

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

1918 Garfield Street, Beatrice, NE 68310

Phone: 402-228-3172

E-mail: holycrosselcabeatrice@gmail.com

Website: holycrossbeatrice.com

Pastor: Kathee Forrest (kathee.forrest@gmail.com)

Administrative Secretary: Sandy Mahler (smahleris@gmail.com)

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., T, W, TH; 8:30-12:00 F.

Organists: Nadine Hibbert, Denise Lenners

Choir Director: Eric Forrest

FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturdays — 6:00 p.m.

Contemporary Worship
(Sanctuary)

Sundays — 9:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary,
Parking Lot and Facebook)

WORSHIP WILL CONTINUE IN OUR PARKING
LOT VIA 90.9 FM AND FACEBOOK LIVE FOR
THOSE WHO ARE VULNERABLE OR NOT
FEELING WELL.

**IN AN EARNEST ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE A
SAFE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE** for God's
children the Holy Cross Lutheran Church Council
and Pastor Kathee have prepared these
guidelines for those wishing to attend indoor
service:

- Masks will be required.
- Ushers will direct you in and out of the sanctuary to designated pews.
- No shaking hands.
- No congregational singing...but there will be music.
- At this time there will be no Fellowship or Adult Education following worship.
- If you are sick, please stay home.
- You may continue to join in worship by Facebook Live or worship in your vehicle in the Parking Lot. Worship will continue to be broadcast via 90.9 FM for those who would like to continue worshipping outdoors.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

Sundays — 10:00-10:45 a.m. Faithbuilders will meet in person each Sunday morning.



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 17, 7:00 p.m.

We will have Ash
Wednesday worship in-
person with the

imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. You can also join us in worship on Facebook Live. If you would like ashes for home worship, please call the church office and we will send them to you.

LENT-TO-GO: Families with Youth age 1 through high school will receive a Lent-to-go package in the mail with an Ash Wednesday Labyrinth Meditation and a weekly study from ELCA World Hunger. Copies of both will be available in the narthex.

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERIES

You Shall Love the Lord Your God

Wednesdays February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17, and March 24 at 7:00 p.m. in-person in the Holy Cross Sanctuary and on Facebook Live. This series is grounded in the Shema from Deuteronomy 6 which in Hebrew means "hear" and the encounter between Jesus and the scribe in Mark 12. The scribe comes to ask Jesus, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answers, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'" (Mark 12:28-30).

Everyone will receive a beautifully printed copy of the Shema, which is suitable for framing.



Our 2021 Annual Meeting has now become a historical record. To all who attended, a sincere thank you! To all who wanted to attend but could not, thank you! To all who have never been part of an annual meeting, please come next year. We prayed, we laughed, we did the business of our congregation. It was not painful, but rather joyful! It is where, together, we hear the news of how Christ's work is being done in our congregation over the past year. It is where we plan and dream about the year to come as we review and approve the budget. It's a time to get to know the leaders of Holy Cross.

The annual meeting is a time to ask questions, to clarify the year ahead. This is the community of faith to which we all belong! Before the meeting I prayed for the Holy Spirit to move the people of Holy Cross to faithful action. Please pray for that, too. That all may be part of this wonderful opportunity we have to work together for God's kingdom, right on our corner of 19th and Garfield, and reaching into the world beyond!

This is the prayer that we prayed at the annual meeting, the prayer the council prayed in 2020 and the prayer we will continue to pray in 2021. May this be the prayer of all of us at Holy Cross:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In Christ's Mission that we share,

Pastor Kathee Forrest





Faithbuilders
classes meet in-
person from 10:00-
10:45 a.m. each
Sunday. If

circumstances change, we will let you
know. Hope to see you all there!



THE MATT 25 PROJECT

Donations are being
accepted for The Matt
25 Project anytime
from now until April 1.
Our goal is to raise
\$500.00 for this
scholarship. Due to
COVID-19, we felt it
best to do donations
this year in lieu of a
fundraiser. We hope to
resume our fundraiser
again next year. Thank
you for your continued

support of this scholarship!

In 2017 during our mini Middle School Gathering,
our Holy Cross youth created an idea to provide a
scholarship for a financially needy high school
senior. The kids believed that the best thing we
could do is to invest in someone's future. In
Matthew 25, there is a story about a man who
gives money to his 3 servants and goes
travelling. When he returns, two of his servants
have used their talents and wisdom to grow the
money. God provides us with opportunities to
help others and by doing so we are serving Him.
He wants us to use our talents and passions to
make the world a better, more loving place in His
honor. With this story in mind, we were inspired
to create a college scholarship for a student with
financial need.

