

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

1918 Garfield Street, Beatrice, NE 68310. Phone: 402-228-3172
E-mail: holycrosselcabeatrice@gmail.com, Website: holycrossbeatrice.com
Transitional Pastor: Myron Meyer (revmyronholycross@yahoo.com)
Administrative Secretary: Sandy Mahler (smahleris@gmail.com)
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., T, TH, F
Organist: Nadine Hibbert, Faithful Sounds Director: Karen Jobman
Councilperson on call: Austin Wolken, 402-239-7235

"Inspired by the Holy Spirit to Serve"

Shared values of our Worshiping Community are:
Community + Generosity + Hospitality + Serving
JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Saturdays — 4:00 p.m. Contemporary
Worship
(Please note time change for this
winter.)

Sundays — 10:30 a.m. Worship
(9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship)

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

Sundays — 9:45-10:30 a.m. Faithbuilders for all 3
year olds through 8th Grade. No Faithbuilders
classes on Dec. 29.

Faithbuilders will meet in person beginning again
on Sunday, January 5, 2025.



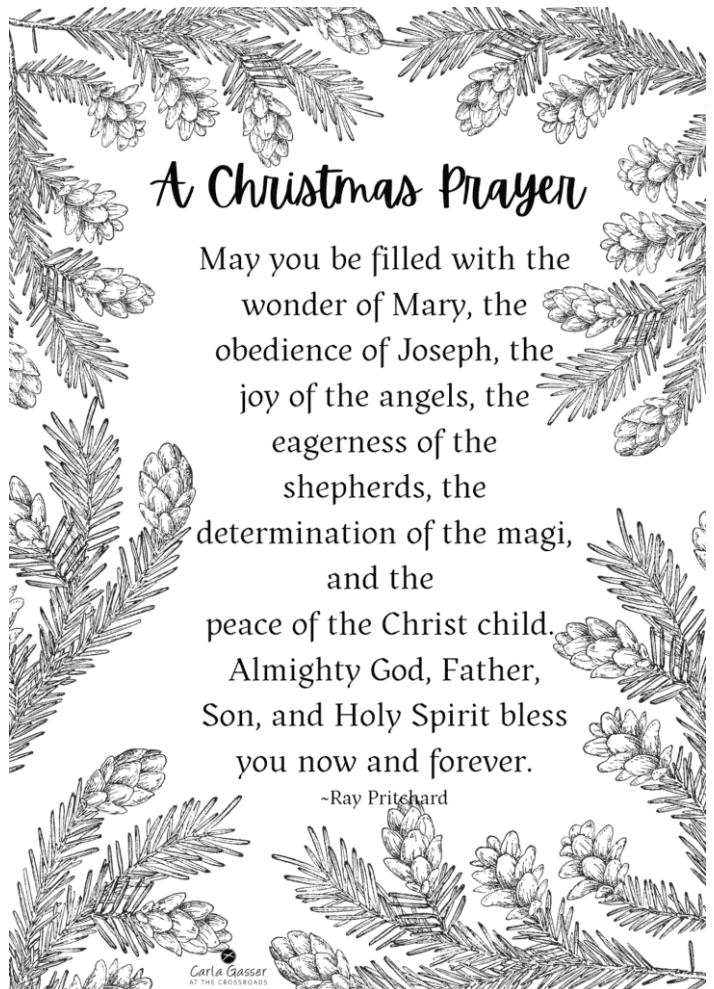
ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025—9:00 A.M.

Please come and be a part of the decision making
for 2025! We will meet in the sanctuary—all
members are encouraged to attend the meeting
to be part of your congregation's future. All CCC
members (contributing, communing, confirmed)
are eligible to be on the ballot and to vote!

Deadline for reports is Tuesday, January 7.

Please leave items at the office or e-mail to Sandy
at smahleris@gmail.com. Thank you!



A Christmas Prayer

May you be filled with the
wonder of Mary, the
obedience of Joseph, the
joy of the angels, the
eagerness of the
shepherds, the
determination of the magi,
and the
peace of the Christ child.
Almighty God, Father,
Son, and Holy Spirit bless
you now and forever.

