

THE MONTH OF
JUNE
2026

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH NEDERLAND, TEXAS

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Message from Pastor

Don't Take a Vacation from Jesus

Summer is one of the busiest and most enjoyable times of the year. Families travel, kids are out of school, schedules change, and many of us finally get a chance to slow down and rest a little. Vacations are a blessing from God. Rest is good. Time with family is important.

But while we may take a vacation from work or school, we should never take a vacation from Jesus.

One of the easiest things to do during the summer months is drift spiritually without even realizing it. Church attendance becomes occasional, prayer becomes irregular, and our focus slowly shifts away from Christ. That is why summer can be one of the most important seasons for spiritual faithfulness.

Here are five simple and practical ways families — as well as empty nesters and seniors — can remain faithful to Jesus and connected to the local church this summer.

1. Keep Worship a Priority

Summer schedules can become crowded very quickly, but gathering with God's people should remain a priority whenever possible. Hebrews 10:24–25 reminds us: "Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some..."

Attending church regularly keeps our hearts anchored in truth and keeps us connected to the body of Christ. Even while traveling, you can view our service on Facebook or attend a faithful church where you are visiting.

For empty nesters and seniors, your faithful presence is deeply encouraging to younger believers. Never underestimate the example you set simply by showing up consistently.

2. Pray Together Every Day

Summer gives families more opportunities to slow down and reconnect. One of the best uses of that time is prayer.

Philippians 4:6 says "In everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

Prayer does not have to be complicated. Pray before leaving for a trip. Pray before meals. Pray at bedtime. Pray for safety, wisdom, and opportunities to encourage others.

For couples whose children are grown, summer can be a wonderful time to deepen prayer together again. Seniors can also use this season to intentionally pray for children, grandchildren, missionaries, pastors, and the next generation of the church. A praying home is a spiritually healthy home.

3. Stay in God's Word

A busy schedule should not crowd out Scripture.

Psalm 119:105 says "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Summer is a great time to begin or renew a simple Bible-reading habit. Read a Psalm in the morning. Read a chapter from the Gospels before bed. Listen to Scripture while traveling.

Families with children can read short Bible stories together and ask simple questions about what they learned. Empty nesters and seniors often have a unique opportunity to spend extended quiet time in Scripture and meditation. God's Word keeps our hearts grounded no matter what season of life we are in.

4. Use Summer to Serve Others

Summer often opens doors for ministry and hospitality that are harder to pursue during busier seasons.

Galatians 5:13 says "Through love, serve one another."



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Invite someone over for a meal. Encourage a lonely neighbor. Check on someone who may be struggling. Take grandchildren to Vacation Bible School. Look for practical ways to show the love of Christ. For retirees and seniors especially, your wisdom, availability, and encouragement are tremendous gifts to the church. Some of the most impactful ministry in any congregation comes from faithful older believers who quietly serve behind the scenes.

5. Talk About Jesus Naturally

Deuteronomy 6:6–7 says “These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children...”

Summer provides countless natural moments for spiritual conversations — during road trips, around dinner tables, at baseball games, or sitting on the porch in the evening.

Talk about what God is teaching you. Share testimonies of answered prayer. Discuss Sunday’s sermon together. Encourage children and grandchildren to ask questions about faith. Discipleship often happens in ordinary moments of everyday life.

Final Encouragement

Summer is a gift from God. Enjoy the vacations, the cookouts, the trips, and the slower pace. Make memories with family and friends. Rest and rejoice in God’s blessings.

As you enjoy the season, remember this: Jesus is not just part of our lives during the busy months- He is Lord over every season.

Let us enjoy summer without drifting spiritually. May we remain faithful in worship, prayer, Scripture, service, and witness so that when fall arrives, we are spiritually stronger rather than spiritually distant.

Don’t take a vacation from Jesus.

*God’s peace and all the best,
Pastor Joshua Knippa*

NOTHING BUNDT CAKE FUNDRAISER



Youth will be selling individual size cakes for **Father’s Day!** Order forms are on the clipboards. Please place orders by **Thursday, June 18!** Pick up will be **Sunday, June 24,** after worship in the Education Big Room. Cost of cakes are \$5.99.

Free-will donations will be accepted.



“Beautiful “Plus Quilt”

Holy Cross Quilters are offering a beautiful quilt for donations. \$1 will get a chance to take it home, \$5 gives you 6 chances. LWML is collecting for Health Kits and all quilt funds raised will go to that project.

The drawing for the quilt will be **Sunday, July 5th.**

So, get your dollars ready for quilt tickets!

This is a Thrivent Action Team Activity.

Call **Rosemarie Herring** for tickets at **409-543-3928.**



LWML will be collecting items for **Hygiene Kits** for **Orphan Grain Train** during **May & June.** There’s a box in the Narthex for the donations. **Requested items are:** 1 bath towel, 1 wash cloth, 1 bath-size bar of soap, 1 comb, 1 nail clipper, 1 individual packaged toothbrush, 6 band-aids, 1 small package of facial tissues. There are flyers in the Narthex and a check off page with items listed. Our LWML ladies will assemble the kits.

