

# HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS

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**Robert Burmeister, Pastor for July**  
952 432-7291

## July 2018

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### From Our Holy Cross President

As our congregation moves forward, it is important to remember that God is in control of our future, but He has placed the tools and process in our hands. As the new President of Holy Cross I am communicating to you as the body of Christ. The root of the word communication is community, and without communication our Holy Cross community will suffer. I plan to write an article for the newsletter every month, and I feel that better times are ahead. Please reach me by email or via the President's church mailbox by the office door with your questions or concerns! Rumors and gossip can lead to the loss of our brothers and sisters, and losing even one member of our church family would be very sad for the rest of us.

We continue to mourn the loss of Pastor Keith, but let us also see this tragedy as an opportunity for change. Change is hard, but necessary to grow our membership, and grow it we must. Many at the Voters Meeting expressed deep concern regarding our financial future. The leaders of Holy Cross share your concern, but we are confident that our finances will hold up for several years to come. Having said that, the best way to allay our fears and assure the future of Holy Cross is to increase our membership. So let's all work on that by inviting friends and relatives to join us and by thinking of what we can do differently to attract more visitors.

LCMS South District **President Dr. Dean Nadasdy will talk us through the Call Process at a Congregational Meeting July 25th at 7 pm.** After that meeting the Process will begin in earnest, and several of you have already stepped forward and requested a seat on the Call Committee. To join us in this process, please reach me by email or my church mailbox.

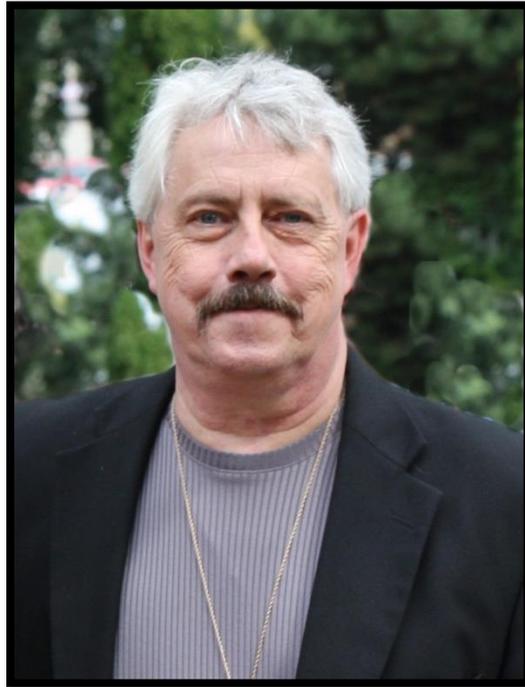
Please, please find a way to attend services every week! We especially need each other during this difficult time, and empty pews on Sundays discourage us all. We miss you when you're not there. Remember,

*All things work together for good that love the Lord and are called according to his purpose.*  
Romans 8:28

Steve Blomberg  
[striumph77@aol.com](mailto:striumph77@aol.com)

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## Remembering Pastor Keith



October 18, 1953 – June 13, 2018

Keith Edward Meyer was born in Beloit, WI on October 18th, 1953. He was the fourth son of Dr. Frederick and Ruth (Bachanz) Meyer. He was a member of a large family with his siblings including Karl (Lillian), Ken (Patty), Eric (Beth), Paul (Margarita), John (Ann), Lois (Jim) and James (Jeaneen). Keith lived and grew up in and around the St. Louis, MO area for a large part of his life. There he met his wife Patricia "Trish" Ann (Hibler) Meyer and they were married on May 30th, 1981. They have two sons, Michael and Matthew Meyer. Michael is married to Darla (Atkins) Meyer of Burden, KS. They live in Andover, KS with their daughter Hannah (3). Matthew is married to Kimberly (Boehmer) Meyer of St. Louis, MO. They live in Glencoe, MN with their children Brandon (10), Miley (8), Logan (5) and Roman (2).

Keith holds a Bachelors of Psychology and Political Science from the University of Missouri in Saint Louis, a Masters of Political Science from the University of Missouri in Saint Louis and a Masters of Divinity from Concordia Seminary in Saint Louis. Over the years, he was a city dump truck driver, psychiatric hospital orderly, bartender, service manager at Pella, carpenter and finally a minister.

