

THE mini EPISTLE



JANUARY 2025 Monthly Highlights

Jan 1 – God bless your New Year!

Jan 3 – Pastor David & Karen return from vacation

Jan 5 – The Feast of EPIPHANY

8:30 & 10:45 AM - Holy Communion

9:45 AM - Sunday School for all ages

Jan 7 – 6:30PM Bible Study

Jan 8 – 10:00AM Bible Study

Jan 11 – 8:30 AM Men’s Bible Study Breakfast

Jan 12 – The BAPTISM of OUR LORD

8:30 & 10:45AM - Praise Service

9:45AM - Sunday School for all ages

12:00 Noon - Lunch & Bible Study

Jan 15 – ANNUAL REPORTS DUE to holycrossoffice@rcn.com

Jan 19 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 & 10:45 AM - Holy Communion

9:45 AM - Sunday School for all ages

Jan 21 – 6:30PM Bible Study

Jan 22 – 10:00AM Bible Study

Jan 24 – ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE

Jan 26 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 & 10:45AM - Praise Service

9:45AM - Sunday School for all ages

12:00 Noon - Lunch & Bible Study

Jan 29 – 11:00 AM Preschool Family Worship

Council Highlights from December 2024:

The following people have been elected as officers for the 2025 Church Council:

President – Lyn Stryker

Vice President – Patty Stein

Secretary – Alyce Stein

Treasurer – **Open position -- Please pray!**

Financial Secretary – Jan Stryker

Council meets the third Wednesday of every month. Please keep them in your prayers!

2025 Bible Reading Plan

In 2024, several people from Holy Cross decided to read through the Bible using the same plan to keep each other encouraged and accountable. Though many began the discipline, only a few were able to complete it: congratulations if you were one of them! This coming year we thought we'd try something different: reading through the Bible chronologically. The first month's readings are shown below. The plan may be downloaded here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cS2KTI4xD6SDFHi22S23e_npqLwY6gaf/view

January

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1: Gen 1-3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16: Gen 24-25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2: Gen 4-7 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17: Gen 26-27 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3: Gen 8-11 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18: Gen 28-30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4: Job 1-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19: Gen 31-32 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5: Job 6-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20: Gen 33-35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6: Job 10-15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 21: Gen 36-38 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7: Job 16-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22: Gen 39-41 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8: Job 21-26 | <input type="checkbox"/> 23: Gen 42-43 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9: Job 27-31 | <input type="checkbox"/> 24: Gen 44-45 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10: Job 32-35 | <input type="checkbox"/> 25: Gen 46-48 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11: Job 36-40 | <input type="checkbox"/> 26: Gen 49-50; Ex 1-2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12: Job 41-42; Gen 12-13 | <input type="checkbox"/> 27: Ex 3-4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13: Gen 14-17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 28: Ex 5-7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14: Gen 18-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 29: Ex 8-10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15: Gen 21-23 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30: Ex 11-12 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 31: Ex 13-15 |

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays:

- 1 - Richard Beil
- 5 - Gail Pillar
- 8 - Ruthann Kistler
- 9 - Bruce Landis (100!!!)
- 10 - Ingrid Ulshafer
- 11 - Carol Glasmire
- 15 - Jacqueline Snyder
- 19 - Joseph Barlow
- 22 - Dawn Schaeffer
- 31 - Samuel Lucero

Anniversaries:

- 15 - Mike & Bella Zyskowski
- 30 - Nicholas & Melissa Kulesza

Happy Heavenly Birthday:

Shirley Haug, b. 1/10, d. 2/7/24



The Benevolence Committee asks members to continue prayer support for the missions and missionaries that are supported by Holy Cross Church. We need to raise \$600 a week to meet our benevolence donation goal, which is about 15% of our total 2025 budget.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Bible Fellowship Missions (Nelson Randolph) | Reaching the Unreached - West Africa (Tim & Bev Nappe) |
| Bright Hope Pregnancy Support Centers | |
| Cru (A&M) | Reaching the Unreached - India (Dan & Marji Cloeter) |
| Cru (Bill & Citty Fairback) | Share the Power |
| Child Evangelism Fellowship (Dave Henry) | Transworld Radio (Randy & Cristy Shearer) |
| Compassion International (Breydi, Kiven) | Vantage Point (Eric Johnson) |
| Everlasting Life Ministries (Pr. Gus Al-Khal) | WJCS (89.3) FM Radio (Gordon & Gail Okuley) |
| LAMP - Alaska Missions | Wycliffe Bible Translators (Marcos & Sarah Baughman) |
| Lutheran Bible Translators | |
| Mercy Ships | Youth with a Mission (YWAM) (PK) |
| NALC Disaster Response | |

A New Church Directory is available (updated 11/2024)

If you are aware of any updates or corrections, please get them to the church office. Thank you.