-Ray Pritchard

Carla Gasser
AT THE CROSSROADS

CROSSROADS

January is the beginning of a new calendar year. Often as we begin a new year there are resolutions made to make the New Year a better one than the previous year. This does not necessarily mean that last year was a bad year but we want to do things different this year. Resolutions often run the gamut, from some type of personal improvement to a difference in work or location. The new year, for the most part is wide open (granted there are dates and other times that are already taken up in the new year). With that wide open feeling we are able to dream and reach for things we might not have been able to last year.

I believe it is good when a person can see new possibilities and new starts. This is a great possibility of Christianity. The gift of forgiveness from God allows us to start anew and have a new direction in life. There are few things/experiences in life that allow us a new beginning and to be the people we are to be.

The month of January is the season of Epiphany even though January 5 is still Christmas. Epiphany is a revealing, an insight, or new way of seeing something. During this season of Epiphany we will be hearing about who Jesus is. We will do this with the Prologue to John's Gospel (January 5), moving on to the baptism of Our Lord Sunday (January 12), to the first miracle of Jesus (January 19), and finally Jesus announcing the beginning of his ministry (January 26). We will see and have the insight as to knowing that Jesus is indeed God and what that means.

Over the last decade or two, superhero movies have been common. The idea of having powers beyond normal human abilities is often desired by people. Yet we have a Lord and Savior who has those powers and is both honored by people for who he is and he uses his abilities, not for himself, but for others. Imagine that! Using your gifts and abilities for others. At times that can sound scary because we are taught by society and often by family to take care of ourselves first because no one else will do that for us. Jesus shows us how a life lived for the other can be.

We live in an imperfect world. There is sin everywhere and because of that living a life in Christ will not be easy everyday. Rather there will be times it is difficult. But I believe in that difficulty we learn more and more about Jesus' goodness and forgiveness. There is also the gift of finding the gifts God has given us to use. We don't only see who Jesus is but we also can grow in our discipleship of him as well.

The color for the Sundays after Epiphany is green. Green means growth. May you grow in your knowledge that Jesus is God's Son and may you grow in your understanding of ministry at Holy Cross and how God has been active here and how God continues to be active here and have insights as to where God is calling you into ministry.

Pastor Myron



Faithbuilders classes will resume January 5 at 9:45 a.m. Looking forward to seeing you all here!

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CONFIRMATION CLASS SERVANT PROJECTS:

The Holy Cross Confirmation Class shopped for Caring and Sharing Tree gifts for Lutheran Family Services in December with

Thrivent Action Team cards sponsored by Nadine Hibbert and Paul Jobman.

YOU ARE INVITED to Evensong, a grand choir experience presented by Omaha Lutheran Campus on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at st. John's Lutheran Church, 322 North Molley St, Bennington. Freewill offering to Omaha Lutheran Campus Ministry. See poster in east hallway for more info.



THE MATT 25 PROJECT

In 2017 during our mini Middle School Gathering, our Holy Cross youth created an idea to provide a scholarship for a financially needy high school senior. The kids believed that the best thing we could do is to invest in someone's future. In Matthew 25,

there is a story about a man who gives money to his 3 servants and goes travelling. When he returns, two of his servants have used their talents and wisdom to grow the money. God provides us with opportunities to help others and by doing so we are serving Him. He wants us to use our talents and passions to make the world a better, more loving place in His honor. With this story in mind, we were inspired to create a college scholarship for a financially needy student.

Angie Vogel and our Holy Cross youth will once again be raising money for the Matt 25 Scholarship for 2025 Beatrice High School grads. Watch for more information in the coming months.

"...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35



WOMEN OF THE ELCA



Hope Circle met on Monday, December 9, 2024 for Bible Study & Fellowship; all women are invited to attend. Following Bible Study the women packaged gift bundles for 14 Shut-ins. Thank you to Shirley Wiens for providing a Thrivent card used to purchase items. The women served dessert following the funeral of Cynthia Kendall.

The WELCA Board met on December 9 to welcome the new members of the Board, Janet Byars, Co-president; Nadine Hibbert, Treasurer and Keri Kendall -Member-At -Large. We thank Co President Joyce Haecker, and now Past President; Sheryl Harrington Past President and member at large, and Rebecca Behrends, treasurer for their dedication at serving on the Board.