God has guided our youth group to see this
scholarship project through and this is a
project we are very passionate about. We
hope to be able to provide this scholarship
every year.

- Angie Vogel



CONFIRMATION DAY will be
Sunday, February 14, for Cohen
Buhr and Kierra Higgins. Please
keep them in your prayers.

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation: We begin
this Bible Year on Zoom
and will be using videos
from BibleProject.com.

There are so many

resources on this website, including very well
-done videos explaining all sorts of Bible
topics. We will begin with the videos: "What
is the Bible?" And "The Story of the Bible."
There are also Bible studies and a daily
reading plan so that you can read the Bible in
a year. You get the plan in your email box.
Pastor Kathee is using the plan – please give
her a call or email to see what it's all about!
All these wonderful resources are free and
available on their website.



The vision of the Souper Bowl of Caring is to
transform the Big Game into a nationwide
movement inspiring people to give locally
and make a collective impact on hunger.
Bring your items for the food pantry and your
dollars for the soup pot as we have a
collection on Sunday, February 7. All
donations go to our local food pantry.



CHURCH COUNCIL 2021

Tom Karlin – President, Dallen Johnsen – Vice President, Joyce Haecker – Secretary
Kodi Higgins – Finance Leader, Matthew Ames-Woolsey – At Large, Ryan Vogel – At Large.
With thanks for council members who served in 2020 – Bill Behrends and Norma Huls
Other elections:

Mission Endowment: Dianne Cole, June Seitz

Nebraska Synod Assembly-Jody Helton & Rose-Ann Parde

Alternates—Renee Griffeth-Splitter & Terri Huls

Nominating Committee—Bill Behrends, Norma Huls, Rebecca Behrends, Darlene Folkerts,
Renee Griffeth-Splitter, Inez Trauernicht

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Rylie Kreft who will receive First Communion on February 6 and Jones Jae Grabouski who will be baptized on February 6.

MONDAYS-IN-LENT CANCELED FOR 2021: Holy Cross has participated in “Mondays-in-Lent”, an ecumenical series of worship services with lunch, which has been a tradition among Beatrice congregations for decades. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, this series is canceled for 2021, which hopes that it will be possible to join again in 2022. Churches which have been part of this series include: Centenary United Methodist Church, First Christian Church, First Presbyterian Church, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, St. John Lutheran Church, and St. Joseph Catholic Church.

INFORMATION ON COVID-19 VACCINATIONS FROM PUBLIC HEALTH SOLUTIONS

If you are over 65 or an adult who has a chronic health condition, call your health care provider to register for Covid-19 vaccinations. The Holy Cross Church Council continues to monitor best practices for worship. We will continue as we have been – wearing face masks, social distancing and not singing for now.

People who are younger than 65 or adults who do NOT have a chronic health condition will be able to register soon by way of a statewide system that should launch by February.

Keep up with the latest information on the Public Health Solutions website or FB page.

THE POWER OF PRAYER: If you have a prayer request for our prayer team, please fill out a prayer request slip found in the pews or next to the prayer box located on the rack in the narthex. Thank you and God’s blessings!

THE COMMUNITY COAT CLOSET at First Christian Church, Beatrice, is in need of gently worn coats, especially children’s coats. Sweatshirts, scarves, gloves and sweaters are also accepted. Take them to First Christian Monday-Thursday 9-noon and 1-4 p.m. or bring them to Holy Cross and put them on the hangers on the hallway coat rack marked “COMMUNITY COAT CLOSET” and they will be delivered. Thank you!

FOOD PANTRY INGATHERING: Holy Cross Lutheran Church gathers food and monetary donations for the Community Pantry and Emergency Services in Beatrice on an ongoing basis. If you would like to give to this ministry, please leave your donated items in the shopping cart in the narthex or your monetary donation in an envelope in the offering plate. **267 items were donated in December (through January 4).** **THANK YOU** for your continued support to this ministry!

SUNMART RECEIPTS: Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! SunMart/Spartan Nash Co. supports a fundraising program called “Support Our Schools and Churches.” All you have to do is save your SunMart cash register receipt tapes. When we have collected \$150,000 in receipt tapes Spartan Nash Company awards us a check for \$1000. We have reached this goal eight times so far! Our thanks to Terri Huls and Gloria Paben who add the receipts up and submit them to Spartan Nash Co. and to all of you who keep your receipts and put them in the collection box in the narthex! We have started over again and are at \$121,450.00

RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

Plastic Shopping Bags - Used to make sleeping mats for Orphan Grain Train. Recycling bin is in the narthex.

Aluminum Cans – Proceeds go to the Youth Fund. There are collections barrels outside the kitchen entryway.

