



CROSSlink

2107 3 Oaks Rd, Cary, IL 60013
847.639.1702 Church Office
260.804.3154 Pastor Patterson
847.639.6533 Preschool Office
www.HolyCrossCary.org

Worship Services:
Saturdays 5:30 pm
(Sanctuary)
Sundays 8:30am
(Sanctuary)
Sunday 9:45 am Bible
Study
Sundays 10:45 am
(LOFT)

October 2022

FROM PASTOR'S DESK

“Does God Hate Religion?”

Pastor Zac Patterson

I've lost track of the times I've heard someone say, “God hates religion”. It's a very common claim among modern-day Christians. The argument usually goes something along the lines of saying how God hates religion, usually defined as a list of rules and commands to follow, and is much more interested in a personal relationship with people. But is this claim true? Does God actually hate religion?

First, let's define the term. Religion is, “a personal set or institutionalized system of religious attitudes, beliefs, and practices” (Merriam-Webster). Does God hate having a system of religious attitudes, beliefs, and practices? No. In fact, he instituted a religion himself: Christianity.

After God created Adam, he gave him a command: don't eat the forbidden fruit! Adam was to believe God's Word and practice obedience to him. Later in history, God gave the Israelites the 10 Commandments, a list of laws they were to follow, and others which would form their attitudes, beliefs, and practices. This is the law of God. And what does Scripture say about God's Law? “So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good” (Romans 7:12). “The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul...” (Psalm 19:7). “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome” (1 John 5:3). “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them” (Matthew 5:17). Apparently, it's not sinful to have a system of religious attitudes, beliefs, and practices: a religion. So what does God hate?

God hates false religion or man-made religion. He hates that which has not come from him nor points to him. “The prophets are prophesying lies in my name. I did not send them, nor did I command them or speak to them. They are prophesying to you a lying vision, worthless divination, and the deceit of their own minds” (Jeremiah 14:14). “But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has counseled rebellion against the Lord your God...” (Deuteronomy 13:5). “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves” (Matthew 7:15). This is why Jesus chastised the Pharisees, for they spoke lies in the name of God and burdened the people with things he did not command. “They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger” (Matthew 23:4). “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” (Luke 14:5).

Does God hate religion? No, not the one true religion of Christianity that he instituted. He does hate false religion, false doctrine, and false laws that do not come from him. So next time you hear someone say, “God's not about religion, but a personal relationship,” you can say he is about religion, the one true religion of Christianity. But what about that personal relationship? Well, we'll save that can of worms for another Crosslink.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

To Our Holy Cross Family, I want to take a moment to thank all of you for the love you have given us. This has been a very hard time for our family. But with all the support and kind words, we feel blessed. Our mother meant so much to us. She will be missed terribly. May God bless you. Dan & Terry Powell, John and Sue Greene, and families.

WOMENS RETREAT

HE RESTORES MY SOUL Psalm 23: 2-3 is the theme for a day of retreat at Walcamp in Kingston, Illinois beginning at 8:30 am on Saturday, October 15. The registration fee of \$20 includes food and materials for the day. God is providing a place of woods and fields to rejoice in His creation. You may call 815-923-2733 to register. Carpools can be arranged. This is sponsored by Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) and is open to all women.

KIDS FOR CHRIST

Kids for Christ meets from 5:00-6:30 pm. Dinner will be provided. KFC is for all kids grades 1-8. This includes Confirmation instruction for grades 7-8. To sign up or volunteer, use this link:

<https://vbspro.events/p/events/kids4christ>

To provide dinner or sponsor a dinner with a Thrivent Action Team, sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E4FAFAF23A13-kids>

For more information contact Chrissy Heiss at preschool@holycrosscary.org

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We will have photographers here November 17-18-19. Sign up to get your time slot! Kim will be taking pictures of church groups to submit to the directory. Each family that has pictures taken receives a free 8x10 photo and a church directory. Invite friends and neighbors who can have pictures taken to purchase also which earns us extra pages in the directory. We will need three Hosts/Hostesses for two-hour time slots on each day to greet members and help keep things moving for the photographers. Contact Ellen in the Office if you would like to help.

CARY HALLOWEEN WALK

Holy Cross will be participating in the Chamber of Commerce Halloween Walk on Saturday, October 29. We are looking for donations of candy for our treat bags. Please drop donations in the pumpkin box in the church narthex.

MERRY CARY PARADE

The parade is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 4 from 12-3:30 pm. They have already come up with a wonderful plan. will also be handing out treats and info about Holy Cross and what we have to offer. If you feel this fun event tugging at your heartstrings as a way to serve Holy Cross and the community, let us know. Contact Ellen in the office at 847-639-1702 or egezella@holycrosscary.org

JULIETS – WOMENS BOOK CLUB

We are starting a book club for Christian women beginning Monday, October 3rd. We will meet at Panera Bread in Fox River Grove at 6:00 pm. This is an opportunity to enjoy each other's company. Our first book will be "Women of the Bible Speak" written by Shannon Bream. Please have pages 1-100 read which is approximately ½ of the book. Thereafter, we plan to meet at this location the first

Monday of each month. We are calling our new club the **JULIETS; Jesus Understands Ladies In Every Transitional Stage!** Please contact Kathy to let her know you are attending. Please bring a friend.

