

Cross Currents

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

July/August 2018

Volume 7 Issue 161

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Unchanging God in an ever-changing world... and life

Pastor Chu

"The Only Thing That Is Constant Is Change" — Heraclitus (©500 BCE)

We can debate whether change is the only constant, but that change is a constant in life is indisputable. Our world is rapidly and radically changing technologically, morally, politically, theologically. Our lives are in a constant state of flux; we face changes at home, work, and church; as we age from birth to end of life, we change physically, physiologically, intellectually, and emotionally; we also face changes as we transition from being a student to an employee to a retiree, move from one geographic location to another, change from being single to married to parenthood, etc.

Some changes are for the better while others present difficulties, at times excruciatingly painful ones. Whether we find changes favorable or unfavorable, whether changes bring blessings or challenges, change almost always causes anxiety.

In the midst of the endless changes we face, thank God that He does not change with the times or circumstances we face.

Thank God that, unlike us, He does not change from day to day and is not fickle like we are.

- ⁶For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. (Malachi 3:6)
- ¹⁹God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it? (Numbers 23:19)
- ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)
- ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (James 1:17)

Thank God that, unlike us, He is almighty.

- ²Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. (Psalm 90:2)
- ⁸I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." (Revelation 1:8)
- ¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. (Genesis 17:1)

Continued on page 2



Social Media by Joyce Liebe

From an article on how to grow your church (written in 2016):

Love it or despise it, social media is here to stay. 50% of church guests under the age of 40 will check out your church's reputation with their friends on social media.

I'm not saying a pastor should be spending hours each day on Twitter or Reddit, but focusing your efforts on just one or two social networking sites can increase your church's reach.

There are hundreds of social media sites out there and as a church you don't need to be on them all but if you're targeting students or young professionals then I would recommend having at least a church Facebook page. A church Facebook page means you can keep people informed about upcoming events, share photos and create a real sense of community.

Your congregation can tag your church in statuses and photos – it can create a real buzz.

What really excites me about Facebook is the potential to reach so many people at no cost whatsoever. I mean, we always say friendship evangelism is the best form of evangelism don't we? Well, what if everyone in your church invited all of their Facebook friends to your next outreach event?

It's not hard to reach over 2,000 people within a few minutes. I'm sure not every single person you invited would turn up but at the very least it's getting your church name out there.

You want people to think 'Oh it's that church again, there's always something happening there!'

Thus...I have taken on the maintenance of our Facebook page:

Holy Cross Lutheran Church LCMS

At our 6/24 voters meeting, the congregation approved increasing use of Facebook . I'm looking into documenting a social media policy & an 'opt-out' form.



So...Facebook users, LIKE our page, & take a look at our website:

<http://www.holycrossconcord.org/home>

Continued from page 1

- ¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. ²I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." (Psalm 91:1-2)

Thank God that, unlike us, He was, is, and will be always gracious and merciful.

- ⁶The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. (Exodus 34:6)
- ^{17b}But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them. (Nehemiah 9:17b)
- ²²The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)
- ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved. (Ephesians 2:4-5)

Thank God that, unlike us, He is always faithful.

- ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1John 1:9)
- ¹³If we are faithless, he remains faithful — for he cannot deny himself. (2Timothy 2:13)
- ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1Corinthians 1:9)
- ⁴For your steadfast love is great above the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the clouds. (Psalm 108:4, cf., Psalm 57:10)

Happy Anniversary to:

Peter & Annaliesa L.	7/23
Mike & Tina V.	7/26
Allen & Cherylene B.	7/30
Larry & Maxine F.	8/1
Scott & Idalene S.	8/26
John & Andrea B.	8/28



Happy Birthday to:

Gerda K.	7/2
Peggy O.	7/3
Carol C.	7/5
Aimee S.	7/10
Bob H.	7/10
Katty S.	7/12
Eric R.	7/18
Diana M.	7/18
Pat E.	7/20
Dwight G.	7/20
Michael G.	7/25
Philip A.	7/29
Megan G.	7/31
Clark W.	8/2
Kayleigh C.	8/3
Dave C.	8/6
Scott S.	8/7
Marilyn N.	8/10
Ann C.	8/14
Carrie K.	8/14
Clayton M.	8/20
Chris R.	8/21
Bill M.	8/21
Jan W.	8/23
Michael O.	8/27



Congregational Dinner Night Out was a Hit!