Computer Ink Cartridges – Proceeds go to the Matt 25 Project Fund. Sorry – we are no longer able to recycle toner cartridges. Recycling bin is in the narthex.



Prepare for A Season of Hope: Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits in Lent

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1-3

This season of Lent, Holy Cross will walk with people around the world afflicted by war, displacement and poverty by collecting and assembling Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Personal Care Kits. Each week, please bring in the featured Kit item at worship or call the church to drop off during the week so that we can reach out as Christ's healing hand sin the world. LWR is very short of these kits at this critical time of pandemic.

First Week of Lent – February 20/21: One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x 40" & 52" x 27"), dark color recommended.

Second Week of Lent – February 27/28: Two or three bath-size bars of gentle soap (3-5 ounces each) 8-9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel-size bars.

Third Week of Lent – March 6/7: One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging. Multi-packs may be used. Do not provide toothpaste; it will be provided by LWR.

Fourth Week of Lent – March 13/14: One **sturdy** comb. Remove packaging.

Fifth Week of Lent – March 20/21: One metal nail clippers (attached file optional). Remove packing

Palm Sunday – April 4 and 5: Any items that we are short of (we'll let you know through bulletins and email!)

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OUR SYMPATHIES to the family of Mark Jobman who passed away January 3. Mark's funeral was at Holy Cross on Thursday, January 7. We commend Mark to God's care and ask His blessings on his family and friends.

OUR SYMPATHIES to the family of Luella Forrest, Eric Forrest's mother of Vero Beach, FL, who passed away Christmas Eve. Luella's funeral service was January 4 at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Ft. Pierce, FL. We commend Luella to God's care and ask His blessings on her family and friends.

OUR SYMPATHIES to the family of Adeline Cornelius, Joyce (Robert) Jurgens' mother, who passed away December 27. Adeline's funeral service was December 31 at Zion Lutheran Church, Pickrell, NE. We commend Adeline to God's care and ask His blessings on her family and friends.

OUR SYMPATHIES to the family of Julia Hyde (Ferdie (Vi) Kimminau's sister, who passed away Dec. 19. Julia's funeral service was Dec. 26 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Superior, NE. We commend Julia to God's care and ask His blessings on her family and friends.

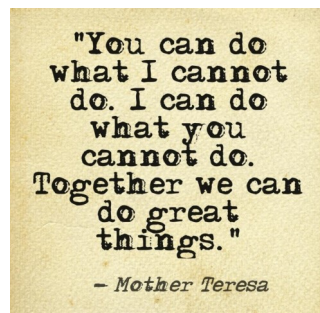
OUR SYMPATHIES to the family of Eugene Seidel of Cawker City, KS, Brenda (Randy) Johnson's and Gale (Ray) Buss' father who passed away December 4. Eugene's memorial service was held at Harman-Wright Chapel on December 18. We commend Gene to God's care and ask His blessings on his family and friends.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

We will continue our Bible Study on February 8th. There will be no soup supper this year on Ash Wednesday. Blanket sewing continues!

Jody Helton, President



Thank you so much for the gift cards for our residents. We will put them to good use. Thank you for thinking of us at this time. Mosaic

Dear Pastor Kathee Forrest and congregation.

Thank you so much for the gift cards for around town. The Dogwood guys are very excited and grateful for these. They love going out for drives around town and always make stops for food or drinks so these are perfect! Again, thank you greatly for the gift cards. The Dogwood guys really appreciate it, it made their day! Sincerely, Dogwood residents, Tabby Steel and Kodi Higgins

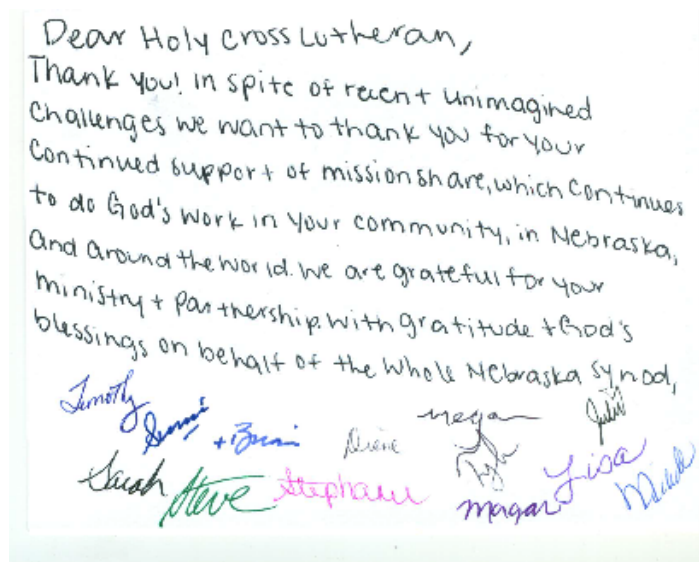
Dear Friends,

Looking back upon this year, we here at Oaks Indian Mission give thanks to God for seeing us through the many challenges that 2020 posed. Not the least of which, of course, was living with the constant threat of Covid-19. We had a few positive cases here on campus, but no hospitalizations. Neither staff nor kids became seriously ill. Though, the two week quarantines no doubt took a certain emotional toll.

