



Holy Cross Connections

Upcoming Events:

September 10
6:15 — 8:00 PM
ALPHA

September 14
3:00 — 6:30 PM
Annual Car Show
(Rain date 9-15)

Holy Cross Connections

September 2013

Get On With Our Mission!

I pray it has been a great summer for you. I know many of you have enjoyed some wonderful travel opportunities and vacations. Thank God for these and for the chance to enjoy the warm outdoors. **Now it is time to get on with our mission**, the real purpose for which the Lord had placed us here. So I ask you, **how do you intend to keep on Learning of Jesus this Fall?** There is a variety of wonderful learning opportunities for you to choose from. Please pick one or two; commit to it; **let the Holy Spirit deepen your faith and transform your thought process more and more into the likeness of our Savior.**

As the direct result of this transformation, you will be equipped and empowered to more fully **Live for Jesus!** God tells us in Romans 12:2 “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind.** Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – His good and perfect will.” **God’s will for you is 10 times better than your own.** He wants to set you free from all of your inner conflicts, your nagging doubts and your haunting fears. He wants to replace them with His all transcending peace, His steady confidence and comforting faith.

Then third, God’s plan is to use you to help **Bring Others to Jesus. That’s the only reason you are still here.** If heaven is even half as great as the Bible tells us it will be, then there can be only one reason why our loving God would leave us here in this world with all of its trials and tragedies, when we could already be enjoying eternal bliss with Him in heaven. **He wants us to bring others to Jesus, so that Jesus can bring them to faith and to eternal life in heaven.**

Learning of Jesus — Living for Jesus — Leading Others to Jesus

This is why we do everything that we do here at Holy Cross. From our preschool, to our car show; from Stephen Ministry to McGregor Elementary School; from the Living Discipleship Class to our ongoing work in Haiti — it’s all about Learning of ... Living for ... and Leading others to **Jesus!**

So ask yourself, **“What does Jesus want me to learn this Fall? What aspect of my life does Jesus want to most transform within me this Fall? Where does Jesus want me to step out in faith and get involved in sharing Him with others?”**

Let’s get on with our mission together!

Pastor Kip

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Youth Goings On ...

Confirmation Orientation

Getting geared up for an exciting school year!

Woohoo!

7-8th grade Confirmation Orientation is Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30 PM

at the youth house! Please make every effort to attend this informational meeting so you know what to expect for the year.

Sunday School



Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 8th, when all grades move up!

Incoming 6th Graders should have received their Pre-Confirmation letters in church mailboxes and will be in Bible History class with Lorin in the youth house basement; 7-8th graders in the front green room with Karen Brenneman; 9-12 graders in the back great room with Christina Graber and Mike Ludwig.

7th Grade Bible presentations will also occur during the 8:45 & 11:00 worship services.

Youth Service Hours

Car Show helpers needed for September 14! Please sign up on the provided sheets in the church bulletins — which also counts for service hours.

**Wednesday Holy Cross U
Fall Quarter 2013
September 11 to November 20
6:30 — 8 PM**

Holy Cross University begins on Wednesday, September 11, at 6:30 PM.
Please see course catalogs for all of the exciting new classes offered! Class sign-up sheets are at both Welcome Centers! Please sign up today!

Fall Highlights

The return of the NEW Financial Peace University with Carla & Pete DePietro; *Fearless* with Bryan Comune; Youth Parenting Support Group with Lorin Zuppe, and Pastor Kip's Bible study will cover the Gospel of Matthew (coinciding with Thursday morning class)! Senior Youth will take on leadership training, and some ownership of planning youth events and service projects as well as have Bible study time! It will be an exciting Holy Cross U year! Invite friends!

Upcoming Events:

October 5 — Girls of Grace Conference in Columbus, OH

October 12 & 19 — Early Communion Class with Pastor Kip

November 3 — THEE return of our annual CHILI COOK OFF!

Sign-up sheet for Chili Masters will be posted on the youth bulletin board at the end of September so be sure to get your spot!



Looking forward to lots of fun with the youth! Blessings on your month!

Lorin Zuppe

Ladies Book Discussion

September 9, 7:00 PM

Please join us in the discussion of "The Christian Atheist," by Craig Groeschel. We meet at the youth house.