In January plans will be made to host the women's annual soup luncheon, which will be held on Sunday, February 9 at 11:30 to 1:30 pm.

Calendar

Wednesday, January 8: Blanket Sewing, 9:00-3:00

Monday, January 13: Hope Circle Bible Study, 10:00 am

Monday, January 20: WELCA Board 5:30 pm

Sunday, February 16: Women's annual soup luncheon, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

WELCA Co Presidents

Nancy C Johnsen & Joyce Haecker

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A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to the Women of the ELCA for sponsoring Day One Ministries. It's people like you that helps keep this program going. Special blessings for all the kindness you bring to the listeners. Day One—Pat Jobman

PRAYER CHAIN: Is there someone or something you would like to keep in prayer? Holy Cross has a prayer request chain team. The request is given to the pastor, the church office or one of the coordinators. Your request is then e-mailed or called to those members who have agreed to pray for you request. It is the intent of the prayer chain to keep your request in prayer., The new coordinators beginning January 1 are Lynn Pomajzl 402-806-0304 and Jolene Pike 402-228-2011. We would like to have the team also share the joy of thanks when a good and glorious event happens or prayers of request are fulfilled. Feel free to pass these along to the team. Everyone enjoys praying in joy. Anyone can join the team at any time, just let one of the coordinators know.



OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Diana Jurgens, Bonnie (Chris) Baete's sister-in-law, who passed away Sunday, Nov. 24. Diana's funeral was held at St. John, Beatrice, on December 2. We commend Diana to God's care and ask His blessings on her family and friends.





CLIPPINGS AND PICTURES WANTED! One of the bulletin boards in the east entrance hallways is open for everyone's contributions. If you have any pictures or newspaper clippings you would like to share in this way, please go ahead and post it on that bulletin board or give to Sandy. Thank you!

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in your mailbox for the new year. If we missed your name or if you haven't used envelopes in the past but would like to at this point, please let the church office know.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP meets every Thursday at 8:30 a.m. at Across the Trax. All men are welcome! For more information or for a ride contact Ferdie Kimminau at 331-276-7380.

FOOD PANTRY INGATHERING: Holy Cross Lutheran Church gathers food and monetary donations for the Community Pantry and Emergency Services in Beatrice on an ongoing basis. All items are very much appreciated. NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE! If you would like to give to this ministry, please leave your donated items in the shopping cart in the narthex or your monetary donation in an envelope in the offering plate.

RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

Plastic Shopping Bags - Used to make sleeping mats for Orphan Grain Train. Recycling bin is in the narthex.

Aluminum Cans - Aluminum Cans - Proceeds go to the Youth Fund. Please put cans outside in the barrels in the enclosure east of the kitchen. Lids open easier if grabbed with both hands on front dimples.

Computer Ink Cartridges - Proceeds go to the Matt 25 Project Fund. Sorry - we are no longer able to recycle toner cartridges. Recycling bin is in the narthex.

Cell Phones - Donated to the Hope Crisis Center. Recycling bin is in the narthex.

FREE DEVOTIONALS: Please pick up your free copy of Portals of Prayer, Christ in Our Home, or Our Daily Bread. They can be found on the table in the narthex.

THE POWER OF PRAYER: If you have a prayer request for our prayer team, please call or email Holy Cross at holycrosselcbeatrice@gmail.com or fill out a prayer slip found next to the prayer box located on the rack in the narthex. Thank you and God's blessings!

JOYFUL STEPS: Everyone is invited to come join us in the church basement at 10:00 a.m. Tuesdays for our weekly hour of fellowship and exercise. No equipment needed. Bring a friend or neighbor. You may wish to bring a bottle of water. See you all then!

THE LIVE STREAM of Holy Cross worship can be found on our YouTube Channel. To access the YouTube live stream go to the Holy Cross website www.holycrossbeatrice.com. There is a link to the live stream on the homepage and also on the "Watch Live" page.

KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S GOING ON by liking our Holy Cross Group Facebook Page, which can be accessed from our website www.holycrossbeatrice.com.

December council minutes will be in next month's newsletter.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

(If we missed your anniversary or birthday this month, please give the church office a call at 228-3172. Thanks!)



