



## LABOR DAY

# Cross Currents

*Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS*

September 2019

Volume 7 Issue 161

### Inside this issue:

Pastor's Message	1-2
Birthdays & Anniversaries, Outreach, Choir	3
Upcoming Fellowship Activities	4
Women of Holy Cross and Save the Date	5
August Happenings	6-7
September Calendar	8
Holy Cross Weekly Schedule	9

## Pastor's Message

By Pastor Munding

### Lessons from St. Monica of Hippo (332 A.D. - 387 A.D.)

As Lutherans we sometimes seem to be a little cautious when it comes to talking about the saints of the church. We often associate the saints with the Roman Catholic practice of the invocation of the saints, that is, praying to saints on our behalf. This practice is not biblical and we do not follow it, however, in our own Lutheran confessions we confess and believe that indeed it is beneficial for us to look back on the saints of old who held fast to the Christian faith. Here is what the Augsburg Confession in the Book of Concord has to say about this issue, "...the memory of saints may be set before us, that we may follow their faith and good works, according to our calling." Think of the saints as role models, whose faithfulness and steadfastness to the Gospel is worthy of emulating in our own lives. St Monica of Hippo, whose commemoration was celebrated only a few days ago (Aug 27th), is a shining example of what the saints can teach us, especially when it comes to dealing with family members who are unchurched.

Monica was the mother of one of the most famous Christian theologians, Augustine. Believe it or not, Augustine wasn't always a Christian, even though he was raised by his mother who was. Monica was faithful to the Gospel and had raised her son in a faithful Christian environment. Her faith in Christ, the One whose blood has redeemed her, was the most important thing in her life and so too was the salvation of all her children.

But like so many young people we see today, Augustine strayed from the faith and gave into the passions of the world around him and even started following a heretical religious sect. Monica was rightfully distraught to find her son straying away from the faith, as any Christian mother would be. The fact that her son belonged outside the faith was devastating and brought her to tears. Yet, through her tear stained eyes, she always looked towards God, the only sure hope of peace and comfort. She constantly prayed to her Heavenly Father, day and night, that God would seek out her son and bring him back to the flock with all the faithful. She prayed unceasingly, never for one second doubting the promise of God, always placing her trust in Him who gives all things. Augustine would eventually be brought back into the faith, and he would go on to credit both God and his mother's prayers.

"But you sent down your help from above and rescued my soul from the depths of this darkness because my mother, your faithful servant, wept to

*Continued on page 2*

you for me, shedding more tears for my spiritual death than other mothers shed for the bodily death of a son. For in her faith and in the spirit which she had from you she looked on me as dead. You heard her and did not despise the tears which streamed down and watered the earth in every place where she bowed her head in prayer.” (Augustine, *The Confessions* 3.11)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, surely you know of someone in your family who has strayed away from the faith. You tried your best to raise them in a loving Christian home, yet they reject Christ and His Gospel. It's easy for us to think to ourselves, “I could have done more! I could have done something different.” But, as we heard in our Gospel reading from Luke 12 a few weeks ago, division is bound to happen in our families, and it is never an easy thing to deal with.

I urge you to look at Monica as a shining example of faith in Christ. We can certainly learn from Monica's example and apply it to our lives. Her unwavering faith in Jesus, which she sought to teach and instill in her own children, is something all parents should strive for! Read to them the scriptures, sing to them hymns at night, and pray with them everyday! Be examples of faithfulness in their lives! Proverbs 22:6 **“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”**

We can also look towards her persistence and devotion to God in prayer. Monica always went to God in prayer, trusting in His promises and faithfulness. She prayed earnestly that her son, like the lost sheep, would be sought after by Christ, the good shepherd, and be brought back to the church. We are called to do the same, always going to God in prayer because we know that He is the fountain and source of all things in our lives. 1 John 5:14 **“And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us.”** and Philippians 4:6 **“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”**

Because of what Christ did on the cross, reconciling us back to the Father, we can now go to God in prayer and He promises to hear us. Pray unceasingly for your loved ones, just as Monica did. Pray day and night! When you first wake up, when the sun shines directly above us, and when it falls, never stop praying and looking towards our Heavenly Father! We have the sure confidence, through Christ, that He will hear our petitions!

