

# CROSS CURRENTS

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS

Pastor Chu

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Thanksgiving Day  
Worship Service  
with Holy Communion

Thursday, November 23 at 9:30 a.m.

*<sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!*

*<sup>2</sup>Serve the Lord with gladness!*

*Come into his presence with singing!*

*<sup>3</sup>Know that the Lord, he is God!*

*It is he who made us, and we are his;*

*we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*<sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!*

*Give thanks to him; bless his name!*

*<sup>5</sup>For the Lord is good;*

*his steadfast love endures forever,*

*and his faithfulness to all generations. (Psalm 100)*

An Internet search for “things to be thankful for” yields endless pages with lists of things to be thankful for; some lists include as many 1000 items for which to be thankful. Many lists include what most people would give thanks for, e.g., family, good health, friends, food, water, jobs, and freedom, and of course, Christians give thanks to God for Jesus and all the spiritual blessings that are ours by God’s grace through faith in Him as Savior and Lord.

Other lists include things that likely we have not thought of, e.g., crescent moons, opposable thumbs, aglets, even numbers, butternut squash, jeans. Perhaps we have not thought of these because we take them for granted (life would be a lot more difficult if we didn’t have opposable thumbs) or we think them silly. However, if we were to give thanks for such things that we would usually not think of, perhaps that would help us to realize the many blessings God gives to us each day, countless more than we think. We enjoy so many blessings that we count among the necessities of life but which would be luxuries most people in the rest of the world could only dream of having.

As I’m writing this, I realize that I risk sounding trite to those who are experiencing tragedies: lives destroyed by devastating fires or hurricanes, wars and other forms of violence, inadequate food, water, shelter, or medicine, emotional upheavals, cancer or those debilitating and life-threatening illnesses and diseases. However, the reasons the psalmist gives for praise and thanksgiving are not luxuries, prosperity, or a life of ease that’s free from struggles and difficulties. The

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reasons in the psalm for praising and giving thanks to God are beyond our circumstances, even when those circumstances challenge our faith and faithfulness and move us to wonder why God doesn't intervene to bring about relief and restoration.

The psalmist calls us to praise God and give thanks to Him because of:

1. **Who we are** — We are God's, created and redeemed by Him. We are the people of God, sheep of the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for His sheep.
2. **Who God is** — God is God. He is Lord of heaven and earth and He is Redeemer and Sanctifier, who is good and whose steadfast love and faithfulness endures for ever.

Giving thanks to God doesn't mean that our pains will suddenly disappear. It means that we can go through whatever difficulties we experience knowing that the God whom we trust is good and gracious and faithful and is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving.

*Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.*



## November Activities!

### ***Bible Studies***

Women's Bible Study—Mondays, Nov. 6, 13, 20, and 27.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study—Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29.

Sunday Bible Class—Due to after church activities, Classes will be cancelled.

### ***YOUTH BAKE SALE***

Mark your calendars! The annual youth sponsored bake sale will be held **Sunday, November 12th**, during coffee hour. This year's proceeds will be donated to help provide aid for those affected by the recent fires in California. Please plan to stop by and check out our assortment of yummy treats, and assist us in our endeavor to lend a helping hand! Sandy Coyne



The annual **Thanksgiving dinner** will be held on **Sunday, November 19** at 11:45 am. Come for some fellowship and great food. Suggested donation is \$10. No tipping is necessary. Melarie Seidel

### ***Fall Cleaning***

Please join the Altar Guild on November 11th at 9 am to clean our sanctuary in preparation for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. Families are welcome - many hands make light work! Contact Andrea Beutel for information at 672-9605, or [andbeutel@gmail.com](mailto:andbeutel@gmail.com).



### ***Voter's Assembly Meeting Sunday, Nov. 12***

After you visit, have coffee, & purchase some goodies at the Youth Bake Sale, join us for short meeting. Your attendance is appreciated!



Men's Koffee Klatch at Mel's on Nov. 16 at 8:30 am.

