



Holy Cross Connections

Upcoming Events:

April 1
6th Graders
"Created by God"

April 16
Children's Easter Party

Holy Cross Connections

March 2011

Surrendering to His Sacrifice

That's this year's theme for our Lenten Journey to Calvary with Christ Jesus. And, boy, is it ever a journey that we all want to make with Him! Two thousand years ago, on a cross Jesus sacrificed His perfect life to *forgive* and to *set us free from* our sins, "once for all." In other words, Jesus' sacrifice for us is an already accomplished fact, a done deal. "It is finished!" He has told us. But that does not mean that we have already been forgiven, or set free from, these sins. No, that comes through the ongoing process of repentance and forgiveness, which the Holy Spirit works in our heads and in our hearts through God's Word and through the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

So this Lenten season, we're not going to journey to the cross empty handed.

We are going to be invited to bring our *hypocrisy*, our *disobedience*, our *greed*, our *self-absorption*, our *defiant will* and our *pride* to Jesus, to lay these sins down at the foot of His cross, and to *surrender them to His forgiving and liberating sacrifice for our sins*.

Our Lenten Journey begins at **7:15 PM on Ash Wednesday, March 9**, with the prophet's call to "**rend our hearts and not our garments.**" It will continue on the following five Wednesday evenings. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will build on this theme in dramatic fashion. Our journey will culminate with the

celebration of Christ's resurrection and our new life in Him on Easter Sunday, April 24.

You don't want to miss out on any of this!
So mark your calendars now!

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Ash Wednesday and the following five Wednesday evenings' schedule:

5:30 – 6:15 PM Potluck dinner on Ash Wednesday, then see page 5 for more supper details.

6:30 – 7:10 PM Holy Cross University Classes for all ages (See Catalog.)

7:15 – 8:00 PM Lenten Worship
(Ash Wednesday will run later because of the imposition of ashes on our foreheads and Holy Communion.)

April 21, 7:00 PM, Maundy Thursday

April 22, 7:00 PM, Good Friday

April 24, Easter Sunday worship with Communion at all services

Please note time change

7:00 AM, 8:45 AM, & 11:00 AM

Easter Breakfast: 8:00 — 10:45 AM

Served by Holy Cross Youth

Pastor Kip

Children's Ministry

EC/MC MOVIE NIGHT
MARCH 11 AT 6:30 PM

Volunteer to assist with crafts
and lessons during Lent.

Check out
Children's
Board for

the
Ministry
details.

Lent Adult Craft Helpers

Our Wednesday Kids Club Crew is getting a much needed break during Lent. We will need lots of Volunteers to assist with crafts and lessons. Please go to the Children's Ministry Board and sign up today!



Sunday School Offerings

Are you still using the amazing banks your child was given? Please make sure you are working to instill those lessons at home with your child.

Don't forget to bring in offerings to help support Nicole our missionary in Honduras.

Easter Party

Saturday, April 16th!

Ways you can help —

- Donate bags of individually wrapped candy to the Children's Ministry Office
- Sign up to help stuff eggs in advance
- Work a craft table
- Bring a dozen cookies



Sign up on the Children's Ministry Board to help!

Mission Action Team

The Mission Action Team continues to thank you for your financial gifts to the Giving Tree this month. We are looking to raise \$2550 to supply The House of Lambs school in Haiti with desks and books. Your donation will go a long way in the educational needs of these dear children.

You may contact Marty Rohrer at 494-5150 or Debbie Crowder at 456-0863 for more information. Flyers are under the Giving Tree in the hallway.



Time to
Spring Ahead

MARCH 13

Holy Cross Youth Goings On . . .

The Ohio District Jr. Youth Gathering is almost here! We will journey to Columbus for the first time the weekend of March 11-13! Please keep the following participants lifted in prayer that this will be an incredible faith-filled, blessed weekend!