“SPARE CHANGE SUNDAY” is the **last Sunday of each month** & will benefit the **OGT.**

SUNDAYS 9:30AM

Adult Bible Class

Pastor Josh, Conf. Rm. A
9:15am Jeannie Heider,
Conf. Rm. B

Children's Sunday School

Education Building



To: Memorial Fund
in memory of
Mary Helen Terrell
Pat Biar
given by:
Greg Fleming

To: Quilting Circle
in memory of
Shelby Luke
given by
Ruth Ann & Walter Perryman
Sandra & Cary Erickson
Susan & Ken Ludwig
Ida Trojczak
David Jones
Sue & George Werner
Pam Withrow
Jeannie Heider
Becky & Dennis Neeb



Join us for a
Women's Bible Study
"10 Women of the Bible"
led by **Jeannie Heider**
Sundays @ **9:15am**
in Conference Rm. B



RAINFOREST FALLS VBS

Saturday, June 13th @ 10am
VBS Workday (lunch provided)

Sunday, June 21st after worship
Decorate the Sanctuary for VBS

Monday, June 22nd--25th
Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School

If you are interested in ordering t-shirts,
please use the
QR Code to the right.
It gives you 3 options.

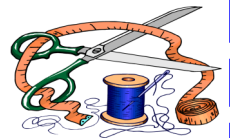
**Deadline to order
t-shirts: June 12th!**



QUILTING CIRCLE

Thank you to the congregation for always supporting everything the Holy Cross Quilters do.
Call Rosemarie if you know someone who needs a quilt @ 409-543-3928.

If you would like to join us
we meet-**Thursdays@**
9:30am-3pm in the **Conf. Rms.**



Fit & Fun Fellowship

will meet June 16th
from 1-3:30pm in the FLC
foyer. Bring a snack.



*Deadline for
July Newsletter
is Monday, June 22nd!*

JUNE

Birthdays

- 3—Beryle Woolbright
- 5—Kirk Cogswell
Timothy Lavespere
- 7—Blake Ford
- 8—Kathryn Sturgis
- 10—Mia Miller
- 11—Austin Ronning
- 12—Amber Brown
- 13—Addison Hollomon
- 14—Jody Swango
Katelee Zampini
- 15—Sandra Erickson
Laurenda Wolford
- 17—Caleb Spinks
Trent Vickers
Landon McCullough
- 22—Megan Trahan
- 23—Thad Kieschnick
Kylie Baber
Tayler Trojczak
- 24—Cathy Borel
Marla Kieschnick
- 25—Lucie Ocegueda
- 26—Rodney Davis
- 27—Dedie Orta
- 28—Dianne Huebel
Indy Kieschnick
Leah Lewis
- 30—Denise Shipley

Anniversaries

- 5—Catherine & Gavin Bruney
Ruth & Walter Perryman
- 7—Dawn & Ted Graeter, Jr.
Lisa & Steve Hartman
- 10—Moni & Brad Hopper
- 11—Kylie & Michael Baber
- 13—Gena & Doug Carter
- 18—Connie & Rodney Davis
- 19—Carlene & Larry
Singleton
- 22—Holly & Taylor
Riemersma
- 26—Beth & Russ DeVillier
- 29—Layne Ford & David Diltz
- 30—Terry & Tom Hass



UBM Needs You!

United Board of Missions
is in need of Volunteers

(stocking & organizing pantries).

If you're interested, please contact either—
Pam or **Steve Vincent** @ 409-718-5767
or **Carolyn Barras** @ 409-963-7866 or
Lori Halbert @ 409-719-6235. Thanks!

UBM Pantry is in need of: pasta, rice,
canned fruit, & canned meat. A donation

Also, see additional flyers on our bulletin
Board in the Narthex of different opportuni-
ties & services that UBM provides. Our
church has several representatives that are
members & also on the Board.



Communicate



Please contact the
church office at
409-722-1609

upon the illness,
hospitalization, and/or
death of a member or loved one.

Please update us with the status of prayer
requests. We try to notify members
via FB page and text messages of
deaths & funeral arrangements.



Find us on Facebook
to keep up with our
activities, announcements
& information

ECE NEWS

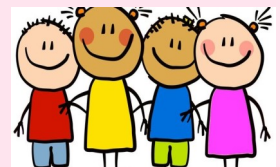
Thank you for sharing your children with us.
We enjoyed having them this school year .

We look forward to seeing many of
them return next school year.

Fall Registration continues this summer.

Have a wonderful and safe summer!

God's Blessings,
Veronica Ochoa
& *ECE Staff*





June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Elders: Todd Shuford 409-300-0575 Darnnis McCullough 409-233-3444 Alter Guild: Sandra Erickson Connie Weber	2	3	4 9:30am Quilting	5	6	13 10am VBS Workday <i>(lunch provided)</i>
8 7 9:15am Ladies B.S. 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ Communion	9	10	11 9:30am Quilting	12	19	20
15 14 9:15am Ladies B.S. 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	16 1-3:30pm Fit & Fun Fellowship	17	18 9:30am Quilting	25 9:30am Quilting	26	27 5:30pm Private Rental Wedding 
22 21 9:15am Ladies B.S. 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ Communion after worship Decorate Sanctuary for VBS 	23	24 5:30pm ECE Board Meeting	25 9:30am Quilting	26	27 5:30pm Private Rental Wedding	27 5:30pm Private Rental Wedding
Rainforest Vacation Bible School—5:30-8:30pm						
29 28 9:15am Ladies B.S. 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	30 6pm Church Council	Lay Readers: 7—Ron Gribnau 14—Ronnie Vize 21—Darnnis McCullough 28—Kathy Pinnt	Lishers: 7—Todd Kieschnick, Ronnie Vize 14—Chad Ford, David Smalley 21—Stuart Kieschnick, Charles Schrader 28—Mike Tucker, Ronnie Vize	Acolytes: TBA	Acolytes: TBA	Acolytes: TBA