let's examine John's teachings as he was inspired by God as he wrote!

Signup sheets will be on the clip boards beginning the first Sunday in December.

Pray for God's guidance while contemplating signing up for the course.

ECE-NEWS!

We currently have 99 children enrolled. 71 children attend on Monday-Wednesday and 67 on Tuesday-Thursday.

We send a big thank you to all of our Shoparoo Participants. The more receipts people photograph, the more points we will earn! If you are not participating and would like to, just download the Shoparoo App to your phone, select Holy Cross Lutheran ECE as your school and click away!

Also, thank you to all who continue to turn in their Campbell's labels for Education. This month we received extra points for turning in our 1 point labels by November 1.

To all of our volunteers for the Thankful Feast, THANK YOU!! We could not make this happen without you. The Pre-K children really enjoyed cooking this feast to share with their families!

Many in our community have been blessed with all of the food that was shared in our Food Baskets. Thank you for participating!

Some dates to remember for December:

15th & 16th - Christmas Parties and Pizza Days

17th & 18th - Christmas Program 9:30 AM in the sanctuary

22nd - Jan. 5 - No school - Christmas Holidays

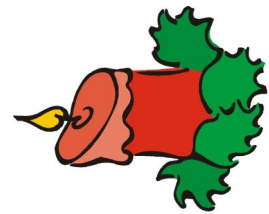






Pastor Francis will be videotaping the Christmas Programs and we will sell copies of the DVD's for \$10. Order forms will go home with the children the first week in December.

We are participating with the United Board of Missions in the Giving Tree Program again this year. You may pick a tag, purchase the gift on the tag, and bring the unwrapped gift with the tag attached to school. We will get the gifts delivered to the Board of Missions and they will distribute them to children in our community. Tags are hanging in the 2's lunch room and on the bulletin board near the 4's lunch room.

We would like to wish all of you a very blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

December 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Elders: Ken Ludwig 577-7140 D. McCullough 239-3444 Steven Swango 781-2312</p> <p>Altar Guild: Judy & Harold Alvarez Sharon & Doug Teimert</p>	<p>1 8:30 am Pastors' & DCE Meeting</p> <p>4-8pm Private Rental FLC Foyer</p>	<p>2 3pm Rumble Ball</p> <p>7pm Voters' Meeting</p>	<p>3 9:30am ECE Chapel 2 & 7:30pm Advent Services 2:30pm Decorate Education Bldg. Christmas Tree 5:30pm Meal 6pm Confirmation, H.S. Youth, Midweek Classes</p>	<p>4 9:30am ECE Chapel 9:30am Quilting</p> <p>6pm Mission & Assimilations Mtg. 7pm Adult Choir Harmony Exporters</p>	<p>5 Pastors' Day off</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 9am Birthdays Party for Jesus 9am Sunday Classes 10:30am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>6-9pm Adult Fellowship at Tequila's</p>	<p>8 8:30 am Pastors' & DCE Meeting</p> <p>6pm Thrivent Chapter Officer Dinner Mtg. FLC 6:30 MDAW Meeting</p>	<p>9 8:30am Circuit Professional Mtg.</p> <p>3pm Rumble Ball</p> <p>6pm LWML Christmas Party</p>	<p>10 9:30am ECE Chapel 2 & 7:30pm Advent Services</p> <p>5:30pm Meal 6pm Confirmation & Midweek Classes, H.S. Youth</p>	<p>11 9:30am ECE Chapel 9:30am Quilting</p> <p>7pm Adult Choir Harmony Exporters</p>	<p>12 Pastors' Day off</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 9am Sunday Classes 10:30am Worship Service 10:30 Fusion Service (FLC)</p> <p>Reception for Pastor Seth following services in Ed. Bldg</p> <p>5pm Caroling at Market Basket</p>	<p>15 8:30 am Pastors' & DCE Meeting</p>	<p>16 3pm Rumble Ball</p>	<p>17 9:30am ECE Christmas Program 2 & 7:30pm Advent Services</p> <p>5:30pm Meal 6pm Kingdom Quest Cookie Project. Confirmation & H.S. Youth</p>	<p>18 9:30am ECE Christmas Program 9:30am Quilting</p> <p>2:30pm Ladies Bible Study 7pm Adult Choir Harmony Exporters</p>	<p>19 Pastors' Day off</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 10:30am Christmas Program</p>	<p>22 8:30 am Pastors' & DCE Meeting</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 5pm & 11pm</p> 	<p>25 10am Christmas Srv</p> 	<p>26 Church Office Closed</p> 	<p>27 1-4pm Private Rental FLC</p>
<p>28 No Sunday Classes 10:30am Worship Service</p>	<p>29 8:30 am Pastors' & DCE Meeting</p>	<p>30</p> 	<p>31 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>Ushers: 7-Steve Derouen, Jim Duncan 14-Bob Schulze, Kent Stahl 21-Todd Bryson, John Ford 24-Pat Sturgis, Ronnie Vize 25-Pat Sturgis, Thad Kieschnick 28-Donald Gribnau, Scott Stevenson</p>	<p>Acolytes: 7-Emma Bruney, Amber Borel 14-Chad Irvine, Morgan Irvine 21-Kaden Zampini, Makayla Theriot 28-Jessica Wiedenfeld, Braden Hickman</p>	

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Growing in Christ Jesus
and Making Him Known*



Family Christmas Caroling
Sunday, December 14
@ 5pm
Market Basket in Nederland

All families and individuals are invited to join us as we sing Christmas carols and spread some Christmas cheer with the shoppers at Market Basket on Sun, Dec. 14 @5pm to 6pm.

Dress in festive Christmas attire!

(Santa hats, red, green, reindeer antlers, etc)

Meet inside Market Basket by 5pm!

We will have the carols available for y'all to use!

**Houston Texas play at 12NOON that Sunday and the Cowboys plat at 7:30pm, so,
we will have the opportunity to get the shoppers in the Christmas spirit
As well as get last minute snacks for the football game!*

HELP SPREAD SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!

What a great opportunity to reach out to our community! We hope you will join us!