Through it all, partners in ministry like you have helped keep this Mission strong and financially prepared for the demands of 2021, our childcare program as solid as ever, with the opportunity to explore ever new ways to bless each and every child we have been called to serve. Thank you for your gift of \$505.00 that makes this possible. Thank you, thank you, thank you, our dear friends at Holy Cross! What a wondrous blessing you are...your generous support throughout 2020 made such a difference!

Shine, Jesus, shine! Rev. Don Marshall, Executive Director, Oaks Indian Mission

From the Nebraska Synod Staff:



THANK YOU to all the members of Holy Cross for all the food and monetary donations you gave to the Community Food Pantry this past year. If it wasn't for all the churches donating every month, the food pantry would not have food to give to all the needy families. We could not have done this without your help. Your generosity is truly appreciated. God's blessings to you all.

Karen Mains, Food Pantry Coordinator



December 2020 Treasurer's Report Robert Ames-Woolsey and Kathy Volle

2020	DECEMBER	Year to Date
Income	\$17,211.76	\$179,970.38
Expenses	\$13,520.00	\$158,241.36
Balance	\$3,691.76	\$21,729.02

2020 General Operating	Balance Forward	Income	Transfer in	Transfer out	Expense	Monthly Balance	YTD Balance
JANUARY	\$0.00	\$9,613.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,685.85	-\$3,072.26	-\$3,072.26
FEBRUARY	-\$3,288.40	\$11,094.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,651.09	-\$2,556.90	-\$5,629.16
MARCH	-\$5,845.30	\$24,396.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,058.26	\$11,338.55	\$5,709.39
APRIL	\$5,493.25	\$17,212.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,688.09	\$4,524.55	\$10,233.94
MAY	\$10,233.94	\$19,789.40	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$12,919.96	\$6,619.44	\$16,853.18
JUNE	\$16,853.18	\$19,826.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,731.39	\$7,094.61	\$23,947.79
JULY	\$23,947.79	\$17,345.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,228.53	\$4,116.59	\$28,064.38
AUGUST	\$28,064.38	\$17,613.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,735.75	\$3,877.88	\$31,942.26
SEPTEMBER	\$31,942.26	\$9,236.82	\$0.00	\$1,231.00	\$13,040.68	-\$5,034.86	\$26,907.40
OCTOBER	\$26,907.40	\$10,640.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,101.48	-\$2,460.57	\$24,446.83
NOVEMBER	\$24,446.83	\$11,016.65	\$0.00	\$5,026.94	\$13,880.28	-\$2,863.63	\$16,556.26
DECEMBER	\$16,556.26	\$17,211.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,520.00	\$3,691.76	\$20,248.02
TOTAL		\$184,997.32	\$0.00	\$6,507.94	\$158,241.36		



WAYS TO GIVE

Financial offerings may be given in a number of ways:

- ◆ You can send your donations by mail to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1918 Garfield St, Beatrice, NE 68310. If you would like pre-addressed envelopes, please call the church office.
- ◆ You can drop your offering off in the mail slot at the southeast end of the church.
- ◆ You can give online.....
 - Apps make life easier. With Give+ you can use your smartphone to give anytime, anywhere!
 - Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone.
 - Make one-time or recurring donations using your checking/savings account or credit/debit card
 - Log in or donate as a guest.
 - To give through the app, search your phone's app store for "GivePlus Church" or contact the church office.
 - Or, go to the Holy Cross website, holycrossbeatrice.com, and click on the "GIVE TO HCLC" button at the bottom of the home page.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

Worship	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	Faithbuilders	
			<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
Jan. 2/3	22-22	\$1563.90		
Jan. 9/10	14-31	\$3976.00	4	\$5.00
Jan. 16/17	18-29	\$1783.00	2	
Jan. 23/24	13-33	\$2362.00		

Other offerings/donations include: Benevolence-\$180.00, Holy Cross only-\$486.00, Initial-\$101.00, Christmas-\$225.00, Food Pantry-\$110.00, Pastor's Salary-\$25.00, Refund (Electronic Contracting Co)-\$1231.00

