

Abundant News

I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly ~ Jesus

JUNE 2025

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Getting to Know You...

We are so blessed at this moment in history to have a healthy, growing congregation, large enough to actually need two worship services for most of the year.

One of the challenges congregations with more than one worship service always face is developing different congregational cultures around each of the worship times. Quite naturally, people get to know and look forward to seeing the same people week after week, and each group develops not only distinct friendships, but its own ways of communicating and "doing church."

Because attendance typically drops a bit during the summer and we are so busy as a congregation throughout the school year with all sorts of activities, the church Council has decided this year to take the summer to slow down, worship together, and "recharge our batteries" for the mission that Christ has given us.

They know that everyone has reasons for preferring their usual worship time, but they can also see the potential upside for us as a congregational family, so when you are home this summer, come meet some new people at church! ...and when you are away, don't forget to listen to our sermon podcast and stream worship through our church app, downloadable from our church website. (You can also stream worship directly through the website without using a smart device.)

May Christ bless us as we downshift our pace for a little bit, connect more deeply as a congregation, and are prepared by God for the next stage of our journey together!

Ph. Britt

MAY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS...



- ♦ Starting June 1 we will have one service at 9:15 for the summer months.
- ♦ The church Yard Sale has moved to Saturday, June 28th
- ♦ An outdoor service is scheduled for August 17th at 9:15am.

See Council minutes on page 9

June Altar Flower Sponsorships

June 1

Cindy Denker in honor of Nicole Kufrovich's Birthday
Andy Zaso in honor of the Merry Band of Believers at Holy Cross

June 8

Judy & Phillip Odenwelder in honor of their Anniversary
Terry, Deb, & Josh Johnson in honor of
Tyler & Destiny's 1st Anniversary

June 15

Anita & Marcellus Trach in honor of Our 74th Wedding Anniversary
Catherine DeBoeser in memory of My father, John Reckner, Jr.

June 22

Terry & Deb Johnson in memory of Father, Lester Klipple
Beatrice Klipple in memory of Lester Klipple

June 29

Fred & Elizabeth Bechtoldt in memory of Loved Ones
Sponsorship Available

Thank you to all our Altar Flower Sponsors!

Two sponsors are sought for each Sunday of the year at a cost of **\$25** per sponsorship. Please consider sponsoring Altar flowers in memory of someone, or in honor of a special occasion. See the binder in the Narthex, or contact the Church Office to sponsor fresh flowers. Payment can be submitted in a Designated Gift Envelope and checks can be made out to: *Holy Cross Lutheran Church.*

Sponsors can pick up their flowers by the Monday after their sponsorship date.

Any flowers left after Monday will be used for sick & shut-in visits.



SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 1st—August 31st

One worship service at 9:15am on Sundays

JOIN US!

June Lessons

June 1, 2025

Ascension Sunday

Acts 1:12-26
Psalm 133:1-3
Revelation 22:1-6, 7-11, 12-20
John 17:20-26

June 8, 2025

Pentecost Sunday

Genesis 11:1-9
Psalm 143:1-12
Acts 2:1-21
John 14:23-31

June 15, 2025

Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8:1-9
Acts 2:14a, 22-36
John 8:48-59

June 22, 2025

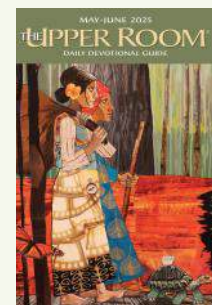
2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 65:1-9
Psalm 3:1-8
Galatians 3:23-4:7
Luke 8:26-39

June 29, 2025

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:9b-21
Psalm 16:1-11
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62



Copies of the **MAY - JUNE** Upper Room daily devotional are available in the Narthex, or contact the Church Office

Family News



Rosella Misiti; David Breinig; Nicole Berry; Jeff Rowohlt; Louis Coxe; Kelly Kurz; Jamie Hahn; Ben Vituszynski; Lisa Amy; Gerald Bartholomew; Elizabeth Jenkins; Coleen Johnson; Howard Kindred; Deb Letterhouse; Jennifer Vandegrift; Katie Ann Grube; Terry Johnson; Karen Bachman; Anthony Bulawa; Iain Jenkins; Sandra Trach; Rebekah Livermore; Adrienne Barnowski; Anthony Bombico; Dennis Klipple; Linda Rissmiller; Avery Yazujian; Avery Ingenito; Bryce Arfanel-la; Kalli Brink; Michelle Stevenson; Jeremy Trach; Jack Scuderi; Duane Stevenson, Jr.; Benjamin Gostony; Darcy Murphy; Gerard Marotta; Ethan Trach; Keith Johnsen; Stephen Rissmiller; Hallie Jo Godiska; Amanda Leindecker; Alivia Demyan, & Jillian Skurjunis!



