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For pastoral emergencies or for home or hospital visits, please contact Pastor Jay at 377-5357.



# Spring 2021 Newsletter

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## Words of Wisdom

Sometimes you have to let go of  
 the picture of what you thought  
 life would be like and learn to  
 find joy in the  
 story you are  
 actually  
 living.



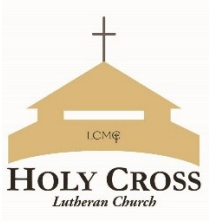
Rachel Marie Martin  
*The Brave Art  
 of Motherhood*



# From the Council Prez- Charlie

Dear Holy Cross Lutheran Church members & friends,

It has now been about 15 months since the world was introduced to the Covid-19 virus. As we look back and digest the overall hardships, suffering and death caused by this pandemic, our Holy Cross family should feel blessed by comparison.



If memory serves correctly, we were totally absent of any form of worship for only one or two weeks before we resorted to social media briefly, followed by our highly successful parking lot services through the end of June. Indoor worship services began the first week of July as we began to return to more normalcy. As a congregation we have much for which to be thankful.

Your church council is happy to report that through the extraordinary efforts by all members of the congregation in one form or another during the past 15 months, Pastor Jay was able to conduct worship services, in-person attendance was good and membership gifts were more than adequate to cover the church's essential operating needs. In comparison to the operations of many congregations, Holy Cross was very blessed and has a bright future.

Looking ahead, we are now addressing some of our deferred maintenance needs. Presently we have signed an agreement with a contractor to shingle the entire roof as well as some fascia and soffit repair/replacement. The total cost will be in the neighborhood of \$65,000. The final cost will be determined as the extent of damage becomes known when the old materials are removed. We are in the fund-raising stage for payment of this project which includes cash gifts and pledges which may be paid in installments over time. As of the time of this letter, the building fund balance is \$25,384. This includes the 12-31-20 balance of \$8,860 plus 2021 gifts of \$16,524. We do have a commitment for a \$20,000 match when we reach current year giving of \$20,000 of which we are \$3,476 short. When we reach that amount and receive the matching funds, the total building fund will be at \$48,860. Keeping in mind that the full project cost is estimated at \$65,000 we still need to continue our fund-raising efforts to reach the final goal. We plan to inform you regularly on the progress of this effort. I am confident that with prayerful considerations and God's blessings we will achieve our goal for this project.

Your comments, questions, concerns and participation are encouraged and welcome. Please feel free to talk with Pastor Jay or a council member at any time.

God Bless,  
Charlie Jakober, HCLC Council President

## Holy Cross Lutheran Church Council, April 15, 2021

Holy Cross Church Council met on April 15, 2021, at 5:30.

Present: Charlie Jakober, Pastor Jay, Sue Boynton, Jessi Stucke, Sophie Doeden, and Sylvia Davis.  
Meeting was called to order by President Charlie. Pastor Jay led us in prayer.

**Treasurer's report:** Motion by Sylvia, seconded by Sophie to approve report as presented. Motion carried.

**Secretary's report:** Motion by Sue, seconded by Sophie to approve report as presented. Motion carried.

### Pastor's report:

Lenten services went well  
A date will be picked for Confirmation, students will have a retreat and write their faith statements  
We are planning on having VBS  
Time and talent sheets have been updated  
Pastoral care class is going well  
Pastor Jay will be gone on his annual fishing trip June 5-10  
Jamison will be preaching on June 6

Note: Minutes printed here may have been partially edited for space. The full, approved minutes are available to view in the church office.

**Old Business:** The roofing project was discussed. The properties committee has awarded the bid to All Over Roofing LLC. Charlie signed the contract with them on April 6, 2021. \*See attached contract. We discussed different options for fund raising for the roofing project: a) \$20,000 challenge, and b) a pledge program. We will be sending out letters to members with more info on this in the near future. Sophie and Sue will work on the pledge project. We will be sending letters to the unsuccessful bidders of the roof project.

**New Business:** Copies of the Facility Use Policy were distributed to the council. Sylvia will update the constitution and by-laws with the new by-law voted on at the annual meeting.

Jessi moved to adjourn, seconded by Sophie.  
We closed with the Lords Prayer.  
Sylvia Davis, Secretary

A Christian guy named Bill saw an ad online for a Christian horse, so he went to check it out. The horse's owner said, "It's easy to ride him. Just say 'Praise the Lord!' to make him go and 'Amen!' to make him stop." Bill got on the horse and said, "Praise the Lord!" Sure enough, the horse started to walk. "Praise the Lord!" he said again, and the horse began to trot. "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" he yelled, and the horse broke into a gallop. Bill was enjoying his ride so much that he almost didn't notice the cliff he and the horse were about to go over. Bill shouted "AMEN!" at the top of his lungs, and the horse stopped right at the edge of the cliff. Relieved, Bill said, "Phew! Praise the Lord!"

