

July 2026 Newsletter



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July Newsletter 2026

Special points of interest:

- Pastors Ponderings by Pastor Carl Billings
- Fair Stand
- Community VBS July 27 -30, 2026
- Sunday School Starting this fall
- WOW Bingo at Glenhaven
- Friday Morning Coffee
- WOW Summer Garden Tour

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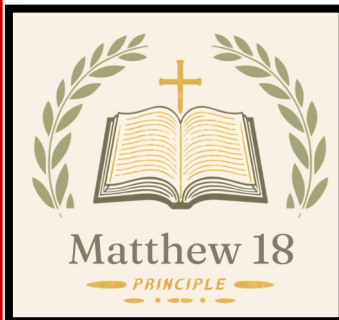
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Pastors Ponderings By Pastor Carl Billings

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he exhorts the Christian community, not just individuals, to grow spiritually mature as a congregation.

The method is simple: speak the truth in love. Although clear, it is not easy. Our speech must be loving and truthful. As I have said before, love without truth is not love, and truth without love is not truth.

I want this to be a reality at Holy Cross. It is important to deal with conflict in a Biblical and wise way. It is equally important to establish a process for handling conflict before we are confronted with a major disagreement.



That is why this month I presented the Matthew 18 principle to our Church Council. In Matthew 18, Jesus instructs the disciples to go and talk to the person directly if they have a problem. Don't complain to others or just overlook it. Go and talk directly to the person. That usually settles the issues.

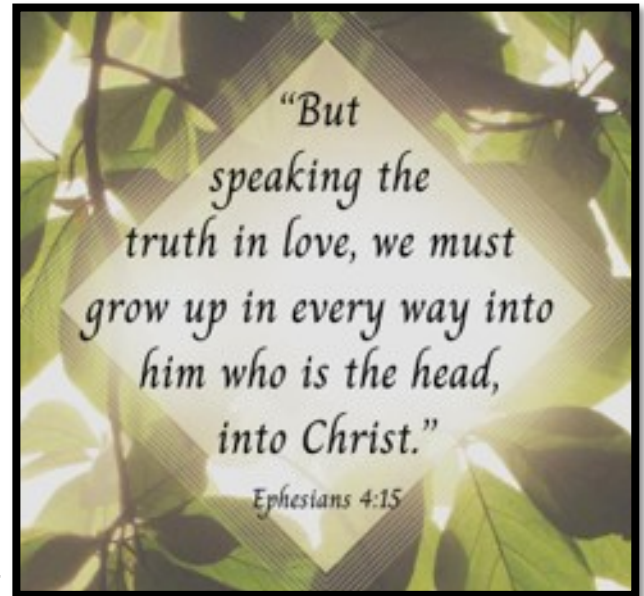
If that doesn't work, then bring someone along as interpreter and referee. If the issue is still unresolved, the next step is to bring the matter to the council for further guidance.

Finally, if the disagreement cannot be resolved after these steps, we need to part company, though this should happen only in very rare cases. Jesus says in Matthew 18:17, "Let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector." Remember, though, Jesus loved the tax collector. The Gospel is authored by a former tax collector, and this Gospel ends with Jesus telling the disciples to proclaim the good news to all the Gentiles. So love and truth are still required even in this final drastic step.

I was delighted to hear that this process was already included in our By-laws. The Council also passed a resolution affirming that we will address congregational conflict in accordance with the principles of Matthew 18.

Be Hope-filled, Stay Strong, God's Got This.

Pastor Carl



WOW (Women of the Word) By April Goodwin

Women of the Word (WOW) Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2026

Submitted by April Goodwin

Attendance: Jeanne Jeske, Nancy Wold, Karen, Joan Bartz, and April Goodwin

Jeanne opened the meeting with a devotional.

Karen presented the treasurer's report. There is \$1,455.95 in checking and \$6,707.00 in savings.

