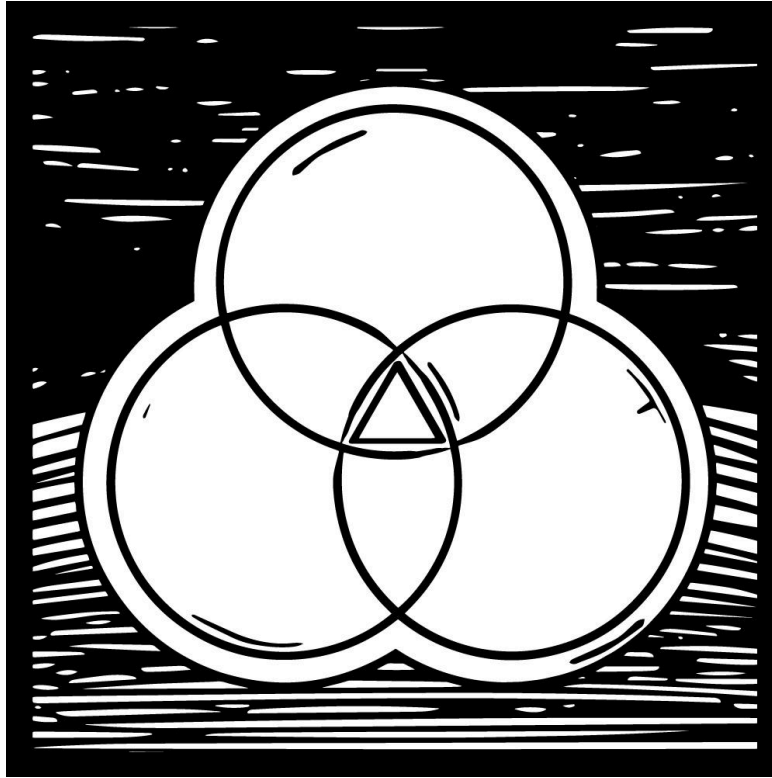


Holy Cross Lutheran Church

School and Early Learning Center



September 8, 2024

*"The Living Word Does Everything
Well"*

Pastor Mark Bartels
mbartels@holycrossmadison.org

Pastor Piet Van Kampen
pvankampen@holycrossmadison.org

Principal Rick Holz
rholz@holycrossmadison.org

ELC Director Katie Krug
kkrug@holycrossmadison.org

608-249-3101
General Email: frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS!

OUR SAVIOR WELCOMES YOU AND SO DO WE! Whether you are a first time visitor or returning guest, we are delighted to share our worship with you! Please come back and worship with us again!

PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES We love to have children in worship! However, parents who find a need to take their children out of the service are welcome to use the narthex/lobby area while you quiet your little one. The infant care room is also available for nursing mothers. You'll be able to hear the service from the speaker system in the narthex and in the infant care room. A changing table is in the men's and women's bathrooms. If needed, please ask an usher for assistance.

REGISTRATION CARDS are in the hymnal racks. Guests may use the registration cards to let us know how we may further assist you. We encourage all members and guests to fill out a registration card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

A HEARING LOOP is installed in our sanctuary for your convenience. If your hearing aid has a t-switch, you'll need to activate it when you're in the sanctuary, in order to benefit from the hearing loop.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES Holy Cross offers a full Christian elementary school (grades PreK3 – 8), Kids Crossing Early Learning Center (6 weeks – 5 years), Sunday School and children's youth activities.

PRAYER CONCERNS? Contact Sherri Bartels, sbbartels.sb@gmail.com. Our prayer chain is a large group of Holy Cross members who join you in calling upon God with your prayer concerns. Galatians 6:2 says "Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

USHERS are on duty during church services. Please speak with them if you need assistance.

LIVE STREAM WORSHIP If you or a loved one are unable to attend worship, our 8:30 am service is live streamed on the church website.