Robyn Benson & Sydney Booth

Zach & Denise Berry

Sarah Comune

Clayton Evans

Sophie & Raiana Fonte

Krista & Chase Haubert

Lauren Penvose

Hannah Rackov

Courtney & Kim Robinson

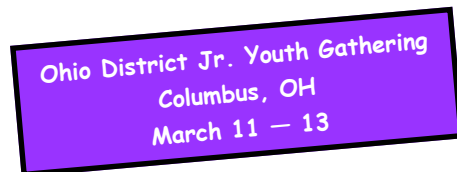
Felicia Sutton

Emma & Colin Svatos

Taylor Ulik

Emily Wallace

Jenna & Lorin Zuppe



Everyday Witness



Offerings continue to be taken weekly in all Sunday school classes to help support Nicole Creutz, who is again serving a missionary family in Honduras this year (please designate these special offerings in a marked envelope)!

Offerings also help to keep hospitality snacks at the Youth House on Sunday mornings for these hungry kids, along with other youth events. This is a great opportunity for parents to teach their youth to be good stewards!

Don't forget to use www.goodsearch.com as your regular Internet search engine, with Holy Cross North Canton as the beneficiary charity organization. Every search helps our Youth Group! Thank you!

Lorin Zuppe

Confirmation Class Schedule

March 9— April 13 from 6:30 to 7:05 PM

Confirmation is designed to help the students understand God's relationship to them and how they are to live out their life with faith in Christ as their personal Savior and Lord.

Wednesdays in Lent — The Language of Prayer

Each week we will go over petitions of the Lord's Prayer.

3/9 Introduction/Petition One

3/16 Petition Two

3/23 Petition Three

3/30 Petition Four/Five

4/6 Petition Six/Seven

4/13 Conclusion

Small Group Leaders

ATTENTION SMALL GROUP LEADERS

If you host a small group, please forward the following information to Marie Erb at Marie@holycrossnorthcanton.com:

- LEADER(S) NAME(S)
- TOPIC OF STUDY FOR YOUR GROUP
- MEETING DATE/FREQUENCY
- GROUP MEMBERS

Young At Heart

Tuesday, March 8 at Noon
Potluck Lunch at Holy Cross

Bring your favorite covered dish to share. Drinks provided. After lunch we will be singing praise songs with Pastor Ralph.

Bring a friend and join us for an afternoon of fellowship and fun!

Sign up sheet will be outside the offices. Hope to see you there!!!

Holy Cross Crafters

Holy Cross Crafters will meet on Tuesday, March 8 at 7 PM in the north classroom. We will be making cards for the shut-ins and for our own use as well.

Karen Slaggy will be leading this evening of fellowship and crafting. You need only bring a pair of scissors and \$2 to defray the cost of materials. No experience is necessary. Everything is provided.

Come join in the fun!

Holy Cross University

Holy Cross University Lenten Interim begins Wednesday, March 9! Ash Wednesday only will hold a potluck supper at 5:30 PM, followed by soup suppers for the next 5 Wednesdays. We will have shortened class periods from 6:30—7:10 PM with exciting new course offerings, followed by Lenten Worship at 7:15 PM. Check out the Lent Course Catalog in your church mailbox and pick up an extra copy in the church hallway to share with friends! Class sign up sheets are on the counter in the hallway as well.



We talked in February about loving ourselves. This month, we are going to take a social science approach and talk about loving others — our spouses, in-laws, parents, friends, co-workers. How can we all just get along? How does our attitude show others about God's love? Let's learn some tips about loving others as Christ loved us. Pastor Kip will be speaking to the group on this topic. Come, join the discussion at Holy Cross on **March 15 from 6:30—8:30 PM** in the Adult Conference Room. Childcare provided.

Caught Being a Blessing!



We thank God for Linda Eckberg who, for many years, has taken on the Marriage Renewal Event as a personal ministry — inviting all couples celebrating milestone anniversaries, ordering flowers and cakes for each couple, and, with the help of her family, arranging the display of pictures and cakes in the Fellowship Hall.

