

*Our mission statement:  
Celebrating God's love  
by worshipping God,  
caring for each other,  
and serving in community.*

# *Crossties*

*"Sharing the  
Ointment for Jesus'  
Feet, Giving God  
our Very Best"  
Cf. John 12:3*

<b>April 2024</b>	<b><i>Holy Cross Lutheran Church</i></b>	<b>Vol. 30 No. 4</b>
<b>BERGY'S BABBLE: "THE BREASTPLATE OF ST. PATRICK" (Circa 433 A.D.)</b>		
<p>I arise today     Through a mighty strength,     Through the invocation of the Trinity,     Through my belief in its threeness,     Through confession of the oneness     Towards the Creator.</p> <p>I arise today     Through the strength of Christ with his baptism,     Through the strength of his crucifixion with his burial,     Through the strength of his resurrection with his ascension,     Through the strength of his descent for the judgment of doom.</p> <p>I arise today Through the strength of the love of cherubim,     In obedience of angels,     In the service of the archangels,     In hope of resurrection to meet with reward, <span style="float: right;">... /// ...</span></p>		

... /// ... Bergy's Babble

In prayers of patriarchs,  
    In predictions of Prophets,  
    In preaching of Apostles,  
    In faiths of confessors,  
    In innocence of Holy Virgins,  
    In deeds of righteous people.

I arise today

Through the strength of heaven:

    Light of sun,  
    Brilliance of moon,  
    Splendor of fire,  
    Speed of lightning,  
    Swiftiness of wind,  
    Depth of sea,  
    Stability of earth,  
    Firmness of rock.

I arise today

    God's strength to guide me,  
    God's might to sustain me,  
    God's wisdom to direct me,  
    God's eye to look before me,  
    God's ear to hear me,  
    God's word to speak for me,  
    God's hand to protect me,  
    God's way to stretch before me,  
    God's shield to shelter me,

... /// ...

... /// ... Bergy's Babble

Against the snares of the demons,  
Against the temptings of my evil desires,  
Against the evil inclination of my will,  
Against everyone who plots against me,  
Near or Far, Alone or in a Multitude.

I summon today all these powers between me and these evils:

Against every cruel and merciless power that may oppose my body  
and soul,  
Against incantations of false prophets,  
Against black laws of heathenry,  
Against false laws of heretics,  
Against the craft of idolatry  
Against spells of witches, alchemists and magicians,  
Against every knowledge that endangers human body and soul.

Christ to protect me today

Against poison,  
Against burning,  
Against drowning,  
Against wounding

So that there may come abundance of reward.

Christ with me,  
Christ before me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ within me,  
Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,

... /// ...

... /// ... Bergy's Babble

Christ on my right,  
Christ on my left,  
Christ where I lie,  
Christ where I sit,  
Christ where I arise,  
Christ in my breadth,  
Christ in my length,  
Christ in my height,  
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,  
Christ in every eye that sees me,  
Christ in every ear that hears me.

I arise today  
    Through a mighty strength,  
    Through the invocation of the Trinity,  
    Through my belief in its threeness,  
    Through the confession of the oneness,  
    Towards the Creator.

Salvation is of the Lord.  
Salvation is of the Lord.  
Salvation is of Christ.  
May Thy salvation, O Lord be ever with us. Amen.





**Holy Cross Lutheran Church (HCLC)  
Minutes for Council Meeting – February 18, 2024**

The February 2024 Church Council meeting was called to order by President Wendy Lambeth on Sunday, February 18, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Berggren opened with a prayer.

In attendance were: Pastor Jim Berggren, Wendy Lambeth, Nancy Beamesderfer, Linda Cuzzort, Ricki Finstad, Julie Kilkenny, Wayne Schaper, and Warren Schick. Stephanie Walton was absent. Penny Schick and Stephen Schulze attended as special guests.

The minutes from the January 2024 meeting were submitted by Council Secretary Julie Kilkenny and approved by Council.

