



# Holy Cross Connections

## Upcoming Events:

**A Night in Bethlehem  
December 10  
and  
December 11**

Holy Cross Connections

November 2011

## There's Something Every Week! And Praise God; It's All Good!

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Yes, November is going to be a busy month for us at Holy Cross, beginning with October 30<sup>th</sup>. **First is our ministry fair on both Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday November 6.** The Fellowship Hall will be filled with table displays highlighting our various Holy Cross ministries. Brief job descriptions for a myriad of ministry possibilities will be available for you to look over and contemplate trying. Our prayer is that you will be able to **find a way to express your own unique God-given S.H.A.P.E. for service** through one of them. Plus, there will be some great snacks and goodies to munch on while you browse, visit and meet new faces! This will take the place of our Adult Bible Study on these 2 Sundays. **Children's Sunday School with take place as normal.**

**Ministry Fair  
October 30  
AND November 6**  
"... find a way to express your own unique God-given S.H.A.P.E. for service ..."

**Second is our Haiti Mission report during all 3 services on Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup>.** Several members from our Mission Team will be sharing their experiences in Haiti with us. We will see pictures and hear first hand how God is opening more doors and using us to be a blessing to our Lutheran sisters and brothers in Cap Haitian and Awanimath. We have had some significant breakthroughs in communication and understanding as well as discovering a new, better and less expensive route to get there!

**Third will be our "Answering His Call – building Spaces for Old and**

**New Faces."** It has been a year now since we experienced that wonderful campaign. God has blessed it and us in so many fabulous ways! We are going to be celebrating these blessings on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. As promised, those who made commitments a year ago will be given the opportunity to adjust their commitments *up or down* for the remaining 2 years, in proportion to how God has been prospering them. "New Faces" to our congregation will be invited to join the "Old Faces" of our congregation in *Answering His Call*. New members will be invited to make a 2-year commitment to our capital campaign.

**Fourth will be our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service, at 7 PM, November 23.** Remember, the bird always tastes better if its consumer has first taken the time to soak themselves in worship, praise and thanksgiving to God for all that He has given us spiritually, relationally, and physically.

**Fifth and finally, Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> is the first Sunday in Advent** – the beginning of a new church year. Our focus in worship will turn to our preparations – not just to celebrate a holiday, but – to receive our risen Savior and King as He comes to us in His Word and Sacraments now and when He comes for us with His holy angels on the last day.

I pray you are blessed in each and every way this month – and that you continuously keep rejoicing in God, our Savior!

Your brother in Jesus,  
Pastor Kip

## Outreach Connections

**Holy Cross Quilting** needs! We give thanks to God for allowing this team of dedicated assemblers and sewers to glorify our Lord Jesus with quilts for the hurting and needy locally and all over the world! As the quilters prepare for winter assembly they have a few requests: new or gently used sheets (no stains please) — cotton fabric preferable. Use your JoAnn Fabric coupons and choose your favorite colors! 1 1/8 yards = ½ quilt. If you have questions, please call Sarah Hough at 433-0658.

### **Holy Cross Ministry Fair**

Don't forget to take advantage of the Ministry Fair kiosks that have specific ministry descriptions for exciting ministry opportunities for you to get plugged in. Check it out on October 30 and November 5 during the Sunday School hour in the Fellowship Hall, give it a try... you might like it!

Thank You(!) again for your generous donation of gently used clothing for Urban Ark in October. Another ministry opportunity connected to Urban Ark that may excite you is the collection of money by the Men's Ministry to buy Thanksgiving turkeys and potatoes for those in our community who are served by Urban Ark. We are on track to collect more than \$1,600 for this great outreach of love for this Thanksgiving! You may contact Ron Akins for more info at 330-966-7711.

**Caught being a blessing!** Barb and Dennis Hardin delivered 36 boxes of quilts to Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Seville, Ohio. This is one more stop before the semi-trailer is fully loaded to take quilts to Lutheran World Relief for distribution around the world!