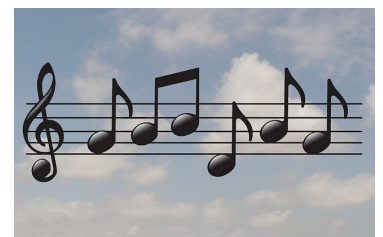
## November Birthdays

- 1 Clara H.
- 4 Joe O.
- 5 Sally M.
- 7 Suzanne S.
- 8 Judy S.
- 10 Liz A.
- 10 Andrea B.
- 15 Laurretta O.
- 21 Suzanne S.

## November Anniversaries

- 5 Terry & Revia M.
- 9 Dwight & Claudia G.
- 20 Gerhard N. & Shinta S.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS** for November will be on Nov 7, 14, and 21. There will be no rehearsal on Nov. 28.



### **November 2017 - What's Happening with the WoHC? by Joyce Liebe, President**

Thanks to all the ladies who made time to join our "Fall Beginnings" Welcome Back event on LWML Sunday. Thanks to the Board members who helped organize it - especially Marilyn for the coffeecake & fruit, Cherylene for the Program overview, Annaliesa for the devotion, Idalene with setup, & choir ladies to help us with the singing. Special thanks to Sue for arranging our LSS speakers. They provided information on some of their services in our area & also brought us gift tags for us to help with their Christmas gift program. More on that next month.

**Check out the pictures (page 6) from our gathering!**

**If you didn't get a new 2016-17 WoHC Program (purple color), please let me know!**



### **Upcoming WoHC activities:**

**Fri.-Sat., 11/3-11/4, Corner Cafe** *This annual event is a congregational fundraiser that the WoHC lead.* While the Holiday Hutch Boutique is going on, we provide tasty food & beverages in a festive setting. Idalene Stadler & her small team will do the decorating. Melarie Seidel is coordinating the Cafe kitchen - see the sign-up sheet for kitchen shifts & food/beverage donations. Plan to come, browse the creative items (gifts?) at the Holiday Hutch & have a meal or snack at the Corner Cafe! **NOTE: Proceeds from our sales will be used to refurbish our main Holy Cross sign on Alberta Way (as you enter driveway).**

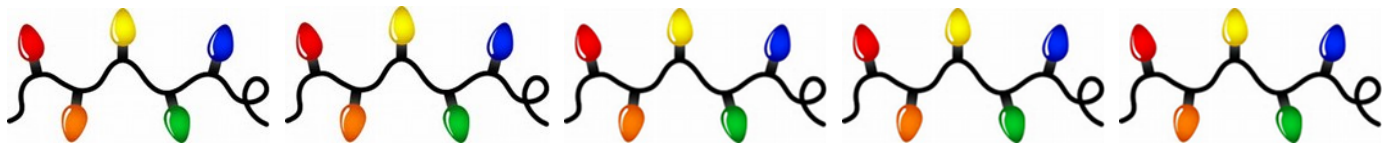
**Monday, 12/4, Annual Christmas Dinner, 5:30pm.** Join us for this wonderful Christmas tradition! As always, we will sing a couple Christmas songs & have our White Elephant gift "exchange". Look for your invitation & sign up. This is a perfect time to invite your friends or relatives to join us for a leisurely meal & warm fellowship. **Details on next page!**

**LSS (Lutheran Social Services) Christmas Gift Program.** As mentioned by our LSS speakers at our Welcome Back gathering, we are planning to participate in the LSS Christmas Gift Program. It will be like the other programs in that we will have gift tags with requested items. The gifts will go to young adults in our local areas. Details will be shared as we get closer to December.

Activity details are also on our Bulletin Board & Sunday Bulletins.