Leaders for the evening are Ellyn Dillon and Sandy Wood. Our hostesses are Vonnie LaRue and Becky Lee. Please come for the book review and fellowship.

All are welcome. If you need a book, or have questions, please call Sharon Ludwig at 492-8198.

Young At Heart



This month's outing is different in that we will attend the play **A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE**, held at the North Canton Playhouse located in Hoover High School at 525 7th Street, North Canton. We will attend the performance on **SUNDAY, Sept 22nd at 2:30 PM.**

Synopsis: The play reveals to the depths the character of Blanche du Bois, a woman whose life has been undermined by her romantic illusions, which lead her to reject—so far as possible—the realities of life with which she is faced and which she consistently ignores. The pressure brought to bear upon her by her sister, with whom she goes to live in New Orleans, intensified by the earthy and extremely "normal" young husband of the latter, leads to a revelation of her tragic self-delusion and, in the end, to madness.

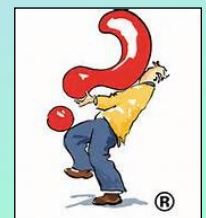
There is a sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board outside of room A-3. Come — bring a friend.

Holy Cross Crafters

The Holy Cross Crafters are enjoying fellowship as we make cards for our shut-ins. You need not have experience in making cards, but if you enjoy creating things or decorating, this might be a place for you. Materials are provided and the leader, Cindy Ickes, will guide us through the craft. Bring scissors and \$2 to defray cost.

ALPHA News

Plans are in place. Over 2,000 invites have been sent to our neighbors. ALPHA is designed as a non-threatening way to teach about Jesus and Christianity. It's a pre-Living Discipleship class. Beginning September 10 at 6:15 PM and subsequent Tuesdays, we will share a meal, watch a video and discuss what we see! Be mindful of someone you know who may benefit from ALPHA. You can pick up brochures in either Welcome Center to share with someone you know who may benefit from coming to ALPHA. Invite your neighbors to come.



Another way you can help is by preparing a meal. There is a need for several meals left to be planned. Rather than have one person responsible for all meals, groups of people (like we do for Advent or Lenten soup suppers) can share in food preparation. Christi Ludwig is overseeing this to make sure we have the meals ready. ALPHA meal sign-up sheets are on Welcome Center tables. If you want to know more about ALPHA, call Ron Akins (330-966-7711) or Karl Schulze (330-494-2425).

Practicing Hospitality

Practicing Hospitality on 10 AM Sunday mornings will finish up on September 1. We will begin a new study yet to be determined but will reflect on Christian response or practice of our faith “with integrity and excellence” as our mission statement says: *Holy Cross is a Christ-centered, friendly, mission-minded, Bible-based community of believers who strive to carry out ministry with integrity and excellence.*

What does that look like? Great question! Come join us for a lively discussion and help us continue to put some Bible sense thinking into practice! Room A-1.

Men's Breakfast

September 14 at 7:30 AM



We will begin a new study entitled, “**LOST BOOKS**”. Ever wonder if some texts were intentionally excluded from the Bible and why? We will look at why some ancient writings failed to make the cut for inclusion, why other texts most definitely met the standard, and why others, including those "gospels" found in the last century, came up short. Experts on DVD will explain how we received the text of the Bible God has given for our salvation and strengthening of faith. You can rest assured that God did not leave anything out concerning the salvation He offers freely through His Son Jesus Christ. Also, after Bible study, participants are invited to help set up for the Car Show. All are welcome!



Annual Car Show

September 14 — 3:00-6:30 PM



Tell your friends about this event and give them **Free Food tickets!** Volunteers are needed to set up, register cars, greet our guests at the welcome tent and serve food. Set up begins after the men's breakfast. **Come join us, walk around and be a Holy Cross Goodwill Ambassador!** If you do not have an outreach shirt, please see Pastor Ralph. You will find a sign-up sheet in the bulletin to fill out and place in the basket by Welcome Center tables. Thanks for your support and outreach efforts.

Rick Medla ~ Outreach Connections Chairman

Stark County Pregnancy Support Center



The **Stark County Pregnancy Support Center** is promoting their annual *Walk for Life* on September 28. You can give your support in various ways: 1) Decide to do the walk yourself to raise money. Children as well as adults can do the walk, or 2) Support those who do walk! Of special interest is that Pastors Kip and Ralph and Vicar Hunter are in a friendly competition to see who can raise the most for the PSC — the winner buys lunch for all three! You can go online to render your support at: www.connectionPSC.com or sign up for support at PSC's canopy during the car show on September 14.