Thanks Dennis and Barb!

**The November/December Giving Tree** will focus our ministry during Advent on gifts for the children at McGregor Elementary. We will deliver gifts to McGregor Elementary School in Canton where a high percentage of families live in poverty that otherwise would be unable to provide gifts for the children in the family.

**Look for the Giving Tree in the hallway.** Each child will have two angels on the tree and will receive one clothing gift and one fun gift. We are asking that you select an angel from the tree, purchase a gift between \$15 and \$20. Using the suggestion listed on the angel as a guide, wrap the gift, and **return it to church before December 15.** We will deliver the gifts along with an age appropriate booklet for each child which will share the Gospel with them.

**A Night in Bethlehem** is our next big community outreach event. Plans are continuously being made to make this year's event even greater than before. Sign up now for acting, serving, decorating and set up, behind the scenes help etc.! Check out the bulletin board in south hallway to see where you can help! Also — TAKE THE 2011 ANIB POSTCARDS and invite your neighbors and friends. They are on the counter in the hallway.

**How you can help!** Of course you need not wait until we have a "big event" before you invite a friend to Holy Cross. Take the opportunity to invite someone when you go to one of the many worship services or Bible studies offered or when you are serving in some capacity. It's more fun to share these times with a friend!

Due to the extreme makeover the interior of the church will undergo for A Night In Bethlehem, there will not only be a Men's Bible Study Breakfast in December — How about breakfast for the Men and Outreach Team? **Breakfast is at 8:00 AM on December 10.** Get filled up with food, fellowship and fun-filled set-up for ANIB!!!

## Children's Ministry

November is here and we are so thankful for all of the learning and growing that has been happening in our classrooms. We are two months into our school year and it is time to take a look at the attendance for each child. Please make an effort to bring your child to class on Sunday and Wednesday each week. Consistency is so very important as October's lessons focused on the life of Joseph, from his childhood to adult years. Missing one or more of the lessons leaves a gap in understanding their full meaning. We are in the process of building a faith foundation together. Each child is such a blessing to us. Thank you for sharing them with us each week.

### Holy Cross University

Holy Cross U has begun our Fall session. The EC and MC groups

are working hard to learn songs for Advent. The Advent choir will be singing one song at each Advent Service. AREA 456 is learning the Anatomy of Worship along with their Bible rotation.

**Holy Cross U will be CRAZY with fun on Wednesdays:**

November 2

**Pajama Night**

**(All kids and adults are encouraged to wear PJ's.)**

November 9

**Crazy Hair Night**

November 16

**Mixed/matched clothing**

November 23

**No Holy Cross U Classes  
7 PM Thanksgiving Eve Svc.**

## Youth in Christ Goings On ...

Our November Youth Parenting Meeting will be Saturday, November 5 from 7-8:30 PM at the Youth House. We'll be talking YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY along with other topics and devotions. Please sign up to bring a snack to share.

Youth Coffee House will be on holiday hiatus until January— be ready for more crazy, caffeinated fun in 2012!

The Ohio District Senior Youth Gathering will be Friday, November 18—Sunday, November 20 in Columbus. Please keep the adult and youth participants in your prayers for a weekend full of faith: Sami & Marie Erb, Brenda & Sarah Staker, Kathryn Sanders & Jaclyn Wood.

Offerings continue to be taken weekly in all Sunday School classes to help support our missionaries, and also help to keep hospitality snacks at the Youth House on Sunday mornings for these hungry kids.

**EC and MC Movie Night  
Friday, Nov. 18, 6:30 PM**

**THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY**



"When it seems you have nothing to bring, what gift can you give the King?"  
Wear your PJ's and bring a bed time snack to share!

October Volunteer of the year question: Which teacher makes you feel important?