Let us reflect and meditate on the apostle Paul's words in the book of Hebrews as we go about our busy lives this month, **“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”** Hebrews 12:1-2



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9/3	Ray K.	9/23	Marlene R.
9/3	Eleanor T.	9/24	Melarie S.
9/5	Karen G.	9/25	Howard S.
9/10	Linda P.	9/26	Brian G.
9/12	Judy W.	9/26	Jaan K.
9/14	Bob W.	9/27	Katie P.
9/16	Brandon V.	9/28	Ken B.
9/19	Mitzi A.	9/30	Cooper S.
9/19	Roberta M.		

## Happy Anniversary

Bill & Gayle B.	9/3
Bill & Roberta M.	9/4
Mike & Melarie S.	9/13

July 30, 2019 Outreach

Today is the day we go to the shelter to supply and serve food to the less fortunate people at the shelter in north Concord. They are always so happy to see us coming, and we are also happy to see them.

This time there were less people to serve. It was cooler in the morning so many of them walked to downtown Concord or hitched a ride. They stay downtown when it gets real hot because the buildings down there are cool and come back to the shelter when it starts to cool in the evening. We served about 50 plus servings. They were happy and full, they love it when we serve cold sodas also. We had a huge cold salad, they loved it all nice and crispy. We also had a huge hot pan of chicken chow main and a large rice - veggie casserole.

Our people who served today were: our Pres. of H.C., Mike L. who picks up and brings the prepared food to the shelter and helps with the drinks; Bill L., who does all the transporting & is a Jack of all trades; Jan S. and Pat E. who help serve.

Thanks to all who donate.

Gods Blessings!  
Pat E.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS** are scheduled to resume September 17th at 7:15 pm in the choir loft. We'll also rehearse Sept 24 to sing on Sept 29. Please come join us in this fun music ministry!



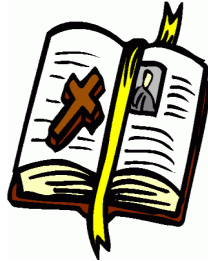
*"Sing to the Lord a new song; Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name; Proclaim His salvation from day to day."*  
Psalm 96:1-2



# Upcoming Fellowship Activities

## September Sunday School & Bible Study Schedules

- ♦ Sunday Adult & Youth Bible Classes 11AM
- ♦ Sunday School 11AM
- ♦ Monday Ladies Bible Study 10-11:30AM (Resumes 9/9)
- ♦ Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM (Resumes 9/11)



## Nifty Fifty

By Marv K.

We plan on two activities for the month of September. The first is to The Point Restaurant located at 120 Marina Dr., Rio Vista on Thursday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM. This is one of the few restaurants with a 4 out of 5 rating on Trip Adviser and ranked #1 of the 20 restaurants in Rio Vista. We were last there in March 2017 as I recall (this was our 2<sup>nd</sup> time there), when Bill L. handled the reservations and had us set up with three tables with linen table cloths and napkins in the very end of the dining room, it looked so inviting. Bill has agreed to handle the reservations again. As I recall last time we had something like sixteen that attended and it was a real enjoyable experience, very relaxing watching the river flow by. The service was excellent, the portions were huge, and the prices were very reasonable. Sign up in the social hall, a really great time to bring a neighbor. We should try to carpool from church as it is quite a drive to Rio Vista in in the Delta.

The second outing is to Greenery Sports Bar & Grill located at 1551 Marchbanks Dr., Walnut Creek. Our SIR'S 9 hole golf group plays there every Wednesday and many stay for the tasty lunch. I have eaten there many times and have enjoyed the atmosphere since they remodeled and made it more into a sports bar with several giant screens as well as an open space for dinner and lunch. The write ups have mostly been 4 & 5 stars with a couple 3's, mostly because of service. I think it will be an experience that we should try. We are planning on going on Thursday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, as Bill has his Kaffeeklatch on the prior Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup>. Sign up in the social hall so we know how many to plan on.



## ~ AMAZING GRACE ~

### LWML Zone 7 Fall Rally

September 7<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM-1:00PM

at Resurrection Ministries, Brentwood

Please sign up or contact the office by 9/1/19. We plan to carpool and leave church at 8AM.