Shepherding Corner

The Shepherding Action Team requests your help. The following individuals have not been in worship here with us for the past 12 months. If you see any of them or have a personal relationship with them, please offer them words encouragement to bring them back into a worshipping relationship with their Lord Jesus Christ.

Ken & Karen Brott	Krista Vranich
Arianna King	Sharon Beyersdorff
Bill & Betty Saunier	Sherry Ginther

Ladies Book Discussion

March 14, 7:00 PM

We will discuss "Hidden Flame" by Davis Bunn, and Janette Oke at Diane Diehl's home. Carol Hutchison and Laurie Fauber will lead us in discussion.

Preschool/Kindergarten Corner

While the Acme Cash Register Receipts Program has ended, Box Tops For Education are always needed to help the Preschool support PanPan and Serigne through World Vision.

March Madness

Men's Breakfast

March 12 from 7:30 — 9:00 AM

Come join us for some fantastic food, fellowship and football trivia as we gather around **Fathers of the Faith — Wisdom for Difficult Times**. We will begin with “A Conversation on Walking With God!” Check out www.fathersofthefaith.com.

Invite a friend and find out!

Photographers on the Move

CALL TO ALL!



COME TO CHURCH, FUNCTIONS, AND MINISTRY MEETINGS ARMED WITH CAMERAS!

We invite you to take candid shots of events happening at Holy Cross! Please send your digital images to Arne Diehl at ajdiehl@aol.com. We would love to have this luxury of a picture pool to draw from for use in the photo directory!

Parents of 6th Graders

Please set aside Friday evening, April 1 and Saturday morning, April 2 for your child to attend Created by God, sex education from God's perspective. It is a great class and it is FUN! The impact on your child's future may be life changing! Questions? Call Vonnie LaRue at 330-896-2395.



Ash Wednesday —
March 9

7:15 PM Worship

Potluck and Soup Supper
Schedule During Lent

Ash Wednesday is March 9. We will be having a Potluck Dinner at 5:30 PM. **If we could have everyone with their last name starting with letters A - E bring some kind of salad. Letters F - R bring main dish. Letters S - Z bring dessert.**

Soup Suppers:

3/16 Wednesday Ladies Bible Study

3/23 Wednesday Night Bible Class

3/30 Sunday Morning Bible Class

4/6 Music Ministry/Young at Heart

4/13 We will finish with a potluck using the same letters as on Ash Wednesday.

† Ash Wednesday †

† Lent Wednesday Evening Schedule †

Lenten Devotions — 7:15 PM

Rend Your Hearts

Surrendering to His Sacrifice

March 16

Sacrifice of Obedience

March 23

Sacrifice of First Fruits

March 30

Sacrifice of Self-Absorption

April 6

Sacrifice of Self Will

April 13

Sacrifice of Pride

Palm Sunday

April 17

7:30 AM, 8:45 AM, 11:00 AM

April 21, 7:00 PM

Maunday Thursday Worship

April 22, 7:00 PM

Good Friday Worship

Easter Sunday

April 24

7:00 AM, 8:45 AM, 11:00 AM

8:00 — 10:45 AM

Easter Breakfast served by

Holy Cross Youth

School Mission and Ministry News

Registration for the 2011-2012 school year is going very well. **We have openings in the two-year-old, four-year-old PM, Pre-Kindergarten (older 4s/young 5s), and Kindergarten classes. If you know of someone who is looking for a quality, Christian program please have them give me a call.**

The feedback from the parent/teacher conferences was very positive. Parents have been impressed with what their children have been learning and have been especially thankful for the time spent teaching the children about Jesus and His love. Please keep this program in your prayers. The staff needs the strength that comes only from God to carry out this mission.