Gerald Sr. & Victoria Knauss; Jody & Danielle Brearman; Brendon & Leah Wisser; Heidi & Andrew Cohen; Deborah & Paul Durnin; Phyllis & Jeffrey Gostony Sr.; Brian & Tama Minnich; Marcus & Anita Trach; Ronald & Renee Madea; Trisha & Tyson Norton; Robert & JoAnn Sandt; Karl & Catherine DeBoeser; Richard & Sandra Michael; Phillip & Judy Odenwelder; Brett & Lisa Jenkins; William & Carolyn Metzgar; David & Jennifer Vandegrift.



Let someone know you are thinking about them.

An updated list of members who would appreciate receiving a card is available in the Narthex, or you can contact the Church Office.



Spend some time after the 9:15AM service to enjoy Christian friendship with your church family!

Enjoy a drink and a treat, catch up with old friends, or make some new ones!

Each week a different church committee, family, or group of members, hosts Social Hour.



Our Hosts for JUNE are...

JUNE 1 ~ Social Ministry
JUNE 8 ~ POTLUCK SUNDAY
JUNE 15 ~ Worship Arts/Choir
JUNE 22 ~ Women of Abundance
JUNE 29 ~ Hospitality/Funeral Servers

We are looking for Social Hour Hosts!
 If YOU, your FAMILY or GROUP would like to host Social Hour, please contact the church office to schedule a date!



Would you like to place an article in the monthly newsletter? Highlight your ministry? Post a Thank You? Make an announcement?

Deadline for the July Newsletter is June 15.

EARLY SUBMISSIONS ARE APPRECIATED!

You may email your submissions to Secretary@holycrossnazareth.org



Copies of the printed **Prayer List** are available in the Narthex. Please keep all who are ill or hospitalized in your prayers and remember them with your cards or phone calls. Your caring is deeply appreciated!



Bryce Arfanella, son of AJ and Kami Arfanella, graduated in the Top 10 in his class from Nazareth Area High School. He was the President of the National Honor Society, President of the Future Business Leaders of America, an officer of the Chief Science Officer organization and a member of the Varsity Baseball team, where he received the Scholar Athlete Award for Baseball. Bryce has been an active member of the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 74 at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, where he recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. He constructed the outdoor altar for the Church as his Eagle Scout Project. Bryce will continue his education at Schreyer Honors College at Penn State University, where he looks to work towards a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering with a minor in Engineering Leadership.

Elias Bombico, son of Amanda and Anthony Bombico, graduated from The Classical Christian Co-op of Nazareth.

Delilah Cohen, daughter of Heidi and Andrew Cohen, graduated from The Classical Christian Co-op of Nazareth. She is exploring her options but plans to work and hopes her future involves music!

Frederick Michael Grube, son of Nathan and Margaret Grube, graduated from Nazareth Area High School, where he was on high honor roll, earned the Blue Eagle Award, and a member of the Varsity Soccer team. Freddie plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh for Athletic Training.

Emily Olenick, daughter of Edward Jr. and Angela Olenick, graduated from Pocono Mountain East High School. She was part of the Honor Society and earned four scholarships to Penn State. Her future plans are to study Law.

Benjamin Vituszynski, son of Tim & Amy Vituszynski, graduated from Nazareth Area High School. He was in the top 10% of his graduating class and in the National Honor Society. Benjamin will be attending Villanova University on an ROTC scholarship.

*May the Lord bless your lives of with goodness,
help you use your gifts wisely,
pursue your dreams boldly,
and guide you to a future of faith, hope, and love.*

Harvesting Healthy Habits Hand-in-Hand



Harvesting Healthy Habits Hand-in-Hand is a project that we as the student council at the Classical Christian Co-op of Nazareth began to encourage our fellow students to act with good habits while developing virtues. It is an informal study of what the Bible says about virtues, and, also, to share our ideas, so we can grow together. As Hebrews 10:24-25 says, “24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

Our purpose is to instill the desire to practice good habits as a formation of character. There are picture frames around the church with different examples (stories, quotes, etc) of the monthly virtue. Bible passages about the monthly virtue are posted on the co-op bulletin board in the back-half of the Social Hall. We hope to connect the co-op and the church communities through this program.

So, look around! Join us in focusing on God’s gifts to us and being formed by them. The emphasis for the month of June is PEACE, so I offer you this Scripture to begin the month:

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6–7, ESV)

Also, I am hoping that this program will encourage you through the good and the bad times, learning to rely on God and His Word, just as researching for this project has done for me.

- Melissa Misiti

Pastor’s Answers

***Ecumenical Moment:
Non-Denominational Music***



Okay, so “nondenominational music” is not really a thing, but beginning from the 1970’s, we have our nondenominational brothers and sisters to thank for most of the music we use in church that is done in a popular style.

