

# HAPPENINGS

December 8-15, 2024

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**WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS** – Welcome to the Lord’s House. God bless you as you hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.



**PASTOR GADE'S APPRECIATION BRUNCH** Pastor Gade will give his last sermon at Holy Cross on **Sunday, December 29th**. He first came to Holy Cross in February of 2021 and then became our Vacancy pastor that April. We will be recognizing his faithful service, of almost three years, to Holy Cross with a brunch following the worship service. There will be a signup to help and for brunch food. Please share how he has blessed you in a card, note, or tell him. We have also enjoyed his humor. Perhaps a "Roast" is in order!!



**LIGHT UP OUR CHURCH!** It's that time of year again. We have all enjoyed how beautiful our church

looks, and what a beacon it is, when it is lit up for the holiday season. We have been able to accomplish this in the past through your generous contributions. We will once again have a free will offering basket available at the end of services if you would like to contribute. Thank you for your support!



The volunteer schedule for January to April of 2025 will be coming out in a week or so. **We'd love to have more volunteers to add to the list!** If you're interested in volunteering for Lector, Usher, Acolyte, Audio/Video, or Offering Counting please let Megan know and she can get you on the schedule, and also find someone to train you in. Your help is greatly appreciated!

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** Our Christmas program will be **Sunday, December 15th** during the worship service. Bonnie Nowak has once



again shared her writing expertise by writing, "The Story of Joseph", and Sheri Brunner is directing. We will practice on Saturday mornings, December 7 & 14. at 10:00 am and early elementary at 11:00 am.

**“READERS” FOR**

**HAITI** A mission group will be heading to Cap-Haitian, Haiti in January and are asking for donations of **reading glasses**, in plus 1's, 2's and 3's. The Dollar store is a good resource. Also, **EYE DROPS** are an enormous relief for them. A collection bin is located in the Commons area. The glasses and eye drops will be shipped to Michigan mid-December.

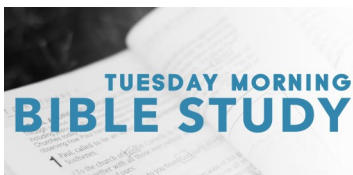


\*MOST Ministries are supplying them with glasses for distance so we **are not** collecting those. Keith and Kim Waller had, in the past, been affiliated with HLMS. They now have their own Haiti ministry. They have continued to go to Haiti, focusing on the Cap-Haitian area which is on the north coast of Haiti.

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**TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

Join us from 8:00-9:00 am on Tuesdays. All are welcome!



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**WHAT'S HAPPENING?** Please submit all Happenings articles by **10 AM WEDNESDAY** to [megan@holycross-pl.org](mailto:megan@holycross-pl.org)

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**December 8**  
Randy & Nancy Baldwin

**December 22**  
Joy & James Anderson

**December 15**  
Shari Schulze

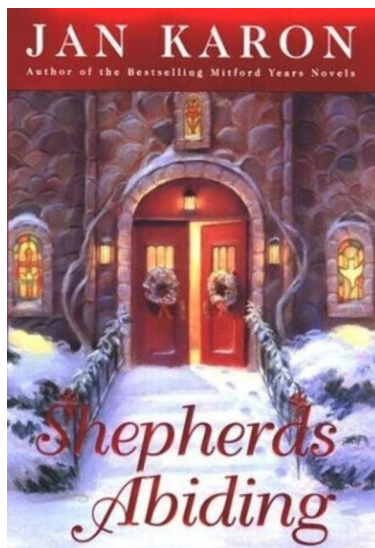
**December 29**  
Charlie & Donna Vig

**PASTOR MARC ENGELHARDT'S INSTALLATION**

Pastor Marc's installation will be the afternoon of **Sunday, January 5th**. A dessert reception will follow the installation service. Further details will be shared in the Happenings.



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**BIBLE BOOKENDERS**

If you are someone who likes to plan ahead, get a copy of Jan Karon's book, *Shepherds Abiding*. It would be a great read for the first snowstorm, and it is the selection of Bible Bookenders book for **January 28th**. The story centers around a nativity set that Father Tim finds. It is in poor condition,

and even though he isn't the artist in the family, he decides to paint and repair the pieces himself. The story, of course, includes the Mitford characters we all love. This is the eighth book in the Mitford series and a nod to Karon's 30th anniversary this year. Any questions may be directed to Michele Lein or Bonnie Nowak.

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**WINDJAMMERS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS**

Join the Prior Lake Windjammers, and Holy Cross' own Corey Einarson, for their annual holiday concerts! FREE one hour concerts, filled with a variety of holiday and secular music for all ages.