An ingathering box for Pillars of Hope is in the Parish Hall. Please donate small New Testament Bibles (NIV or New King James), socks, toiletries, protein bars, or small water bottles.



"The LORD is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed spirit."  
Psalm 34:18

## Fifth Sunday Potluck



September 29<sup>th</sup>  
after coffee hour.  
Bring your favorite dish to share!

## LADIES!

Thursday, 9/19,

6:30pm, Parish Hall



**Bring your Beverage, Dessert will be served.**

## ATTENTION MEN!

Thursday, 9/19, 8:30am

Holy Cross Men's

Kaffeeklatsch, Mel's Diner



## September 2019– WoHC Happenings by Joyce Liebe, President

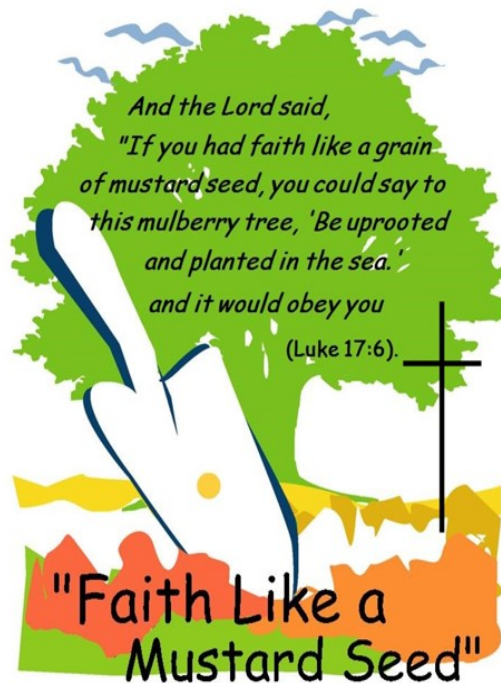
The Women of Holy Cross, along with the rest of our members, were busy over the summer as we transitioned from Pastor Chu to Pastor Mundinger. What wonderful & amazing memories we have from this important time for our church.

As a LWML Society, the WoHC Board met once to plan & finalize our 2019-2020 Program (plus the usual eating & laughing). We will hand out the new program at our "Welcome Back" gathering on LWML Sunday, 10/13.

### Here is what we have coming up:

- ♦ Saturday, 9/7, 8:30am, Zone 7 Fall Rally, Resurrection Ministries, Brentwood (see page 4 for details, especially the INGATHERING)
- ♦ Thursday, 9/19, 6:30pm, Ladies Game Night, Parish Hall
- ♦ Monday, 9/30, 2:15pm, WoHC Board Mtg., Conf. Room
- ♦ Sunday, 10/13, LWML Sunday & WoHC Welcome Back, 11am

**COME AND  
JOIN US!**



LWML Sunday 2019



SAVE  
the  
DATE



## Holy Cross OKTOBERFEST

**Saturday**  
**October 19, 2019**  
**4:00 pm**



Food, Fun, and Fellowship!!



- We will provide the brats, kraut and beverages. •
- Potluck for the sides (German, of course!) •
- German potato salad, red cabbage, German Chocolate cake . . .

Watch for more details in the church bulletins!





# August Happenings

## *Pastor Mundinger's Installation & Ordination August 4, 2019*



### After Action Report - Mandatory Formation/Command Performance 8/15/19

The Holy Cross Men's Kaffe Klatch Platoon (HCMKKP) conducted a Command Performance at Mel's Original Diner on 15 August 19. It was made a "Command Performance" vice "Mandatory Formation" because of a special event... Platoon Chaplain Mundinger's first ever opportunity to join a humdinger breakfast with the platoon. Pastor Mundinger was appointed Platoon Chaplain prior to service on 11 August. Herb N. was appointed as Chaplain's Assistant and given instructions to ensure the Chaplain would be escorted to Mel's or be given accurate directions so that he could report, on time, and not begin to develop PTSD due to anxiety.

Platoon members started to report early. Everyone knows it's not good to keep the Commander waiting. Even the Commander was early and, as start time approached, his thoughts shifted to establishing a platoon pool. The pool winner would be the one that most closely guessed how many minutes the Chaplain would be late. This thought died a quick death when the Chaplain also showed up early.

