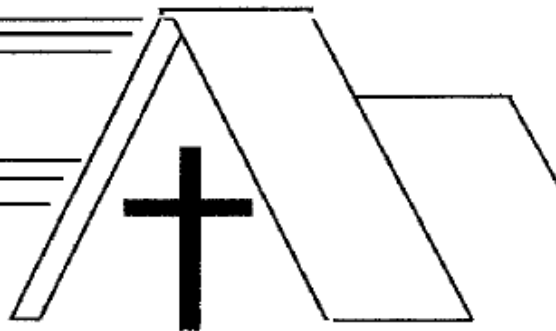


the CRISS + CROSS



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June 2016

Working together to connect people to Jesus

"Confirmation Contemplations"

You did not choose Me, but I chose you to go out and bear fruit. – John 15:16

On May 15, 2016 Holy Cross was blessed to confirm 13 confirmands in their Baptismal faith: Evan Brooks, James DiCostanzo, Christopher Diem, Aidan Folck, Anthony Ludwig, Madeline Olsen, Logan Overton, Lauren Roberts, Emma Roland, Erin Roland, Ian Ropach, Madison West and Charles Wood.

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is the key to understanding confirmation. Holy Baptism is a unilateral act of God. God does all the work in Baptism. He puts His holy name on us in Baptism and the Holy Spirit works faith within us, granting us forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We don't even wiggle our littlest finger to come to God. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is a gift of God – not by works so that no one can boast.

When a person is baptized, that person becomes a member of the Holy Christian Church (as well as a member of our own congregation). Confirmation celebrates the teaching part of Jesus' mandate to "baptize and teach." (Matthew 28:19-20) Confirmation

celebrates publicly – "in the presence of God and this congregation" - the beliefs expressed or "confessed" by one who has been baptized and now taught the basics of the Christian faith.

Moreover, the Apostle Paul's teaching of 1 Corinthians 11:28, "Let a person examine himself, then and so eat of the bread and drink the cup," makes it the congregation's concern for its growing members to help them prepare for meaningful participation in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, each at one's own level of development. To receive Holy Communion without understanding it would be meaningless and, in fact, harmful to a person. So catechism instruction helps a person to "examine oneself" before receiving the Lord's Supper.

May we always remember that through our common Baptism we are united "with one Spirit into one Body" – the Body of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Pastor Nickel

Holy Cross Spring Clean-up Day



Thank you for coming out to help with the "spring cleaning" at Holy Cross. It was a great day of hard work, fellowship and fun.

He-Brews



He-Brews meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month, usually at 7:30 pm; at a member home or at a local restaurant. The June location is TBD, watch the weekly announcements. We do not stay out late as most have to work in the morning. A typical gathering starts with fellowship followed by a Christian video presentation (often from Right-Now Media) and discussion.

You do not need to drink beer to join us, other beverages both with and without alcohol are often enjoyed.

All are welcome – including neighbors and friends, to come and see serious support given to fellow members and a willingness to help others and our church.

He-Brews is open to all men, young and old.

Summer Hours



Summer Worship Hours at Holy Cross will begin on Sunday, June 5th.

9:00 am Divine Worship
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Divine Worship

Dash's Receipts



Dash's receipts are now being donated to Hearts for the Homeless. The van they use to deliver meals 4 to 5 nights a week in downtown

Buffalo is dying. This van needs to be replaced. This wonderful mission really needs our support. We will be using the funds from the Dash's receipts to help Hearts for the Homeless moving forward. Thank you to everyone who faithfully brings in their receipts and to Lorraine Woodman who tallies them up. Keep up the good work!

Thank you, Jill Carl

Applebee's Fundraiser for Holy Cross Youth



A big thank you to all of you for making our Applebee's flapjack

fundraiser a huge success. We raised \$870 to go toward the 2019 National Youth Gathering. Special thanks to all our youth and adult volunteers who made it so much fun!!

Praise Band News

The Praise Band meets on Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm.