## Financial Stuff-Sue

2021 FIRST QUARTER BUDGET REPORT		
2021 BUDGET	\$	95,265.00
WEEKLY	\$	1,832.00
MONTHLY	\$	7,940.00
QUARTERLY	\$	23,816.25
<b>QUARTERLY RECEIVED TO DATE</b>		
January	\$	8,986.00
February	\$	6,892.00
March	\$	8,023.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>23,901.00</b>

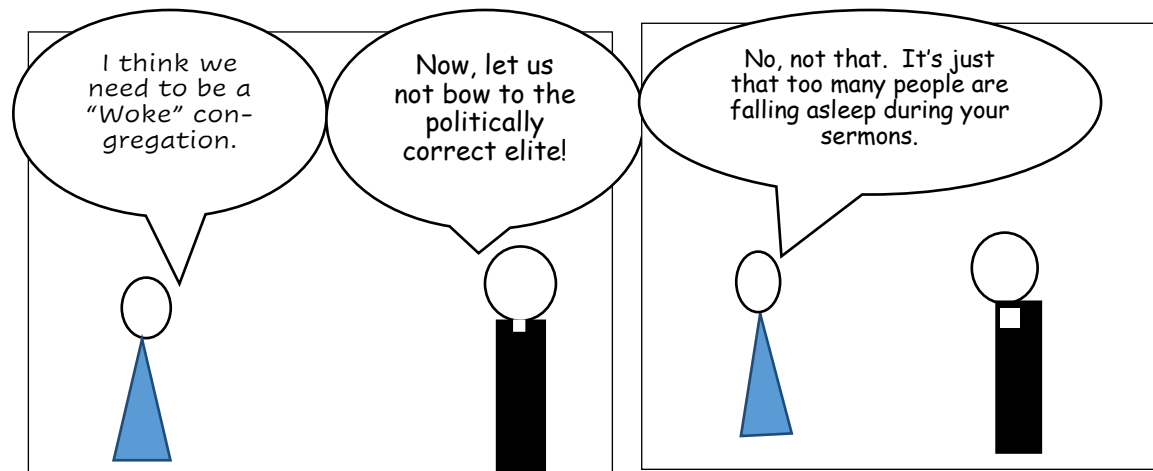


A sincere thank you to all who contributed to the Easter Food Drive. The food items were delivered to the Journey Home. They were very appreciative of this generous donation. Thanks again, and God Bless you all. -Sylvia Davis

**Thank you!**

Thank you to Shawnee, Sandi, and all the ladies who helped out with decorating the Church for Lent and Easter. It was beautiful!

## The Pompous Pastor



## Ministry Calendar

- Pastor Jay gone fishing June 5th-10th
- Thank you Jamison Marshall for preaching Sunday June 6th
- Worship for 1st Responders Sunday June 13th
- Confirmation Sunday June 27th
- VBS dates to be announced....stay tuned
- Biker Round-up Saturday July 17th



## Thoughts and Prayers

Try for a change switching your prayers from "Help me, help me, help me" to "Thank you, thank you, thank you" and watch how quickly you receive more blessings to be thankful for.

Alexa, Sophie, and Pastor Jay share their thoughts and opinions with our government.





Dear Graduates,

## Pastor's Piece

You come of age in a time when your nation is “taking sides”. Sound bites are replacing reasoned dialog and people who are not prepared to debate ideas are silencing and demonizing their opposition. Our first amendment, designed to protect “offensive” speech is threatened by those who cannot tolerate any view but their own. My charge to you is to help restore a culture where free and open debate is valued. Where ideas themselves are not a threat even if they are controversial.

For those going on to further education, this can be a time of creative thinking and problem solving. Great social movements have come from colleges and universities. Higher education today, rather than encouraging critical thinking and open debate, has become a place of indoctrination and the teaching of knee-jerk responses to difficult situations. Proverbs 19 says, “It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way.”

There are some who will be pursuing a career right after graduation. God calls everyone to a vocation that can ultimately serve God's purpose. Proverbs 14 says a simple man believes anything, but a prudent man gives thought to his steps. Live in the knowledge that whatever you do for a living can also be a service to God and your neighbor.

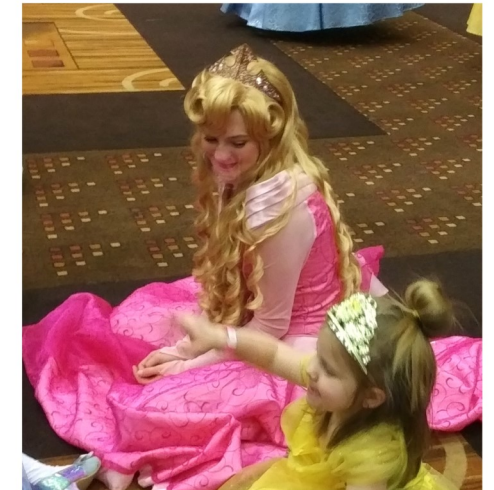
Some of you are still trying to decide what you want to be when you grow up. I only recently figured that out. Your calling is from God and others will help you discern this calling. But, we read in 1 John 4, “Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” Not all advice is good advice. Take your time and leave room for the Holy Spirit to work.

Above all, realize that it is a complicated world with complicated problems. Solutions will not come easy. They certainly will not come from a closed mind spouting slogans and platitudes. Respect those who are older and more experienced than you. Respond to them respectfully but analyze and critique their message. It will soon be time for you to speak and, when you do, speak wisely. Test everything. Hold on to the good. (1 Thes 5:21).



Graduates from left to right: Kathryn Aman, Jaccob Wentz, Abby Wentz, and Briana Altmaier

## Community Involvement



HCLC Members:

Thank you all for continuing to support Holy Cross. One thing I have learned since becoming a member is HCLC isn't your average church. When you walk through those front doors, it's like being at a family gathering every Sunday. Each member of this church truly cares for one another and cares for the church. Although this year has brought us some building maintenance challenges, I have no doubt in my mind that the members of HCLC will step up and find a way to provide – whether that is with time and talents or monetary gifts. If you have any ideas for fundraising or bringing new members into our family, please reach out to me. I am excited for what God has in store for our church.

God Bless,

*Sophie Doeden*, Stewardship, Holy Cross Lutheran Church Council

*P.S. If you haven't received or turned in a pledge card yet, please speak to a council member and we can get you one.*

## Stewardship Alive