While raising Michael and Matthew, Keith was an ardent supporter of Christian Education, especially during the time Michael and Matthew attended Washington Lutheran School and Lutheran South High School in St. Louis. It was this involvement that kindled and nursed his faith. Leading first to active involvement in his sons' education as a volunteer and athletic coach, then towards volunteering as an usher and later an elder of the church. With his sons growing older, this faith blossomed into a calling to become a minister. As his faith grew, so did his empathy and connection to children. How he interacted with children showed how he

viewed faith and our charge to share that faith with others. For as Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these".

Keith was ordained as a minister in Minnesota on July 24th, 2005 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Claremont, MN. In 2011 he was called to Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, MN, where he concluded his ministry service.

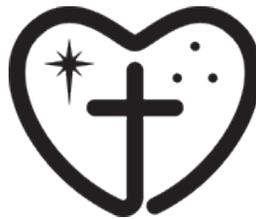
Keith was devoted and passionate to his family. This was never more evident than when he spent time with his nieces and nephews and after his own children grew up, his grandchildren. Whether you were his Big Guy, Princess, Hannah Banana, Little Guy, Squirt, etcetera, he always had a special nickname for you. He adored his wife Trish for over 37 years of marriage. He loved her, cherished her and cared for her like no other. Whether it was getting ribs for her to eat while pregnant with the boys, or helping her to cope with the challenges of aging, he was always the rock for her to lean on.

He was an enthusiastic follower of the Pittsburg Steelers and Saint Louis Cardinals. Regardless of your affiliation, he would regale you on the woes or joys of how they were performing. Keith also enjoyed cooking and grilling. It was normal to see him grilling no matter the weather, be that in the rain, snow or extreme cold. One of his favorite pastimes was watching the "BBQ U Guy" for new recipes to try and share.

He was preceded in death by both of his parents and his brother Eric.

Please make any donations in his name to St. Jude's Research Hospital.

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At the Wednesday service June 6th, we sang  
“*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky.*””

The Lord asks the question, “Whom shall I send?”

Pastor was singing while standing in the chancel. He kept singing louder and louder. You could hear him over the organ!

On the way home I was thinking about the words and I realized that Pastor was singing with his heart — **affirming** his Pastoral Call — answering,

“Here I am, Lord.  
I will go if You lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.”  
*Julie Wright*

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Pastor Meyer and I worked closely on the Holy Cross website. I always admired and appreciated how organized and timely he was. He would give me the Thanksgiving and Christmas service schedule in early October, the Lenten schedule right after the holidays, and the summer schedule right after Easter. We emailed back and forth a lot

– he always ended his with “Have a good day,” or “Have a blessed day.” I will miss our email chats.

I also appreciated how Pastor Meyer would talk to my three kids at communion. He would get down on his knees, put his hand on their heads, look them in the eyes, and talk to them for several seconds about how Jesus loved them. They were special moments that I’m sure the kids will always remember. *Linda McConley*

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Pastor was always very supportive of the efforts of our little group to reach out to others by making things with yarn, needles, crochet hooks, and our hands. He even tried to learn how to knit one day.

He saw the importance of reaching out beyond the walls of this building into the neighborhood and that inspired us to start “Yarn Bombing” the pillar outside the downstairs door. You might have noticed that the pillar has been bare since the weather warmed up this spring and we put the remaining hats, scarves and mittens from the Pillar of Warmth and Love away. That’s because we decided our next project would be to decorate Pastor by making him a stole in appreciation for all he has done at Holy Cross.

We chose a design that we all agreed suited him – not too showy, not too modern, but reflecting the appreciation he had for the traditions of the church. The colors are the liturgical colors of the Church Year, which starts with blue during Advent, and purple during Lent. We used gold for Easter, green for the long season after Pentecost and so on, ending with the last Sunday of the Church Year. He would have matched the altar cloths no matter when he wore it. The main focus, of course, is the cross at the top on each side and on the back– reminding

us always of God’s great love. We didn’t finish it in time to give it to Pastor, but Mary worked hard and got it done in time to give it to his family.

We greatly appreciate Pastor’s service here at Holy Cross and will surely miss him. *Hands in Ministry Group*

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After visiting several churches in the area, in 2012 I attended an LWML gathering at Holy Cross and spoke to Pastor Keith about membership. He was so kind and welcoming, as were many of the Holy Cross members, some I already knew. Pastor Keith helped me with my decision and it’s been a real blessing. Pastor loved the cinnamon rolls I brought to Bible class on Wednesdays, and the little furry jackets I wear in the wintertime. *Gloria Groenke*

