



Cross Currents

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

September 2018

Volume 8 Issue 162

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During my ministry, I occasionally reread my ordination and installation vows as a reminder of what I am called to do and what I promised to do as a pastor; this reorients my bearing as, by God's grace, I strive to serve the Lord and His people faithfully.

At my ordination, a number of questions were asked of me (and, in some form, of every candidate for the pastoral office in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod at their ordination): three questions regarding my doctrinal stand on the Holy Scriptures, the three Ecumenical Creeds, and the Lutheran Confessions; three questions that required promises on how I would carry out my calling in the pastoral office.

The three questions on doctrinal stand were/are:

1. *Do you believe the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God?*
2. *Do you accept the three Ecumenical Creeds, namely, the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds, as faithful testimonies to the truth of the Holy Scriptures, and do you reject all the errors they condemn?*
3. *Do you believe that the Unaltered Augsburg Confession is a true exposition of the Word of God and a correct exhibition of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church; that the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Small and Large Catechisms of Martin Luther, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Authority and Primacy of the Pope, and the Formula of Concord — as these are contained in the Book of Concord — are also in agreement with this one scriptural faith?*

The three questions requiring vows regarding ministry and life were/are:

1. *Do you solemnly promise that you will perform the duties of your office in accordance with these confessions, or Symbols, and that all your teaching and your administration of the Sacraments will be in conformity with the Holy Scriptures and with the aforementioned Symbols?*
2. *Will you faithfully instruct both young and old in the chief articles of the Christian doctrine; will you forgive the sins of those who repent, and will you promised never to divulge the sins confessed to you; will you minister faithfully to the sick and dying; will you demonstrate to the Church a constant and ready ministry, admonishing the people to a lively confidence in Christ and holy living?*
3. *Finally, will you adorn the office of the public ministry with a holy life?*

The congregation is then asked:

Will you, assembled here as God's people and speaking for the whole Church, receive _____ as a servant of Christ, a minister of Word and Sacrament, given the Church to serve God's people with the Gospel of grace and salvation?

Continued on page 2

For the installation that follows, the congregation is asked:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the Reverend _____ has been called to be a pastor of _____ congregation. I ask you now, in the presence of God: Will you receive him, show him that love, honor, and obedience in the Lord which you owe to the shepherd and teacher placed over you by your Lord Jesus Christ, and will you support him by your gifts and fervent prayer? If so, answer: "We will with the help of God."

(If the ordination and installation are during separate divine services, the questions asked during ordination are asked during the installation as well.)

I share this with you for two reasons as you, members of Holy Cross, prepare to call a pastor:

1. These ordination/installation doctrinal affirmations and vows guide you as you prepare to extend a divine call. While each congregation will have other criteria/benchmarks by which to evaluate a pastor's ministry among them, the most important criteria are those in the ordination and installation rites. As you prepare to call a pastor, prayerfully keep these as non-negotiable.
2. As a congregation and as individuals within the body of Christ, you have responsibility to the Lord Jesus Christ and, by virtue of the divine call, to the pastor who will serve as under-shepherd and teacher, whom the Lord, the Shepherd, places over you in the Office of the Public Ministry.

Pray the Holy Spirit to:

1. Enable you to continued faithfulness in the use of the means of grace.
2. Lead you to continue to, and perhaps even more fully, participate in the life and ministry of the church.
3. Grant wisdom and guidance as you prepare and extend this divine call.
4. Motivate and move you to continued faithfulness in using the gifts He has given you for the benefit of the body of Christ.
5. Prepare the heart of the man whom He will call and appoint to serve as pastor of Holy Cross.
6. Enable you to fulfil the vow you will make to the Lord at the pastor's installation.

We thank the Lord that this is His ministry. I thank the Lord that You are His people, called and baptized into His death and resurrection so that, as one in Him, you share in the Gospel ministry given His Church. We pray and thank the Lord that the pastor called to Holy Cross will be the man of His choosing.

~Pastor

The Long-Range Planning and Call Committee has been hard at work for several months now. We meet every Sunday morning before church to plan and discuss research, phone calls, meetings with outside parties, etc., all in preparation of placing our call for a new Pastor for Holy Cross. We have asked for your input (the survey we did a few months ago) and your prayers.

God hears our prayers, He answers: "Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear." **Isaiah 65:24 ESV** Now we are giving you an opportunity for "dedicated prayer time", to pray together with your brothers and sisters in Christ for the call process and any other prayer needs.

