

Cross Beams

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A. April 2018

*The purpose of
Holy Cross Evangelical
Lutheran Church
is to know, and joyfully
share, the love of God
in Christ.*

Rev. George Haynes
Pastor

For Pastoral Care call
361-790-3838

e-mail :
hcrosslchurch@gmail.com
Website

www.holycrossrockporttx.org

Temporary Location
802 Wharf Street

P.O. Box 301
Rockport, TX 78381

Church Office
361-727-9140

Church Secretary
Diana Grant

e-mail:
hclchurchsecl@gmail.com

**Southwest Texas Synod
Assembly**

**Seeds of Hope:
Beyond all Imagination**

Pastor's Pulse

Remember the bondage of the people of Israel in Egypt. Their captivity was oppressive. However, God was with them. He was with them before, during and after their captivity. He could be visibly seen as a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night as they were guided across the desert to the promised land. Their deliverance from tyranny and bondage and their entrance into the promised land and onto Jerusalem was accomplished because the living God continued to be with His people. He used Moses and Aaron during their deliverance from Egypt but used foreign kings and nations in their future liberations and rescues.



The living God and our Lord has been right here with us both during and after Hurricane Harvey. We have been surrounded by our God in the days that followed the hurricane and we have emerged to face the future and start anew and we on our way to complete recovery and the renewal of our lives. During it all and in the days and months that have followed, God has been right there beside us, showing us the way and giving us wisdom and guidance to extend our hands and to receive the extended hands of others.

(I ncidentally, have you noticed how God has used a host of out-of-town and unknown people to help us in our distress.)

Like the Israelites we are learning how absolutely, faithfully and trustworthy God is and can be. We have also come to a new appreciation that our accumulated "stuff" and possessions are not as important or as necessary as we once had thought. We have life, limb and basic necessities. We also have each other. In many instances we have made new friends and our lives are richer for them.

What a blessing it is to be God's people and to know that God is not only with us through thick and thin but is actively working to bring the best possible result and benefit for us. What a delight to see this new pathway develop before our very eyes. God is so great!



Cassandra Chollet and Carolyn Crawley are our delegates to the Southwest Texas Synod Assembly being held in San Marcos May 5th and 6th. They will be involved in electing a new bishop along with other important leaders in our Synod. We pray that God will guide them in this very important mission.

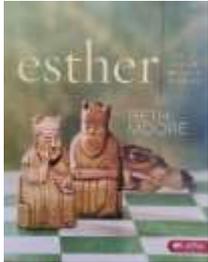


Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Women's Bible Study

Beth Moore has taken us through Chapter five in our study of the Book of Esther. In this chapter we see how Esther risks death as she approaches her husband, King Xerxes, and attempts to save her people from utter destruction. Come join us in April to see how the saga of the exiled Jews unravels. Beth Moore gives us quite a journey!! We meet on the second Thursday of every month. See you there.



CHOIR PARTY

After church service on Sunday, March 4, the choir and instrumentalists had their annual choir party. Lunch was served and the beautiful weather allowed us to enjoy some warmth out by Long Reach Canal in Harbor Oaks. Many thanks to all our regulars and Winter Texans who made such a "joyful noise unto the Lord" this choir season. Those present were: Joyce Bjork, Cassandra Challet, Rodney Enga, Warren Leith, Lynne Porter, Mary McMurray, Joyce Frey, Toni Post, Richard and Judy Goff, Linda Haynes, Vicky Hingst, John and Jackie Grunenwald, George and Nancy Johnson, Kathy Fellman, Dick and Kathy Adler, Judy Corum and Rodger Jacobsen. Again, thank you for your long hours of practice and your dedication to our worship service with your many talents.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Sterling Frank : Treasurer

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Operating Fund Budget Feb. YTD | \$15,537 |
| Operating Fund Spending Feb. YTD | \$14,993 |
| Operating Fund Giving Feb. YTD | \$14,131 |
| Cash Balance Feb. 28, 2018 | \$169,071 |

Insurance Claim Cash Available for Rebuild and Contents:

Rebuild: \$452,216.61

Contents: \$102,301.43



Church rebuild Update



The roof is in the process of being replaced. Once this is accomplished the construction crew will begin with the interior which will proceed much more quickly as our rainy weather will no longer impede progress.

APRIL

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thurs Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| <p>1 EASTER 7:00 Sunrise Service at the beach 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Service with Communion</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> | <p>5 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>7</p> |
| <p>8 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Service</p> | <p>9 7:00 Council Meeting</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9:30 Women's Bible Class</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> |
| <p>15 9:00 Bible Class 10:30 Service with Communion Congregational Meeting re: Castaways</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>19 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p> |
| <p>22 9:00 Bible Class 10:30 Service</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p> | <p>26 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> |
| <p>29 9:00 Bible Class 10:30 Service</p> | <p>30</p> | | | | | |

Council People : Apr.1 Monica Morris, Apr. 8 Bob Reiner, Apr. 15 Warren Leith, Apr. 22 Craig Brown, Apr 28. Angela Jeschke

Assisting Ministers: Apr.1 Mary McMurray, Apr. 8 Jackie Grunenwald, Apr. 15 Warren Leith, Apr. 22 Toni Post, Apr. 28

Linda Haynes

Communion Assistants: April 1 and April 15 Phil and Rebecca Stapleton

April 15: Congregational meeting to discuss our participation in Castaways

The Prayer Garden



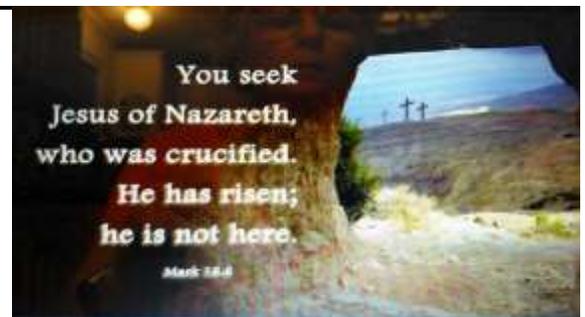
Thanks to Harold Hees and his gardener most of the winter weeds have been removed from the Prayer Garden. We also had some “Helping Hands” from Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas. Lori and Greg Althaus and their daughters, Ashlynn and Avery spent a morning of their spring break spreading mulch on the newly weeded gardens. We are so blessed to have such generous volunteers and are truly thankful for their assistance.



Come and check out our gardens. Feel free to do a little gardening: add a little mulch or plant material. Our garden fared quite well considering the grueling winds from the hurricane. This is a great place to find some solace and peace.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

- 7:00 Easter Sunrise Service at the beach provided by the Ministerial Alliance
10:30 Easter Service with Communion. Brunch to follow.



GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS (IN REVERSE)

This is a wonderful and amazing group who arrived from Sedona, Arizona to help in our recovery. We did not have any immediate work for them at our church so they volunteered their services through the city of Rockport. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated and determined helpers. They brought a cross for us with imbedded turquoise stones to add to our collection of crosses and I know we will cherish it always. They also will be sending a monetary gift to help in our recovery. How blessed are we.