Check the north Welcome Center to sign up for who you want to support in this friendly competition. Did you know: Stark PSC is at a wonderful “*tipping point*” in providing life-changing solutions to unwed/abortion-minded mothers? By that, we mean there are more babies being born alive (of those considering abortion) than there are being aborted. Of those that can be followed up with, last year 365 babies were born to mothers who were abortion minded. That is a baby a day born who otherwise would not have been born! PTL! Statistics show that number may be even higher — that is why your support is crucial! **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Living Discipleship

The next opportunity to attend the **Living Discipleship class is September 8 from 7:00 PM to 9:15 PM.** This is a weekly event for 15 weeks. Sign-up sheets are at the Welcome Centers.

If you want to become a member of Holy Cross, this class is required for membership. If you are a member and have not taken the class yet, you don't know what you are missing!

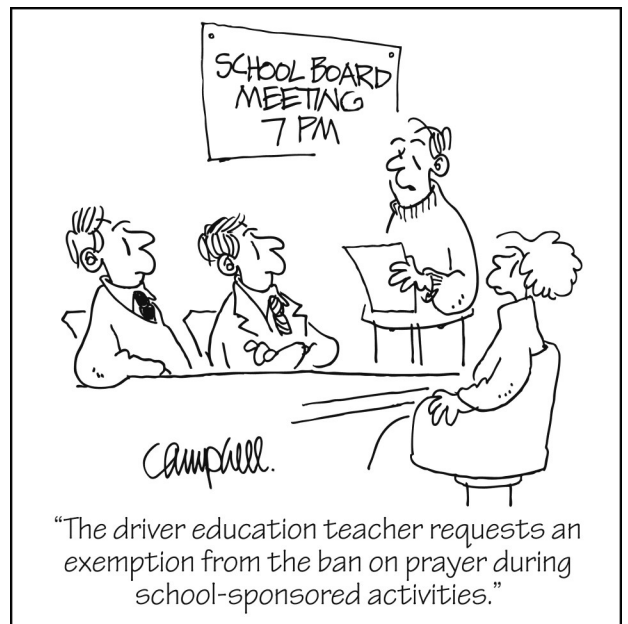
All are invited to this class. Childcare is provided.

This class is required for membership.
 A MUST for anyone who really wants to understand why we believe what we believe.

Small Group Resource Room



WHAT TO STUDY! If you did not know, Holy Cross has a Small Group resource room (between the Office and Pastor Kip's office or better known as Katie's office!) that offers many ideas for small group Bible Studies. We receive new materials all the time. Whether it is a study of a book of the Bible or a current issue topical study, you are sure to find something that will edify and strengthen your faith life. If you are interested in being part of a small group or desire to start a small group, please see Pastor Ralph or email him at pralph@holycrossnorthcanton.com Thanks!



Haiti Medical Mission

The Haiti Medical Mission Team is working on their final plans for this year's trip to Cap Haitien from October 23 to November 1. Through continued investigation, the Team has found new and less expensive sources for treatment drugs. Thus, we are asking for cash donations from now through September to purchase these discounted medications. Please designate "Haiti Mission Fund" on your giving envelope.



Thank you,
 The Haiti Medical Team

Handbells
New Ringers Welcome

September 8, handbell practice will begin practicing from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Experience with reading music is recommended, but not required. Participants must be 5th grade or older to participate.

Please contact Lora Smith @ 330-413-4867 or bokhartsm@comcast.net

School Mission and Ministry News

We have had a fun summer, but are once again amazed at how fast time flies. We are losing many children at the end of the summer as they move on to other schools. We also have many new children starting in our program. Please pray for the returning children, the new children, the families and especially the staff. We need your prayerful support to do the important work God has given us to do.

With the beginning of this school year, we have three new staff people joining us in this ministry:

Cristina Davis is the new aide in the Pre-Kindergarten class. Cristina was born in Madrid, Spain. Having one German parent and one Spanish parent meant that she grew up in a bilingual home. In high school she attended Deutsche Schule Madrid (German School, Madrid, Spain). She has a Master's Degree in Law. Cristina has been married to her husband, William Davis for 16 years. He is an assistant professor at Walsh University. They have two children, Isabella and Victoria. Victoria is a student in our four-year-old class.