Matt 25 Fund-\$84.15 (\$59.15 from cartridge recycling)

Memorial Fund: Charles "Chuck" Brown—\$300.00, Mark Jobman-\$35.00



WORSHIP HELPERS
INSTRUCTIONS FOR WORSHIP HELPERS: Please remember that if you cannot

serve on the day that you are scheduled, it is your responsibility to find someone else to take your place. The easiest way is usually to trade with someone on another date. Please make the church office **402-228-3172** aware of the change so the right names can be put in the church newsletter & bulletin. If you absolutely cannot find a replacement, for Saturday nights – please call Tom or Carol Karlin at 402-223-3992, for Sunday mornings, please call Nancy Johnsen 402-806-0376 and they will find someone to replace you. Worship helpers – please be at church 30 minutes before worship begins. Instructions will be in the back window of the sanctuary. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Johnsen 402-806-0376 or ask the Pastor. Thank you for your ministry!

Saturday, February 6

Ushers: Robert & Matthew Ames-Woolsey
Reader: Beth Dunker

Sunday, February 7

Ushers: Sheryl Harrington, Gloria Paben
Reader: Gloria Paben

Saturday, February 13

Ushers: Sally Diekman, Berlita Grell
Reader: Berlita Grell

Sunday, February 14

Ushers: Roger & Helen Huls
Reader: Terri Huls

Wednesday, February 17

Ushers: Richard & Lynn Pomajzl
Reader: Rebecca Behrends

Saturday, February 20

Ushers: Robert & Joyce Jurgens
Reader: Rose-Ann Parde

Sunday, February 21

Ushers: Steve & Toni Janzen
Reader: Jackie Nielsen

Wednesday, February 24

Ushers: Jeanette Vitosh, Inez Trauernicht
Reader: Denny Russell

Saturday, February 27

Ushers: Tom & June Seitz
Reader: June Seitz

Sunday, February 28

Ushers: Darrell & Jackie Rinne
Reader: Angie Vogel

Wednesday, March 3

Ushers: Gene & Austin Wolken
Reader: June Seitz

Saturday, March 6

Ushers: Robert & Matthew Ames-Woolsey
Reader: Beth Dunker

Sunday, March 7

Ushers: Bill & Rebecca Behrends
Reader: Bill Behrends

Wednesday, March 10

Ushers: Richard & Lynn Pomajzl
Reader: Gloria Paben

Saturday, March 13

Ushers: Sally Diekman, Berlita Grell
Reader: Berlita Grell

Sunday, March 14

Ushers: Burley & Genell Copas
Reader: Burley Copas

Wednesday, March 17

Ushers: Darrell & Jackie Rinne
Reader: Sheryl Harrington

Saturday, March 20

Ushers: Norma Huls, Glennys Lienemann
Reader: Rose-Ann Parde

Sunday, March 21

Ushers: Robert & Joyce Haecker
Reader: Joyce Haecker

Wednesday, March 24

Ushers: Larry & Dianne Cole
Reader: Dianne Cole

Saturday, March 27

Ushers: Adonna Otto, Steve Rippe
Reader: Gail Russell

Sunday, March 28

Ushers: Ryan & Angie Vogel
Reader: Angie Vogel





FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

(If we missed your anniversary or birthday this month, please give the church office a call at 228-3172. Thanks!)



FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2-16-80 Larry & Carol Vetrovsky
2-28-04 Aaron & Jackie Nielsen

Feb. 1 Ray Buss
Chris George
Feb. 2 Elsie Otto
Carol Vetrovsky
Feb. 4 Christopher Dunker
Feb. 5 Lillian Fritch
Shawn Hein
Feb. 6 Todd George
Feb. 10 Kristen Buhr
Feb. 11 Ally Kreft
Feb. 13 Dale Otto
Daniel Otto
Dillon Rinne
Feb. 14 Kyle Bahnsen
Austin Wolken
Feb. 15 Nick Vrtiska
Feb. 18 Deb Sillman
Feb. 23 Brandon Creek
Feb. 24 Erica Karlin
Feb. 26 Zachary Coffin
Feb. 27 Matthew Ames-Woolsey
Madelyn Nielsen
Mary Schuster-Graff
Feb. 28 Randy Johnson



THE FAMILY OF CHUCK BROWN would like to thank all of you who sent beautiful and comforting cards, memorials, visits, food donations, phone calls, and texts shown to us following Chuck's passing. Thank you to Dallen Johnsen and Pastor Kathee for making the service live on Facebook. This meant a lot to the people who could not attend. The service was beautiful and Pastor Kathee was truly amazing in conducting Chuck's final service and the inurnment at the Cemetery. Bless you all and your kind expressions of sympathy will always be remembered by us! Susie

PLEASE LET THE CHURCH KNOW

Your church family wants to know about the important events in your life. Please call or email the church office when you need prayers, either for thanksgiving or healing. If you prefer confidential prayers, please contact the pastor directly.