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It was sweet music to our ears when we heard “I know I’m going to like working here if there’s a dog in the office!” Pastor loved his family, he loved God, and his faith was deep and abiding. He was inclusive and accepting, and deeply appreciative of those men and women who serve our country and our communities. He tirelessly did God’s work. He was a man of his word, loyal and tenacious. His work was on time and he was an efficient manager. Thank you so much for always letting me do whatever I wanted! Pastor was a doer. He wasn’t a fan of long-winded meetings, slow computers or paying for parking. He loved baptisms, and had fun at Bible class and with friends at Carbone’s. He was happy with his job, and happy being with Trish, the Steelers and an occasional sip of single malt scotch. He was our Pastor, his chair is empty, and we miss him. *Shelley and Gordy*

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Pastor Meyer was one of the reasons we joined Holy Cross. We had been searching for our church home for over a year, and we liked Holy Cross when we visited, but meeting with Pastor really sealed the deal for us. We appreciated that he felt that Holy Cross should be visible and play a role within the community as well as supporting other local ministries. He was also very vocal about welcoming everyone into the church. That he was a second-career pastor, leaving a successful secular profession, showed how devoted he was to serving Jesus's church, and that made a big impression.

He was very supportive of us during our journey to parenthood and took the time to write a letter of recommendation for us to our adoption agency. (He also let us proofread it ahead of time, even though I'm pretty sure he wasn't supposed to.) He, along with much of the church, prayed for us to have a child either naturally or through adoption. Once Esther was here he told us repeatedly how excited he was for her baptism.

It was clear how much he cared about our church and our neighborhood. He understood that when the world is turning more and more from Christ, we as Christians must be boldly proclaiming the Gospel with our words and lives, bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to a world that needs it as much as ever. This was more and more prominent in his sermons over the last year, and I believe that Holy Cross should focus on that as we enter this uncertain time. *Ralph and Lynnae Asher*

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We know Pastor Keith was very fond of dogs. Back when Pastor and Trish had their dogs, Prince and Princess, they would ask

Anneliese to come to dog and house sit for them when they went on vacation. It was fun for her to stay overnight away from home and it was always an adventure. She would raid their refrigerator and cupboards to find the treats they had left for her before browsing the music and movie selections, which included a large John Wayne collection among many other genres.

As many people know, Shelley takes care of our dog, Gemma, when we travel. Gemma is a quirky, high strung dog who is certainly not the perfect office dog. Pastor Keith allowed her to come to the office with Shelley and Gordy throughout the years, and for that we are extremely grateful. *Darcy Tatham*

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I just miss seeing him when I come in the door, and hearing him saying, "Hi, Sheila". I know for sure he loved God, Trish and his family, and John Wayne plus all of us at Holy Cross. *Sheila Platt*

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One of the first times I met Pastor I was in the church alone and he spooked me. He thought it was hilarious, and I loved that very child-like sense of humor he had.

I often think of things early in the morning or right before I fall asleep that I need to follow up on. I used to call the church at 7 am to leave a message for Pastor. He would answer the phone and say, "I knew it was you, Roberta". I always meant to show up and go to coffee with him on my way to work, I often saw him on the patio outside his office as I drove by.

When I was on the Call Committee, I was looking for one word in the profiles: **Love**. Love was all over Pastor Meyer's profile, and he brought that love to share with our

church. He was constantly doing for others.  
I will miss him. *Roberta Brooks*

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Pastor Meyer and I had a strong relationship, and we both enjoyed good natured teasing. He always called me “The Old Lady”, and I’d give it right back to him. When Hands in Ministry made the black and gold (Pittsburgh Steelers) Prayer Shawl, I was the one who presented it to him, and his eyes filled with tears. He was a strong man with a tender heart. *Carol Anderson*

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*“For freedom  
Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore,  
and do not submit again to a yoke of  
slavery” (Galatians. 5:1).*

We celebrate this month because of the freedoms and liberties our country has afforded us, and we are right to do this. We should be thankful for these liberties: the freedom to gather together to worship and to live out what we believe in our daily lives.

But freedom and liberty in our age has devolved. It has become a freedom from duty instead of a freedom for it. Indeed, freedom and liberty in our age has turned into a license to do what we want, when we want.

This license is submission, again, to a yoke of slavery. For freedom as license to do what we desire when we desire it means we are slaves to our desires, slaves to our passions.

Christ died to set us free from our sinful desires. In Holy Baptism, our Old Adam is drowned and put to death along with all sin and evil desires so that a new man may arise and live before God in righteousness and purity.

In Christ, we are a new creation. We are set free from the passions of the flesh so that we are free to do our duty and bear fruits of the Spirit. Our duty is what God calls us to do as members of a family, society, and the church.