The **Treasurer's report** was presented by Ricki Finstad. January 2024 offerings were \$30,983, an increase of \$255 over December. Expenses for the month of January were \$25,698, a decrease of \$5,345 from December. Treasurer Finstad was pleased to report that January offerings exceeded expenses by \$5,285. The checking account balance at 01/31/24 was \$38,163, not including restricted funds. Dr. Finstad provided a quick summary of investments this month. Council approved the Treasurer's Report.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Berggren updated Council on his activities for the month. He noted that he made fewer visitations last month, as his wife was in the hospital for six days and he caught the upper respiratory infection that was going around.

... /// ...

He noted that registration for the Synod convention in May is coming up; Nancy Beamesderfer will also attend. Pastor Berggren's regular activities included preparing for worship and Lenten services each week; making phone calls and visits to parishioners; providing counseling and ministering for prayer requests [coordinating with Deacon Donahue]; outreach to the community; weekly Wednesday Bible Study; attending choir practice and various church ministry meetings.

**Committee Reports and Old Business:**

**WELCA:** Nancy Beamesderfer reported that the next WELCA General Meeting will be on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Among items to be discussed are new lighting in the church office and a decision whether to host a hospitality booth at the Springfest Market.

**Nominating Committee:** Penny Schick presented the slate of candidates for Council and Committee positions to be elected at the Congregational Meeting Part II on March 10, 2024. [Members of the 2023 Nominating Committee are Penny Schick, Jeannette Dukleth, Gloria McGarvey, Ruby Schaper and Warren Schick (Council representative)].

The candidates for 2024 positions are as follows:

- **Council President** (1-year term) : Wendy Lambeth
- **Secretary** (1-year term): Julie Kilkenny
- **Treasurer** (1-year term): Ricki Finstad
- **Council Members** (2-year term): Jay Byerly, Wayne Schaper, Stephen Schulze, Hans Sunder (*3 positions to fill*)
- **Council Member** (1-year term): Leigh Rothharpt
- **Nominating Committee** (1-year term): Linda Cuzzort, Darnell Lucero, Tillie Remmert, Amy Schomburg

... /// ... Minutes for Council Meeting — February 18, 2024

- **Endowment Committee** (2-year term): Nancy Beamesderfer, Pat Boessling, Marilyn Flick, Sharon Wagner (*2 positions to fill*)

A motion to accept the Committee's slate of candidates was made, duly seconded and approved by Council.

**Congregational Meeting Part II:** President Lambeth noted that the slate of candidates needs to be publicized as soon as possible. **Committee reports** also need to be submitted before the Congregational Meeting (March 10, 2024). She will contact Sussy Terry, who normally sends a reminder to committee and ministry leaders, so the reports can be compiled into packets for the meeting. President Lambeth thanked Warren Schick for drafting proposed revisions to the **bylaws**, which he presented to Council: 1) clarification that the Secretary and Treasurer are voting members of Council (C12.01 Bylaws Section VIII), and 2) delineation of the Memorial Fund Committee (C14.01 Bylaws Section IX). Council discussed the need for a further clarification, which Mr. Schick agreed to add; Council voted to present the revisions for approval at the Congregational Meeting.

**Youth:** President Lambeth updated Council on Youth activities.

The **Children's Business Fair** on February 10<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. There were 60 booths; each booth had at least 3 kids (and 1 adult supervising). The participants had to pay for their booth, make their own product, do their own marketing and be able to answer questions about various details of their product. A bookmobile that was onsite handed out free books to kids at the fair and the Pantry.

BSA Troop 852 has an **Eagle Scout ceremony** on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

President Lambeth and Ms. Walton are beginning plans and looking at dates (July 22-26, 2024) for **VBS**. They are considering doing the camp in-house this year instead of hiring Lutherhill counselors.

... /// ...

