



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER - August 2025

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Holy Cross's 2025-26 Ministry Spending Plan

One characteristic of healthy organizations is transparency in financial topics, including how much money is required and how it is spent. This is especially true of churches. At Holy Cross we seek to be as transparent as possible about our ministry spending so that people know exactly what their offering dollars are paying for and why. This also helps encourage generosity in financial giving.

At our June 8 Voters Meeting, our congregation passed a Ministry Spending Plan for our fiscal year which goes from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026. Even if you weren't at the meeting, the Ministry Spending Plan that was passed impacts you because you are a part of Holy Cross. ***Your thankful stewardship and generous giving to Holy Cross is essential to continuing the mission*** of Matthew 28 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

Our 2025-26 Ministry Spending Plan is a total of \$355,442. About 60% of our spending (\$215,000) goes towards salaries and wages of servants. Another 28% (\$100,442) goes towards administrative costs like insurance, utilities, maintenance, communication, and so forth. The final 12% (\$40,000) goes toward support of several organizations and people outside of Holy Cross such as Flushing Christian Outreach Center, Franklin Avenue Mission, LCMS Michigan District and foreign missionaries in addition to focused outreach ministry by Holy Cross. All our spending at Holy Cross is for the mission of the Church (Matt. 28:18-20). Copies of the Ministry Spending Plan that we approved are always available by speaking with Scott Sharp or Karen Rucker.

The '25-'26 Ministry Spending Plan that was passed includes a slight increase in support for FCOC and Franklin Avenue Mission and wage increases for office staff and pastor. It is efficient due to the skill and care of our bookkeeper Karen Rucker. The bottom line total is essentially the same as the previous year due to the elimination of some expenses that were no longer needed.

People of Holy Cross, it's time to be generous with our offering dollars and financially support the work of Jesus among us.

We are blessed and the Gospel of Jesus is at work among us. God has brought new friends to worship with us and join the family of God at Holy Cross. The LORD uses Holy Cross to care for people in our community. We are growing in faith and our witness to the truth of Jesus as we learn and grow in God's Word.

Most importantly, you are blessed because you are a redeemed child of God and your sin has been wiped away on account of your savior Jesus. You have eternal life because of Jesus!

People of Holy Cross, it's time to be generous!

See you on Sunday, Pastor Zucker

EVENTS

**SIGN UP
TODAY!**

Nursery closed August 31

Ladies Lunchly -

August 13

Liberty Restaurant @ noon

All Ladies are invited

Fall Back to Holy Cross

Looking Forward to What Is to Come

FREE Food and Games

for All Ages

Sunday, September 7th - 12:30-2pm

Potluck Immediately following Worship

See Signup sheet in the Narthex



PRAY THE PSALMS once a day, EVERY day for the month of **August**.

All year long at Holy Cross we're praying the Psalms, once a day everyday a different Psalm each month. In July it was Psalm 130. In **August** it is **Psalm 121**.

Just like Psalm 130 last month, the text of Psalm 121 calls itself "A Song of Ascents". There are fifteen psalms with this designation and they were sung by people traveling to Jerusalem for one of the three annual festivals (Passover, Feast of Weeks, & Feast of Booths). Jerusalem sits on a hill and so travelers would sing these psalms as they ascended and came to observe the festival and worship God.

Psalm 121 is sweet comfort for anyone who is feeling overwhelmed. It reminds weary people that the creator of all things promises that He does not abandon us to the worldly troubles around us. Psalm 121 also calls us back to trusting in the LORD for relief, strength, rest, and protection rather than ourselves.

Several times in the Psalm the LORD is called a "keeper" or the act of "keeping" is ascribed to Him. This word has the sense of a watchman, someone who preserves His people even when they can't see their own danger. The LORD is on guard over His people. When you pray Psalm 121, rest in the LORD because He keeps you.



BREAD FOR LIFE INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR

You Can Help Fight Childhood Hunger in Flushing

Did you know that hunger is one of the biggest obstacles to a child's success in school? Right here in Flushing, **130 students** rely on Bread for Life to provide them with nutritious weekend meals—ensuring they don't go hungry between Friday and Monday.

For just \$320, you can sponsor one child for an entire school year. That's less than \$1 a day to make sure a student in need has food every weekend.

How You Can Help

- ✓ Sponsor a Child (\$320/year or \$27/month) – Ensure one student has meals every weekend for the entire school year. Your gift means they won't have to worry about where their next meal is coming from.
- ✓ Half-Year Sponsor (\$160) – Provide weekend meals for a child for six months, giving them the nourishment they need to stay focused in school.
- ✓ One-Time Gift of Any Amount – No contribution is too small. Every dollar helps purchase food and ensures that no child is left behind.
- ✓ Become a Monthly Supporter – By setting up a recurring monthly donation, you can provide ongoing support to keep children fed throughout the year.
- ✓ Spread the Word – Encourage friends, family, and coworkers to join in the fight against childhood hunger. The more people who know about Bread for Life, the more students we can support.
- ✓ Volunteer – If you'd like to make an impact beyond giving, consider joining our packing or delivery teams to help distribute food to students in need.

Every donation, no matter the size, makes a difference. **Together, we can ensure no child in our community goes hungry.**

Join Us Today!!!

Every dollar makes a difference. Your sponsorship will directly change lives in our community. Will you join us in ensuring that no child goes hungry in Flushing? Become a Sponsor Today! Contact Flushing Community Church at 810.732.0282 or tammyd@flushingcommunity.org

Mail Checks to: Flushing Community Church, 9500 W. Pierson Rd, Flushing, MI 48433

Be sure to put: Bread For Life on memo line.