When I was a youth minister back in the 1990’s, Peter Jennings—who was a Lutheran—did a special report detailing the growth of nondenominational churches while more traditional churches shrank. My senior pastor even sent our entire staff to Willow Creek Community Church in the suburbs of Chicago to attend their “Changing Church” conference, which detailed for us the ways that church, which had begun as a youth ministry, had specifically designed its church to be unlike the churches around them in order to reach people that traditional churches never reached. This included the use of youth musical styles in the worship service instead of traditional hymns.

While modern history has shown the shift from traditional to “contemporary” churches to have been a fad (people are actually traveling the other direction right now), the composition of new worship songs using modern song stylings like smooth jazz, R&B, pop, rock, and even country is definitely here to stay. Most liturgical churches like our own use at least some of this music alongside traditional hymnody, choir anthems, classical music, and chant to allow the congregation to express its devotion to God in music.

Thanks be to God for the wondrous diversity He inspires in the faith of His people!

YARD SALE

BASKET RAFFLE & BAKE SALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

8AM-1PM Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Donations welcome ONE week before the sale.

Drop off items beginning Sunday, June 22 after services
and during the following hours:

MTF: 9am-1pm

Thurs: 1-6pm

Last drop off day is Friday June 27, NO LATER THAN 3:00PM.

NO CLOTHING OR LARGE FURNITURE ACCEPTED.

*Donations are requested for the **Basket Raffle**.*

If you are able to donate a basket and/or ask a local merchant for a basket or gift card, it would be appreciated.

You can create whatever basket you would like with new items.

*If you are able to bake for the **Bake Sale**, it would be appreciated.*

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Bake sale items can be delivered Friday or Saturday morning.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS ABOUT OUR EVENT!



Church News



The Holy Cross Yard Sale is fast approaching! And... **Baked goods**, **Baskets**, and **Volunteers** to help setup/clean up are needed!

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. If you are able to put a basket together for the raffle, or bake/bring a baked good or treat for the bake sale, or be willing to set up items, move boxes, and/or clean up afterwards, it would be GREATLY appreciated! Every little bit helps!



Sunday JUNE 8th
after the 9:15am service.

Bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy good food and fellowship with your church family.

Light of Christ

SHOEBOXES

For our special appeal in
JUNE

we are asking for donations for: **Toys!**

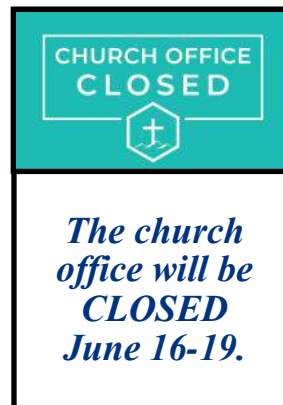
- **SMALL STUFFED ANIMALS**
- **MATCHBOX/HOTWHEELS CARS**
- **FIDGET TOYS** • **MAGIC TRICKS**
- **FUN SOCKS** • **SLINKIES**
- **SMALL CHILDREN'S BOOKS**
- **RUBIK'S CUBES** • **LEGO**

Items should be new or you can make a monetary donation to help fill these shoeboxes.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic
August 17 | 9:15AM



Pastor on vacation
June 9-13
Contact the church office with any concerns.



Love. Grow. Serve.

Thinking about getting more involved at church, but don't know how? Looking for ways to serve our Lord, using your time and talents? Fortunately for you, there are many opportunities available at Holy Cross! Currently we are in need of the following during Sunday Services...

Usher Greeters ~ Lay Readers ~ Communion Assistants ~ Tech Ministry

There are so many other opportunities to serve, in any capacity. Please contact the church office and let us know YOUR special talent, and we will find an opportunity for your talent to shine!



Attention all **CAMPERS**

Pack your bags for an unforgettable week at VBS!

Join us at Camp Firelight where children will make new friends, have a blast with games, crafts, and hands-on activities. Each day we will dive into exciting Bible stories that remind us to trust God through every adventure

Dates: July 7th-11th

Time: 6-8:30pm

Dinner will be promptly at 5:30 pm

Location: Covenant Church in Bath PA

2715 Mountain View Dr, Bath, PA 18014

If you would like to register your child for VBS today, scan the qr code below to access our website for the registration form



**DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY
FOR YOUR CHILD TO GROW IN FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP**

Church Council

COMPLETE Church Council Minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Attachments are filed in the church office with the originals.

The meeting minutes summarized here are pending Council approval at next month's meeting.

Meeting HIGHLIGHTS for May 14, 2025

Nine members present. Absent: Linda Rissmiller and Tim Kryman.