By Marilyn Neumann

The Buttercup made us feel so welcome for this year's Dinner Night Out. We had the private dining room to ourselves and two wait staff dedicated to serving us.

Herb asked God's blessing on our meal and Joyce got us all in a very jovial mood with a hilarious reading.

There were 27 of us this year and everyone seemed to be enjoying the conversations at their tables, that is, until the food arrived and then it got quiet. After dinner most everyone stayed to visit some more which was so nice to see.

That's what this night is all about isn't it - enjoying each other's company over a nice relaxing meal.

The next day I gave our thanks and a very favorable review to Tara, the Manager at Buttercup.

p.s. most of us were so busy enjoying the conversations and food that we forgot to take pictures... however here is one that Gregg took time to take!



Grace, Carol and Annaliesa enjoying the Dinner Night Out this year

For those that missed this story being shared at our dinner out.....

Oops.....

A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, finger printed, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, naturally I assumed you had stolen the car."

Ask yourself . . .

Am I just a Sunday morning Christian?

Do I set a good Christian example every day?

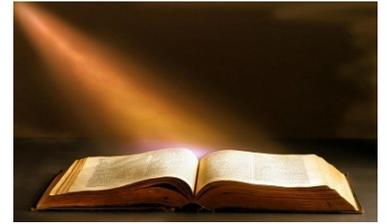
Fellowship Activities

July & August Bible Study and Sunday School Schedules:

Sunday Bible Class (11:00 a.m.): July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19

Sunday School (11:00 a.m.): July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19

Wednesday Bible Study (7:00 p.m.): July 11, 18, 25; August 1, 8, 15, 22



Nifty Fifty

We plan on only one activity each month for July and August 2018.

The first is on Thursday, July 12th, at 1:00 at the Bronze Buddha Thai Fusion Restaurant. It is located at 5434 Ygnacio Valley Road, on the corner of Ygnacio Valley Road and Clayton Road, in the shopping center where the Bank of America we do business with is. Reviews:

"Positive experience with great authentic Thai food for a budget. I recommend the lunch special with crab cakes and pad Thai" (pad Thai \$13.00)

"Our favorite dishes include the Bronze Buddha salad, Drunken Noodles (aka Kee Mao), pineapple fried rice and Red Curry" (pineapple fried rice \$14:00)

"Finding a Thai restaurant that makes good quality pumpkin curry tofu has been an endeavor I've been on since moving to Concord. My husband surprised me and bought pad Thai and Pumpkin Curry for dinner the other night. Delicious!!!! Two servings later and I was in love! Fresh veggies, great taste and by far the best I've had thus far in this area."

I'm looking forward to something different, I don't remember having food at a restaurant that serves Thai Fusion (sounds like some kind of Atomic Energy). Anyway, if you plan on going sign up. Remember only one outing in July.



Our only outing for August is on Thursday, August 9th, at 1:00 at Tarantino's in San Francisco located at Fisherman's Wharf. Tarantino's was opened in 1946 and is famous for its fresh seafood, particularly Pacific salmon, halibut, and Dungeness crab. Most of the entrees remain affordable and range from \$17.00 to \$27.00. I generally have a bowl of their clam chowder and fish and chips, along with coffee, and it runs around \$25.00 including tip. We plan on taking the Ferry to Fisherman's Wharf from Jack London Square, Oakland. The Ferry leaves around 11:00 and gets into Pier 39 (where the seals are) and leaves around 3:00 getting into Oakland at 3:45. There are several that leave later, but we have always felt we should get in before the heavy traffic on 24 to where we live. It's always fun to play the tourist and see the mimes perform and toss in a few coins, or listen to them play the Kettle Drums, anyway it fun and entertaining. Sign up so we know how many to plan on. I hope we can park for free at the port in Oakland. We will have more information in the regular bulletins as we get closer to August 9th.