PHONE-IN WORSHIP Sundays at 8:30 a.m. (Call any time after 8:20 a.m.; dial 1 (978) 990-5164 followed by access code 6279900#)

ON DEMAND WORSHIP View or listen to any of our past worship services by visiting our website and click the tab labeled Live Stream/Sermons and click sermons.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE Sunday, 8:30 am, 10:30 am and Monday, 6:30 pm.

TRANSPORTATION FUND If you have no other way to church, taxi rides to and from church are available. Please speak with the Pastor or call the church office at 249-3101.

THE LORD'S SUPPER is offered on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month and the following Mondays. We believe the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity of faith in our Savior as well as our unity in all scriptural teachings. Since the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod profess full unity in biblical teaching, members of these church bodies are welcome to commune with us. If you are a member of a different Christian church, we ask that you wait to commune until you have closely examined what we teach and are convinced that we are a church that preaches the true Word of God, and that you are in agreement with our teachings. Please speak with a pastor if you are a guest and would like to commune.

MISSION STATEMENT The mission of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School is to bring the Gospel of Christ to our community through the Means of Grace, reaching out to the lost, and nurturing our fellow believers. This we do through worship, education, service and fellowship that God's kingdom may grow.

"The Living Word Does Everything Well"
September 8, 2024
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Service of the Word – Page 38

Preservice Music (10:30) 8th Grade Handbells....."El Shaddai"

Opening Hymn (sung by Senior Choir)....."He Put a New Song in My Heart"

Invocation

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

Confession of Sins

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

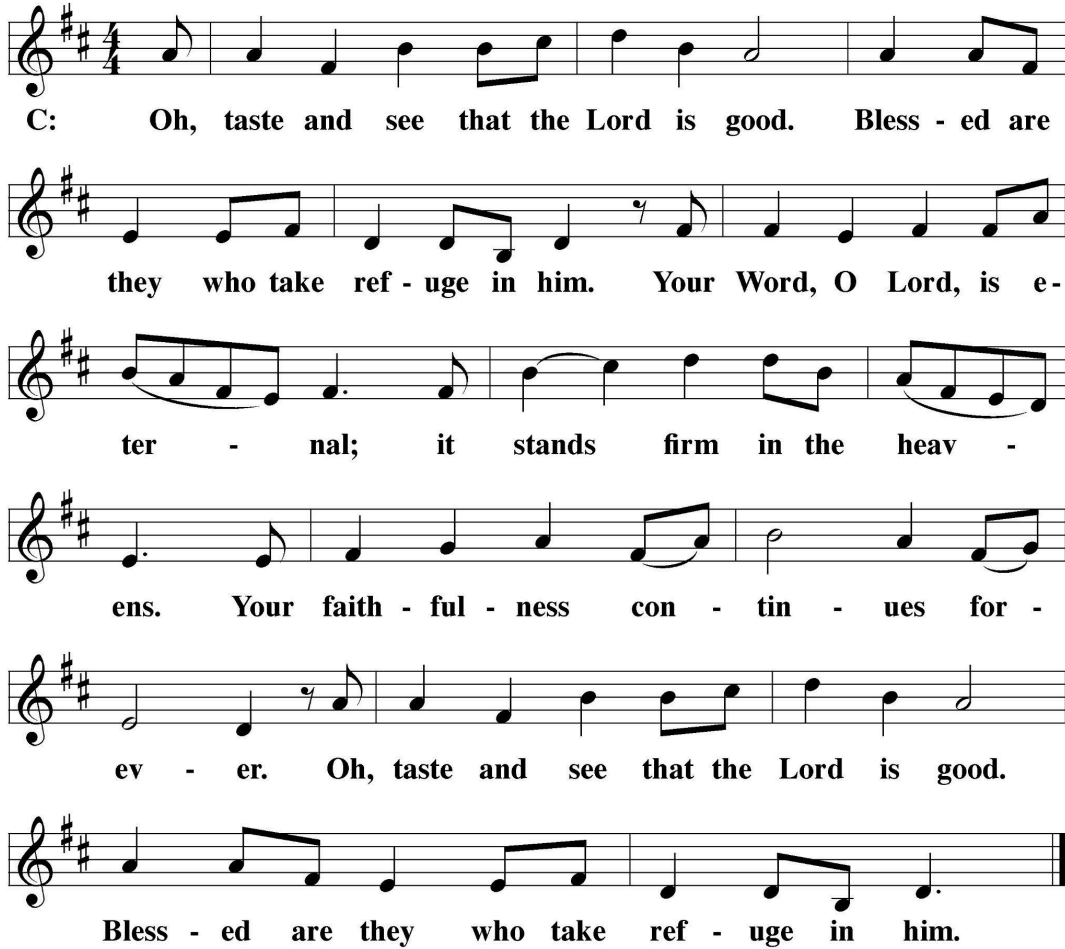
M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Taste and See