~Cherylene



CHOIR REHEARSALS resume Tuesday, Sept 11, 2018 at 7:15 pm in the choir loft. The rehearsals in September will be Sept 11 and Sept 18 to sing on Sept 23. Come join us in "making a joyful noise to the Lord" with songs of thanks, praise, and gladness for all the wondrous works of God! For any questions, please contact Diana Meux at dianamcm02@yahoo.com or 510-526-3294; text to 510-439-7695. Thank you!



HOLY HUMOR

There is the story of a pastor who got up one-Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

September 2018 – WoHC Happenings by Joyce Liebe, President

The Women of Holy Cross have been very busy this summer. As a LWML Society, the WoHC Board met twice to plan & finalize our 2018-19 Program (oh, and eat, and laugh...). We will hand out the new program on LWML Sunday, 10/7. We have also been busy with activities to support YVCS moving into our Ed. Building. This involved many hours of going through items, organizing, & getting rid of what we can't use or that were not worth keeping.

These activities led up to our Rummage Sale on 8/11. This was a joint, **SUCCESSFUL**, effort with YVCS. We split the sales, 60% Holy Cross, 40% YVCS. Holy Cross made \$895!

I had already been planning a Book Sale that day & I'm happy to report that was also very **SUCCESSFUL**! We collected \$464.71 in donations! 50% will go to Mites & 50% toward our support of LSS' Christmas project. **THANK YOU to all who helped accomplish this big effort & for your support of our Mite Mission projects as well as LSS recipients! You're a real Blessing to me.**

What we have coming up:

- ⇒ Thursday, 9/20, 6:30pm, Ladies Game Night, Parish Hall
- ⇒ Monday, 10/2, 2:15pm, WoHC Board Mtg., Conf. Room
- ⇒ Sunday, 10/7, Mite Box/LWML Sunday
- ⇒ Saturday, 10/13, 8:30am, Zone 7 Fall Rally, HOLY CROSS
(see page 9 for details, especially our INGATHERING)

Be looking for a sign up sheets to:

- ⇒ help with LWML Sunday
- ⇒ attend Game Night

**COME AND
JOIN US!**



LWML Sunday 2018

LWML Sunday —

Celebrate Lutheran Women in Mission

A special worship service is planned for **Sunday, 10/7**, to celebrate all that God has done through the LWML.

The author of this service, Reverend Ken Hennings selected the theme, "Our Rest in a Changing World," based upon Psalm 62:1–8. Since 1942, the LWML has affirmed each woman's identity as a child of God and her relationship with Jesus Christ, encouraging and equipping Christian women to live out their lives in active mission ministries, and to support missions around the world through their sacrificial gifts of mites, tithes, offerings, and tireless service.

Ladies:

Join us for Game Night! Thursday, 9/20
6:30pm, Holy Cross Parish Hall

Dessert will be served , bring your own beverage.

*Invite your friends to join us for a
fun night of fellowship.*



Upcoming Fellowship Activities

September Bible Study and Sunday School Schedules

Sunday Bible Class 11:00AM

Sunday School 11:00AM

Monday Ladies Bible Study
10:00AM NEW TIME

Wednesday evening Bible study 7:00PM "Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians": 9/12, 9/16, 9/26



Stretching the Body of Christ September 9

Following worship, we will share a brunch/lunch potluck in fellowship as we spend a few minutes in study of selected scriptures that illustrate our individual roles in Stretching the Body of Christ, both here at Holy Cross and in our community. This is a critical step of preparation for our call. **Please add your name to the sign-up sheet,** but do not feel obligated to bring a potluck dish. Let's fill the Parish Hall with our Holy Cross church family!



Thank You, LORD!

Save the Date!
Work Party on Sat., Sept.
29

Primary work...pruning.

Congregational Meeting



Save This Date Too:
Sunday, Sept. 30, 11am

Ladies Bridge
Monday,
September 17
12:30-3:30pm
Parish Hall



Nifty Fifty

We plan on two Outings for Sept. 2018. The first is to Peters Steak House on Thursday Sept 13th located in Isleton, CA, which is an old town that existed during the gold rush period of 1849. Chinese immigrants lured to California for gold stayed to begin a hard labor task of dredging and constructing levees to hold back the water and when the water was pumped out islands were formed creating what Isleton residents now call home. The town consists of old buildings with metal exterior siding as a fire precaution, much the same as Al the Wops in Lock, just a short distance from Isleton. We have been to Peters Steak House Many times and all have liked the food and service. I usually have the fish & chips and a cup of clam chowder. All lunches are served with green salad or steak fries. They of course have prime rib steaks and a hosts of sandwiches, but most of all you get to enjoy the trip there along



the Sacramento River and through some of the most fertile farm land in our area all originally being river bottom. Lunch is at 1:00 and we should plan on carpooling. Go direct or meet at Church at 11:30 and leave at 11:45. There usually is a stand selling fresh fruit and vegetables along the way. Sign up in the Parish Hall so we know how many to plan on. I promise it will be an enjoyable outing with Christian friends. Bring a Friend.