**Improvements to Campus / Building and Grounds (B&G):**

President Lambeth reported that the issues with CenterPoint and the gas meter have been resolved. Parts of the campus were without gas for a month, but in the end, CenterPoint replaced the meter with the correct size meter. Alan Lambeth came up with a solution (at least temporarily) for the natural gas odor in the Family Life Center kitchen; it was not a gas leak, but a case of pilot lights going out on the burners of the stove. The pilot lights for the burners will be shut off when not in use, and manually lit before each use. He posted signs with instructions next to the stove. Other B&G issues were relatively minor.

**Lent and Easter:** Council discussed Maundy Thursday plans; it was decided that this year there will be a worship service (in the sanctuary), but *not* the customary dinner in the FLC. As in previous years, breakfast will be served after the Sunrise Service on Easter morning.

**Food Pantry:** The Pantry will present its expansion plans at the Hilshire Village Council Meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Representatives from the Pantry and HCLC will meet on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

Council discussed ideas on evaluating security on the church campus. Pastor Berggren suggested asking the Spring Valley Police Department for their thoughts on improving security and ways to deescalate potential conflicts. Ms. Kilkenny asked if they might have ideas for the usher teams to consider.

Council discussed renewing the maintenance contract on the icemaker in the FLC kitchen. Ms. Kilkenny will research alternatives.

**Early Learning Center:** Margaret Gehman (ELC Head of School) spoke with President Lambeth about a program for free lead testing of water at preschools. Ms. Gehman will research this further. Wayne Schaper asked about the possibility that new rules might require that the ELC to have additional egress doors.

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Mr. Schick suggested posting information about RMD's (Required Minimum Distributions from 401(k), IRA's, etc.) to the financial section of the website. Parishioners who are subject to RMD's could designate part of their RMD directly to the church and reduce their tax liability.

The March Council meeting was scheduled for Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Upon motion to adjourn, the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kilkenny  
Secretary, Church Council



## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

The Friendship Club will be meeting at  
the Ragin Cajun located at 1725 Wirt Rd (77055)  
**Saturday, April 20.**

Please note the time **CHANGE:**  
we will begin to gather at **4:00 pm.**

Looking forward to seeing y'all!"

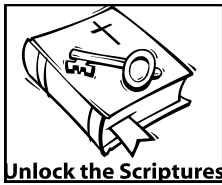
Nancy Beamesderfer



## COUNCIL MEETING

Council Meeting will be Sunday, **April 21<sup>st</sup>**, 2024  
at 11:00 a.m. in the Annex.

Church Council




**Unlock the Scriptures**

## READINGS, PSALMS & GOSPEL


APRIL 2024

DATE	1 <sup>st</sup> READING	PSALM	2 <sup>nd</sup> READING	GOSPEL
04/07/2024	Acts 4:32-35	133	1 John 1:1—2:2	John 20:19-31
04/14/2024	Acts 3:12-19	4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
04/21/2024	Acts 4:5-12	23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
04/28/2024	Acts 8:26-40	22:25-31	1 John 4:7-21	John 15:1-8



**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Altar Flowers are given by  
Dorothy Preuss in loving memory  
of her Parents Birthdays  
in the month of March.



CHRIST  
*is*  
ALSO  
BORN

**LAY READERS & ASSISTANTS**

**APRIL**

7 Reader — Steve Schulze  
P/E — Linda Cuzzort

14 Reader — Nancy Beamesderfer  
P/E — Penny Schick

21 Reader — Ike Thompson  
P/E — John Stokes

28 Reader — Mallory Hileman  
P/E — Jay Byerly

P/E stands for Prayers and Eucharist  
Nancy Beamesderfer



# APRIL 2024

Holy Cross members celebrating birthdays this month:

03	Julie Yanta	19	Ernest Luker
06	Jeanette Dukleth	22	Mark Wegner
11	Richard Daze		Patrick Kilkenny
13	Hans Sunder		Lindsay Doler
15	David Farley	25	Mim Wignes
	Mary Elena Sosa	29	Betty Boeker
16	Erlin Rivera		Ethan Fisher
18	Ann Larson	30	Tommy Roberts

*If your name is not listed or if this is incorrect information  
please contact the Church Office  
so that the list can be corrected.*

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

The homebound, disabled, long-term ill and prolonged recovering.