Summer 2018 – WoHC Happenings by Joyce Liebe, President

We had **27** attend our annual **Dinner Out with Family & Friends** on June 11 - thankfully the Warriors had already won the championship, so we had no competition there!!

We went to **Buttercup Diner & Bar** again this year, sitting in the side room (thanks to Marilyn Neumann's coordination). We were split up in groups of 4-6, with many tables close together (on purpose) with ability to lean over to chat if we wanted to.

The noise level got high at times, however for me, that just means we're having a great time & enjoying one another. I looked around and everyone was enjoying their dinner, occasionally taking a break to contribute to a conversation. I thought the service was excellent, and the food was very good & plentiful.

Thanks again to all who attended. This is a great way to get to know one another a little better & also support our local businesses!

Last year's "snack" bar for **Father's Day** was a hit! We did a variation this year, with prepackaged treat bags. We hope all the men took one and set aside a little time to relax & enjoy the snacks.



Special thanks to Gayle, Idalene, Cherylene, Chris, Jan, & Pat E. for your help!



The Board/Chairpersons are meeting this summer to plan our Sept. 2018-Aug. 2019 activities.

Both meetings begin at 6pm & start off with a salad potluck! Details:

- ⇒ **Monday, 7/16, Cherylene Brueckner's home**
- ⇒ **Monday, 8/13, Joyce Liebe's home**

All women of Holy Cross are welcome to join us. Let me know if you can. **If you cannot attend, we would appreciate your input in what activities you want more of, less of, something new???** This is the women of Holy Cross' group, we all have input in what we do.

Our 2018-2019 WoHC Board & Chairpersons (9/2018 – 8/2019)

† President	Joyce Liebe
† Vice President	Annaliesa Liedtke
† Secretary	Jan Walker
† Treasurer	Melarie Seidel
† Birthday Gifts	Idalene Stadler
† Christian Life	Pat Easby & Annaliesa Liedtke
† Gospel Outreach	Gayle Bothe
† Human Care	Sue O'Malley & Jan Walker
† Membership Dev.	Idalene Stadler
† Servant Resources (& Council Rep)	Cherylene Brueckner
† Sunshine/Cards (B'day)	Idalene Stadler
(Get Well/Anniv/Sympathy)	Chris Roman

From the Women of Holy Cross. We have a Good news update!

The current news about the new Mission Grants is: Due to a \$1426.70 received overage for 2016-2018 Mission Grants, and Mite money given through out the District Convention, we have funded (all societies in the CNH LWML) the first three Grants for the 2018-2020 years. We are now collecting for the #4 Mission Grant. Please stop and check out the bulletin boards in the parish hall and in the back of the narthex. There is one "stack" of funded grant posters and one "stack" of the current one plus future ones.

Thank you to all who have a heart for this work and give their mites.

Gayle, Gospel Outreach chairman



GAME
NIGHT

ATTENTION LADIES!

Our monthly ladies Bunco nights have turned into **GAME NIGHTS**. Based on the number of ladies that attend, we will choose from an assortment of games.

If you have a favorite game, bring it!

JOIN US in the Parish Hall:

⇒ **Thursday, 7/12, 6:30pm**

⇒ **Thursday, 8/9, 6:30pm**

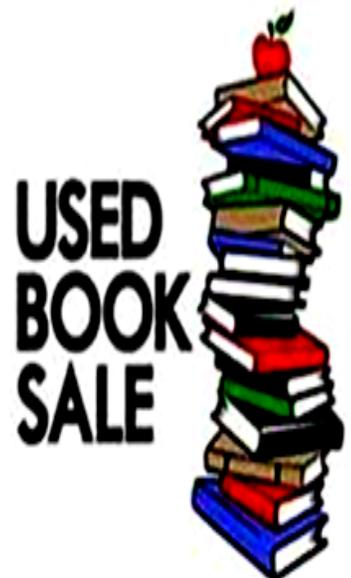
Used Book Sale **Sat., August 11 10am-2pm**

Want to clear out some space in your home AND help raise money for WoHC General Fund? If so, donate books to our sale.

