

# CROSS BEAMS

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC) NEWSLETTER

April 2024

The mission of Holy Cross Lutheran Church is to know and joyfully share the love of God in Christ.

## Pastor's Lucid Ramblings

### “What kind of church is Holy Cross?”

Colossians 3:5 “Also, let Christ’s peace control you. God has called you into this peace by bringing you into one body.”

Inspired by an online article titled, “7 Powerful Traits of a Truly Biblical Church” as found at: [www.christianitytoday.com](http://www.christianitytoday.com)

Awhile back, I was asked, “What kind of church is Holy Cross Lutheran?” My response was our church is a “confessional” Lutheran church. This person replied, “But is it a Bible Believing church?”

What is a “Bible Believing” church”? This person was looking for a specific answer and I apparently didn't give it. There are traits which describe what kind of church we are. Words like, “fundamental and “legalistic” describe one kind and “progressive” and “social justice warrior” describes another.

There are 7 traits of a “Bible Believing” church. The church is:

- 1) devoted to Biblical Teaching
- 2) a praying church
- 3) church members who love each other
- 4) a church sharing with others
- 5) a church who cares for the poor and the least of these
- 6) a church who looks like the bride keeping herself pure for her husband (Jesus).
- 7) a church who follows the Great Commission

Is Holy Cross Lutheran Church a “Bible Believing” church?

In Christ,  
Pastor Mike



**Pastor Mike Giese**

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### Inside this Edition

Pastor's Lucid Ramblings—	1
Calendar—	2
News and Announcements—	3
Who's Who —	7
Outreach Ministries—	8



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

2872 FM 1781, Rockport, TX 78382 361-727-9140

# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Castaways 9:00 to 12:00  <b>Castaways Pull Day</b>	2 Stitchery Ministry 9:30 am  <i>Confirmation Class</i> 5:00 - 6:00 pm	3 Castaways 9:00 to 3:00	4 Men's Breakfast 8:00 am LaTaqueria	5 Bible Study 10:30 am Bella La Brew Pastor Mike	6
7 Worship Communion 10:30 am ABS 9:00 am YBS 9:00 am	8 Castaways 9:00 to 12:00  <i>Council Meeting</i> 6:00 pm	9 Stitchery Ministry 9:30 am  <i>Confirmation Class</i> 5:00 - 6:00 pm	10 Castaways 9:00 to 3:00	11 Men's Breakfast 8:00 am LaTaqueria	12 Bible Study 10:30 am Bella La Brew Pastor Mike	13
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# NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CROSS BEAMS EDITOR

**John 3:16-17** - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

If you have contributions you'd like considered for the newsletter you can send them to Beva at [beva.lippe@hclcrockporttx.com](mailto:beva.lippe@hclcrockporttx.com).

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation classes will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 5:00 to 6:00pm

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

### Anniversaries

Stewart, Austin 26

Post, Ken & Jane 9

## NEW LOCATION OF THE CHURCH DIRECTORY ON THE HOLY CROSS WEBSITE

Please go to the website <https://www.hclcrockporttexas.com/> and look for the new menu item "Newsletter & Directory" to access the Church Directory. Be sure to check it for any needed corrections ASAP and notify the church office if any are required or if you are a new member and have not been included yet.

## PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE

Great news! To date about \$40,000 has been given or pledged towards the playground project. We are well on our way of reaching our goal of \$42,200. Your gifts are very much appreciated.

For the next two months, members and friends of Holy Cross will be asked to contribute to the remaining cost of the project. It is our hope that *everyone* will give something. You can give your gift to either Patty or Bridget or put it in an envelope and put it in the offering plate clearly marked designated for the playground.

If contributions over the next two months do not cover the remaining cost, the shortfall will be made up from Castaways money, to not exceed reaching the \$42,200 project cost. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this exciting outreach ministry project.



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# HOLY WEEK



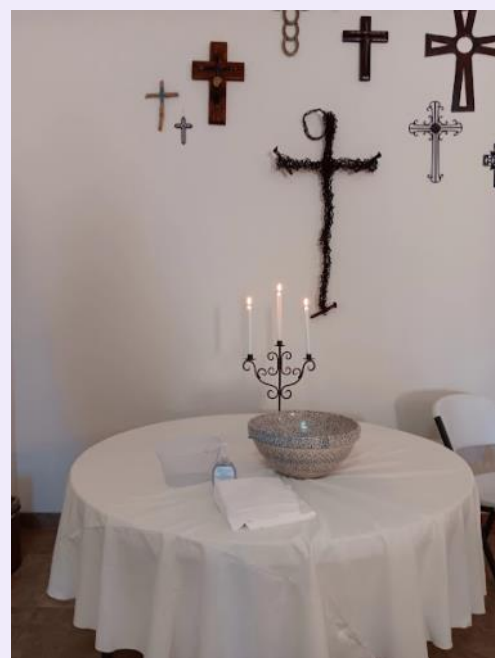
On Palm Sunday Holy Cross Lutheran Church congregants gathered in the Serenity Garden and then proceeded into the sanctuary for the service signifying Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.



