



Cross Currents

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

January 2019

Volume 1 Issue 166

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Into the New Year with the Means of Grace...

By Pastor Chu

God desires that we be nourished and sustained and grow in faith in Jesus Christ. To that end, He has given us the Means of Grace, Word and Sacrament. He gives and sustains us in saving faith and enables faithfulness to Him through —

His Word —

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. — Romans 10:17

The Lord's Supper —

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." — Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22: 19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Promises in Baptism —

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. — Romans 6:4-5

It was not by mistake or coincidence that the first Christians ⁴²...devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2) God keeps the Church, as a whole, and each Christian in the faith through the Means of Grace.

As we enter a new year, we remember and thank God that He sent His Son, Jesus, who was born, lived, died, and arose from the dead to forgive, save, and reconcile us to God, and that He gives faith, nourishes and sustains faith, and enables faithfulness to Him through Word and Sacrament and uplifts us through our fellowship with each other as fellow redeemed.

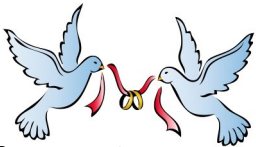
God has washed and claimed us as His own in Holy Baptism and sets before us the Means of Grace in the new year. God will enable you both to will and do what you (and I) are unable to do on your own: long for and faithfully partake of the Means of Grace.

A blessed and Christ-filled new year as God blesses you through His Word, Holy Communion, the promises given you in baptism, and the fellowship of His people. May you have a peaceful and safe year by the grace of God through faith in our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever, Amen.



Happy Birthday

1/7 Brittany O.
1/15 Josh C.
1/16 Christl R.
1/17 Ricky L.
1/22 Pat K.
1/24 Bill R.
1/24 Addison O.
1/26 Grace G.
1/27 Britney L.
1/28 Marc A.
1/31 Bob O.



Happy Anniversary

Peter & Liz A. 1/10

Merry Christmas
from Outreach, 2018

“ May you find a moment of peace and quiet tonight to thank God for all that is right in your world. May you have the presence of mind to release your cares and worries to Him. May you have the gritty faith to grab a firmer grip on His promises to you. And may you wake up in the morning knowing that you've gained ground even during your sleeping hours because God is always moving on your behalf. As you entrust your whole self to Him today, He'll get you where you need to go tomorrow. Sleep well tonight.

studio barnson

God's Wife

IT WILL KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF

Submitted by Pat E.

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child. The winner was:

1. A four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.' Ooooooh
2. Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted. A little girl said, 'I know all about adoption, I was adopted..' 'What does it mean to be adopted?', asked another child. 'It means', said the girl, 'that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy!'
3. On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League base ball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the firstbase line , I asked one of the boys what the score was. 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered with a smile. 'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged.' 'Discouraged?', the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face. 'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet.'
4. Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in life, I stop and think about little Jamie Scott. Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen. On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement.. 'Guess what, Mom,' he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me....'I've been chosen to clap and cheer.'
5. An eye witness account from New York City , on a cold day in December, some years ago, a little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold. A lady approached the young boy and said, 'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!' 'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply. The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her. She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel. By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes. She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, 'No doubt, you will be more comfortable now.' As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her. 'Are you God's wife?'

Holy Humor Submitted by Marilyn N. & Joyce L.

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

"Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner."
And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

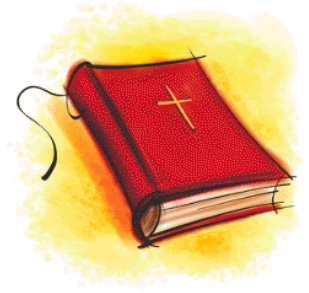
Youth Bake Sale



Upcoming Fellowship Activities

January Sunday School and Bible Study Schedules

- * Sunday Bible Class 11:00AM: 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27
- * Sunday School 11:00AM: 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27
- * Monday Ladies Bible Study 10-11:30AM
- * Wednesday evening Bible study (Beginning First Samuel)
7:00PM: 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30



CHOIR REHEARSALS for January will be on
January 15 and 22. No rehearsal January 1, 8, or 29.

Ladies: Join us for Game Night!
Thursday, 1/17, 6:30pm,
Holy Cross Parish Hall



Please join the Altar Guild to take down the Christmas decorations on Jan 5th at 9 am. It goes quick with many helping hands!



Christmas Eve - View from the Choir Loft.