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

C: Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

First LessonIsaiah 35:4-7a

God comes to his people with healing, restoration, and salvation.

4 Tell those who have a fearful heart: Be strong. Do not be afraid. Look! Your God will come with vengeance. With God's own retribution, he will come and save you.

5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unplugged.

6 The crippled will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will sing for joy.

Waters will flow in the wilderness, and streams in the wasteland.

7 The burning sand will become a pool, and in the thirsty ground there will be springs of water.

Verse of the Day



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Epistle Lesson.....James 1:17-27

Remember that every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above.

17 Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow. 18 Just as he planned, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creations.

19 Remember this, my dear brothers: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry. 20 Certainly, a man’s anger does not bring about what is right before God. 21 So after getting rid of all moral filthiness and overflowing wickedness, receive with humility the word planted in you. It is able to save your souls.

22 Be people who do what the word says, not people who only hear it. Such people are deceiving themselves. 23 In fact, if anyone hears the word and does not do what it says, he is like a man who carefully looks at his own natural face in a mirror. 24 Indeed, he carefully looks at himself; then, he goes away and immediately forgets what he looked like. 25 But the one who looks carefully into the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continues to do so—since he does not hear and forget but actually does what it says—that person will be blessed in what he does.

26 If anyone considers himself to be religious but deceives his own heart because he does not bridle his tongue, this person’s religion is worthless. 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled in the sight of God the Father is this: to take care of orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Kindergarten - 8th Grade Song.....“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”

Children’s Sermon

Young children are invited forward to the chancel steps.

Hymn #520 (vs 1, 3)....."Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old"

1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old
Was strong to heal and save;
It triumphed o'er disease and death,
All darkness and the grave.
To you they came, the blind, the dumb,
The paralyzed and lame,
The lepers in their misery,
The sick with fevered frame.

3 Oh, be our great deliv'rer still,
The Lord of life and death;
Restore and quicken, soothe and bless,
With your life-giving breath.
To hands that work and eyes that see
Give wisdom's healing pow'r
That whole and sick and weak and strong
May praise you evermore.

SermonPastor Piet Van Kampen..... "The Living Word Does Everything Well"

Mark 7:31-37

31 Jesus left the region of Tyre again and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, within the region of the Decapolis.

32 They brought a man to him who was deaf and had a speech impediment. They pleaded with Jesus to place his hand on him. 33 Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. 34 After he looked up to heaven, he sighed and said, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!") 35 Immediately the man's ears were opened, his tongue was set free, and he began to speak plainly. 36 Jesus gave the people strict orders to tell no one, but the more he did so, the more they kept proclaiming it. 37 They were amazed beyond measure and said, "He has done everything well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak!"

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering (8:30) 8th Grade Handbells....."El Shaddai"

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

Prayers & Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn #399 (vs 1)....."To God Be the Glory"

1 To God be the glory; great things he has done!
He so loved the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give him the glory -- great things he has done!

Closing Prayer

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



Attendance

If you attended online services at Holy Cross, please send an email to frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org, and in the subject line write "Attended" and after that the number of people who watched from your home. So if three of you watch the service on Sunday, your subject line would say, "Attended 3". Please don't write anything in the text of the email, since our secretary, Anna Ballentin,, will not be responding to emails that say "Attended" in the subject line. Thanks.