On Maundy Thursday we held a Seder Meal. The Seder is the traditional Passover meal that includes readings, drinking 4 cups of wine, telling stories, eating special foods, singing, and other Passover traditions.

Prior to entering the Fellowship Hall for the meal there was a station set up for the washing of feet as our Lord and Savior had done with his disciples on the night of the Last Supper.

It was an humbling yet wonderful experience.



During the course of the evening we had:  
four cups of wine  
veggies dipped in saltwater  
flat, dry cracker-like bread called matzah  
bitter herbs, often horseradish (without additives) and romaine  
lettuce, dipped into charoset (a paste of nuts, apples, pears  
and wine)

Each item has it's place in a 15-step choreographed  
combination of tastes, sounds, sensations and smells that  
have been with the Jewish people for millennia.



On Easter morning we celebrated a Easter Sunrise Service at Rockport Beach. The event is put on by local churches of all denominations and featured music, Gospel readings, a Easter message /sermon and finally a benediction that was given by our own Pastor Mike Giese



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Our Easter Service was started off with our youth discussing the true meaning of Easter with Pastor Mike and they were quite enthusiastic about it.

After the service concluded there was a brunch in the fellowship hall with copious amounts of great food prepared by members of the congregation. Nobody left the church hungry that morning.



# WHO'S WHO

## THE COUNCIL CORNER - Darla Brown, Council President

In January & February, the council met for weekend workshops and explored ways to expand our community outreach and participation. We are open to suggestions. Please let a council member know of your suggestion or idea for community outreach. March has drawn to a close and once again, our thanks go out to all who donate or volunteer at Castaways—they make our outreach funding possible! Also we send our goodbyes and thank-yous to our Winter Texans who've been such a huge help at Castaways. Do come back soon!

And one last thing... **Colossians 3:15** *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.*

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS Sterling Frank, Treasurer

February 2024 Treasurers Report

Spending:

Operating Fund Spending for February 2024 was \$8,995 versus our budget of \$10,819.

Giving:

Operating Fund Giving for February 2024 (4 Sundays) was \$8,236.

Operating Fund Giving for February 2023 (4 Sundays) was \$10,343.

## 2023 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Darla Brown—President  
Sterling Frank—Treasurer  
Edith Bischoff—Secretary  
Rhonda Hahn  
Joyce Frey  
Ann Schutt  
John Enstrom  
Walter Laas  
Mary K. Herrington



# OUTREACH MINISTRIES

## STITCHERY MINISTRY

The Stitchery Team are members of Holy Cross, "Winter Texans" and other friends. Everyone is welcome. We get together to sew quilts, knit or crochet, and of course, visit. Even if you do not sew, we have other things to do such as cutting and ironing fabric.

Prayers are said for the recipients of our prayer shawl, quilts, lap blankets and are blessed by our Pastor. Then they are given to anyone needing Spiritual comfort due to illness, surgery, loss of loved ones, etc. The list is endless for those needing extra prayers and support.

Items on display in Fellowship Hall are available to take anytime. Please help yourself.

The Lord Bless you and keep you. Numbers 6:24

Stitchery Team meets on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Please join us.

## GOOD SAMARITANS

Good Samaritans still need your help volunteering on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 2 1/2 hour shifts, training provided. Also, please bring your non-perishables the Second Sunday of the Month.

**Items Needed:** Pasta (spaghetti, elbows, noodles), Ramen noodles, canned corn, canned fruit, refried beans, canned salmon (other canned meats except tuna), boxed macaroni and cheese, individually wrapped breakfast bars, jelly.

## CASTAWAYS RESALE STORE

Volunteers meet on:

Monday 9:00 TO 12:00

Wednesday 9:00 to 3:00

Last Day of the Month to Pull

See Calendar for dates.

## COMMUNITY TABLE

Keep an eye out for the next time Holy Cross will host the Community Table. More information to come when we get closer to the next date.

## BACKPACK KIDS

Food packs provided by the Coastal Bend Food Bank in Corpus Christi. Please consider donating any outgrown clothing for 5 to 8 year olds.

