

May 17, 2022

Dear members of Holy Cross,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Earlier this year, our congregation began a strategic planning process in which we discussed future plans for Holy Cross. Following several focus groups, our Strategic Planning Committee evaluated our mission statement, "We are Transformed in Christ to Share the Hope of Eternal Life," established core values, and developed a plan for annual and long-term goals.

The Apostle Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:27, "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." Each and every one of us has the opportunity to bring glory to God and serve others in unique ways, with different callings and different opportunities. As individual members, God has given everyone here different talents and abilities that are meant to be used in love and service to others.

As a church family, we are thankful for the ways God has worked through us over the years. We are also excited for the many opportunities he has for us now and in the future! As a way of identifying and coordinating ministry opportunities, our church leadership has compiled this survey to identify the gifts and talents of Holy Cross members. To help us with planning, we kindly ask all members and future members to fill out this survey and return to the church. This includes the first page regarding household information, even if you think it is up to date. If there is another area of ministry you wish to help with that is not listed, please note that as well. **\*\*\*NOTE: As you circle initiatives you are interested or gifted in, know this survey is not a commitment to service in that area, but rather this helps us know you are interested.\*\*\***

God has richly blessed our congregation and He continues to transform us in Christ each and every day so that we share the hope of eternal life with others. That includes you. Please consider how the Lord is leading you to serve, whether as a committee chair or member. I pray that God continues to work through Holy Cross to equip all of us as saints for the work of the ministry in this community! Please know we are open to hearing your suggestions, thoughts, and concerns, and together we will do our best to address those for service to Christ's church and our community!

In Christ,

Pastor Craig Reiter and the Strategic Planning Committee

**Household Information**

**\*\*\*\*\*ALL MEMBERS\*\*\*\*\*Please fill this out with the most up to date contact information for you and any members of your household:**

**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone and/or Cell Phone # (Please include your carrier, e.g. Verizon, AT&T etc. as this may help us with future mass communication initiatives ):**

Home # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cell #s and Names

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Email addresses (list for each)**

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**Important Dates for each Family Member (e.g. Birthday, Baptismal birthday, confirmation, anniversary)**\_\_\_\_\_

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**Mission Statement:**

We are Transformed in Christ to Share the Hope of Eternal Life

**Core Values:** Worship, Hospitality, Fellowship, Family, Christian Education

**Annual Goals for 2022**

- 1)Purchase and establish a plan of use and plan of renovation for the Wood Bldg.
- 2)Increase Electronic communication
- 3) Provide Young children’s educational opportunity
- 4 Explore small group ministry opportunities
- 5) Explore ways to enhance music in worship

**Long-term Goals:**

- 1) 50% of all members are participating in an outreach/service activity
- 2) Increase active membership of young families
- 3) Provide Christian Educational opportunities for all ages
- 4) Increase and enhance usable ministry space

**Initiatives**

From the Strategic Plan, there are 18 initiatives planned for 2022 to help us reach our annual goals and work toward our long-term goals:

**Initiative Survey**

**1) Develop Ministry Space Renovation plan for the Wood Building**

**Overview:** In April 2022, Holy Cross Members voted to purchase the Wood Funeral Home to renovate for future ministry use. This could include using the facility as a daycare, a space for other ministries of Holy Cross, or for hosting other ministries in the community. This project will take the involvement of many members of Holy Cross.

**Committees Responsible:** Property Committee, Trustees, Daycare Committee, Church Council, Evangelism

\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY FOR YOU FOR THE SURVEY INITIATIVES. IF FILLING OUT FOR YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY, LIST THE NAME(S) NEXT TO EACH INITIATIVE CIRCLED\*\*\*\*\*

I am interested in helping with:

- Facilities Planning
- Facility maintenance
- Construction project management
- Coordinating with the state representatives regarding plans/inspections
- Attending meetings as needed to discuss the current progress and next steps
- Working at the daycare once renovation is complete
  - Teacher
  - Aid
  - Office help
  - Cooking
  - Cleaning

I am interested in helping with:

The Daycare Committee

- Have you worked at a daycare or in education? Yes or No.
- Daycare Board
- Daycare accounting
- Daycare computers and OP System
- Business Planning
- Working with Missouri District (LCMS Church) and LCEF officials
- Daycare Personnel
- Recruitment of families/kids for enrollment
- Capital and Equipment needs of the Daycare
- Other aspect not listed\_\_\_\_\_

**2) Update Membership registry with emails, current cell #s, carrier etc.**

**Overview:** Currently, we are missing a lot of contact information in our Church 360 software. In order to increase our electronic communication, we are trying to update our information on all members.