**Sunday, December 8 - 6:00 pm**  
Edinburgh Park, Edina

**Monday, December 9 - 7:00 pm**  
Prior Lake High School Auditorium





**MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES**

December 11 and 18th at 7:00 pm

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES**

December 24 at 4:00 pm  
December 25 at 9:00 am

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**CHRISTMAS TOGETHER CONCERTS**

Steven C presents his 8th annual series of "Christmas Together" Concerts at the majestic Cathedral of Saint Paul. Talk to Carol or Dave Albrecht about carpooling. They have a group going on Friday and Saturday. Get your tickets today! <https://stevencmusic.com>



**Concert Dates/Times:**

December 12 & 13 - 7:00 pm | December 14 - 11:00 am

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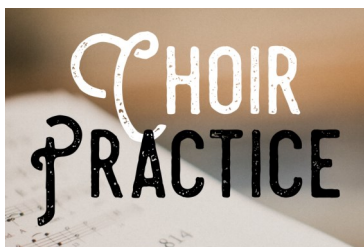
**THE INFORMATION CENTER**

is located at the main entrance of the church. There are a variety of items for you to take home or share with a friend. Prayer request forms

are available too. Please sign the guest book if you are visiting today. Thank you!

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**CHOIR PRACTICE** will be on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm December 4th to 18th. Then will move back to Thursdays at 7:00 pm. New members are welcome!



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- Dinah Gilberts ..... December 4
- Ben Huston ..... December 7
- Mui Cheng ..... December 9
- Earl Drangstveit ..... December 9
- Karly Oak ..... December 19
- Jason Kruse ..... December 20
- Lois Helms ..... December 25
- Carol Albrecht ..... December 26
- Bo Brunner ..... December 28
- Nivedita Fulbert ..... December 30



- DEC 9** Church Council
- DEC 11** Advent Midweek 2
- DEC 15** Christmas Play
- DEC 18** Advent Midweek 3
- DEC 24** Christmas Eve Worship
- DEC 25** Christmas Day Worship
- DEC 29** Pastor Gade Appreciation Brunch
- JAN 5** Pastor Engelhardt's Installation/Reception
- JAN 7** Elder's Meeting
- JAN 13** Church Council
- JAN 26** Voter's Meeting

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**DECEMBER 8** "If heaven had been our home, would we have wanted to enter a world of grief and pain, of evil and death? Yet enter it Jesus did to give us His home to be ours forever. So, He loved us in undeserved grace. And so will we sing in the heavenly Jerusalem a refrain like that of our choirs: Hail, thou ever blessed morn, Hail redemption's happy dawn, Sing through all Jerusalem: 'Christ is born in Bethlehem.' Alleluia." *Richard Gurgel, President, Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

# THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

## SUNDAY

**8** 9:00 am Worship  
10:15 am Bible Study  
10:15 am Sunday School

## MONDAY

**9** 6:00 pm IFC  
7:00 pm Church Council

## TUESDAY

**10** 8:00 am Bible Study

## WEDNESDAY

**11** 10:00 am Happenings Articles Due  
7:00 pm Advent Midweek 2  
8:00 pm Choir Practice

## THURSDAY

**12**

## FRIDAY

**13**

## SATURDAY

**14**

## SUNDAY

**15** 9:00 am Worship / Christmas Program  
10:15 am Bible Study  
10:15 am Sunday School



**VACANCY PASTOR GADE'S** church hours are **Monday and Tuesday, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.** Other times can be arranged, call 763-333-5896.

### SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 8

**ELDER:** Dennis Waderich  
**LECTOR:** Lance Lerum  
**USHER:** Steve Oak  
**ACOLTYE:** Daniel Vannett  
**AV:** Dinah Gilberts  
**OFFERING:** Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

### SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 15

**ELDER:** Dave Albrecht  
**LECTOR:** Michele Lein  
**USHER:** Jimmy Anderson  
**ACOLTYE:** Daniel Vannett  
**AV:** Rostina Vannett  
**OFFERING:** Carol Albrecht & Pam Hunter

### ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

**HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated weekly. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We



receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you. **Note: Communion Kits are available, if needing one please contact Pastor.**

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### SUNDAY SCHOOL

All children are welcome to join us at 10:15 am for Sunday School! Testament, soon to

be focusing on the birth of Jesus with the early elementary. Thank you for your willingness to work with our children.

### SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 11

**ELDER:** Doug Brunner  
**LECTOR:** Dinah Gilberts  
**USHER:** Lance Lerum  
**ACOLTYE:** Tate Kruse  
**AV:** Eric Brown  
**OFFERING:** Wendy Fitzwater & Joyce Drenckhahn

### SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 18

**ELDER:** Dennis Waderich  
**LECTOR:** Robert Nowak  
**USHER:** Denny Case  
**ACOLTYE:** Tate Kruse  
**AV:** Michael Schumacher  
**OFFERING:** Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

### WORSHIP: 44 | BIBLE STUDY: 9 | SUNDAY SCHOOL: 4



14085 Pike Lake Trail NE, Prior Lake, MN 55372 • Phone: 952-445-1779  
Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng • Praise Band: Nathan Hentges & Greg Albrecht  
Office Ministry Assistant: Megan Luckfield • Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Dean Gade