The second outing is to the Speisekammer, a German Restaurant located at 2424 Lincoln Ave, Alameda, CA, 94501 on Thursday

Sept 27th. We have gone there several times and all have enjoyed it. I would say it is an up scale restaurant from DJ Bistro in Concord, one of our old standbys and the food is excellent. Trudy had a Cadillac Margarita there for I believe \$18.00 and she always enjoyed eating there. These prices may be off but it gives you some idea of their prices and quality of food. Dinner entrees include



Sauerbraten, braised beef tri tip aged and marinated in red wine and spices served with red cabbage and spaetzle, \$19.50 half \$11.50; Wiener Schnitzel, pork cutlets breaded and pan fried served with roasted potatoes, \$17.75 half \$10.75; Bratwurst Gegrillt, grilled lean bratwursts with cracked spices served over sauerkraut and mashed potatoes, \$14.75 half \$9.50. They also have a lunch menu, mostly sandwiches. It might be better to order half a dinner rather than a sandwich as the portions may be large like DJ Bistro in Concord.

We plan on eating again at 1:00. We should plan again on car-pooling as parking is a problem. We should plan on meeting at church and leaving at 12:15. Sign up in the Parish Hall so we know how many to plan on.



Join us every Tuesday morning at 11:00 in the sanctuary for prayer. If you are unable to be with us at church, pray wherever you may be in Virtual Prayer.

Take time to pray.

- Praise God for His many blessings, especially for the love He gave us in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- Confess.
- Thanksgiving
- Petitions for our call process:
 - Pray for guidance for the committee.
 - Pray for our congregation.
 - Pray for our future pastor, that God will prepare his heart.
 - Pray that all is done to God's glory.
 - Other petitions
- In Jesus' name we pray. Amen
- Listen...



Cherylene

It is our policy to post photos & information regarding recent & upcoming activities on our Facebook page. No names of individual members will be posted without prior approval. However, photos of our events may appear. **If you would prefer that photos of you be excluded from our posts, please contact the Holy Cross office.** Otherwise, your attendance will be taken as implied consent to post your likeness. Posts by members on our page will be monitored & may be removed if inappropriate.

Welcome Ygnacio Valley Christian School!



On **September 18, 2018, 6:30-8:30pm**, YVCS is having a night full of celebration! They will be celebrating the completion of their campus here at HCLC, their Back to School Night, the legacy of Mr. Snyder, Principal, as he will be taking an extended leave of absence, praying over Mrs. Kagan as their interim Principal, and welcoming their new staff members. This is an exciting time for YVCS and all are welcome to join in the celebration!

HOLY CROSS MEMBERS - Please join in the celebration!

New Tenant: Ygnacio Valley Christian School

by Joyce, Secretary

YVCS has moved in & with help from some HC members, they're getting settled. They have made improvements to some of the rooms. I'm sure you will notice other changes outside. As I write this, the portable (used for HC & YVCS storage) is in the process of getting cosmetic finishes done, a watering system is being installed in that area, sod is waiting to be laid, new bark for playground is to be delivered, paint is ready to be used....

The first day of school is Tuesday, 9/4. School hours are 8:30am-3pm.

They also offer before & after school care, 7am-6pm.

Parish Hall (PH) – Shared Use

YVCS will use the PH for an hour or so on Friday mornings, & also on some afternoons for band & choir. See the calendar for details. The only current users of our PH during these times are Ladies Bridge once a month & Nifty Fifty Seniors Board once a month. I have worked out a plan to accommodate everyone during these times.

For those of you that drop by PH (main room) to do something, you should first check to see if it is vacant or being used. You can call me or send me an email if you want.

Also know that recurring events where our PH is used during the day, such as Elections & Holiday Hutch, Holy Cross takes priority.

