



Sunday, November 22, was a day of celebration and appreciation at Holy Cross Lutheran Church . . . and a total surprise for Reverend Michael S. Taylor. Although he was installed at Holy Cross on June 29, 2008 the church leadership wanted to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination with a surprise service and dinner. They were especially inspired when his wife, Susan, said that none of his previous congregations had thrown such a party for him. She helped by sneaking most of their children and their families into town. The entire congregation kept the secret right up to the start of the service.

The surprise was sprung by the committee chairman Alan Apelt. The families were brought in and guest pastor Reverend Thomas Soltis took over the celebration. The service was highlighted by performances of the singing choir, including Susan and Pastor Taylor, and a handbell duet by the EKCO Ringers. The service was followed by a dinner and presentations. These included speeches by one of the Taylor's daughters, Kathryn Bauer, Reverend Charles Groth, and a slide show of pictures of Pastor Taylor's family and ministry. Alan presented proclamations from the English District of the LCMS and the City of Cleveland, and a card and gift of appreciation from the congregation was presented by church President Larry Onesky.

This day of celebration and appreciation was concluded by a prayer presented by Holy Cross' retired pastor Reverend Myron Prok.