We've moved! Please update your addresses for

Linda Jo Albertson
Liberty Pointe, Room 103
252 Belmont Ave
Doylestown PA 18901

James & Lori (nee Brinker) Marotta
112 Millstone Dr
Canton GA 30115

Please remember to send all updated addresses to the church office at holycrossoffice@rcn.com.

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting November 24, 2024

President Lyn Stryker opened the meeting with prayer. There were 37 members in attendance – a quorum was met.

Agenda: As per our By-Laws, the budget and elections are the only items of business.

Proposed General Fund Budget for 2025:

Lisa Wechsler went over each section of the current fund budget, explaining why there were increases or decreases in the budget. She answered all questions that were asked.

Salaries: The salaries remained the same as last year.

Administration: There were 3 areas of large increases. Payroll fees, supplies and computer service fees. The Administration budget figure is \$9,156.00 – an increase of 12.2 percent. Lisa noted that if we hire a sexton, the fees will increase.

Stewardship: There was an increase of 25 percent in the online giving fees.

Benevolence: Remains the same.

Utilities: This is a 50/50 split. There were 2 increases and 2 decreases.

Church Property: There is a 25 per cent increase in the budget. Most of this is due to the insurance going up by 33 per cent. The trash removal increased by 35 percent.

Worship & Music: There was an increase in the cost of piano maintenance.

Publicity: Remains the same.

Christian Education: There was an increase of 30.36 percent due to replacing materials used for Sunday School.

Social Ministry: Remains the same.

Outreach: There is a 10 per cent increase due to community events such as Fall Family Fest and VBS kits for children that are sent monthly. This fee is split with Christian Education.

Pastor: There is no increase in the Pastor's salary or pension.

The new 2025 General Fund budget is \$172,480.53 which is a 5% increase from last year.

A motion was made by Mike Miller and seconded by Patty Stein to approve the 2025 General Fund budget. Motion carried.

Proposed Benevolence Budget for 2025:

Lisa stated that 2 organizations were eliminated that we previously supported due to them not getting back to us with how they were using the funds that we sent to them.

NALC and Lutheran Core were moved to the Benevolence budget under Denominational Outreach.

Overall, the 2025 Benevolence budget went down by 4.69 percent.

A motion was made by Mike Miller and seconded by Jonah Kincaid to approve the 2025 Benevolence budget. Motion carried.

Election of Members to Church Council:

The following members have completed their term(s) on council:

Sharon Branigan (2nd term); Dawn Schaeffer (2nd term); Miykael Zyskowski (1st term); In addition, Isabella Zyskowski has moved out of the area and resigned her seat. Please thank them for their service.

The following members are currently serving:

Term expiring 2024: Nancy Schmidt (appointed by Council). She is willing to continue serving. Jan Stryker (1st term). She is willing to serve a second term.

Term expiring 2025: Dennis Gilbert (1st term), Pat Gilbert (1st term), Richard Schmidt (1st term), 1 vacancy.

Term expiring 2026: Alyce Stein (1st term), Lyn Stryker (1st term). Ken Yoxheimer (1st term), 1 vacancy

Six seats need to be filled (four 3-year terms, one 2-year term and one 1-year term):

The following have been nominated by Council:

Term expiring 2025: Sally Stein (1st term) 1 yr term

Term expiring 2026: Nancy Schmidt (1st term) 2yr term

Term expiring 2027: Jim Femister (1st term), Irene Graham (1st term), Bill Hoy (1st term), Patty Stein (1st term), Jan Stryker (2nd term)

A motion was made by Jan Stryker and seconded by Mike Miller to elect the members to Council by acclamation. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mike Miller and seconded by Jonah Kincaid to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Pastor closed the meeting with a prayer and everyone adjourned to the Fellowship Hall for a pot-luck luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyce Stein, Secretary