Per YVCS lease, they have use of the PH for 6 evening activities. I have noted those on our master calendar. Other use will be billed as other members/tenants.



Church Clean Up



Holy Cross clean up



Allen replacing tractor/mower blades



Holy Cross clean up



YVCS move in



Holy Cross clean up



YVCS clean up



YVCS move in



YVCS move in



Holy Cross clean up



YVCS move in



Holy Cross clean up



YVCS move in

We sometimes forget how much time and effort our Council Members, Committee Chairs, and other dedicate to our Church. There are so many "unsung heroes" that pitch in and help as needed. I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who contributes time and effort to our Church.

I am especially thankful for those who serve as Council members .They have willingly donated their knowledge, energy, and many hours for many years.

Jean Eissner

LWML Zone 7 Fall Rally

October 13, 2018

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
1092 Alberta Way
Concord, CA 94521
925-686-2000

Registration 8:30 a.m.
Rally begins 9:00 a.m.
Lunch 12:30 p.m.



Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by *prayer* and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the *peace* of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:4-7 NIV

The Women of Holy Cross invite you to join us on October 13, 2018 for the LWML Zone 7 Fall Rally. Our theme, Rejoice...Pray...Be at Peace... from Philippians 4:4-7, is carried forward from the LWML CNH convention that was held in May of this year.

Suggested Donation - \$10
(Includes continental breakfast at registration, and lunch)

Bible Study/Worship Service,
Rev. Bill Chu, Zone 7 Counselor

Guest speaker, Andy Dunn, Development Associate
Cancer Support Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94597
925-933-0107 / www.cancersupport.net



Andy Dunn has been with Cancer Support Community since March of this year. In his current role, Andy is responsible for gift and database management, as well as preparing for fundraising events throughout the year. He finds the work at Cancer Support Community fulfilling and is happy to have met so many wonderful people at CSC. Andy grew up locally in Clayton and enjoys living in this area. In his spare time, Andy can be found on a local golf course or hiking at one of the many parks in the area.

Ingathering, Lutheran Social Services:

LLS is most in need of cleaning supplies. We will collect for our ingathering the following items:

- dish soap • laundry soap • fabric softener • paper towels • sponges • scrubbing pads •
- cleanser (like AJAX) • window cleaner • etc. •

Full size sheets, quilts, blankets and comforters will also be accepted.



Invite your friends & family members!!!

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Mite Box/Hat Sunday 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class	4 OFC CLOSED LABOR DAY Holiday	4 OFC CLOSED 8:30a-3p YVCS 1st Day School 11a Prayer Group	5	6	7	8
9 9:30a Worship 11a Congregation Potluck & Fellowship 2-6p Myanmar Christian	10 10-11:30a Women's Bible Study © 7-9:30p Scouts PH	11 11a Prayer Group 7:15p Choir (cl)	12 *** 1p Nifty Fifty Board Mtg 7p Bible Study (H)	13 *** 1p Nifty Fifty Lunch	14 ***	15
16 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar Christian	17 *** 10-11:30a Women's Bible Study (C) 12:30-3:30p Ladies Bridge 7-9:30p Scouts PH	18 *** 11a Prayer Group 6:30-8:30 pm YVCS Back to School Celebration 6:30p Elder's Mtg 7:15p Choir (cl)	19 *** 7p Bible Study (H)	20 *** 8:30a Men's Kaffeek-latsch 6:30p Ladies Game Night (PH)	21 ***	22
23 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar Christian	24 *** 10-11:30a Women's Bible Study © 7-9:30p Scouts PH	25 11a Prayer Group	26 7p Bible Study (H)	27 1p Nifty Fifty Lunch	28	29 9am Facility & Maint. Work Day
30 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Voters Mtg Sunday School/Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar Christian		*** = Office Closed, Secretary on Vacation YVCS Parish Hall use during week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir: Mon. & Wed. 12:30-3pm Band: Tues. & Thurs. 12-3pm Chapel: Friday 8:30-9:15am (family & friends welcome) 				

cl=choir loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg, PH=Parish Hall, L=Library, ws=wing

Holy Cross Lutheran

Church, LCMS

1092 Alberta Way

Concord, CA 94521

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Pastor: Bill Chu

President: Mike Liebe
Vice President: Gregg Syrovatka
Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger
Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler
Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka
Trustees: Allen Brueckner, Bill Luker
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:

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

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday	7: 15PM-8:45PM
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Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
October 2018 Cross Currents: September 22, 2018