- Construction was completed in the kitchen to accommodate the new refrigerator, which was delivered on Friday, May 22.
- We received thank-you notes from Turning Point, Glenhaven, West CAP, and the Family Resource Center for our recent donations.
- WOW will begin serving fellowship after church on the second Sunday of each month starting in July. Circle leaders will be responsible for finding volunteers during the months already assigned to their circles.
- Wanda is looking for ideas for her "Did You Know?" column in the newsletter and welcomes any suggestions.
- The Fall Supper will be held on October 21. It will be added to both the church calendar and website.
- Several fundraising ideas were discussed, including garden tours and a baked goods raffle before church on Sundays.
- Jeanne would like a new WOW brochure created and requested that circle leaders update their lists of women for inclusion in the brochure.

There was discussion about changing the time of the WOW meetings; however, no decision was made.



The annual Augusta District Women of the Word Gathering will be held on September 19, 2026, in Mankato. We would like to encourage as many women from our congregation as possible to attend. Please see the brochure in the newsletter and contact Jeanne or April for more information.

Meeting adjourned.

WOW

 at Glenhaven

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to my grandchildren for volunteering their time to help the residents play bingo at our recent event. Their kindness, patience, and willingness to serve brought smiles and enjoyment to many of the residents. Acts of service such as these are a wonderful way to share God's love and compassion with others. As we look ahead, I would also like to encourage all women of the church to attend our upcoming Women's Ministry meeting, Thursday, June 25th at 1:00. We have several important events and activities to discuss and plan for the coming months. Your ideas, participation, and support are valuable as we work together to strengthen our ministry and serve our church community. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Jeanne Jeske



Council Meeting June 8, 2026

June 8th 2026

Pastor Carl Billings—Chair April Goodwin

Present at the meeting: Pastor Carl, April Goodwin, Melanie Hill, Angela Logghe, Wes Booth, Barb Eliason, Joan Bartz.

The Mission of Holy Cross is:

“Called by the Holy Spirit to come, to grow, to live as disciples of Jesus Christ.”

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm by President April Goodwin

Adoption of Agenda with additions

Angela made motion, Melanie 2nd, all in favor

Approval of Secretary's Report -April

Angela made motion, Melanie 2nd, all in favor

Approval of Pastor's Report

Vote to accept Matthew 18 principle.

Wes motioned, Joan 2nd, all in favor

Old Business:

- Pastor report reviewed
- Wanda will be off June 19-22, July 11-19, August 6-11
- Pastor off July 15-22

New Business:

- AVE updates for church (electronic upgrade). Have received bid and council recommends that we proceed. Will need congregational approval so a meeting will be set.
- Will need delegates for the LCMC annual meeting in Iowa October 4-7, 2026.

Committee Reports:

Faith and Fun:

- Will be starting a list and looking for volunteers to help with Sunday school
- Sundays on Mondays will be starting soon.
- VBS scheduled for the end of July
- Fair food stand plans are underway. There will be a sign up for people to donate time, money and baked goods.
- Looking at end of August outdoor service
- Next meeting July 6th at 6:00 pm

Resources:

- Approval of financial report for May. Melanie made motion, Angela 2nd, all in favor
- Next meeting July 13th at 6 pm

Call Committee:

- Have received several applications, updated church listing requesting new pastor

Property Management:

- May 31st meeting: parts ordered for toilet and water fountain
- Getting bids for landscaping
- Next meeting 6/28

Barb will serve coffee on July 5th.

Next meeting is July 13th at 7 pm.

Wes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM, Melanie seconded; all were in favor.

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Barb

These minutes have not yet been approved by the council so not yet official minutes.

Community VBS

VBS is just a few weeks away.

We need support roles filled:

- 2 kitchen helpers for M-Wed and 4-5 on Thursday, as we will be preparing S'more treats.
- We also need help at the registration table, 4 on Monday and 2 helpers the rest of the week.

We welcome and appreciate all forms of support. Please share with your family and friends.

VBS is a fun way to connect and share our love of Jesus and hopefully ignite others.

Registration Forms available on our website or email the church office and we will send you one.