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Holy Cross News & Notes

September 8, 2024

Calendar for the Week – September 9 - 15

Monday

- Website Committee - 4:15 pm
- Worship - 6:30 pm
- Bible Information Class - 7:30 pm

Tuesday

- Senior Ministry Breakfast (Elie's Cafe) - 9:00 am
- Senior Ministry Committee - 10:45 am
- PTO - 6:30 pm

Wednesday

- Bible Study - 10:00 am
- Public School Confirmation - 4:30 pm
- Adult Handbells - 6:00 pm
- Senior Choir - 7:00 pm

Thursday

- Membership Committee - 10:15 am
- Lydia Circle - 1:00 pm

Saturday

- Fiber Friends (Connect Group) - 9:00 am
- Holy Cross Pickleballers (Connect Group) - 9:00 am

Sunday

- Worship - 8:30 & 10:30 am
- Sunday School/Adult Bible Study - 9:45 am

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK Chris Lahaie was hospitalized this week. Please pray for him and our homebound and for those in nursing homes.

GIVING TO HOLY CROSS

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: 8/27/24 - 9/2/24

\$13,614.46

TOTAL OFFERINGS FOR FISCAL YEAR: 7/1/24 - 9/2/24

\$118,546.21

FISCAL YTD BUDGET OFFERINGS

\$141,923.07

FISCAL YEAR BUDGETED

\$820,000

SERMON VIDEO LINKS

Want an easy way to witness to a friend, relative or neighbor? Share Sunday's sermon link with them. Or watch it devotionally yourself.

9/1/24 - "Strong in the Lord" - Pastor Mark Bartels

<https://vimeo.com/1005138938>

HIRING - ELC

Have a love for kids? We are looking for caring Christians to be part-time or full time teachers.

The starting wage is \$15/ hour. The starting wage for a lead teacher is \$16/hour.

Email kkrug@holycrossmadison.org for more information.

ADULT HANDBELL REHEARSALS

Don't know how to read music? No problem! Notes are circled for you- you just need to know your right from your left hand! Holy Cross Adult Handbells will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, Sept 11 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary. The group generally plays 1x a month. Please talk to Director Nedra Griffin if you'd like to participate or email ngriffinfab5@gmail.com.

HOLY CROSS CONNECT GROUPS

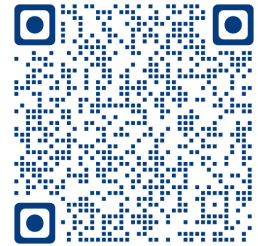
This fall, you have the opportunity to join a Holy Cross Connect Group! Do you enjoy walking and talking with friends old and new? Or perhaps you enjoy sewing or knitting? Are you a mom of young kids looking for people in a similar stage of life? Do you enjoy playing a casual sport once in a while? Do you love to cook and try new recipes? Then we have a group for you! Take a look at the various Connect Groups that will be gathering this fall, and if you see a group that you'd like to join, then sign up in the Welcome Center!