FISH CLUB Meets During Bible Study - Lower LOFT

Sunday School is off to a great start. With Jesus at the center, the kids connect to God and each other through a variety of fun activities. They craft. They play. They even eat creative snacks. All in a way that reinforces the Bible stories like nothing else. **Please join us 3 years to 8 years every Sunday** from at 9:35am - 10:30am in the Lower LOFT! We're sure the kids will grow in their relationship with Jesus and meet a few new friends along the way.

FISH CLUB Volunteers Needed – Small Commitment-Big Impact!!

We are looking for 1 more adult volunteer. If you are interested, please contact Tania -with questions. One Sunday a month with 1 hour commitment is all that is needed.

OWLS HAPPENINGS

OWLS will meet on October 6 at noon in the lower LOFT. Joan and Tom will host and provide a devotion and dessert. Bring your lunch and enjoy an afternoon with friends. We will view the first episode of "Chosen," the series recommended by Pastor Meyer. You may bring books and magazines to trade. or donate to The Bethesda Shop.

OWLS will provide supper for KFC on October 13. Prep begins at 4 p.m., serving at 5 p.m. At 5:45 p.m. a Fellowship Supper will be served to anyone who would enjoy supper together.

OWLS plan to go out to enjoy German food on Thursday, October 20. Watch the bulletin board for details and to sign up to join us.

TEACHER ASSISTANT POSITION

Holy Cross Lutheran Preschool is seeking applicants for Preschool Teacher's Assistant. Duties include caring for children and assisting the teacher with classroom supervision. Morning hours are perfect for the stay-at-home parent or retiree. For more information, contact Chrissy Heiss, Director, at preschool@holycrosscary.org or at 847-639-6533.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

We welcome Sherrie as our new Finance Administrator! She will begin training in October and we are so happy to have her aboard.

CHOIR UPDATES

Do you like to sing? Then you should come to choir, of course! September is the ideal time to start up with us. Come try it out, we know you will like it.

Did you know that singing in a choir is as good for you as exercise?

- reduces stress
- improves breathing and circulation
- enhances your immune system
- releases those 'feel-good' hormones

God is gracious to provide physical and mental benefits to singing to him as he commands. By participating you are leading a witness to the great things our God has done. Why not enhance your spiritual and physical life in choir? **We meet every Wednesday night at 7 pm in the balcony**

VENDOR FAIR

Holy Cross will be hosting a Vendor Fair on Saturday, November 19, in the LOFT from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. We welcome church members, their families, and friends to participate as vendors and to shop. We are also planning on having a booth with household items that are donated to the church for resale. Please start bringing these items in as soon as possible so that we can start pricing them. Items may be brought to the lower level of the loft. Please place items on the designated table. All money collected will go toward the cost of hosting this event and to church funds. Organizers are Kathy, Laura, and Diane. Please contact Kathy with any questions or concerns. Sign up on the link on our HC website or fb page to participate.

NEWS FROM THE CONVENTION

The Northern Illinois District Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) met in convention September 23 & 24. There was an opening worship service, business meeting to amend bylaws and election of officers. MITES report shows that all the grants approved at the previous convention two years ago have all been paid. Nine new grants were approved at this convention for this current two year period.

NID/LWML is a co-sponsor of the National Convention that meets in Milwaukee next June and volunteer workers are being recruited. Holy Cross Prayer Shawl members are making crosses for key rings that will be part of the welcome packet for attendees and turned in 260 made so far. Questions? Ask Diane.

OCTOBER 2022

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						1 5:30P Worship
2 LWML Sunday 8:30A Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45A Bible Study Fish Club 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	3 5:30P Juliet's – FRG Panera Cathedral Crafts here	4 Dartball – Home vs. Elgin	5 7:00P Choir Rehearsal	6 12:00P OWLS 5-6:30P KFC	7	8 5:30P Worship 7:00P Taizé Service
9 8:30A Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45A Bible Study Fish Club 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	10	11 Preschool Board meeting Pastor at conference 6:30P Governing Board 7:00P Cultured Pearls	12 Pastor at conference	13 10:00A Prayer Shawl-here 5-6:30P KFC	14	15 8:30A LWML Retreat at Walcamp 5:30P Worship
16 8:30A Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45A Bible Study Fish Club 10:45A Worship (LOFT) 2:00P World Hunger Crop Walk	17	18 6:30P Governing Board 7:30P Dartball Home vs. N. Plato	19 6:30P Board of Elder's	20 12:00P OWLS (Meal out) 5-6:30P KFC	21	22 5:30P Worship
23 8:30A Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45A Bible Study Fish Club 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	24		26	27 10:00A Prayer Shawl @ FRG Panera 5-6:30P KFC	28	29 11-12:00P Halloween Walk
Reformation Day 30 8:30A Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45A Bible Study Fish Club 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	31					