Jan. 1 June Seitz
Jan. 3 Stacie Bruns
Jan. 3 Tom Seitz
Jan. 4 Robert Jurgens
Jan. 5 Gale Buss
Steve Rippe
Jan. 6 Liberty Sejkora
Shirley Wolken
Jan. 7 Anna Pike
Donna Rosenthal
Jan. 8 Diane Waltke
Jan. 9 Judson Kreft
Jan. 10 Kasha Gartner
Taylor Garton
Keri Kendall
Jan. 11 Glen Baete
Jan. 12 Zachary Schmale
Jan. 13 Kevin Tranmer
Jan. 14 Pastor Kathee
Jan. 15 Vi Kimminau
Jan. 18 Joyce Parde*
Clayton Wells
Jan. 20 Lorella Matulka
Jan. 21 Richard Pomajzl
Jan. 22 Eli Miller
Jan. 25 Haileagh Voight
Jan. 27 Cohen Buhr
Jan. 31 Kathy Baete

Special Birthday Greetings to:

Shirley Wolken who will celebrate her 87th birthday on January 6...
Diane Waltke who will celebrate her 88th birthday on January 8...
Joyce Parde who will celebrate her 90th birthday on January 18...
God's blessings to you all—may you have a happy and healthy year!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



January 10, 1976—Dennis & Gail Russell
January 10, 2016—Jordan & Whitney Grabouski
January 23, 1982—Randy & Brenda Johnson
January 24, 1975—Dallen & Nancy Johnsen

CONGRATULATIONS to Dallen & Nancy Johnsen who will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on January 24. God's blessings to you—may you have many more happy and healthy years together!

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE

Dallen & Nancy C Johnsen are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in January and would like to invite you to attend their celebration on Sunday, January 19,, 2025 at 2:30 pm, for an open house at the Vintage Venue at 620 Court Street in Beatrice.



HOLIDAY DESSERTS FOR THE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY:

Thank you to everyone that donated homemade desserts or donated so pies could be purchased. We met our goal of providing 60 desserts to the Community Food Pantry. This Thrivent Action Team was coordinated by Denny Russell and was partially funded by a Thrivent Action Team Grant.

THANK YOU to everyone who donated towards the Caring and Sharing Tree opportunities – ELCA World Hunger Good Gifts Program and Lutheran Family Services, also the Caring Box for LFS. Your donations toward these ministries is very much appreciated. Our thanks to Paul Jobman and Nadine Hibbert for using their \$250.00 Thrivent Action Team cards towards the LFS projects.



WORSHIP HELPERS **INSTRUCTIONS FOR WORSHIP**

HELPERS: Please remember that if you cannot serve on the day that you are scheduled, it is your responsibility

to find someone else to take your place. The easiest way is usually to trade with someone on another date. Please make the church office 402-228-3172 aware of the change so the right names can be put in the church newsletter & bulletin. If you absolutely cannot find a replacement, for Saturday nights – please call Norma Huls at 402-223-3184, for Sunday mornings, please call Nancy Johnsen 402-806-0376 and they will find someone to replace you. Worship helpers – please be at church 30 minutes before worship begins. Instructions will be in the back window of the sanctuary. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Johnsen 402-806-0376 or ask the Pastor. Thank you for your ministry!

Saturday, January 4

Ushers/Greeters: Sally Diekman, Beth Dunker
Reader: Denny Russell; Communion: Beth Dunker

Sunday, January 5

Greeters: Alex & Cortney Ideus family
Ushers: Steve & Toni Janzen
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Russ & Missy Jobman family
Reader: Paul Jobman

Communion: Steve Janzen
Acolyte: Sydney Sejkora
Livestream: Dallen Johnsen

Saturday, January 11

Ushers/Greeters: Berlita Grell, Adonna Otto
Reader: Berlita Grell; Communion: Tom Karlin

Sunday, January 12

Greeters: Karen Jobman, Susan Kreft
Ushers: Larry & Keri Kendall
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Glennys Lienemann, Steve Rippe
Reader: Karen Jobman
Communion: Karen Jobman
Acolyte: Sam Jobman
Livestream: Larry Cole

Saturday, January 18

Ushers/Greeters: Norma Huls, Rhonda Minzel
Reader: Rose-Ann Parde; Communion: Norma Huls