Community Ecumenical

Vacation Bible School

Hosted by Holy Cross Lutheran Church
in partnership with St. John's Catholic Church
and Immanuel Lutheran Church



July 27th – July 30st, 2026
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
4K– Grade 5

Change of Address

Beradine “Berdie” Olson has moved.
She has cancelled Land Line
Her cell number is 715-928-0876
New address is →

Beradine “Birdie” Olson
Park Place North Apt #255
220 N Lockwood Street
Woodville, WI 54028



Sunday Morning Fellowship (Coffee Hour)

CHANGES to Sunday Morning Fellowship.
There has been some changes to who is hosting Sunday Morning Fellowship (Coffee Hour). We are still looking for people to volunteer for the 3rd Sunday of the month, if you would like to help with this please see sign up sheet on kiosk. Here is the new schedule

Sunday Fellowship (Coffee Hour)

1st Sunday of the Month — Council Serving
2nd Sunday of the Month — WOW Serving
3rd Sunday of the Month — Volunteer Serving
4th Sunday of the Month — Altar Guild Serving
5th Sunday of the Month — Men's Group Serving

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has been active as we look to find the Pastor that God has planned as our next permanent pastor here at Holy Cross. Please continue to pray that our emails fall in the right inboxes and our postings on the LCMC site and the Augustana District site are seen by the right people. So far emails have gone out to all pastors available for call and ordination, and this week 88 more emails went out to those not under LCMC call. Our next step is to send to active pastors, not to take them from where God has called them, but knowing that sometimes seasons of ministry and work change. We have had three applications to date and have had some very good conversations. God is at work and we ask for your continued prayers.



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Summer Garden Tour

watch for upcoming
date in July
and a list of local
gardens to tour

Presented By: WOW
(Women of the Word)

Did you Know??

Did you know that every Friday at 9:30 am there is a group that meet for coffee here at Holy Cross. Coffee, Tea, Cider, Hot Chocolate... or bring your own. All are welcome to join the fellowship and fun conversation.

We are always looking for someone to help Host this, Coffee is provided, just need to start the coffee pot, and bring a light snack, whatever you want Muffins—Donuts—Cookies—Fruit...

Want to host a Friday?? Contact the church office or stop by a Friday to see what is open.



**Fridays
9:30 a.m.**

**In the church Library
All are welcome to join**

Resources Financial Update *By Joan Bartz*



GIVING with VANCO

Do you remember Pastor’s sermon about Easter Heartburn last month? I think we are experiencing some of that this month. While April found our net income up by \$5,491, May found it down \$5,827. We had three big weekends in a row with Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday and Senior Sunday then our attendance and giving fell off after that as we hit the busy summer season. We also had our annual insurance premium of \$3,256 get paid this month. Keep in mind our net income for the year is only off by \$950. While we would love to see this be a positive number, remember we are only six months into paying a pastor’s salary versus simply supply pastor and we are still getting used to this. Summer is typically slower as attendance drops off, but the fair stand will help bridge that gap. These last few months are a good reminder why electronic giving can be so helpful to the church council and the resource team have a more even budget and can plan on what to expect is coming in each month.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support of the missions and ministry at Holy Cross. God is Good...All the Time!

HOLY CROSS FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of May 31st, 2026

	Monthly	2026 YTD Actual	2025 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget
Regular Giving	\$ 6,300	\$ 52,136	\$ 52,353	\$ 47,915
Simply Giving	\$ 1,948	\$ 9,776	\$ 10,180	\$ 8,335
Misc Giving/Income	\$ 346	\$ 4,420	\$ 5,010	\$ 8,355
Total Income	\$ 8,595	\$ 66,332	\$ 67,542	\$ 64,605
Total Expenses	\$ 14,421	\$ 67,281	\$ 42,358	\$ 64,075
Net Income	\$ (5,827)	\$ (950)	\$ 25,184	
General Offering Checking Balance			\$ 51,376.22	
Restricted Funds			\$ 10,319.61	
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS			\$ 61,695.83	



Sunday School Fall 2026

We have a plan to bring back Sunday School this fall. We will start with a one room Sunday School for any child three years old and above. We would like the children to leave worship after the Children’s sermon for a 30-40 minute class. But we need your help. The plan is to pair a mentor/experienced teacher with a parent. We already have five mentors committed but would like to have eight or nine altogether so they would only have to teach 3-4 times a year.