Samantha Brown, DCE Intern at Holy Cross, begins in September

This fall we will welcome Samantha Brown to serve at Holy Cross for 9 months of her Director of Christian Education Internship. Her internship begins with this summer at Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center in Angola, NY, and after her 9 months with Holy Cross she will return to Pioneer Camp for the summer of 2017. We pray that Samantha's internship at Holy Cross will serve our Lord Jesus Christ as we strengthen and deepen our discipleship efforts and our understanding of God's Word among our youth and young adults, our children, and our older adults at Holy Cross, and that the Lord will use Holy Cross to help the wider Church prepare and form another laborer, Samantha, for Christ's harvest field.

Samantha, age 22, originally from Kankakee, Illinois, has spent the past four years working towards her degree in ministry. Samantha majored in Director of Educational Ministry and minored in theology at Concordia University-Chicago. She spent her last college quarter studying theology in Italy and Germany. Upon successful completion of her internship with Pioneer Camp and Holy Cross, Samantha will graduate from Concordia University-Chicago in 2017 and will be certified to serve as a Director of Christian Education at a congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Samantha has previously worked with St. Paul's Lutheran church in Kankakee, Illinois, and Trinity Lutheran Church in Lisle, Illinois. Her previous ministry work include church nurseries, Sunday schools, confirmation, senior high youth groups, servant events, and small groups.

Samantha grew up in a farming community that is next to a larger city, similar to Clarence and Buffalo. She enjoys listening

to music, spending time outside, biking, and hiking in her free time. Samantha is looking forward to all of the people and opportunities at Holy Cross!

June 2016 WORSHIP CALENDAR

Sunday, 5 – Summer Hours begin today

9:00 am Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Divine Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, June 12

9:00 am Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Divine Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, June 19

9:00 am Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Divine Service with Holy Communion

Sunday June 26

9:00 am Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Divine Service with Praise Band

Choir News



The Choir meets on Tuesdays @ 7:00pm.

Goodbye and God Bless

I have served as your church secretary for more than 11 years, so it is with mixed emotions that I have submitted my letter of resignation. I will miss working here and being a part of the great work God is doing here at Holy Cross. You have all become a part of my life, whether I have gotten to know you in person or whether I have gotten to know you in name only. I have enjoyed every minute of my time here and feel blessed to have had this opportunity. It was my good fortune that brought me here, thank you for sharing these many years with me.

Ann Burden

Camp Pioneer Golf Benefit



The annual Pioneer golf benefit is set for Friday, June 10th, at the Diamond Hawk Golf Course in

Cheektowaga.

Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. Proceeds of the benefit will assist children of our military enjoy a week at Camp. For more information about the Benefit please call Camp Pioneer at 549-1420.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

LWML News



Our next zone get together will be at Pioneer Camp for our picnic. This will be July 13th at 3:00.

We will have a sign up if you would like to be involved in planning the workshop. There will also be a pot luck dinner and a white elephant sale.

Please join us for a fun filled afternoon. More information about the picnic will be coming soon.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the June Convention in Binghamton. I hope we bring carloads of items for the ingathering. If you have any questions or concerns about the Spring Workshop please feel free to email me or call me at [716-652-3567](tel:716-652-3567). Karen Blackmon

Heritage Home

THE HERITAGE HOUSE

On June 26, at 10:15, a visit to the Heritage Home will take place where we will talk about "Jesus Heals Jairus' Daughter,; Mark 5:21-43. Jesus says, "Little girl, I say to you, get up." Her eyelids blinked, and she looked up and saw Jesus. We will discuss how Jesus heals each of us in a variety of ways with the best way being forgiving our sin. Prayer, singing, and a simple craft complete the visit which is about 45 minutes long.

Women's Bible Study Group



The Women's Bible Study Group meets Tuesdays (except for the 2nd Tuesday of the month) in the conference room of HCCC. We like to begin our social time at 9:30am with a study begin time of 9:45- around 11am. We are lay led, as participants volunteer each week to facilitate a particular lesson. We also volunteer to bring "goodies" from our kitchens to go with our coffee.