- † Dolores Abrego
- † Barney Boeker
- † Louise McDonnold
- † Larry Polzin
- † Rosie Stork
- † Sandra Williams

Candy Berggren  
 Barney Boeker  
 Harold Braun  
 Susan Caradec  
 Bill Carty  
 Vicki Carty  
 Lorraine Chavez  
 Patty Conberi  
 Karen Davidson  
 Cathy Doughty  
 David Dukleth  
 Steve Forrester  
 Anna Gardner  
 Caroline Irvin

Linda Kuhar  
 Daniel Lara  
 Kenneth Magrill  
 Todd Miskel  
 Jeremy Mitchell  
 Geraine Moore  
 Mike Paine  
 LaVerne Pivonka  
 Dorothy Preuss  
 Rosie Stork  
 Vern Terry  
 Jaime Urbanski  
 David Watson



*If you are not receiving HCLC Prayer Request emails and would like to, please contact:*

**Renee Allcorn**  
**[allcornr@gmail.com](mailto:allcornr@gmail.com)**

or call at 713-254-8638

*Note that Prayer Request emails are sent out daily. If you are on the email list and did not receive any email, please contact Renee.*

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday—Thursday: 9— 4 p.m.  
 Friday 8:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

You may sign up for  
**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
 in the Narthex.

**Suggested donation is \$65.<sup>00</sup>**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

If you have any questions call Ricki Finstad at 713-465-5968.

**FEBRUARY 2024**

Receipts	\$ 17,708. <sup>00</sup>
Expenses	<u>33,026.<sup>27</sup></u>
Balance	(\$ <u>15,318.<sup>27</sup>)</u>

Operational receipts	
Year-to-date received .....	\$ 48,691. <sup>00</sup>
Expenditures year to date .....	<u>58,724.<sup>04</sup></u>
Balance	(\$10,033. <sup>04</sup> )

**AVERAGE ATTENDANCE**

**FEBRUARY SERVICES**

Saturday Informal Service : 12  
 Sunday Traditional Service : 53

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
in Spring Branch

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America (ELCA)

7901 Westview Dr.  
Houston, Texas 77055  
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Fax (713) 686-9095  
E-mail: [hclc@holycross.us](mailto:hclc@holycross.us)  
Website: [www.holycross.us](http://www.holycross.us)

*“Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a community of Christians gathered by God’s grace and reaching out through God’s love.”*

<b>TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS</b>		<b>CHURCH STAFF</b>	
<b>100</b>	Church Office	Rev. Jim Berggren — Senior Pastor Email: <a href="mailto:jlberggren@holycross.us">jlberggren@holycross.us</a>	
<b>101</b>	Sussy Terry	Office Manager & Events Coordinator	Sussy Terry — Office Manager & Events C. Email: <a href="mailto:hclc@holycross.us">hclc@holycross.us</a>
<b>103</b>	Rev. Jim Berggren	Senior Pastor	John Lambeth — Bookkeeper Email: <a href="mailto:finance@holycross.us">finance@holycross.us</a>
<b>104</b>	John Lambeth	Bookkeeper	Robert Carty — Musical Director / Organist Email: <a href="mailto:robcarty1@outlook.com">robcarty1@outlook.com</a>
<b>SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE</b> Informal Service 6:00 p. m. —AT		<b>OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATION</b>	
<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE</b> Traditional Service 9:30 a.m. —WC		Wendy Lambeth	President
<b>EARLY LEARNING CENTER</b>		Stephanie Walton	Vice-President
<b>ELC (713) 461-5535</b>		Julie Kilkenny	Secretary
email: <a href="mailto:holycrosselc4@gmail.com">holycrosselc4@gmail.com</a>		Ricki Finstad	Treasurer
		