Kelli Picot is the new morning aide in the two-year-old class. Kelli graduated from GlenOak High School and later from Malone University with a bachelor's degree in art education. Kelli has a son, Michael, who is in the three-year-old class here at Holy Cross. Michael was in our two-year-old class last year and Kelli's familiarity with the program is allowing her to settle in quickly.

Deanna Maze is the new afternoon aide for the two-year-old class. Deanna graduated from Firestone High School in Akron. She attended Malone University and has a bachelor's degree in art. She has been married to her wonderful husband, Joel, for 1.25 years. Many of you know Joel as he is on Staff here at Holy Cross. Deanna has a wonderful playful spirit and a quick smile. The children will love her.

The Kindergarten class started on August 21. Preschool will begin on September 3. Most of our classes are full. A few openings remain. In the 2 yr old class, 4 yr old PM class, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten class there is room for a few more children. Please pray that we fill all available spots so more children can come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior.

The security code that allows access to the locked-down school area changed as of August 18. If you need into our end of the building, please ring the doorbell.

God bless,
Marjorie James, Administrator

Young Adults – Looking for a Place to Connect?

Holy Cross is starting a new ministry for anyone between the ages of 19 and 29. This ministry offers young adults that chance to get together to share in food, fellowship, and fun all while digging into God's Word and how it applies to our lives. Flexible meeting times mean that no matter how busy your schedule; there's probably a group for you! The first large group activity will take place in September, so watch the weekly bulletins for more information.

Questions? Ideas? Interested? Call Vicar Hunter at 330-499-3307.

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ALPHA

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Learning for Jesus!

Pick one or two Bible Studies and let
the Holy Spirit deepen your faith.



Are you expecting a little one or have a kiddo in Kindergarten or younger? Then we're anxiously waiting to meet you! We'd love for you to come share with us in this "Beautiful Mess" we call Motherhood at Holy Cross MOPS.

Our first meeting to kick off the year is **Tuesday, September 17th at 6:30 PM**, here at Holy Cross. We will have tons of fun, talk about our theme "A Beautiful Mess" and get to know each other in a relaxed environment full of fellowship and fun! The first meeting is free and there is no pressure to join. Your kids are welcome to come — free childcare is provided. If you have any questions, please contact Judy O'Briskie and she will direct you to our coordinator.

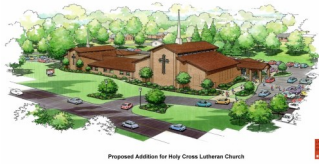
We look forward to meeting you!

Ladies Retreat

Sign-ups for the Women's Retreat on November 15-17 are now closed. Please call or see Vonnie LaRue to CONFIRM your place, even if you previously signed up.

A cancellation list has been generated. We must know who is a definite "yes" ASAP. Payment is being accepted from now until September 30. Make your check payable to Holy Cross with a note on the memo line. Please do not let a need to defer payment keep you from attending.

If you missed the sign-up deadline and want to come, contact Vonnie LaRue at 330-896-2395 to be put on the cancellation list.



Holy Cross Lutheran
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 North Canton, OH 44721

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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

8:00 AM Liturgy of Praise
 Traditional Worship

8:45 AM Majestic Praise
 Blended Worship

8:45 AM Adult Bible Class

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

11:00 AM Expressions of Praise
 Contemporary Worship

Richard "Kip" Smith, Senior Pastor

Ralph Hough, Associate Pastor

Ted Voss, Pastor Emeritus

Vicar Hunter Richards

Mr. Joel Maze, Audio/Visual Tech Coordinator

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

Mrs. Christi Ludwig
 Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

Mrs. Judy O'Briskie, Office Manager

Mrs. Katie Stiver, Soul Accounting Secretary

Mrs. Rose Ann Crowder, Visitation Coordinator

Mrs. Diane Diehl, Stephen Ministry

Mr. Richard Reed, Property Manager

Mrs. Marjorie James
 Holy Cross School Administrator



DVDs of Sunday
 worship services are
 on the counter in
 the north and south
 hallways. Audio is
 on the website.

**October Newsletter
 Deadline
 Sunday, September 15**

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