

The Lighted Cross

Holiday Worship Schedule

- ***School Christmas
Service***

Thursday, Dec. 17, 6:30 pm
The Christmas service by the children of our school is entitled, "To Us a Child is Born – Christmas through Isaiah's Eyes!"

- ***Sunday School
Christmas Service***

Sunday, Dec. 13, 10:30 am
The Christmas account will be told by the Sunday School Children and High School Youth. (Note: Our 8:15 am service and Monday evening service will be regular church services. Our 10:30 service will be the Sunday School Service – ALL are welcome!)

- ***Christmas Eve Services***

Thursday, December 24 at
5 & 10 pm

- ***Christmas Day Service***

Friday, December 25, 10 am

- ***New Year's Eve***

Thursday Dec 31, 6:30 pm
This service will include our traditional end-of-the-year individual confession and absolution

Invite Someone to Church for Christmas – Electronically!

The first visitors to Jesus' manger, the shepherds, spread abroad what they had seen and heard. They were witnesses! Christmas is a time of great joy for us as Christians... our Savior has been born! During the holiday season, your unchurched neighbors, friends, and relatives may be looking for deeper meaning in their lives. What an opportunity to invite them to a church service where they will hear the saving gospel message of Christ! If you would like to send an email invitation produced by our evangelism committee, email cindy@elderspan.com and ask her to forward you a copy!

Christmas Wreaths Arrive on Sunday

If you ordered a Christmas wreath through the Holy Cross PTO, they will be available to be picked up between services on Sunday, November 29 (or during the week, if you call!)

Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 6 at 11:30 am
Support the High School Youth by attending the Christmas Spaghetti Dinner. The dinner is one of the ways that the youth raise money for the National Youth Convention in Virginia Beach, Virginia next

summer. Please sign up on the office window, or call the church office at 249-3101.

***No worship service on
Monday, December 28...***

***Please come to the
Thursday New Year's Eve
service instead!***

Sunday School Christmas Practice

Saturday, Dec. 5, 9:30 – 11 pm
Saturday, Dec 12, 9:30 – 11 pm
Parents, of Sunday School and High School Youth: Please help your children prepare for the Sunday School Christmas Service. Please go over the songs and recitations with your children. Please bring them to Sunday School on Sundays and to the official practices on Saturdays, December 5 & 12. Thank you!

All Boards, Church Council – New Date

All Board members and Church Council members... please note that for the month of December we will meet one week earlier than normal. Plan to meet on Thursday, **December 10...**

- Elders at 6 pm
- All Boards at 6:30 pm
- Church Council at 8 pm

Poinsettias

Would you like to help decorate the sanctuary with a poinsettia and take it home after Christmas, or

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donate it to a home-bound member? If so, call the church office soon at 249-3101. Thanks!

One Extra Gift

Please consider giving the gift of life on Wednesday, December 30. Holy Cross and the American Red Cross will sponsor a community blood drive on that day. Please watch for ways to pre-register in the days and weeks to come.

Thanks from Jerry Meder

“Thanks to everyone for your phone calls, cards, visits, and prayers before and during my surgery and recovery. It is so comforting knowing our Lord was watching over the surgeons and all the medical staff that made it a success. I am looking forward to a full recovery. A special thanks to Pastor Bartels and Pastor Tweit for your visits and special words of encouragement. Thanks again!”

Jerry Meder

Baby Jesus, Luther, and the Food Pantry

Sunday –Monday, Dec. 7-8

Luther once said in a Christmas sermon, “*There are many of you in this congregation who think to yourselves: ‘If only I had been there! How quick I would have been to help the Baby. I would have washed his linen. How happy I would have been to go with the shepherds to see the Lord lying in the manger!’ You say that because you know how great Christ is, but if you had been there at that time you would have done no better than the people of Bethlehem. Why don’t you do it now? You have Christ in your neighbor. You ought to serve him, for what you*

do to your neighbor in need you do to the Lord Christ himself.”

Non-perishable food items may be dropped off by the coat racks at church. Thanks!

Giving Tree

This time of the year it is important to remember how truly blessed we are. Unfortunately there are many people who do not have as much as we do. PTO is hosting a "Giving Tree" for some of the children in the community who may not be able to have presents for Christmas. It is simple to select a child and gift by looking on the PTO Board. There are mittens on it that list the sex, age and gift they are requesting for their gift. The older children have requested gift cards (these can be ordered with your normal SCRIP orders). If you decide to sponsor a child please remove the mitten from the board and tape it to the item when you return it to either the school or church office. Items will be delivered to the Goodman Community Center for wrapping Dec 11th - 16th for wrapping. If you have any questions please call Suzi at 712-3341.

ESL Christmas Party

Sunday, December 13, 2 – 4 pm

The Christmas Party for the ESL (English as a Second Language) staff and students plus their families will be on December 13 in the church cafeteria. ESL staff, please bring a snack to pass. The students and their families will be our guests. We hope to sing some Christmas carols in Spanish and English and also have a piñata for the children. ESL staff, be sure to tell your students so they can mark their calendars.

Special Gifts- November

- Numerous gifts to the Relocation Fund
- Numerous gifts to the Roof Repair fund
- To the Transportation fund

Thanks from a Veteran

“To the students and staff of Holy Cross School and Church – As a veteran, I would like to say a very special thank-you! I have been to all of your programs honoring all veterans, and each year it gets better and better. Thanks for all the hard work you put into each program!”

A Veteran

Children’s Ministry Bag

The Mom’s Group has a new program for young school-aged children of Holy Cross. It is intended to help the children learn more about the Bible and stay focused during the sermon. Any child is welcome to use this bag of activities, but it is geared for children in grade PK-3. They are located in the back of the church on the tables by the windows. They contain sheets, crayons, pencil, stickers and a notebook. After the service, please take the completed sheets and return the rest of the items with the bag back to the tables. The activities will be changed weekly.

Mom’s Group

The Mom’s Group will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 8th, from 9:30am-11:00am in the school cafeteria. This is our monthly playdate, and mom’s and kids will be decorating Christmas cookies! Everything will be provided, so you need not bring anything. We will also be doing a

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simple craft. Please call Pam at
318-0973 or Nedra at 592-3638 if
you have any questions.

Special Acts-November

Baptisms

Stella Marie Lindorff 11/1

Parker David Griffin 11/1

Weddings

Chad Ingle/Sally Ackerman 11/21

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