

# Re-Thinking Christianity

## Christianity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**Engaging the Questions:** Confident that God created us with bodies, souls and minds, we seek ways to encourage folks to fully engage their minds in their relationships to God, the church and the world.

**Speaker Series:** Reaching out to the community to provide opportunities for people to actively engage the religious questions of our time. We provide opportunities for gifted theological thinkers to share what they have learned on their own religious quests for knowledge.

**Theology and a Pub:** Wine, Beer, Conversation & God. Recognizing that traditional church isn't for everyone, we have begun to gather in at a local pub for conversation, musical entertainment and an opportunity to build relationships. After all, wasn't it Jesus who turned water into wine? Didn't Martin Luther kick-start the Reformation over a few pints?

Check out our website for details of the next Pub-Night:

[www.holycrosslutheran.ca](http://www.holycrosslutheran.ca)

## Activities



"We provide opportunities to work, play and pray together."

Finding or building community is not easy in our fast-paced modern world. At Holy Cross we understand ourselves as extended family for one-another. So, we play!

A wide range of activities are available that provide opportunities to build relationships.



## Pastoral Care

Spiritual Care,  
Baptisms, Weddings  
& Funerals

Contact Our Pastors



The Reverend **Dawn Hutchings** B.A., M.Div.

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Email: [pastor@holycrosslutheran.ca](mailto:pastor@holycrosslutheran.ca)

The Reverend **Tom Doherty** B.A., M.Div.

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## Holy Cross Lutheran Church

[www.holycrosslutheran.ca](http://www.holycrosslutheran.ca)

905-898-1682 or

[contact@holycrosslutheran.ca](mailto:contact@holycrosslutheran.ca)

1035 Wayne Drive, Newmarket, On. L3Y 2W9

One block  
north of  
Davis Dr.  
One block  
west of Leslie



## Worship: Sundays @ 10:45am

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a Member of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada** which is the major Canadian representative of the traditions of the Lutheran reformation of the catholic Christian church.



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in Canada

# HOLY CROSS

## LUTHERAN CHURCH



**PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIANITY**  
**A Church for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Questions & Doubts; Faith & Reason;  
Scholarship & Mystery;

Gay & Straight, Tradition & Innovation; Love & Grace; Justice and Compassion are just some of the ingredients of Progressive Christianity.



## Community

We gather as an open community of Christians, responding to God's call. We welcome all people as members of our extended family. We gather to support and nourish one another in the faith, equipping people to live the Gospel in the world. Our purpose is to encounter the Gospel in worship, play, study, music, work, prayer and activism. We provide worship that is diverse, flexible, thought provoking and relevant to our challenging times. We are a voice for compassion and actively seek justice and peace in the world. We identify and serve our neighbors in need. We offer programs that encourage spiritual growth by teaching the Gospel in the Lutheran tradition. We provide opportunities to work, play and pray together.



In response to the overwhelming love of God we stand in awe of the wideness of God's mercy. In faithfulness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, mindful of our Lutheran emphasis on grace, and rejoicing in the celebration of our shared baptismal journey, we welcome as members of our extended family, all those who have ever felt excluded by the Church because of their race, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental challenges, financial resources, or family status.

As followers of Christ, all members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church are compelled by the Gospel to seek reconciliation and wholeness in a world that is all too often an unloving place. Therefore, rejoicing in God's abundant grace, we extend a special welcome to all. Whether you are gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual or transgender; whatever your country of origin or ancestry; whether you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker; in Christ's love, we welcome you, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we can work together to usher in God's Reign of justice, peace, and mercy.

## Worship



**Sundays @ 10:45am**

**"We gather as an open community of Christians, responding to God's call. We gather to support and nourish one another in the faith, equipping people to live the Gospel in the world."**

**Word and Meal** are at the heart of our community. We come together to hear God's Word and celebrate at God's table the sacrament of Holy Communion. As Lutherans, we trust that Christ is truly present for us in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Christ's table is open to everyone and we invite all those who desire to meet Christ, to come to the table.

**Baptism**, a sign of God's unconditional love, serves as initiation into the Christian family and the waters of baptism remind us of our intimate connection to all of God's creation. As Lutherans, we baptize infants and adults and are eager to welcome new Christians into our community. We also recognize baptisms done in other traditions.

**Music:** We are blessed with members who love to sing! So, our music program prioritizes congregational singing and participation. There are many opportunities for individuals to be involved in the accompaniment of hymnody or in special musical offerings. Music selection includes a variety of styles in one blended worship service.

**Children** are always welcome in worship. To assist those learning to participate in worship, we have cloth worship bags with books, toys and colouring materials for young children and activity cases for older children. Often, there is a special children's' story during worship. We love the noise children make in worship! But if children need some quiet time, there is a nursery in the basement.

**Visitors** will receive a warm welcome, so plan to stay for coffee and conversation following the worship!

## Justice



**"We are a voice for compassion and actively seek justice and peace in the world. We identify and serve our neighbors in need."**

Our **Lutheran Outreach Volunteers** - LOVs embody the Gospel as volunteers reach out with emergency food aid and grocery vouchers. Our LOV volunteers provide community meals at Inn From the Cold and work as advocates for the Crosslinks Street Outreach Van.

Our Global Justice Committee's Slices for Justice events provides education and awareness so that together we can work towards justice and peace in our community and the world. We have meaningful work for you to do.

## Education

**Progressive 21st Century Christianity which embraces questioners, seekers, doubters, and scholars as we develop our spirituality.**

**Sunday School for All Ages:**

**9:30 am** during the School Year

**Children 4-12 years**

learn together the stories of our faith!



**Adults** explore the Scriptures through the lens of the Good News of God's grace. We encourage people to question the traditions of the Church as we explore the ways in which God speaks through the Scriptures today. Academic scholarship is celebrated as a gift that engages our minds in the practice of our faith.

**Confirmation:** Young people explore the ways in which the Scriptures together with the history and traditions of the church are relevant to their lives as they work together to develop spiritual practices of their own.

**Preaching:** The proclamation of the Word in words and in deeds is at the heart of our teaching ministries. We strive to offer program that is diverse, flexible, thought provoking and relevant to our challenging times