*As always, please feel free to contact me or any of the Board if you have questions, comments, or suggestions.*





# **WoHC Christmas Party**

**La Veranda Restaurant**  
**6201 Center Street, Clayton**  
**Monday, December 4, 2017 at 5:30 pm**



*Invite your friends  
and relatives,  
and join us at the annual  
WoHC Christmas party.*

*Holiday Meal  
Christmas Carols  
Fellowship*

**And**

*Our highly entertaining*

*White Elephant*

*Gift Exchange!* \$10 maximum value



## **Menu**

**Antipasto  
Salad  
Chicken Picatta  
or Tri-tip  
Starch  
Vegetable  
Dessert**

**\$25 for Holy Cross members and \$30 for guests, tax and tip included. Cash, and checks (payable to WoHC) can be given to Melarie Seidel or Joyce Liebe.**

**Sign up and pay by  
Sunday, November 26**

House red or white wine available at \$5 per glass.  
Wine and bar drinks are paid for at night of dinner.



## FALL BEGINNINGS FOR WOHC



Devotions by Annaliesa

Beautiful voices singing  
Praises to the Lord

Our Speaker: Nancy from LSS

## Hygienic Products

Don't know what to do with those little complimentary bottles of shampoos, tooth paste, etc.? Please bring the items to church with you on Sundays and place them on the OUTREACH table in the Parish Hall. They will be put to good use for our *North Concord Shelter Clients* that we provide a meal for every Outreach Sunday. We will also be donating the same items to Lutheran Social Services. These items are needed all year! The larger shampoos people love and are also needed. What a great way to help someone in need to feel better, knowing they have hygiene products. We also need regular size toothbrushes and paste, deodorants, shaving razors (and cream) for all of our clients.

Thank You. Pat Easby

## POT LUCK

If you didn't stay for the pot luck, you missed some good food. It was a good time to visit, plus enjoy the HOLY LAND presentation by Grace Gin and Annaliesa Liedtke.

A big Thank You to Pat Kroeger and Marlene Roberts for the organizational part of the pot luck and cleanup. Thanks to the table movers and also to the Chu family, Al B., Peter L., Gayle B. who helped with the cleanup. Thank You to all. "Pot Luck" time is usually the 5th Sunday of the month. Everyone is welcome to join us for a fine relaxing time. Watch the bulletins for HC activities! Pat Easby



## OUR JELLO CHILL OFF WINNERS



Kimberly—Most Creative



Liz—Best Potluck Contribution



Mike—Most Colorful

### Outreach Sunday, October 22, 2017

We all were in the Holy Cross kitchen by 8:30 AM. Brandon Voss was working to get some credits for Northgate High-School. Brandon helped us for over five hours—in the Holy Cross kitchen and he helped with serving at the North Concord shelter. He and Mike Liebe came back to church and helped with clean up.

We served a huge pan of chicken chow mein, main dish, also beans almandine made by Mike Liebe and two bowls of fresh fruit peeled and cut by Kimberly Chu. Brandon also cut the fresh vegetables for the salad. All the fresh dinner rolls were buttered by Brandon. Mike Liebe surprised us and brought peanut butter chocolate brownies he'd made. Our clients loved the food and came back for more servings. We served a total of 50. They really enjoyed the food and were so thankful for everything we served.

Brandon helped hand out the socks to our happy clients. They said, "Now I can have warm feet." Holy Cross people donated all the socks to the shelter/homeless. Thank You.

Jan Selby said the prayers and our servers today were—Brandon Voss, Mike Liebe, Scott and Jan Selby, B. Luker, and Pat Easby. Our friends were stuffed and very happy. Thank you. Pat Easby

## November NFS Planned Activities

### Speiskammier German Restaurant

Nov. 9th 2017

The first outing for the Nifty Fifty Seniors for November is lunch at Speiskammier, a German restaurant located at 2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, California 94501. We went there a couple of years ago and it was excellent. Some of their dinner entrees are Sauerbraten, cost \$19.50, half \$11.50 (Braised Beef Tri Tip aged and marinated in Red Wine & Secret Spices served with Red Cabbage and Spätzle). Wiener Schnitzel, cost \$17.75, half \$ 10.75 (2 Pork Cutlets, breaded & pan-fried served with roasted potatoes). Bratwurst, cost \$14.75, half \$9.00 (2 Grilled Lean Bratwurst with Cracked Spices served over Sauerkraut & Mashed Potatoes). They also have a lunch menu mostly of sandwiches on a toasted baguette for around \$9.50. It might be better to order half a dinner rather than a sandwich as the portions may be like D J Bistro in Concord. They have beer on tap (6 different kinds) available in ½ liter or bottles. We should plan on carpooling as it's quite a distance to Alameda and there is a real problem finding a place to park. Reservations have been made for 1:00 PM. Meet at church at 12:00 and leave at 12:15. This should be a fun outing so bring a friend. Marv Kreitz