The coffee pot is on and we always have sweet treats to accompany it! Join us anytime you can!

Care-Ring Circle



To all the Care-Ringers who provide meals for those in need, Thank you! Until you have experienced the love and generosity from our Holy Cross family, you couldn't know how much it is appreciated. If you are interested in volunteering to make a meal for those in need please contact Doreen Borschel at 688-8096. I will add you to the list of volunteers in our email group.

July/August Criss Cross Deadline:



Please submit any items for the July/August **Criss Cross no later than June 19th**. Items can be left on the desk in HCCC or in the secretary mailbox, or can sent via email to holycrossclarence@gmail.com
Thank you.

Visitation Care



If you are or will be hospitalized or homebound and desire Christian care from the Holy Cross staff, please phone the church office at 634-2332 and/or

email holycrossclarence@gmail.com to let us know. Please do not assume that we know your situation because for many reasons we often don't. We will do our best to visit you, and if homebound, see that you receive communion.

Sponsor a Camper



We would like more people to experience Camp Pioneer and all it has to offer ALL members of Holy Cross. From family camps, to different adult retreats, to traditional summer camps. Please visit Pioneer's website (www.pioneercamp.org) or take a brochure in the Narthex.

As we approach summer, we are encouraging our youth to take advantage of beautiful Camp Pioneer, including Confirmation Camp and for the younger kids to attend the other camp programs.

This is a great opportunity for the children to have some fun and meet new friends, while furthering their walk with God.

If you are interested in "Sponsoring a Camper", whether in full, partial, or any amount, please place your donation in the offering labeled "Sponsor a Camper".

The cost for most weekly camps is approximately \$300. We appreciate your support of our youth! Look for more information about opportunities throughout the spring and summer.

June Servants

Communion Assistants:

Jo Corneck & Joe Hughes
Peter Olsen & Robert Diem

Ushers:

Ron Talboys & Kelly Roeser
Paula Cocco & Larry Wiepert

Lay Readers:

June 5	9:00	Jill Carl
	11:00	Nancy Cote'
June 12	9:00	Kurt Wozniak
	11:00	Wendy Shelton
June 19	9:00	Jo Corneck
	11:00	Ken Handley
June 26	9:00	Brian Humphreys
	11:00	Paula Cocco

Acolytes:

June 5	9:00	
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June 12	9:00	
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June 19	9:00	
	11:00	
June 26	9:00	
	11:00	

AV Team:

June 5	Matthew Wiepert
June 12	Kenny Handley
June 19	Bill Cook
June 26	Scott Brooks

Coffee Fellowship:

Thank you to all who volunteer.

Please see Nancy Cote' for volunteer opportunities.

Happy June Birthday

Chalmers, David	6/1
Diem, Merva	6/1
Zubrzycki, Amanda	6/1
Graap, Dana	6/2
Cocco, Paula	6/4
Houghton, Carolyn	6/4
Compo, Pat	6/5
Cote', Francis	6/5
Smith, Donna	6/5
Folck, Jason	6/6
Corneck, Robert	6/10
Brooks, Evan	6/11
Garlapo, Pat	6/11
Langiewicz, Karen	6/11
Zubrzycki, Matthew	6/11
DiCostanzo, James	6/12
DiCostanzo, Peter	6/15
Spilman, Laura	6/15
Chalmers, Lindsey	6/17
Chalmers, Morgan	6/17
Muchow, Dona	6/17
Woodman, Lorraine	6/21
Mank, Robert	6/22
Tomaino, Tyler	6/24
Dunford, Jonathan	6/28
Lindell, Lilliana	6/29
Hoffmann, June	6/30
Pionessa, Adam	6/30



Timothy & Karen Langiewicz	6/6
Karl & Linda Bauer	6/7
Sam & Lindsay Gugliuzza	6/10
Charles & Joyce Greaves	6/11
Robert & Christy Diem	6/13
Kenneth & Elizabeth Handley	6/23
Russell & Linda Ponivas	6/25