Hardcover & paperback books will be accepted (PLEASE NO encyclopedias, textbooks, dictionaries, magazines, CDs, DVDs).

Price: free-will offering (pay/donate what you want for the books you take). Book Sale is open to all – invite your friends & family (or choose some books for them!)

- ⇒ **Bring donations to Office by Sunday, 8/5.**
- ⇒ **Then bring a few dollars and get ready to shop on 8/11!**



**USED
BOOK
SALE**

I will staff the sale, however I will have a sign up sheet asking for a few folks to help set up, then clean up. Thank You, Joyce

JUNE ACTIVITIES

June's Ladies Bunco evening. We played Yahtzee! From now on we will have Ladies Game evening, playing games based on number of gals who join us! Join the fun each month!



BOWLING!!

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Mite Box/Hat Sunday 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar Chris-	2 12:30p Women's Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts	3	4 HOLIDAY OFC CLOSED	5 OFC CLOSED	6 Parish Hall- Private Set Up	7 Parish Hall- Private Rental
8 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 11a Fac/Maint Mtg 2-6p Myanmar	9 12:30p Women's Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts	10	11 7p Bible Study (H)	12 OFC CLOSED 1p Nifty Fifty Lunch Bronze Buddha 6:30p Ladies Game Night	13	14
15 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar	16 12:30p Women's Bible Study © 6p WoHC Board Potluck/Planning 6:30p Council Mtg 7-9:30p Scouts	17	18 7p Bible Study (H)	19 OFC CLOSED 8:30a Men's Kaffeeklatsch	20	21 Scouts Work Party
22 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar	23 12:30p Women's Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts	24	25 7p Bible Study (H)	26 OFC CLOSED	27	28
29 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar	30 12:30p Women's Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts	31				

August 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<p><i>1</i></p> <p>7p Bible Study (H)</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>OFC CLOSED</p>	<p><i>3</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p>
<p><i>5</i></p> <p>Mite Box/Hat Sunday</p> <p>9:30a Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>11a Sunday School/Bible Class</p> <p>2-6p Myanmar</p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>12:30p Women's Bible Study (C)</p> <p>7-9:30p Scouts</p>	<p><i>7</i></p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>7p Bible Study (H)</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>OFC CLOSED</p> <p>1p Nifty Fifty Lunch Tarantino's</p> <p>6:30p Ladies Game Night</p>	<p><i>10</i></p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>10a-2p Used Book Sale</p> <p>Holy Cross Work Party</p>
<p><i>12</i></p> <p>9:30a Worship</p> <p>11a Fac/Maint Mtg</p> <p>11a Sunday School/Bible Class</p> <p>2-6p Myanmar</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>12:30p Women's Bible Study ©</p> <p>6p WoHC Board Potluck/Planning</p>	<p><i>14</i></p>	<p><i>15</i></p> <p>7p Bible Study (H)</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>OFC CLOSED</p> <p>8:30a Men's Kaffeeklatsch</p>	<p><i>17</i></p>	<p><i>18</i></p>
<p><i>19</i></p> <p>9:30a Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>11a Sunday School/Bible Class</p> <p>2-6p Myanmar</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>12:30p Women's Bible Study ©</p> <p>6:30p Council Mtg</p> <p>7-9:30p Scouts</p>	<p><i>21</i></p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p>7p Bible Study (H)</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>OFC CLOSED</p>	<p><i>24</i></p>	<p><i>25</i></p>
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Holy Cross Lutheran

Church, LCMS

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Elders: Bill Riechman, John Coyne,
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Joyce Liebe
Newsletter Editor: Kimberly Chu
editor@holycrossconcord.org

Office Hours: Mon.-Wed., Friday 9am-1pm

Worship Schedule:

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

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Wednesday	7:00PM Parish Hall
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Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
September 2018 Cross Currents: August
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