Let us know when you:

- Enter the hospital or have a serious medical problem, even if you don't want visitors
- Lose a loved one
- Have a baby or other new member of the family
- Get married
- Have a change of address.



Thank You

Dear Reverend Kathy & Holy Cross Lutheran Church:

Adult & Teen Challenge of the Midlands started 2020 much like any other year. We had no idea the year would bring so many changes and challenges. With coronavirus causing the cancellation of our annual banquet, the lockdown of our residential centers, and unrest all over the country, we wondered how this would affect our ability to minister to the hundreds of people who call our centers every day looking for HOPE. Experts agree that COVID-19 has exacerbated addiction and mental health issues everywhere. We have seen addiction, depression and mental health issues increase in our own community. However, despite the increases, despite the pandemic, and despite the lockdown, God has remained faithful, and we have continued to see men and women SET FREE from addiction, alcoholism and depression.

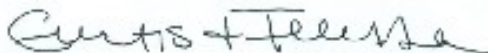
Through the love and support YOU provided; God has done some amazing things at Adult & Teen Challenge this year. We thought about making a list of all the great things God did this year, including all the students who completed, the new programs we developed, and all the other "physical" things God did at our properties; however, as we thought about the heartbeat of this ministry and why YOU give, we decided to highlight the life change that happened. The following is a testimony of just one of our students, the page that follows is full of personal testimonies of current students.

Before coming to Adult and Teen Challenge 7 months ago, I was homeless, addicted to methamphetamine, and suicidal. I lost my 13-year-old daughter twice to DHS and signed guardianship of my 3-year-old son over to a friend. Because of this program and my relationship with Jesus, I have freedom from addiction and my family is being restored. I know there is much work to do, but Teen Challenge is preparing me for that. Thank you for your generosity in helping this ministry grow. -Christina-

As you read the enclosed testimonies, we want to say **THANK YOU**. All of this is possible only because YOU gave. Thank you for your commitment to support Adult & Teen Challenge of the Midlands. Whether your support goes to our Beatrice Women's Center or our Omaha Men's Re-Entry Center, in 2020 YOU forever changed the lives of over 100 men, women and children!

THANK YOU for your heart of kindness and compassion for the men and women who need hope!

Partnering with you to see men and women SET FREE,


Curtis & Teressa Barnes

PHONE
(402) 228-5868

BLUE RIVER WOMEN'S CENTER
25478 S. 23RD RD.
BEATRICE, NE 68310

WEBSITE
WWW.TCMID.ORG

TESTIMONIES OF CHANGE

ALAINA: Thank you for your support and contribution to Adult and Teen Challenge. Before coming to this program, I was so lost in my addiction that I lost everything of importance to me and didn't have any idea what it felt like to want to live. I was in and out of jail and prison and had completely lost sight of reality. Finding Jesus has given me not only hope for a better life but complete restoration of my mind, soul, spirit and everything I lost. I have a future now and for the first time in my life I wake up without a desire to throw my life away to drugs, alcohol, and other temporary, meaningless things. I'm grateful for the life I have now and the people I get to spend it with. Without your support, none of this change would be possible. Thank you truly,

BRITTANIE: I just wanted to take the time to thank you for your generosity when donating to the Teen challenge program. I have been here for 13 months and I can honestly and whole-heartedly say I have found freedom. I came into the program last year and was angry, hurt, and filled with a bunch of emotions that I had never been taught to deal with. Since being here, I have learned how to use God's word and His truths about who I am to help deal with the emotions the right way. I can proudly say that I am a follower of Jesus and this has been the best life change. I have learned to read my Bible and do what it says. That is the key to my freedom.

KRYSTAL: Thank you for your donations to Teen Challenge. I have been at the center for almost 5 months. I have grown a lot from where I used to be. Before coming here, I was homeless, had no job, no money, and was addicted to alcohol. I was so broken and near death that my own family was ready to give up all hope that I would ever get free from my addiction. It took the last hospital visit that a kind nurse gave up her time to get me the information to Teen Challenge. Your donation gave me the opportunity to come to Teen Challenge and to be free for once in my life.