There would be a calendar sign-up sheet to pick your weeks. And don’t worry curriculum (work sheets) will be available to pick up the week before. Parents/Helpers there will also be a sign-up spot for you too. To make this work we need your help. If things go well and more people become comfortable teaching the idea would be to expand to two or three classes. The opportunities are endless. If you think you would like to be a part of this fun and exciting program, please let the office know.

7/3 Kennedy Ploszay
 7/5 Vivian Lindstrom
 Lane Berenschot
 Andy Dahl
 7/6 Wesley Bartz
 Stewart Bartz
 Jon Ludtke
 Melanie Hill
 Caleb Petersen
 7/8 Norman Hagen
 7/9 Joe Grant
 7/10 Karen Marlette
 Missy Klatt
 7/12 Wayne Moe

July Birthdays

7/13 Sherry Crosby
 Danielle Unruh
 Brody Blume
 7/14 Lisa Brigham
 7/16 Joseph Ross
 7/19 Ruby Bartz
 Nyah Anderson
 7/22 Alyssa Kelm
 Levi Staiger
 7/23 Kierstin Krizan
 Damian Hoitomt
 7/24 Lori Newton

7/25 Jean Klinger
 Susan Strehlo
 7/27 Kevin Johnson
 Jordyn Gossen
 7/28 Cole Wakeling
 7/29 Paul Wagner
 Darlene Marzak
 7/30 Jordan Hill
 Riley Unruh
 Brenden Mosing
 Bill Petersen
 7/31 Connor Ohman
 Kale Livingston
 Eli Obermueller
 Joan Bartz



July

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	* 6 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood 6:30pm Faith & Life/FUN	7	8	9 10:30am Glenhaven Worship	10	11
12 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	13 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood 6:00pm Resources Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	14 6:00pm Threads of God's Love	15 10:30am — WOW Bingo at Glenhaven	16 11-12 Mobile food pantry truck in back parking lot	17	18
Pastor Carl Vacation July 15-22 Wanda on Vacation—Church Office Closed St. Croix County Fair—Holy Cross Fair Stand						
19 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship at the Fair Stand	* 20 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood	21 Newsletter Article Deadline	22	23 8:00am Quilting 1:00pm WOW	24	25
Pastor Carl Vacation July 15-22						
26 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	27 11:00 am Bible Study At Havenwood	28	29	30	31	
Community VBS July 27-30 6:00 pm— 8:00 pm						

* Holy Communion

Assisting with Worship

Month	Altar Guild	Ushers	3rd Sunday Fellowship	Sundays
July	Jeanne Jeske	Dan & April Goodwin	Fair Stand	4 Sundays
August	Joan Bartz	Ned Hahn	Mastbergen Family	4 Sundays

Please check kiosk in the narthex for months still needing your help.

**HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Click on QR Code above
for Holy Cross Facebook Page

The Mission of Holy Cross:
Called by the Holy Spirit
to come,
to grow,
to live
as disciples of Jesus Christ

July 2026 NEWSLETTER

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GLENWOOD CITY, WI 54013

Fair Stand



Squeals and Wheels is the theme of this year's St. Croix County Fair, and we are excited to once again be part of this wonderful community event!

It is truly a privilege to have a building on the fairgrounds and to be one of only two churches in the county with the opportunity to serve the community while raising funds through the fair. Our fair stand provides significant support for our church's general operating budget, and its success is only possible because of the dedication of our volunteers. Whether you can help prepare food, serve customers, bake pie or bars or by

contributing a monetary donation, every contribution makes a difference.

The fair is always a fun and rewarding experience, and we'd love for you to be part of this important ministry. Thank you for your willingness to support Holy Cross through this special fundraising event.

We look forward to seeing you at the fair!