**Committee Responsible:** Communications and Technology

\*\*\*To help with this, please fill out the contact info above. If you have adult children who now live elsewhere, please encourage them to fill out this survey and give updated info. Thank you!\*\*\*

### **3) Create an Internal Friends of Holy Cross private Facebook Group**

**Overview:** Holy Cross has a public Facebook page for ministry and publicity to the greater Ste. Gen community and members. It also has a private, members only page called “Friends of Holy Cross Lutheran Church” for communication between members.

**Committee:** Communications and Technology

\*\*\*\*This has already been created. If you have Facebook, please follow Holy Cross Lutheran Church—Ste. Genevieve. This page is for members and for the general public. Search also for “Friends of Holy Cross Lutheran Church” and ask to join. This is only for our members and communication between them. One of the administrators will let you in. \*\*\*\*

### **4) Create a plan/guidelines for postings on the private group and public page.**

**Overview:** To improve electronic communication regarding church events and ministry opportunities, plans for posting and guidelines will be set up.

**Committee:** Communications and Technology

I am interested in helping with:

- Creating a schedule for posting
- Creating guidelines for posting
- Other aspect not listed \_\_\_\_\_

### **5) Determine who (person or Committee) coordinates communication internal and external**

**Overview:** This goes along with #4, but to have consistency in communication in communication, we need to determine who will help with communication both internal and external

Committee Responsible: Communications and Technology

I am interested in helping with:

- Posting to Facebook for the church on the public page
- Maintaining and updating the church website
- Reminding Michael and Pastor of important news and events for the bulletin and newsletters ☺
- Other aspect not listed \_\_\_\_\_

### 6) Survey interests/needs for children's ministry

**Overview:** We want to restart educational opportunities for the children of the congregation and community. This could include, but is not limited to Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

Committee Responsible: Children's Ministry

- Please circle all that apply:  
If offered, our family would attend:
  - Sunday School after Church on Sunday. I could then attend Bible Study
  - Vacation Bible School in the summer
  - Periodic events scheduled for family ministry
  - A weekly chapel time at church- mid-morning
  - A church service at a different time (Select all that apply)
    - Thursday Evenings
    - Later Sunday Morning (11am)
    - Other? \_\_\_\_\_
  - I would be willing to be a lead teacher for Sunday School
  - I would be willing to assist a teacher with Sunday School
  - I would be willing to volunteer to help run activities or organize/plan for VBS
  
- What days/timeframes would generally work best for you and your family for worship and other ministry opportunities? Please list below.

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### 7) Inventory existing materials for children's ministry and clean space

Overview: We want to restart educational opportunities for the children of the congregation and community. This includes, but is not limited to Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. To help with this, we will go through our current building, identify what we have and what space would be good for children's ministry.

Committee Responsible: Children's Ministry

I am interested in helping with:

- Doing an inventory of existing children's ministry materials
- Organizing a space(s) for children's ministry
- Organizing a nursery area
- Other aspect \_\_\_\_\_

### 8) Survey congregation regarding small group interests, facilitators,

Overview: Holy Cross members indicated a desire to increase Christian education opportunities. To help with this, we are looking at starting small groups. While the focus of these groups will include time in prayer and Bible Study, they are not limited to that and can be varied in their interests and time commitment (e.g. doing a group service project, getting together for a meal, going golfing, all of the above, etc.)

Committee: Strategic Planning Committee

Circle all that apply:

I am interested in helping with:

- Leading a Small Group
- Hosting a small group at my house or organizing for at church or another site
- Participating in a Small Group
- Other aspect \_\_\_\_\_
  
- What days/timeframes would generally work best for you and/or your family for participating in a small group? Circle all that apply.
  - Weekdays- early morning, mid morning, afternoon, evening
  - Weekends- early morning, mid morning, afternoon, evening
- What topics would you be most interested in?
  - Going through a book of the Bible (e.g. Matthew, Psalms , Isaiah, etc)
  - Doing a Christian book study
  - Focusing on a particular biblical topics (e.g. forgiveness, prayer, etc)

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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**9) Form a music in worship committee to explore ways to enhance music in worship**

Overview: The Committee will work with pastor and elders to help enhance the music in worship.

