



1481 Baldwin Street, Jenison, Michigan 49428 | 616.457.2420 | holycrossjenison.org

Weekly Announcements

Week of December 2, 2018

Worship services are 8:30 & 11am

Education Hour begins at 9:45am

Children's Christmas Celebration | December 2 | 5:45pm Pre-Concert | 6pm Program

NEW—CALL PROCESS UPDATE—CHECK YOUR MAIL

A letter was mailed on Thursday of this week providing an update on the call process for our Senior Pastor. Check your mail for more information.

Worship

NEW—PREPARING FOR WORSHIP | DECEMBER 2

"Without hope we perish. But if we have hope, we can endure almost anything. Yet hope is often the result of endurance and of a deep sense of who and Whose we are." To prepare for worship read, Romans 5:1-5 & Matthew 1:18-24.

NEW—DECEMBER MESSAGE SERIES: "AWAITING" | DECEMBER 2-30

What are you "Awaiting" as Christmas approaches? While you're shopping, planning, traveling, visiting, and whatever else you squeeze into December, let the candles of the Advent wreath guide each week of your preparations. Each Sunday in December, we'll explore one of the candles (Hope, Peace, Joy, Love) and how they highlight who Jesus is and what life as a follower of Jesus gets to be filled with. It will help you make better use of your advent wreath at home and keep you focused on Jesus, who came at the first Christmas and will come again.

WHO WILL YOU INVITE TO CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT HOLY CROSS?

Begin praying about who you'll hand your Outreach Postcard to. On December 2nd, you'll be equipped with a postcard highlighting Christmas opportunities at Holy Cross on every weekend leading up to Christmas Eve. We're equipping you to go and invite others.

Studies have shown that a personal invitation is the most effective way to get someone to church. Who has God put along your path? Pray for the courage to invite. Welcome someone to the service you're going to attend.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS FOR ALL AGES

Advent starts on December 2nd! We have devotional resources available for all ages in the narthex. The adult devotionals also can be downloaded electronically at www.lhm.org/advent/.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION | DECEMBER 2 | 5:45PM PRE-SERVICE CONCERT | 6PM PROGRAM

Come celebrate Christmas and decorate the sanctuary Christmas trees along with the children of Holy Cross. Children and families will help you get ready for Christmas as they recite memorized scripture that explain the meaning of every ornament (Chrismon) that goes on the tree and sing songs that retell the wonder of Christmas. You'll be blessed by music from our Children's Choir, Sunday School Singers (three years–fifth grade), Youth Praise Teams, soloists, and instrumentalists. Come early and enjoy the musical stylings of our Sunday School-aged kids during our Pre-Service Concert. **Practice will be held on Sunday, December 2 from 9:45-10:45am.**

CHRISTMAS SELAH {A NIGHT OF PRAISE + PRAYER} & POTLUCK | DECEMBER 9 | 6PM

Join us at 6pm for our Dinner Potluck at Selah. Following the potluck we will join in classic Christmas songs at Selah at 7pm. Bring your dish, your appetites, and a friend or two as well! Bring the following type of dish based on your last name: A-G – Dessert, H-M – Main Dish, N-Z – Side Dish

CHRISTMAS CONCERT SERVICES – A "BRING A FRIEND" WORSHIP SERVICE WITH A CONCERT FEEL | DECEMBER 16 | 9:15 & 11AM

WHY the change from our normal schedule? To make the most of this season and the talents God has given us. This is the time of year when your friends that are curious about following Jesus are more likely to say "yes" to your "come to church with me" invitations. Plus, we've designed a service that you can be especially proud to welcome them into. This "worship service with a concert feel" features Christmas offerings from the full variety of the best of our fine arts groups: orchestra, children's choir, adult choir, handbells, praise teams, sticks, organ, and puppets. Who will you bless by asking "will you come to church to with me"? There is no Education Hour or Holy Communion offered that Sunday.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES

Dec. 2: Children's Christmas Celebration - 6pm | Pre-service Concert – 5:45pm

Dec. 9: Christmas Selah {a night of praise + prayer} & Potluck - 6pm

Dec. 16: Christmas Concert Service: 9:15 & 11am

Dec. 23: Sunday Morning Worship: 10am

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Services: 4pm - Contemporary | 7pm - Traditional

Both with candlelight and communion

Dec. 30: Sunday Morning Worship: 10am

Bible Study

ADULT BIBLE CLASS LED BY PASTOR ADAM | DECEMBER 2 | 9:45AM

"Unpacking Advent" Embrace some time-honored Christmas preparation that will help you focus on Jesus. Be intentional now, so that Christ doesn't get lost in the busyness of the Christmas season. Come get equipped to use your advent wreath, understand the symbols of Christmas, and get introduced to a variety of resources that you can fit into your daily preparation for Christmas. Come get familiar with and set up with resources in print, video, audio, email, and smartphone apps.

SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUP LED BY JAY FOX | DECEMBER 2, 9 & 16 | 9:45AM

Meet with others for a video-based bible study on the Gospel of Luke (RightNow Media Resource). This life group meets in the Conference Room.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS LED BY PASTOR ADAM | DECEMBER 9 | 9:45AM

Spirit-Led Brainstorming: 2019 Teaching Topics—help influence what is taught in worship and in bible class in the year ahead. Pastor Adam wants your help. How is the spirit leading you? What are you thirsting for? How would you like to grow? What would you like to know? What would help you be on mission?

Serve

NEW—THANKSGIVING DONATION DRIVE

Praising God for the generous donations to the Food Pantry - \$1140 was collected in gift cards and monetary donations, together with \$100 to Hand2Hand! Thank you for your continued support of our Love INC food pantry! .

CHRISTMAS IS FOR SHARING

Please see the beautiful Christmas is for Sharing display in the narthex where you can choose your ornament card(s) to provide Christmas gifts for individuals in need right here in our own congregation/community. All gifts must be dropped off by Sunday, December 16 as they will be packed delivered to the families on December 17. Any questions, please call Kelli McCready at 457-2420.

CARD MINISTRY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

This Christmas season, we would like to remember those in our congregation who are unable to join us in worship. There is a bag for each person, and cards can then be placed in the appropriate bag from now until December 9. At that time, they will be delivered to these special people as a gift of love from our congregation. Please see the display in the narthex for a list of names and/or to leave your cards.

HAND2HAND | JOIN OUR TEAM | VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to join our Hand2Hand team. Packers and Deliverers are needed each week to pack bags that are delivered to our schools. Volunteers are placed on a schedule, so you will know when you are scheduled to volunteer. Time commitment is on Wednesday evenings for 30-45 minutes. Contact Kelli McCready at kmccready@holycrossjenison.org and say "Yes! Sign me up!"

Connect

NEW—CONFIRMATION CHRISTMAS PARTY | DECEMBER 16 | 3:30-5:30PM

Confirmation students and their friends are invited to a fun afternoon of games and fellowship. We will be having a \$5 food gift exchange as part of our party. Students are asked to bring a wrapped gift if they would like to participate in the exchange. Also, students are encouraged to bring a snack to share. Friends are welcome. Please sign up on the youth board if you plan on attending. Contact Jim with any questions at dcejim@holycrossjenison.org

NEW—HIGH SCHOOL UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY | DECEMBER 16 | 6:30-8:30PM

High school students are invited to our Ugly sweater party for an evening of snacks, games and fellowship. We will be doing a white elephant gift exchange with gifts being around \$5 in value. Friends are welcome. Also bring a snack to share. Please sign up on the youth board if you plan to attend. Contact Tyler at tosmun@holycrossjenison.org

ADULT FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON | DECEMBER 18 | 12PM

Mark your calendars for a delicious Christmas Luncheon at Main Street Pub in Allendale. This luncheon will be immediately following Tuesday Morning Bible Study. Registration is required and can be found at the Welcome Desk in the narthex. Cost: \$10/person. You will choose your entrée and pay at the restaurant. Invite your friends, everyone is welcome.

For Your Information

NEW—FACILITY CARE LEADER POSITION UPDATE

We have created a new position and are seeking a full-time worker to clean our facility and care for our building interior and exterior (in partnership with outside contractors and service providers). Role requires hands on cleaning, room set-ups, some fix-it skills are helpful as well. If interested, please pick up a Ministry Description in the Narthex. Please contact [Karen Petzold](#) or [Dennis Dressler](#) with any questions and/or to pick up an application. Applications are due Monday, December 10.

NEW—WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

For cancellations due to inclement weather, please check the Holy Cross Lutheran Church website, holycrossjenison.org, our Holy Cross Jenison Facebook page, and your local TV station.

- Evening programs – cancellations will be posted on our website by 4pm and an e-mail will be sent out to our e-communications group. (Please note our decision to cancel evening programming is not connected to Jenison Public Schools.)
- Sunday morning worship services – cancellations will be posted by 7:30am.

HELP US COMPLETE OUR STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR 2019

Commitment Cards are available on the Welcome Desk if you were unable to be here for Commitment Sunday on November 18. Thank you!

DAILY SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM | DECEMBER 3 | 7PM

Please join us for the Daily Shepherd Preschool with Child Care's annual Christmas program. It is a wonderful way to get in the Christmas spirit. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

DONATE TO THE HOLY CROSS FOUNDATION USING AMAZON SMILE

Cyber Monday is coming - work on your Christmas shopping and support the Foundation at the same time! Go to smile.amazon.com and select Holy Cross Foundation as the charity you'd like to support and Amazon will give back a portion of your purchases to the Holy Cross Foundation.