"Mrs. Butler — She knows a lot. She gives me hugs and cares about us." — Reagan

"Mrs. Wright because she teaches us great dances." — Abby

"My Uncle Kyle because he makes sports fun." — Brett

**Overwhelmingly though the responses came in that Mr. Stan Koehlinger makes our 4/5th graders feel the most important. Thanks Mr. Stan for being such a dedicated Sunday School teacher!**

November's question

Which teachers am I thankful for? Please submit your response by November 15th to Sarah O'Briskie.

Don't forget to be using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your regular Internet search engine, with Holy Cross North Canton as the beneficiary charity organization. Every search helps our Youth Group get to San Antonio as well as recycling your aluminum cans (drop off in church boiler room), and PaperRetriever bin recycling! Keep 'em coming and **FILL THOSE BINS!**

## Ministry Fair

Sunday, October 30 AND

Sunday, November 5



This is a way to see how you can express your unique God-given S.H.A.P.E. for service at Holy Cross. Come to the Fellowship Hall at 10 AM to discover how you can serve the Lord through your gifts.

## Voters Assembly

November 6, 7:00 PM

Agenda: 2012 Holy Cross Budget, Elections for Vision & Leadership Board positions, and the state of Holy Cross. ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Ladies Book Discussion

We will read and discuss "Unlocked," by Karen Kingsbury on **November 14**. We will meet at the Youth House on Ivy Street at **7:00 PM**.

Linda Eckberg and Sandy Wood will be the leaders for discussion.

Call Sharon Ludwig at 492-8198 if you need a book or need directions.

## Holy Cross Crafters

November 15, 7:00 PM

At the Youth House

## Hospitality Helpers

The new sign up sheet for 2012 is posted on the bulletin board across from the church office. Anyone can serve. Fill in your name and you will be notified as to what to do.

We are also looking for a hostess for November 27 as well as for a couple of openings in December.

## Young at Heart

Tuesday, November 8, 1:00 PM

Lunch at Hometown Buffet

Belden Village



Join us for lunch and fellowship. Bring a friend. Please sign up on the sheet outside the church office.

## Young at Heart

Christmas Luncheon, Tuesday, December 13

We are making early reservations for our Christmas luncheon and carols in the Banquet Room at the Danbury in North Canton.

Main Entrée choice of one:

Roast beef w/mashed potato and gravy or

Baked Tilapia/lemon butter & baked potato w/ sour cream

Please check one choice per person and return to Karen Slaggy's mailbox **by Tuesday, November 8**. We have reservations for only 60 people, so please don't wait to get your name on the list.

RSVP

Names and entrée choice \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Still interested in joining MOPS

(Mothers of Preschoolers)?

It's not too late!

Our next meeting is **November 15 from 6:30 — 8:30 PM**. We'll be learning ways to help our children remember and appreciate the true meaning of Christmas. We'll talk about what we can do to help keep Christ in Christmas, while enjoying good food and sharing in great fellowship.

Child care is available and free!

We'd love to have you join us!

## School Mission and Ministry News

October is always a fun month at Holy Cross Preschool and Kindergarten where we will have celebrated God's bountiful goodness with Harvest Parties. Special thanks to the Church Link group!

We praise God for the children He has sent us. Now we are faced with the challenge of how best to minister to these children their and families so Christ's mission can be carried out through us.

Please remember to save your **Box Tops for Education** and your **Acme cash register receipts** for us. Through this effort, we support two children through World Vision.