### Riverview Lodge

Nov. 20th 2017

One of my favorite places to eat is at the Riverview Lodge located at the foot of (I) Street in Antioch. What I like is their Daily Special lunch of some type of fish or meat dish for \$9.95. You can substitute cold slaw for the vegetable and along with the mashed potatoes and plenty of good bread and you have all you can eat. The Riverview first opened in 1947 and is right on the river, so you can enjoy watching the river traffic. It's not uncommon to have a large ship pass while eating, in fact, when Jack Mortenson was there years ago he told me he saw a large oil tanker on the river, just outside the Riverview Dock, reversed direction with the aid of tugs after unloading some oil in order to proceed up river. Evidently the river is wider and deeper in that area. I'm sure most of you have enjoyed eating there if you have lived in this area for any period of time. Meet at church at 12:15 leave at 12:30, or meet at the restaurant. Lunch is at 1:00. Sign-up sheet is in the social hall. Bring a Friend!!!! Marv Kreitz

## Lone Tree Golf Course, October 15




Lovely luncheon with Mimosas and Champaign to start and continued throughout Brunch. Wonderful food as well as a great fellowship. Everyone had a delightful brunch and would do it again.





# NOVEMBER 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>All Saints Day</i> <b>OFC CLOSED</b> 7p Bible Study	2 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>	3 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>  Holiday Hutch & Corner Cafe	4  Holiday Hutch & Corner Cafe
5 <i>All Saints Sunday</i> <i>Daylight Savings Ends</i> <i>Mite Box/Hat Sunday</i> <b>9:30am Worship/ Communion</b> 11a Sunday School 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	6 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>  12:30p Wm Bible Study (C )  2:15p WoHC Board Mtg	7 <i>Election Day</i>  7:15p Choir Rehearsal	8  1p Senior Brd 7p Bible Study	9 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>  NFS Speiskammier	10	11 <i><b>Veteran's Day</b></i>  9am Altar Guild Fall Cleaning
12 <b>9:30am Worship</b> Youth Bake Sale Voters Assembly Mtg 11a Sunday School 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	13  12:30p Wm Bible Study (C )  7p Scouts	14  7:15p Choir Rehearsal	15  7p Bible Study	16 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>  8:30a Koffee Klatch	17	18  9am-12pm Work Party
19 <b>9:30am Worship/ Communion</b> 11a Sunday School 11:45a Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner 2-6p Myanmar Christian	20  12:30p Wm Bible Study (C ) 12:30p Bridge NFS Riverview Lodge 6:30p Church Coun-	21  6:30 Elders 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	22	23 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>  <b>9:30am Thanksgiving Day service</b> 	24 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>	25
26 <i>1st Sunday in Advent</i> <b>9:30am Worship</b> 11a Sunday School Outreach 8:30a 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	27  12:30p Wm Bible Study (C )  2:15p December WoHC Board Mtg 7p Scouts	28	29  7p Bible Study	30 <b>OFC CLOSED</b>		

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Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger  
Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler  
Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka  
Trustees: Allen Brueckner, Bill Luker  
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**Office Hours:** Mon.-Wed. & Fri. .9am - 1pm

**Worship Schedule:**

Sunday Service	9:30 AM
Communion	1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sundays
Adults Bible Studies	11AM
Sunday School	11 AM

**Week Day Bible Study Schedule:**

Monday (Ladies)	12:30PM Conference Room
Wednesday	7:00PM Parish Hall

**Choir Rehearsal:**

Tuesday	7: 15PM-8:45PM
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**Outreach:**

Fourth Sunday of each month after service

**Publication Deadline:**

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday  
Dec. 2017 Cross Currents: Nov. 22, 2017