MARCIA: This is the 2nd time I am going through the program at Adult and Teen Challenge. I first came in October of 2017 addicted to alcohol, depressed and a strained relationship with my 4 daughters. I completed the program a year later and moved back to Iowa to be with my children. But because I wasn't walking in obedience to God, I stumbled and decided to come back and restart the program in May of 2020. I have chosen to walk in obedience this time and have developed a close relationship with my Lord and Savior. And because of my obedience My children and family have also been blessed. Thank you so much for your generosity to Adult and Teen Challenge. May God bless you abundantly!

BAILEY: I know for many, 2020 will be a year that is remembered as the worst of their lives. While this year has been one of my most challenging, I can say with honesty that I look at it with fondness as being my best, most transformative year of life. I came to Teen Challenge completely broken, in denial, and cynical as stone. My life had been demolished by my addictions to drugs and alcohol—which was characterized by lies, self-hatred, and deep depression. I came through the doors with a staunch resolve to just make it through the program to get my life back on track. I had grown up in a Christian home and had been deeply wounded by "the church," so the idea of a "discipleship addiction program" was a massive turn off to me. And then I met Jesus. I had performed and hidden my way through life, and here at TC, I met the God who created me—who loved me ALL ALONG—for ME! This process of softening took time, but when I finally opened my heart, He began to transform me into a whole new person. For the first time in my life, I am happy to be alive and thankful to be me. I am forever indebted to Teen Challenge and to the faithful donors who made a way for me to come and soak in God's presence—softening my heart from the hardness of the world.

DESTINY: Thank you for helping steward this ministry! I came to the Adult and Teen Challenge Women's Center about a year ago looking for a way to get sober long enough to avoid a prison sentence. I was homeless, hopeless and didn't believe that there was any sort of future for me that didn't involve drugs and crime. Then, I met the Lord here and He has been helping me break free from all things that held me in bondage, addiction, hopelessness, mental illness, and so much more. This program was the instrument God used to save my life and save me from myself.

SAGE: Before coming into the program I was most definitely a lost soul. I was "living" a life full of bondage to many things. I was a daily IV meth and pill user. I was in bondage to lies of feeling unwanted and unloved, which brought me to a place where I didn't love myself and continually hoped that my next breath would be my last. My addiction brought me to a place where the only people I had in my life were just like me. I had hurt those who truly loved me. So they couldn't stand seeing me the way that I was, nor could they trust me to be around. I was homeless for over a year. Then God made a way for me to get into this program. Not only have I found a relationship with Jesus, but He has set me free from all of the bondage of my past. He healed my heart and restored to me the things that I lost to my addiction. I can now say I love who I am and am excited to wake up each morning! Because of the love you show by helping support this program, I am able to continue on my journey. Words couldn't express how grateful I am for that. You gave me my life back and are the reason why I am still breathing and have the opportunity to live a life of abundance and joy. So God Bless You!!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2020

Council met by Zoom: present – Bill Behrends, Tom Karlin, Ryan Vogel, Norma Huls, Pastor Kathee Forrest, and Joyce Haecker. Absent Dallen Johnsen.

A. Call to order: 7:00 p.m. by Tom Karlin

B. Opening Devotions by Pastor Kathee: “God Pause”

C. Agenda:

1. Agenda was presented by Tom Karlin

2. Motion was made by Bill B. and a second by Ryan V. to approve the council meeting minutes. Motion was approved.

D. Information:

1. Pastor Kathee referred to her report. Would like to purchase luminaries with battery operated candles for outdoor walkways and sanctuary. Check if these could be purchased from memorials and gifts account. Tom K. made a motion to move Chris & Heidi Bell and Justin, Matthew Brommer, Marjorie Chapp and Trevor Schmale to the inactive list. A second by Bill B. and motion was approved.

2. Motion was made by Tom K. and a 2nd by Joyce H. to approve the treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

3. Covid-19 considerations: Will continue with services with same guidelines as in the past.

E. Committee Reports:

Financial – Discussed changes to the budget. Motion made by Tom K. and a second by Ryan V. to show the housing allowance portion for Pastor Kathee be \$35,000.00. Motion carried. Motion made by Tom K. and seconded by Ryan to approve the budget to be presented at the annual meeting. Motion carried. Stewardship – Bill B. will continue to be chairman of the Stewardship committee. Nominating—will be meeting by E-mail and hope to have the nominations completed by Jan. 1st. Evangelism & Social Ministry – will have a Sharing & Caring tree for letters/gift cards for Mosaic residents. Also, ELCA good gifts. Worship—Worship team has had to fill in vacancies for worship. Hard to find helpers. Will continue with parking lot services as well as indoor worship. Property – Christmas decorations are up. Mutual Ministry – Planning to meet in January. Memorials & Gifts, Youth, Parish Education – no report.