February was a month filled with LOVE in the two & three year-old room where the children had a lot of fun with their Valentine Parties. The love of God for His creation is always the focus for Valentine's Day. They made and gave Valentines to their families and classmates. The children learned that Jesus had 12 special friends who helped Him tell people about God's love. The children were excited to learn that Jesus also loved children! They learned that Jesus showed His love by helping people. The children decorated with hearts, played with heart shapes and included them in all their art work. They especially loved singing "Jesus Loves Me" and "I Love Jesus Does He Know?" (Mrs. Anne Hankins & Mrs. Katie Armstead)

The three and four-year-old class focused on loving others as we love ourselves. Valentine's Day is a great way to remind us to be kind to others by sharing, smiling at each other, and giving forgiveness when someone is sorry. The children had a unit on nutrition good health and hygiene. They discovered that God gave them five senses to enjoy His beautiful world. The children enjoyed their sense of taste the most! They learned that Jesus is so powerful that He could take 5 loaves of bread, 2 fish and feed 5,000 people! They continue to work on numbers and letters. They have enjoyed "The Doors to Discovery" and learning what sound each letter makes. We are reminded daily of God's amazing grace through your children's smiling faces. (Mrs. Christi Ludwig and Mrs. Patty Wallace)

The four and five-year-old class started February with the letter "N." The children made a Night picture and counted Nine Numbers. They learned that Jesus loves them with a never ending love. The children learned about the love of our God, our families, and our love for each other. The children made a Night picture and counted Nine Numbers. For the letter "O" the children played with Oatmeal, made an Owl, and put an Octopus in the Ocean. The children ended the month with the story of Mary and Martha, they learned how to be more like Mary and listen to the Word of God. (Mrs. Teri Hockman and Mrs. Leslie Martin)

The Pre-Kindergarten class had a unit on Fire Prevention & Safety. They made fireman hats and used police and firemen's dress-up clothes for dramatic play. Many of them learned their phone number and address and how and when to dial 911, which can help them stay safe. As a community service project, they decorated 40 bags for Meals on Wheels to use in sending their Valentine treats. They learned the steps required for the post office to deliver the mail. One of our parents, who is a postman, visited to talk about the post office. The next unit was nutrition. The class learned about the five food groups, and that God wants us to eat healthy and gave us wonderful things to eat. With our healthy bodies we are able to tell others about Jesus, as they learned Peter and Lydia did long ago. (Mrs. Samara and Mrs. Christina Jacobsen)

Kindergarten made it to the 100th day of school and it was quite a celebration! The children have a reading vocabulary of several hundred words and are great at spelling and writing. They learned about telling time and counting money. They enjoyed learning about dinosaurs and exploring their five senses. Valentine friends and fun fit right in with the Bible explorations. Jesus shows us so many ways to be kind and helpful friends. How can we not try to follow His example—with His great big love in our hearts? (Mrs. Sarah O'Briskie)

In Christ,

Marjorie James, Administrator



Holy Cross Lutheran
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Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, friendly, mission-minded, Bible-based community of believers who strive to carry out ministry with integrity and excellence.

Sunday Mornings At Holy Cross

7:30 AM Liturgy of Praise
 Traditional Worship

8:45 AM Majestic Praise
 Blended Worship

10:00 AM Sunday School, Youth Bible Class,
 and Adult Bible Class Hour

11:00 AM Expressions of Praise
 Contemporary Worship

Richard "Kip" Smith, Senior Pastor

Ralph Hough
 Associate Pastor for Outreach and Discipleship

Ted Voss, Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Ellyn Dillon
 Worship Ministries Coordinator

Mr. Steve James
 Audio/Visual Tech Coordinator

Mrs. Lorin Zuppe
 Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Ministry

Mrs. Sarah O'Briskie
 Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

Mrs. Judy O'Briskie, Office Manager
 Marie Erb, Soul Accounting Secretary
 Karen Slaggy, Visitation Coordinator
 Mr. Richard Reed, Property Manager

Mrs. Marjorie James
 Holy Cross School Administrator



**April Newsletter
 Deadline
 Sunday, March 20**

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