During opening comments, the Commander had to admit making a rare mistake. The Chaplain should not have been appointed Chaplain without first being promoted to the rank of Captain. The Commander corrected this on the spot. Normally promotions come via Congress, but they are too busy bickering so the Commander had to do it. This promotion caused the need to transition from Command Performance to promotion party.

The newly appointed and promoted Chaplain was asked if he had ever attended an officer's promotion party to which he replied, "NO". The Commander, seeing the need to educate the new Chaplain, informed him that tradition dictates that the promotee pays for the party! The Chaplain said, "I need a paycheck first". The platoon is standing by! Surely a check will be available in time for the next formation on 19 September.

Commander







August 2019  
Ladies Game Night

2 tables full of ladies (plus mystery guest that equals 2 more) meant we had the same attendance as the men's breakfast.

We averted Commander Luker's takeover!


Fun, laughter, and a good time had by all!

JOIN US  
NEXT MONTH!



From Carole: Pastor Mundinger and Grace came to visit Ken. Pastor Mundinger gave Ken communion while they were here.

# September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Mite Boxes <b>9:30a Worship w/ Communion</b> 11a Sunday School/Bible Study  2-6 Myanmar Christian	<b>2</b> OFC CLOSED <i>Happy Labor Day!!</i> 	<b>3</b> OFC CLOSED 11a Prayer Group	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30a-1p LWML Zone Rally, Resurrection Ministries, Brentwood
<b>8</b> <b>9:30a Worship</b> 11a Sunday School/Bible Study  2-6 Myanmar Christian	<b>9</b> 10-11:30a Ladies Bible Study (C)  7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	<b>10</b> 11a Prayer Group  PM YVCS Back to School (PH)	<b>11</b>  7p Bible Study (PH)	<b>12</b> OFC CLOSED  1p Nifty Fifty, The Point Restaurant	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>9:30a Worship w/ Communion</b> 11a Sunday School/Bible Study  2-6 Myanmar Christian	<b>16</b> 10-11:30a Ladies Bible Study (C)  7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	<b>17</b> 11a Prayer Group  7:15p Choir practice (cl)	<b>18</b>  7p Bible Study (PH)	<b>19</b> OFC CLOSED 8:30a Men's Kaffeeklatsch, Mel's 6:30p Ladies Game Nite (PH)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>9:30a Worship</b> 11a Sunday School/Bible Study Outreach Sunday  2-6 Myanmar Christian	<b>23</b> 10-11:30a Ladies Bible Study (C)  7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	<b>24</b> 11a Prayer Group  7:15p Choir Practice (cl)	<b>25</b>  7p Bible Study (PH)	<b>26</b> OFC CLOSED  1p Nifty Fifty, Greenery Sports Bar & Grill	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>9:30a Worship w/ Communion</b> Fifth Sunday Potluck  2-6 Myanmar Christian	<b>30</b> 10-11:30a Ladies Bible Study (C) 2:15p WoHC Board Mtg (C) 7-9:30p Scouts (PH)			<b>YVCS School Hours: 8:30am-3pm</b>  <b>YVCS Parish Hall use during week:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choir: Mon. &amp; Wed. 12-3pm</li> <li>Spanish: Tues. &amp; Thurs. 12-3pm</li> <li>Chapel: Friday 8:30-9:15am (family &amp; friends welcome)</li> </ul>		

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



**Holy Cross Lutheran  
Church, LCMS**

1092 Alberta Way  
Concord, CA 94521

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS  
1092 Alberta Way  
Concord, CA 94521  
(925) 686-2000  
[www.holycrossconcord.org](http://www.holycrossconcord.org)  
[office@holycrossconcord.org](mailto:office@holycrossconcord.org)

**Pastor: Andrew Munding**  
[pastor@holycrossconcord.org](mailto:pastor@holycrossconcord.org)

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](mailto:editor@holycrossconcord.org)

**Office Hours:** Mon.-Wed., Friday 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	11:00 AM
Sunday School	11:00 AM

**Week Day Bible Study Schedule:**

Monday (Ladies)	10:00 AM Conference Room
Wednesday	7:00 PM Parish Hall

**Publication Deadline:**

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday  
October 2019 Cross Currents: September 22, 2019