- **Fiber Friends** - Come join Fiber Friends! If you enjoy creating and sharing your fiber makes with others, then this group is for you. We'll meet once a month to share finished objects, work on our current projects (knitting, crochet, cross stitch, etc) and enjoy conversation and fellowship with other creative makers. This group is open to anyone who enjoys fiber arts and is looking to share that interest and creativity with others. All skill levels and fiber interests are welcome! There are no costs associated with this group, other than the cost of supplies for your own project. Our first monthly meeting will be Saturday, September 14, at 9:00 a.m. here at Holy Cross. For more information, please contact Beth Lunde at bethlunde@gmail.com.
- **Food, Fun & Fellowship** - Do you love to cook or bake or try new recipes? Do you want to meet new people? Come join the Food, Fun, and Fellowship group and do both! This group is intended for couples aged 55+ who enjoy sharing a meal together. The only cost involved would be for preparing an entree or dessert for the group. Group size limited to 8 couples (16 people). The first monthly meeting is Friday, September 20 at 5:30 p.m. For more information contact Pastor Mark & Sherri Bartels, sbbartels.sb@gmail.com.
- **Holy Cross Pickleballers** - Come and join our group! We will be enjoying some fellowship and learning how to play Pickleball, the fastest growing sport in America. It is easy to learn, a blast to play, and can be enjoyed by all ages. This group is open to members and friends from 9th Grade - Adults, and will be capped at 16 participants. We plan on meeting twice a month, with our first meeting on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 9:00 a.m. at the Holy Cross gym. For more information, contact Steve and Beth DePrey at steve@depreyco.com.
- **Moms Connect** - Moms Connect encourages and equips moms to thrive in their role as mothers, grow in their relationship with Jesus, pray for their children's class and build authentic friendships with moms at Holy Cross Lutheran Church & School. The group is open to church and school moms with children from infants through 8th Grade. We meet every other week formally in the evening, with other opportunities for playdates, outings, and a fall "Friendsgiving" dinner. The cost for the season is \$35 per person to cover food, games, childcare as needed, as well as marketing and a moms Christmas dinner. Our first meeting is Thursday, September, 26 at 6:30 p.m. here at church. For more information, please contact Sydney Malain at sydneymalain@gmail.com.
- **Walking in Fellowship** - Come walk with us! Let's start our mornings in a way that'll make our hearts full: God's word, coffee, crisp air of fall and fellowship. One Saturday a month, we will choose a designated place to begin our hour-long walk. The starting location will change, with options of church, coffee shop(s), or maybe even a Kwik Trip! I'll start the hour with a devotion, then we will walk the neighborhood. Conversation will be organic, with no set topics beyond the devotion. Come out, get your steps in for the day, enjoy some coffee, and let's socialize. The only cost involved would be the cost of your coffee and/or donut. Since we do live in Wisconsin and weather can be a factor, we will keep an eye on thunderstorms or extreme cold, and adjust accordingly. NOTE: The group is intended for everyone! So bring your families, friends, and let's put some miles on our shoes. Our first meeting is here at church on Saturday, Sept. 21, at 7:00 a.m. For more information, contact Josh McCauley at mccauleyjm87@gmail.com.

MOMS CONNECT GROUP FACEBOOK PAGE

Moms Connect in Madison, Wisconsin, encourages and equips moms to thrive in their role as mothers, grow in their relationship with Jesus, pray for their children's class and build authentic friendships with *moms at Holy Cross Church and School. Let's do this season of life together.

*You must be attending Holy Cross Church or have children attending the school (infants to 8th grade) to join.



PRAYERS FOR AN ELECTION YEAR

One of the goals the Holy Cross Board of Elders has set this year is to encourage us as Holy Cross members in our prayer lives. Since this is an election year, the Board of Elders would like to encourage all of us to pray regarding this important matter. When you're at church, please stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a little booklet entitled "God Bless Our Native Land: Prayers for an Election Year." Please take one home and make it a part of your prayer life. Thank you! 1 Timothy 2:1-3 says, "I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior."

ELS FALL TEEN RETREAT

This year's ELS fall teen retreat is set for October 19-20 at Living Waters Bible Camp near Westby, WI. This year's theme is "Known", based on Galatians 4:9. Youth in grades 7-12 will enjoy a deep dive into God's Word, a bonfire with s'mores and singing, group activities including a 50-foot rock tower, a 500-foot zipline, and more! The cost is \$135 and includes everything (email Pastor Nate at pastor.abrahamson@abidingshepherd.org to request financial assistance). The bus will leave Saturday morning from Lakeside Lutheran High School in Lake Mills at 8 a.m., and then from Abiding Shepherd in Cottage Grove at 8:30. Sunday night, the bus will return to Cottage Grove at 7:15 p.m. and Lakeside Lutheran at 7:45 p.m. Those not taking the bus can arrive at 10:45 a.m. Saturday and depart at 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more info and to register, visit