God calls us to believe in His Word and gladly hear and learn it. He calls us to pray for all people. He calls us to live in faith toward Him and in fervent love for our neighbor. He calls us to put the gifts He gives to us in His service. God calls parents to provide for their children and raise them in the fear and admonition of the Lord. And God calls children to honor their parents and provide and care for them when they are no longer able to do so themselves.

God calls the government to punish those who do evil and to reward those who do good. He calls citizens to pay their taxes and honor the governing officials as God’s servants. He calls pastors to preach and teach the Gospel as well as repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And He calls hearers to support those who teach them with every good thing.

Christ died to set us free from the works of our selfish flesh, giving us the freedom and liberty to do our duty. Stand firm, then, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

*LCMS Stewardship Ministry*

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## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Lynnae Skogerboe	7/4
Linda Scanlon	7/5
Kurt Kise	7/5
Kathy Riley	7/10
Vicky Dean	7/19
Matthew Meyer	7/19
Klaus Guenther	7/22
Bev Shingledecker	7/24
Marlette Steinke	7/25
Michael Schlueter	7/25
Miley Meyer	7/29



## WEDDINGS

Matthew and Kimberley Meyer	7/14
Andrew and Darcia Tatham	7/28
Durwood and Esther Witt	7/29
Robert and Vicky Dean	7/30



## USHERS

1	Copeland and Blomberg
8	Oolman and Tatham
15	L and A Horrmann
22	Phelon and Lange
29	Copeland and Blomberg

## COUNTERS

1	M Blomberg and Woodraska
8	Oolman and G Klatt
15	A Horrmann and Woodraska
22	K and M Lange
29	M Blomberg and G Klatt

## ALTAR GUILD

Mary Lange

## DEACONS

*To Be Announced*

## GARDENERS

1	Sally Gorski
8	Kimberly Blomberg
15	<i>Needed</i>
22	Kimberly Blomberg
29	<i>Needed</i>

## SCRIPTURE READERS

1	Sally Gorski
8	Andy Tatham
15	<i>Needed</i>
22	Kimberly Blomberg
29	Steve Blomberg



We're with our students on mission in Seaside Heights, New Jersey, we're seeing the Lord do so much, and we're having a blast! This is a young group of students – 34 of 44 are freshmen or sophomores – but they are taking huge steps of faith. Three people accepted Christ on our first Saturday out sharing the Gospel on the sidewalk! Continue to pray for us as we take steps of faith, grow as a community, and trust God for life change!

We spent the second weekend of June in New York City and Brooklyn, along with 65 students and staff and eight children. It was quite an undertaking to take a bunch of Midwestern students through the streets of New York – but they were troupers! Erick and another staff member were in charge of planning our day as we prayed, adventured, shared the Gospel, and believed God for life changes. We had so much fun! Courtney and Aaron met a 56 year old man named Jerry. He was sitting alone on a bench, and as they talked with him and heard his story about losing his wife to cancer and walking away from God, they were prompted to share the Gospel with him. He was incredibly receptive, asked them a lot of questions, and thanked them for taking time to listen and share. Will you pray for him? Court can't stop thinking about him, how lost he seemed, but yet so intrigued by the new hope he could have in Jesus, and that his identity is not in the loss of his wife.

Serving with you in Christ,  
*Erick and Courtney Horrmann*

# JULY 2018

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<b>1</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Service</b>  7:00 pm GA	2 6:30 pm Craft Group	3	4 <b>Office Closed</b> <b>Holiday</b>	5 7:00 pm AA Meeting	6 7:00 pm AA Meeting	7 8:30 AA Group
<b>8</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Service</b> <b>w/Communion</b>  7:00 pm GA	<b>9</b> <b>10:30 Prayer</b> <b>Group</b>  6:30 ICAN	10	11	12 <b>2-4 pm Hands</b> <b>in Ministry</b>  7:00 pm AA Meeting	13 7:00 pm AA Meeting	14 8:30 AA Group
<b>15</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Service</b>  7:00 pm GA	16	17	18	19 7:00 pm AA Meeting	20 7:00 pm AA Meeting	21 8:30 AA Group
<b>22</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Service</b>  7:00 pm GA	23	<b>24</b>	25	26 7:00 pm AA Meeting	27 7:00 pm AA Meeting	28 8:30 AA Group
<b>29</b> <b>Mite Offering</b> <b>Next Sunday</b>  <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Service</b> <b>w/Communion</b>  7:00 pm GA	30	31				