F. Unfinished Business:

1. Economic Injury Disaster loan for small business had to be returned. The paycheck protection program loan was forgiven.

2. Will request a refund from the contract for parking lot electronics which had not been completed.

G. New Business:

1. Rachel Kurtz will have a concert by Zoom on Sunday December 27th at 6:00. To advertise this concert, letters will be sent to the Homestead Cluster.

2. Consider possibility of selling the church van as it is seldom used.

3. Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 24th after church. Folks can attend in parking lot as well as indoors. Members in the parking lot can call in to the meeting if have any questions.

H. Adjournment and closing with Lord’s Prayer

Ryan V. made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Norma H. Motion was approved. Meeting adjourned with Lord’s Prayer at 8:35.

Presented by Joyce Haecker,
Council Secretary

December 28, 2020

A meeting by E-mail was held concerning a vacant position on the audit committee. Larry Cole had agreed to fill this position and was approved by Council.

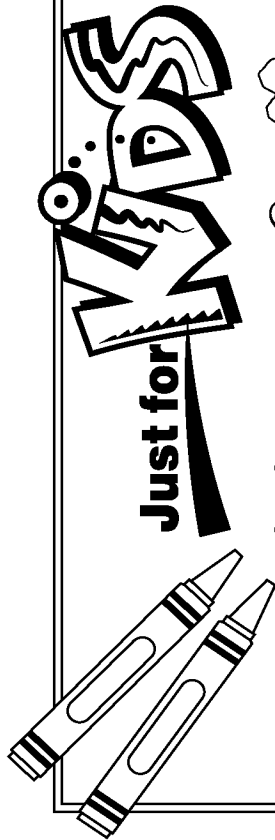
Joyce Haecker

Council Secretary

FEBRUARY 2021

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1918 Garfield St., Beatrice; 402-228-3172; Website:
www.holycrossbeatrice.com
E-mail: holycrosselcabeatrice@gmail.com; Office Hours: 8:30 am-3:00 p.m., T,W,Th;
8:30-12:00 F.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 9:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Country Cookin' 8:00 p.m. N.A.	5	6 6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)
7 9:00 a.m. Worship— Sanctuary, Parking Lot, and Facebook 10:00-10:45 Sunday School	8	9	10 9:00-3:00 Blanket Sewing	11 9:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Country Cookin' 7:00 p.m. Council 8:00 p.m. N.A.	12 8:00 p.m. N.A.	13 6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)
14 9:00 a.m. Worship/ Confirmation— Sanctuary, Parking Lot, and Facebook 10:00-10:45 Sunday School	15 7:00 p.m. Hope Circle	16	17 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service	18 9:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Country Cookin' 8:00 p.m. N.A.	19 NEWSLETT ER ARTICLES DUE 8:00 p.m. N.A.	20 6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)
21 9:00 a.m. Worship— Sanctuary, Parking Lot, and Facebook 10:00-10:45 Sunday School	22 7:00 p.m. Women of the ELCA Board Meeting	23	24 7:00 p.m. Midweek Lent Service	25 9:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Country Cookin' 8:00 p.m. N.A.	26 8:00 p.m. N.A.	27 6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)
28 9:00 a.m. Worship— Sanctuary, Parking Lot, and Facebook 10:00-10:45 Sunday School	29	Masks and Social Distancing are required for all worship services and meetings held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.		Holy Cross Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion in worship each Saturday and Sunday unless noted..		



A Message of Love

Luke 10:27 has a wonderful message to live by.

Find the message by writing the opposite words next to the ones given.
Then transfer the letters to the numbered lines they match below.

cool	1	2	3	4	soft	20	21	22	23		
under	5	6	7	8	old	24	25	26	27	28	
out	9	10			after	29	30	31	32	33	34
large	11	12	13	14	15	false	35	36	37	38	
quiet	16	17	18	19							

“ _____ 14 5 6 7 35 20 7 15 17 36 23 24 5 18 8 28 17 23 _____

_____ 1 9 35 20 2 16 14 24 5 18 3 20 7 13 8 35 2 10 23 _____

_____ 1 9 35 20 13 14 16 24 17 37 36 11 5 18 14 2 27 19 _____

_____ 1 9 35 20 21 15 16 24 17 18 36 11 35 3 30 10 28 35 20 _____

_____ 2 10 23 1 9 35 20 21 14 15 24 5 37 8 4 9 10 23 _____

_____ “ _____ 21 27 23 16 32 6 7 24 5 18 22 10 34 9 28 20 29 17 33 _____

_____ 13 11 24 25 26 22 11 7 14 31 _____” _____