JANUARY 2025

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THUR.	FRI.	SAT.
			1	2	3	4
The Adult Sunday School Room is reserved from 12/26 - 1/4. --->			HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! 7:30PM AA (TR)	12N AA (TR)	10AM Bulletins 5:30PM P&GI (Sanct)	9AM--3PM Material Girls 7:30PM AA (TR)
5 EPIPHANY	6 EPIPHANY	7	8	9	10	11
8:30AM Communion 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Communion 12:30PM P&GI (Sanct.)	7PM Dart Baseball vs College Hill (FH)	9AM Preschool 6:30PM Bible Study (ASSR) 7PM Property (Ofc)	9AM Preschool 10AM Bible Study 6:30PM-Christian Ed 7PM P&GI (Rm 10, 14) 7:30PM AA (TR)	9AM Preschool 12N AA (TR) 5:30PM Finance & Stewardship 6:30PM Worship & Music	10AM Bulletins 3-9PM Colonial Quilters (ASSR) 5:30PM P&GI (Sanct)	8:30AM Men's Breakfast (FH) 9AM--3PM Colonial Quilters (ASSR) 11AM Dart League Officers' meeting (FH) 7:30PM AA (TR)
12 BAPTISM...LORD	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30AM Praise Service 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Praise Service 12N Lunch/ Bible Study 12:30PM P&GI (Sanct.)	7PM Dart Baseball @ East Hills	9AM Preschool mini EPISTLE DEADLINE 6:30PM Colonial Quilters (FH)	9AM Preschool 6PM Exec. Meeting 6:30PM Church Council 7PM P&GI (Rm 10, 14) 7:30PM AA (TR) ANNUAL REPORTS DUE	9AM Preschool 12N AA (TR)	10AM Bulletins FH Reserved 5:30PM P&GI (Sanct)	1-5PM FH Reserved 1:00PM Staff Meeting (Ofc) 7:30PM AA (TR)
19 EPIPHANY 2	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30AM Communion 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Communion 12:30PM P&GI (Sanct.)	7PM Dart Baseball vs Bethany UCC (FH)	9AM Preschool 6:30PM Bible Study (ASSR)	9AM Preschool 10AM Bible Study 5PM Outreach / Publicity 7PM P&GI (Rm 10, 14) 7:30PM AA (TR)	9AM Preschool 9AM-3PM Material Girls (ASSR) 12N AA (TR)	10AM Bulletins MARCH FOR LIFE FH Reserved 5-7PM ASSR Reserved 5:30PM P&GI (Sanct)	1-5PM FH Reserved 7:30PM AA (TR)
26 EPIPHANY 3	27	28	29	30	31	February 1
8:30AM Praise Service 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Praise Service 12N Lunch/ Bible Study 12:30PM P&GI (Sanct.)	7PM Dart Baseball vs Trinity/ Edgeboro (FH)	9AM Preschool	9AM Preschool 11AM Preschool Family Worship 7PM P&GI (Rm 10, 14) 7:30PM AA (TR)	9AM Preschool 12N AA (TR)	10AM Bulletins 5:30PM P&GI (Sanct)	8:30AM Men's Breakfast (ASSR) 7:30PM AA (TR)

JANUARY 2025 SERVANTS OF THE LORD

		1/5	1/12	1/19	1/26
Communion Server	8:30	Patty Stein		Patty Stein	
	10:45	Lyn Stryker		Lyn Stryker	
Greeter	8:30	Diane Hahn	Sally Stein	Pat Gilbert	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
	10:45	Irene Graham	Sharon Branigan	Irene Graham	Sharon Branigan
Lector	8:30	Pat Gilbert	Don Frankenfield	Kathy Ballek	Alyce Stein
	10:45	Lyn Stryker	Karen Brown	Jim Femister	Lyn Stryker
Liturgist	8:30	Patty Stein	Seth Miller	Patty Stein	Pat Gilbert
	10:45	Lyn Stryker	Karen Brown	Lyn Stryker	Lyn Stryker
Live Stream	8:30	Jan Stryker	Jonah Kincaid	Jan Stryker	Jonah Kincaid
Prayer Care		Sharon Branigan	Ruthann Kistler	Pat Gilbert	Darlene Treisner
Song Leader	8:30	Emma Fliszar	Pastor David	Emma Fliszar	Nancy Cook
	10:45	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Pastor David	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Nancy Cook
Sound	8:30	Josh Miller	Josh Miller	Josh Miller	Josh Miller
	10:45	Ken Yoxheimer	Ken Yoxheimer	Ken Yoxheimer	Ken Yoxheimer
Usher	8:30	Jan Stryker		Jan Stryker	
	10:45	Irene Graham		Irene Graham	
Altar Guild: Jan Stryker & <i>Volunteer needed</i>			Children's Church: Ruthann Kistler		
Counters: Karen Brown, Jan Stryker			Phone Tree: Jim Femister		
Prayer of the Church: Mike Zyskowski			Communion Visitors: Sharon Branigan, Pr David		

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church



a congregation of the
NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



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