GUESTS: N/A

Review of Reports:

Secretary's Report - Boy Scouts request to camp out on church grounds June 20-21 has been approved. The WOA Yard Sale has been changed to June 28th. Riger requested permission for use of older wooden tables for her yard sale. Request was approved. Fellowship Committee's next Fellowship Friday will be a Game Night held on May 30 from 6-8:30pm.

Treasurer's Report - General Operating Checking Register and Monthly Budget Analysis provided. All members reviewed and had no questions or concerns at this time. Treasurer report approved.

The Pastor's report - Pastor provided reminder that we are entitled to one more lay representative to the national convocation that is being held in Pittsburgh this year. At the Northeast Mission District Convocation on May 10th, Pastor was elected Dean of the District. Registrations for the Youth Mission Trip and Confirmation Camp are now open.

Committee Reports:

Cemetery - One burial at the cemetery in April

Property - Nazareth Plate Glass is waiting on a sample piece of insulated glass to see if it will fit on the glass stops so we do not have to replace the rigid insulation and FRP panel. The damage in the Men's bathroom will be repaired by the Boy Scouts. The Cunningham family has requested verbiage for the liability sign at the playground prior to opening. Concern at well head. There is a depression that causes ponding during heavy rains.

Women of Abundance - See hard copy of minutes.

Old Business:

A team will be set up to assist in contacting inactive members. Pastor to review the list first as he is most aware of attendance. Deacon Michael and Kate will review the list as well. The picture directory will be started in September. There will be a designated day for Spring Cleanup of the attic of the garage. Date to follow. This will be part of the Men's Fellowship.

New Business:

Summer schedule will consist of one service at 9:15am starting June 1st through the end of August. An outdoor service is scheduled for August 17, 2025 at 9:15am.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, at 7:00 p.m.

The following items are posted in the Narthex:

- MAY 2025 Church Council Minutes
- APRIL 2025 Treasurer's Report
- JUNE 2025 Church Calendar
- GSTL for JUNE



As of May 28th, we have received donations totaling **\$106,689.45** toward our goal of \$500,000.00.

Thank you for your generosity!

REMINDER: When making donations to the church, a **separate check is needed for the Capital Campaign**, made out to: *Holy Cross Lutheran Church.*

Thank you!

Stewardship...

Offerings received during the month of May totaled **18,081.63**

Thank you for your generous support of Holy Cross!

ADD GOD'S WORD TO YOUR DAY!



Holy Cross sermons are available as a podcast!

Scan the box or go to this link:

<https://holycrossnazarethchurch.org/messages-sermons/>

Share with a friend and introduce them to Jesus... and our **life together at Holy Cross!**

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (NALC)

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (NALC) is to respond to the Love of God shown most fully to us in the great gift of his Son Jesus Christ. We engage in five ministry areas – **WORSHIP, WITNESS, LEARNING, SERVICE,** and **SUPPORT** – to boldly confess Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Our Staff

Pastor: Rev. Brett Jenkins, STS
Pastor@holycrossnazareth.org
Office Hours by appointment

Deacon: Michael Grube

Director of Worship Arts: Karl DeBoeser

Traditional Music Worship Leader: Ben Watson

Sexton: Kerry Livermore

Treasurer: Lois Iasiello

Church Secretary: Laura Longley
Secretary@holycrossnazareth.org

Office Hours: M/T/F ~ 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Th ~ 1-6 p.m.
OFFICE IS CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS

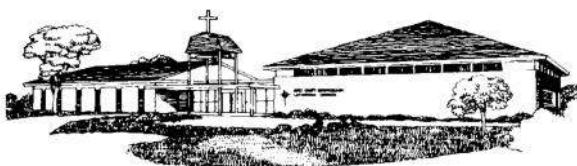
Our Church

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church
696 Johnson Road
Nazareth, PA 18064-8828

Phone ~ 610-759-7363

Fax ~ 610-759-3431

Website ~ holycrossnazarethchurch.org



NALC website ~ the.nalc.org

2025 Church Council

A.J. Arfanella	717-903-0521
Lynne Auger	484-634-1347
Lois Iasiello	484-761-4589
Robert Ingenito	908-652-1828
Tom Kneisly	570-840-7481
Tim Kryman	908-727-3932
Gerald Lewis	610-657-3961
Manuel Pinguelo	610-818-7415
Linda Rissmiller	484-602-7762
Richard Siegfried	610-360-5949
Andrew Zaso	570-424-5651

2025 Congregational Officers

~~~~~  
President ~ Jerry Lewis  
Vice President ~ Andy Zaso  
Secretary ~ AJ Arfanella  
Treasurer ~ Lois Iasiello

## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Sundays with Holy Communion:

**9:15 am ~ Relaxed Worship**

**Tuesdays at 12:15pm**

Lunchtime Prayer with Holy Communion

**Wednesdays at 7:00 pm**

Prayer Service with Holy Communion