The children in the **two and three-year-old class** have been learning about Fall and all the changes they see around them. They learned that apples are ready for picking. They learned that God put seeds inside apples so new ones can grow and that just as the trees and apples grow, so do we. The children discovered that leaves can be crunchy or soft, big or small and very colorful. The children continue to learn that they can talk to God at any time. We are thankful for the opportunity to plant the seeds of faith in these little ones. (Mrs. Anne Hankins & Mrs. Debbie Swinehart)

The children in the **three & four-year-old class** are making great progress. They have been working hard on their color and shape books and are learning how to hold pencils and scissors correctly. They have been enjoying the season of Fall in their projects. They cut open a pumpkin to find out what was inside and saved the seeds for spring planting. In their Bible

stories they learned how God cares for them and listens to their prayers. God always answers prayers. The children learned about Joseph. They wove a basket to hold



baby, Moses! This led them to talk about how God gave them families to love and care for. It is wonderful to see the children remembering to give thanks and praise for all of God's good gifts. (Mrs. Christi Ludwig & Mrs. Patty Wallace)

The **four & five-year-old class** spent much of the month of October learning about God's love. God answers prayer, gives us friends, heals us, and protects us as they learned about Samuel, David, Jonathan, and Namaan. The children learned about the importance of praising Him Who gives us everything they have. What fun it was to watch the children pretending to be dinosaurs all the while learning about the letter D! Next came the letter E. The class used their ears as they pounded leaves. The class has adopted Gina's uncle, Army Specialist Michael Polombi stationed in Korea. Each month the class will make a little something to send to him and they pray for him daily. (Mrs. Teri Hockman, Mrs. Tiffany Clay & Mrs. Leslie Martin)

October was the month to discuss animals in the **pre-kindergarten class**. Forest animals, water animals and farm animals were their specific focus. They studied David and his shepherd duties as well as the fisherman/disciples of Jesus to



coordinate with these animal themes. Each week as the children learn a new letter and its sound, they identify things that begin with that letter. It is such a joy to see the children learning about God's love and protection. (Mrs. Christina Jacobsen & Mrs. Leslie Martin)

The **Kindergarten** children are amazing themselves with their new reading and spelling skills. They read their first decodable reader this month and realized how fast they went from words, to sentences, to a whole book! In math they worked with patterns of two and three objects, sets of more and less, and numbers 0-5. They learned about maps, the United States, and Christopher Columbus. They used their map skills to go on a treasure hunt for the letter "T." Bible Time found them learning about God's amazing plan for His people as He used the faith of Joseph and Moses to accomplish His purpose. God, through the Holy Spirit, gives us faith. He uses our faith for His purpose. (Mrs. Heather Wright)

Those of us who know Jesus are already assured of a place in God's Kingdom, now and in eternity. As His redeemed children, we realize how precious His gifts are and how crucially important it is to help all of God's children claim Christ for their Salvation. Please continue to pray for the school, the children, and the staff. The time we have to influence these children is short. We would like to see all of them in heaven with us someday. We don't want a single child or parent who has been put into our care and keeping to be lost.

Marjorie James, Administrator

## Canton City Schools — Archibald McGregor Elementary

October 6, 2011

Dear Holy Cross Lutheran Congregation,

Once again I would like to thank each and every one of you who helped us to start our school year off on such a positive note. Your vast donation of book bags, school supplies, tissues, underwear, and much more, enabled our students to begin this year in a more confident and upbeat tone.

With the downtrend in our local economy and our poverty rate of over 92% for most of our students, your donations were welcomed with open arms. They helped many of our families with the supplies that their children needed. These supplies were an enormous help for those who struggle daily to provide just the necessary basics such as food and clothing. They were extremely grateful for all that you gave them.

The start of this school year has been an extremely busy one for our staff. McGregor is the only school choice building for Canton City elementary students. We had close to 160 more children decide to continue their education with us this year. We are just now getting to the bottom of all the additional paperwork and it's finally starting to settle down. It is necessary to say that all of the extra things that you supplied to us have helped to assist many more parents and students.

Again I would like to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart. Your generous donations helped create a very positive learning atmosphere as our school year began. Thanks for continuing to care about our students and their education.

Sincerely Rose Hadbavny, Community Worker

## North Canton Meals on Wheels

In May of 1973, a committee was formed to meet the challenge of providing meals to homebound seniors in the North Canton area. Plans were made to begin delivering meals on January 7, 1974. At a Volunteer luncheon in 1991, Lorraine Gibbs shared her memories of those early days.