Committee Responsible: Music Committee

I am interested in helping with:

- Playing Piano/Organ
- Singing in Choir
- Playing other instruments for additional music opportunities
- Helping with a Music Camp
- Serving on a music committee that evaluates the hymns/songs/instruments in worship

Please share any comments on the current music life of the congregation. What do you like about it? What could be improved?

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**10-15 Big Events and Festivals: Holy Cross participates in a number of big events and festivals held in Ste. Gen each year. Circle all that apply.**

Committee Responsible: Evangelism Committee

**10) Jour De Fete (August)**

Overview: Annual arts and crafts festival in Ste. Genevieve. Our church does a bake sale and collectible sale to raise money to support other ministries.

Committee Responsible: Evangelism

I am interested in helping with

- Leading Children's activities
- Organizing and pricing collectibles
- Baking cookies
- Helping at the water stand
- Being a cashier or bagger
- Greeting guests
  
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**11) Honey Fest (June)**



Overview: Annual festival hosted by Harold's Famous Bees. We open our doors for restrooms and cool rest area. We may provide children's activities.

Committee Responsible: Evangelism

I am interested in helping with:

- Greeting guests and being present at the church for the festival
- Setting up the fellowship room
- Leading Children's activities

## **12) Christmas Walk (December)**

Overview: During the first full weekend in December, Holy Cross hosts several concerts on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Committee: Evangelism

I am interested in helping with:

- Leading Children's activities
- Baking cookies
- Greeting guests/being present at the church for the event

## **13) Christmas Tour (December)**

Overview: Holy Cross was added to the Country Christmas Church tour. This is an opportunity to open our doors to the public to talk about the past and present life of Holy Cross.

Committee: Evangelism

- I am interested in helping with
  - o Leading Children's activities
  - o Decorations and Set-up
  - o Greeting guests
  - o Preparing food
  - o Sharing info about the church's history
  - o Other\_\_\_\_\_

## **14) German Fest (September/October)**

Overview: New festival to Ste. Genevieve in 2022 focusing on German heritage

- o Leading Children's activities
- o Decorations and Set-up
- o Greeting guests
- o Preparing food
- o Sharing info about the church's history

## **15) Church Picnic (August)**

Overview: Our church typically holds its annual picnic up in Lake forest in late August, accompanied by an outdoor church service.

- Leading Children's activities
- Decorations and Set-up
- Greeting guests
- Preparing food
- Sharing info about the church's history

I am interested in serving with the picnic committee

#### 16) Operation Christmas Child

Overview: Event coordinated by Hope Church that we often participate in. Packing shoe boxes with toys and supplies for kids around the world.

I am interested in helping with

- Being the contact liason between Holy Cross and Hope Church
- Helping pack shoe boxes
- Helping drop off shoe boxes

#### 17) Fill the Crib- Options for Women (December)

Overview: Helps supply Options for women with needed supplies for women and families in crisis.

I am interested in helping with

- Setting up the collection
- Taking the collection to Options

#### 18) Active Participation with heavenly hope

I am willing to:

- Help Heavenly Hope at different events around the county
- Help communicate about events for Heavenly hope with Holy Cross members

Other General Areas of Service that may or may not have been covered above:

I am interested in helping with:

- Sunday Morning Assistance and Preparation
  - Reading Scripture Lessons
  - Serving as an Usher or Greeter
  - Teaching a Bible Study
  - Helping set up/put away communion
- Visitation
  - Visiting Homebound Members

- Organizing and Putting together Care packages
- Organizing or participating in a meal train for those in need
- Reaching out to inactive members or Guests
- Technology
  - Help with Service Recording
  - Updating Church Website
  - Assisting with the church Facebook page(s)
  
- Small Groups
  - Leading a Small Group Bible Study
  - Participating in a Small Group Bible Study
- Evangelism /Community Outreach
  - Planning new Service Opportunities in the Community
  - Planning Fellowship Opportunities at Church/Homes/Community
- Prayer
  - Forming/being a part of a Prayer Team
- Financial
  - Assisting with Church Finances as the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, or as a counter
  - Serving on the Budget Committee
- Children and Youth
  - Teaching Sunday School
  - Helping with Vacation Bible School
  - Helping with a youth Group
- Physical Help
  - Helping with manual labor at church (ex. Cleaning).
  - Flower Watering, Lawn Cutting, Cooking Meals, Misc. Projects
- Elected Officers
  - Being willing to serve in a church office (president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, financial secretary evangelism, elders, trustees, etc)
  
- Other Areas (Please list): \_\_\_\_\_)