*Thank you Kaytlyn for playing the flute during
the Advent worship
Services!*



Greetings! The Holy Cross Men's Kaffeeklatsch Platoon (HCMKKP) announces the completion of another successful mandatory formation. This was our second Christmas month breakfast and for the second year in a row, someone paid for all. You know the saying, "All eat some and one paid all!". Fortunately, the bill was paid after all ate so there was no opportunity to check with legal staff to determine



whether the platoon could legally accept the gift. The name of the donor is withheld in the interest of Operational Security (OPSEC). We missed Marv to injury, Howard Scouten to illness, The President and Commander in Chief Mike Liebe to work, and Jaan to who knows what (he failed to report in). Despite the missing, we still had 18 members present for duty. One was a new guest, Herb Casey, a friend of Joe O. It's always good to be able to show other men what it is like to chow down with real men. Before we know it, the ever vigilant HCMKKP will achieve our 2-year anniversary. The commander wishes to thank all the men for their ongoing support and our donor for the breakfast. Have a blessed Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Lieutenant Commander Luker

Ric Brueckner, 12/17/1949-12/21/2018

Thank you for your ongoing prayers for Allen's cousin, Ric Brueckner. Ric underwent a stem cell transplant in June as a final attempt to beat leukemia. He fought his battle with the disease long and hard for 11 years. On 12/19 we learned that Ric had been back in the Seattle VA Hospital since November 14 with pneumonia and sepsis. Ric and Ethel celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary on 12/19. Ric peacefully passed on to be with our Lord on 12/21, surrounded by family and friends. Our family appreciates all of your prayers on Ric's behalf.

January 2019 – WoHC Happenings by Joyce Liebe, President

- ◇ We enjoyed our annual WoHC Christmas Dinner on Monday, 12/3. We went to La Veranda in Clayton again this year. The food & fellowship were outstanding! Our white elephant gift exchange was quite lively, and as tradition, we ended with singing Christmas carols. Below are a few pictures (& on next page) - check out the poster board in the Parish Hall for more.
- ◇ We also wrapped all of our LSS Angel Tree Holiday Gifts on Sat., 12/8. I hear the elves were so busy working (& snacking) that they forgot to take pictures..... THANK YOU to all who helped with the special Christmas outreach project.

Here's a recap of our upcoming events. Please join us.

- ◇ 1/17 (Thurs.) Ladies Game Night, 6:30pm, Parish Hall
- ◇ 2/10 (Sun.) Bites for Mites Bake Sale after church





Nifty Fifties Christmas Party

By Roberta M.

It was a joyful event this year complete with lots of music, a sumptuous buffet, and beautiful German vintage Christmas ornaments on the tables. Bill Reichmann gave the invocation followed by carol singing by all. Later Grace Gin sang "Silent Night" in Chinese and the German group added the favorites O'Tannenbaum and Stille Nacht. Anneliese read Jack Mortenson's "The True Meaning of Christmas", one of his most memorable speeches. Bill Morfeld gave a brief talk on the benefits of being a good Samaritan. Highlighting the end of the afternoon were three choruses from the Ygnacio Valley Christian School. The kindergartners were adorable performing animated Christmas carols.

A merry time was had by all. More pictures on next page.



Christmas Celebrations and Activities



January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 HOLIDAY OFC CLOSED YVCS No school	2 YVCS No school	3 OFC CLOSED YVCS No school	4 YVCS No school	5 9a Altar Guild Christmas clean up 9:30a LWML Zone 7 Board mtg - PH
	6 Mite Boxes 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar	7 10-11:30a Women's Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	8 11a Prayer Group 7p Bible Study	9 7p Bible Study	10 OFC CLOSED	11
12 	13 9:30a Worship with Guest Preacher: LCMS-CNHS President Mike Lange 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar	14 10-11:30a Women's Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	15 11a Prayer Group 6:30p Elder's Meeting 7:15p Choir (cl)	16 7p Bible Study (PH)	17 OFC CLOSED 8:30a Men's Kaffeeklatsch 6:30pm Ladies Game Night	18 PM: Parish Hall - Private Rental Set Up
19 All Day: Parish Hall - Private Rental	20 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar	21 HOLIDAY OFC CLOSED YVCS No school 10-11:30a Women's Bible Study © 7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	22 11a Prayer Group 7:15p Choir (cl)	23 7p Bible Study (PH)	24 OFC CLOSED	25
26 	27 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School/ Bible Class 2-6p Myanmar	28 10-11:30a Women's Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	29 11a Prayer Group 	30 7p Bible Study (PH)	31 OFC CLOSED YVCS School Hours: 8:30am-3pm 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) 	

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
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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)	10:30PM Conference Room
Wednesday	7:00PM Parish Hall

Choir Rehearsal:

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

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

Facebook/On-line Policy

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 notify 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.