“Hot meals were supplied by a vending service ... cold meals were to be prepared at the (North Canton) “Y” kitchen. The Coordinator worked out of a supply closet! We soon found the hot meals unsatisfactory and realized the need for a cook. We had to share the kitchen with other groups at the “Y” and that made for further problems. Soon we would need a new location!

While we sought a new kitchen, we had the downtown “Y” prepare the hot meals for us. What a hectic time that was! When the volunteers brought the hot meals up to the North Canton “Y”, we had to repack them in our coolers and add the cold supper meal. We many times did all this on the steps of the “Y” so as to save time. This was in April 1974. At this point, the coordinator resigned!

In November of 1974, North Canton Meals on Wheels moved into the building of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, which has been our location ever since. We are very grateful to Holy Cross not only for hosting us and providing support for the past 38 years, but also for the wonderful members who have donated their time and resources to help those whom we serve. There are still challenges and blessings ahead. We look forward to continue meeting the needs of the elderly in our community. Thank you, members of Holy Cross, for including North Canton Meals on Wheels in your plans.

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## Upcoming Events:

A Night in Bethlehem  
December 10  
and  
December 11



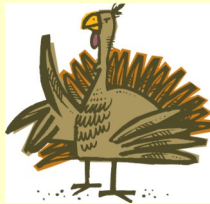
Holy Cross Lutheran Church New Sanctuary  
More room for "old and new faces"

## Shepherd Action Team

The Shepherding Action Team requests your help. The following individuals have not been in worship here with us for the past 12(+) months. If you see any of them or have a personal relationship with them, please offer them words encouragement to bring them back into a worshipping relationship with their Lord Jesus Christ.

Ron & Lori Obermiller  
Krista Vranich  
James Worley  
David Smith

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING



"I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and compote the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich." — The Turkey

## CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

### Cornucopia

Cornucopia, a Greek word meaning "horn of plenty," has origins in Greek mythology. But the cornucopia became a religious symbol and was even stamped on Jewish coins. Overflowing horns, now common as Thanksgiving centerpieces, came to symbolize abundance and blessings.



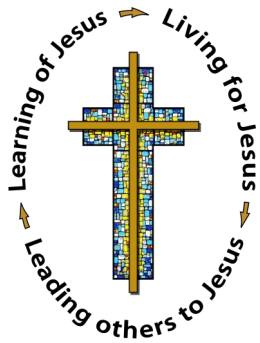


Proposed Addition for Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Holy Cross Lutheran  
7707 North Market Avenue  
North Canton, OH 44721

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
P A I D  
Canton, OH  
Permit No. 123

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Holy Cross Lutheran Church** is a Christ-centered, friendly, mission-minded, Bible-based community of believers who strive to carry out ministry with integrity and excellence.

*Sunday Mornings At Holy Cross*

7:30 AM Liturgy of Praise  
Traditional Worship

8:45 AM Majestic Praise  
Blended Worship

8:45 AM Adult Bible Class

10:00 AM Sunday School, Youth Bible Class,  
and Adult Bible Hour

11:00 AM Expressions of Praise  
Contemporary Worship

Richard "Kip" Smith, Senior Pastor

Ralph Hough  
Associate Pastor for Outreach and Discipleship

Ted Voss, Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Ellyn Dillon  
Worship Ministries Coordinator

Mr. Steve James  
Audio/Visual Tech Coordinator

Mrs. Lorin Zuppe  
Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Ministry

Mrs. Sarah O'Briskie  
Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

Mrs. Judy O'Briskie, Office Manager  
Marie Erb, Soul Accounting Secretary  
Karen Slaggy, Visitation Coordinator  
Mr. Richard Reed, Property Manager

Mrs. Marjorie James  
Holy Cross School Administrator



**December Newsletter  
Deadline  
Sunday, November 20**

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