<https://www.abidingshepherd.org/page/140007974/140050466/Fall-Teen-Retreat>

"THE ENCORE" TEEN POND PARTY

"The Encore" Teen Pond Party (hosted by Abiding Shepherd Lutheran Church) is coming up on Sunday, September 8th! From 3 - 8:30pm, enjoy a final "encore" to your summer fun! As we're getting back into the fall schedule, come together with area teens at the Freund Pond (1081 E. Church Rd, Cambridge)! "The Encore" features: swimming; zip lining into the water; fishing (bring your pole; no license required); kayaking; volleyball; dinner; campfire singing. The event is for teens in 7th-12th grade. The cost is FREE. But the registration deadline is Wednesday, September 4th! You can find all the info and register at www.abidingshepherd.org/theencore. See you there!

YOUTH GROUP KICKOFF

The Youth Group has taken a brief hiatus over July and August as Camp Rise, LYA, sports schedules, and family trips took precedence, but we are excited to announce our New School Year Kickoff event! Teens (grades 7-12) and parents are invited to a chili lunch on Sunday, September 15, after the 10:30 service. We'll meet in the cafeteria for lunch, a devotion, and to go over plans for upcoming events. Bring your friends! All we ask is that you sign up to bring sides/desserts and drinks via the following Sign-Up Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B49AEAD2CA1F85-50708220-newschool>

SENIOR BREAKFAST

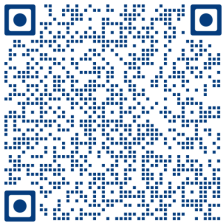
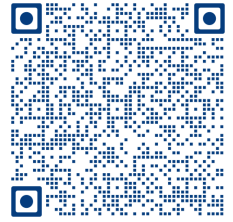
The next senior breakfast will be on Tuesday, September 10 at 9:00am at Elie's Cafe on E Broadway by Menards.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

Our next class begins Monday, September 9, at 7:30 pm and runs for 10 Monday evenings through November 11. The goal of the class is to give you a ground-level view of what we believe at Holy Cross. Here are some reasons to be a part of this class: you're interested in learning basic Bible doctrine or teaching; you want to learn how Lutheran doctrine compares to the church you currently attend, or grew up attending; you're interested in becoming a member at Holy Cross; you want to explore what your spouse or fiancé (who may already be a Holy Cross member) believes, and why; and/or you would like to more fully understand the spiritual influence Holy Cross school is having on your children who may be attending here. The class will be informative, and we invite lots of questions. The class will be "team taught" by both of us pastors, so you can get to know us and we can get to know you :-). Please contact Pastor Van Kampen (pvankampen@holycrossmadison.org) or Pastor Bartels (mbartels@holycrossmadison.org) if you have any questions or would like to attend.

ELS WOMEN'S RALLY

The 53rd Annual ELS Women's Missionary Society fall rally will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, October 19, at Western Koshkonong Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin. The attached flier (scan QR code to view) provides all the details about speakers, cost, RSVP deadline and when donations are due to the Society's Treasurer Shelly Thompson. *Reminder to sign up in the narthex if you will be attending.* Sign-up ends on Sunday, October 6. Donations for Missions need to be given or sent to Diane Baxter by September 29. Those wishing to mail their contribution may use the address: 771 Timber Ridge Dr. Oregon, WI 53575



BETHANY NATIONAL AUXILIARY DAY

Bethany National Auxiliary Day will be held on the Bethany Lutheran College campus in Mankato, Minnesota on Monday, September 23, 2024, beginning at 9 a.m. During the event, attendees will have the opportunity to hear from Bethany leadership, tour new facilities, and get an update from the ELS and Seminary over lunch. The group will also take part in the annual business meeting where Auxiliary members vote on special projects to support. If you have any questions about Auxiliary Day or how to support it please contact Christopher Kind at 507-344-7862. Please scan QR code for preliminary schedule.