Sunday, January 19

Greeters: Ferdie & Vi Kimminau
Ushers: Bill & Rebecca Behrends
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Stacie Bruns family
Reader: Rebecca Behrends
Communion: Bill Behrends
Acolyte: Sydney Sejkora
Livestream: Terri Huls

Saturday, January 25

Ushers/Greeters: Ken & Deb Sillman
Reader: Gail Russell; Communion: Norma Huls

Sunday, January 26

Lay Leader—Kevin Tranmer

Greeters: Burley & Genell Copas

Ushers: Larry & Dianne Cole

Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Jeremy & Michelle Engelman

Reader: Janet Byars; Communion: Dianne Cole
Acolyte: Sam Jobman; Livestream: Jackie Rinne

Saturday, February 1

Ushers/Greeters: Sally Diekman, Beth Dunker
Reader: Beth Dunker

Communion: Denny Russell

Sunday, February 2

Greeters: Donna Rosenthal, Shirley Wiens
Ushers: Darrell & Jackie Rinne
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Austin Wolken, Ryan Vogel
Reader: Richard Schnaidt

Communion: Jackie Rinne
Acolyte: Sydney Sejkora
Livestream: Dallen Johnsen

Saturday, February 8

Ushers/Greeters: Berlita Grell, Adonna Otto
Reader: Berlita Grell; Communion: Tom Karlin

Sunday, February 9

Greeters: Stacie Bruns, Kylie Belt
Ushers: Bill & Rebecca Behrends
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Shawnee Ford, Ziel Tut
Reader: Peggy Johnsen
Communion: Bill Behrends
Acolyte: Sam Jobman
Livestream: Larry Cole

Saturday, February 15

Ushers/Greeters: Rhonda Minzel, Norma Huls
Reader: Rose-Ann Parde;
Communion: Norma Huls

Sunday, February 16

Greeters: Burley & Genell Copas
Ushers: Larry & Dianne Cole
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Jeremy & Michelle Engelman
Reader: Janet Byars
Communion: Dianne Cole
Acolyte:

Livestream: Terri Huls

Saturday, February 22

Ushers/Greeters: Ken & Deb Sillman
Reader: Gail Russell; Communion: Norma Huls

Sunday, February 23

Greeters: Robert & Joyce Haecker
Ushers: Betty George, Mary Schuster-Graff
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers: Steve & Pam Garton
Reader: Mary Schuster-Graff
Communion: Betty George
Acolyte:
Livestream: Jackie Rinne

NOVEMBER 2024 TREASURER'S REPORT

Sandy Mahler, Treasurer

2024 General Operating	Balance Forward	Income	Transfer in	Transfer out	Expense	Monthly Balance	YTD Balance
JANUARY	\$4,778.56	\$9,402.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,196.80	-\$4,794.34	-\$15.78
FEBRUARY	-\$15.78	\$18,685.73			\$14,036.64	\$4,649.09	\$4,633.31
MARCH	\$4,633.31	\$17,836.37			\$14,300.61	\$3,535.76	\$8,169.07
APRIL	\$8,169.07	\$9,327.92			\$14,112.18	-\$4,784.26	\$3,384.81
MAY	\$3,384.81	\$12,063.94			\$13,617.77	-\$1,553.83	\$1,830.98
JUNE	\$1,830.98	\$15,780.51			\$13,699.87	\$2,080.64	\$3,911.62
JULY	\$3,911.62	\$9,671.83			\$9,313.18	\$358.65	\$4,270.27
AUGUST	\$4,270.27	\$9,475.94			\$12,660.94	-\$3,185.00	\$1,085.27
SEPTEMBER	\$1,106.10	\$15,155.78			\$12,226.03	\$2,929.75	\$4,015.02
OCTOBER	\$4,092.34	\$11,096.25			\$11,377.00	-\$280.75	\$3,734.27
NOVEMBER	\$3,832.42	\$12,225.26			\$13,326.85	-\$1,101.59	\$2,632.68
TOTALS YEAR TO DATE:		\$140,721.99			\$142,867.87		\$2,632.68

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

<u>Worship</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>Faithbuilders Attendance/Offering</u>
Nov. 23/24	14-52	\$1300.00	7 \$10.00
Nov. 25	37	\$640.00 (Thanksgiving)	
Nov. 30/Dec. 1	14-49	\$3976.00	
Dec. 4	32	\$ 195.00 Midweek Advent*, \$39.00 reg.	
Dec. 7/8	16-48	\$3419.20	7 \$10.00

Other offerings/income: Benevolence-\$90.00, Holy Cross only-\$145.00, Food Pantry-\$65.00, Confirmation Camp -\$374.00, Poinsettias-\$18.00, Facility Use-\$250.00, November Noisy Offering-\$64.94, Roof Insurance Deductible Fund-\$20.00

* - Midweek Advent offering goes to our Roof Insurance Deductible Fund



WAYS TO GIVE

Financial offerings may be given in a number of ways:

- ◆ You can bring your offering to worship.
- ◆ You can send your donations by mail to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1918 Garfield St, Beatrice, NE 68310. If you would like pre-addressed envelopes, please call the church office.
- ◆ You can drop your offering off in the mail slot at the southeast end of the church.
- ◆ You can give online.....
 - Apps make life easier. With Give+ you can use your smartphone to give anytime, anywhere!
 - Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone.
 - Make one-time or recurring donations using your checking/savings account or credit/debit card
 - Log in or donate as a guest.
 - To give through the app, search your phone's app store for "GivePlus Church" or contact the church office.
 - Or, go to the Holy Cross website, holycrossbeatrice.com, and click on the "GIVE TO HCLC" button at the bottom of the home page.

January 2025

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1918 Garfield St., Beatrice; 402-228-3172;
 Website: www.holycrossbeatrice.com; E-mail: holycrosselcabeatrice@gmail.com
 Office Hours: 8:30 am-3:00 p.m., T,Th, F
 Pastor Myron Meyer- revmyronholycross@yahoo.com; Sandy Mahler- smahleris@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 8:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Across the Trax 10:30 Pastor at Whispering Winds 8:15 p.m. N.A.	3	4 4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship
5 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	6	7 ANNUAL REPORT ITEMS DUE 10:00 a.m. Joyful Steps	8 9:00-3:00 Blanket Sewing 5:45 p.m. Faithful Sounds	9 8:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Across the Trax 7:00 p.m. Council 8:15 p.m. N.A.	10	11 4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship
12 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	13 10:00 a.m. Hope Circle	14 10:00 a.m. Joyful Steps	15 5:45 p.m. Faithful Sounds	16 8:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Across the Trax 10:30 a.m. Pastor at Homestead House 7:00 p.m. Vision Team Meeting 8:15 p.m. N.A.	17 .m. N.A.	18 4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship
19 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	20 NEWS-LETTER ARTICLES DUE 9:00-12:00 Confirmation 5:30 p.m. WELCA Board Meeting	21 10:00 a.m. Joyful Steps	22 5:45 p.m. Faithful Sounds	23 8:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Across the Trax 8:15 p.m. N.A.	24	25 4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship/Noisy Offering
26 9:00 a.m. Annual Meeting 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship/Noisy Offering	27	28 10:00 a.m. Joyful Steps 3:00 p.m. Wholly Food	29 5:45 p.m. Faithful Sounds	30	31	

JANUARY 2025

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
1918 Garfield Street
Beatrice NE 68310



A New Year's Plan

I tried to think of a clever new phrase—
A slogan to inspire the next 365 days,
A motto to live by this coming New Year,
But the catchy words fell flat to my ear.
And then I heard His still small voice
Saying, "Consider this simple, daily choice:
With each new dawn and close of day
Make new your resolve to trust and obey."
"Don't look back, caught in regret
Or dwell on the sorrow of dreams unmet;
Don't stare forward anchored by fear,

No, live in this moment, for I Am here."
"I am all you need. Everything. I Am.
You are held secure by my strong hand.
Give me this one thing—your all in all;
Into my grace, let yourself fall."
So, at last, I'm ready; I see the way.
It's to daily follow, trust, and obey.
I enter the New Year armed with a plan,
To give Him my everything—all that I am.

Fairchild, Mary. "Christian New Year's Poems." Learn Religions, Sep. 3, 2019, learnreligions.com/prayerful-christian-new-years-poems-701098.