

Cross Currents



Volume 1, Issue 80

January 2011

Words to live by and ponder in 2011...

by Pastor Chu

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NFS January Outing	2
Mission Grant Status	2
Choir Note	2
Christian Sympathies	2
Birthdays & Anniversaries	3
Nifty Fifty Seniors	3
NFS Holiday Dinning	4
Women of Holy Cross:	5
Outreach	6
Care Corner	6
January Event Calendar	7
Church Weekly Schedule	8



Matthew 6 — The words of Jesus:

²⁵Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

³¹Therefore do not be

anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Romans 8

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Psalms 46

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the moun-

tains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling... ⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts...

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. ⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Numbers 6

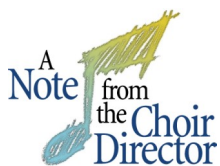
²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵The LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶The LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Nifty Fifty's First Outing of the YEAR Lunch and Movie Out January 19th, 2011

The Nifty Fifty activity for Jan. is lunch at Mimi's Restaurant located in the Park and Shop center off Willow Pass Road in Concord. After which we will attend the Movie "The Chronicles of Narnia" (The voyage of the Dawn Treader) a throwback to colorful, wholesome fantasy films like "The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad" with scary but not terrifying monsters. The movie starts at 1:55 PM at the Century 16 Theater at 125 Crescent Hill Drive just off Contra Costa Blvd in the new Pleasant Hill Shopping Center. The movie is in 3D so the scenery and graphics should be great. Lunch will be at 12:00 so we should have plenty of time to handle the problems of the day. **Meet at Church at 11:00 leave promptly at 11:30.** It should be a fun day so bring a friend. Sign up in Social Hall so we know how many to plan on.



January Schedule

Choir Rehearsals will be on
January 11, 18, & 25.

Thank you for a job well done
for the Christmas services
and for your dedication and
hard work on some difficult
pieces. —Diana



Mission Grant Status

The Women of Holy Cross wants to update everyone on the status of the 2010-2012 CNH District Mission Grants you are praying for and giving donations to in your Mite Boxes every First Sunday of the month. Mites given to date amount to \$1,160. Thanks be to God, the third project is paid in full. That project was for the Good Shepherd Developing Religious Life, Good Shepherd Auxiliary, Capitola, CA. The fourth project we will now be working toward is: Seminary Student Tuition Assistance, LCMS. Please take a few moments to read about this from the sheet posted on the bulletin board on the back wall of the narthex. Many thanks to all who give so generously. May God be glorified. — Gayle Bothe

Holiday Hutch Boutique "Cafe Corner"

The net proceeds from the "Café Corner" at the boutique was **\$986.66**. 100% of it was earmarked for the Parking Lot Restoration Fund. **"Thank you"** to all of the Holy Cross people that came in especially to eat lunch at our 'little cafe' and to support our fund raiser. It was a lot of fun/work, but well worth the experience of comradeship, and the end results. We are truly blessed. We received many positive comments. Until next year... — Pat Easby



Two long time members of Holy Cross passed on in the month of December.

Phyllis O'Leary passed away on Monday, December 27, 2010. She was the mother of Janet O'Leary and Claudia Gemar. She had been a longtime member of the church and attended Sunday service regularly until ill health kept her shut-in for the last couple of years.

There will be a memorial service at Holy Cross for Phyllis on Saturday, January 22 at 11:00 AM.

~

Elmer "Red" Lundgren passed away on Thursday, December 30, 2010. He was preceded in death by his wife Shirley a few years ago, and he was in ill health since. The Lundgrens had been members of Holy Cross for more than two decades.

Information on "Red's" memorial service will be announced to the congregation once it is finalized.

~

Please keep the O'Leary and Lundgren families in your prayer.

*Bless are those who
mourn, for they shall be
comforted" —Matthew 5:4*



Birthdays

- 4 Wanda Schwartz
- 7 Eric Liebe
- Yana Samudra
- Brittany Syrovatka
- 11 Nikolas Tham
- 14 Dennis Lau
- 15 Josh Coyne
- 16 Drew Oatis
- Christl Rose
- 22 Pat Kroeger
- 24 Wilma Burch
- Bill Riechmann
- 26 Grace Gin
- Don Nash
- 27 Britney Liedtke
- 28 Marc Albano

Anniversary

- 10 Peter and Liz Aduan

NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS CORNER

Lunch at Fiore's Restaurant Dec. 9th 2010

There were nine at our lunch at Fiore's restaurant on Dec 9th most of us had a Lamb sandwich with a side of salad which was recommended by several attending the luncheon. As always there was a lively conversation about changes coming in 2011 one of which was the new bill requiring all gun owners to put on their 2010 tax bill all guns you have or own. It will require fingerprints and a tax of \$50.00 per gun. Obama's Congress is now starting on the firearms confiscation bill. If it passes, gun owners will become criminals if you don't fully comply. Now, if that doesn't start a lively conversation, nothing will. Those attending were Trudy Henninghaus,



Mike and Melarie Seidel, Bill and Roberta Morfeld, Cal Kallsen, Wilma Burch, Trina Godsey and Marv Kreitz. What a knowledgeable group and what great Christians! Join us on our next outing and bring a friend!

Christmas Luncheon Dec. 15th, 2010

On Wed. Dec 15 the the Nifty Fifty Seniors enjoyed a delightful afternoon where they sang Christmas Carols accompanied by Melarie Seidel on the piano and the singing directed by Marv Kreitz. Jack Mortenson Mini Sermon on the Power Expressed in Western Civilization "It all began in Bethlehem" a provocative compel-



ling subject was done so a layman could understand. Thanks so much Jack for a "job well done". The signing that followed included a special treat when our German contingency (Annaliesa Liedtke, Trudy Huenninhaus, Bill Morfeld, Christl Rose and Erna Beutel) sang Silent Night all stanzas. What a blessing to have such great christian group. A pot-luck consisting of Chili, Delicious casseroles and luscious salads and dessert was served and the consensus of opinion was that every one was a gourmet chef Thank you Erna Beutel for the lovely tale decorations and a big thanks to Peter Liedtke for being Director of the kitchen activities. It was a wonderful way to herald in the Christmas seasons.

— Marv Kreitz, President

NFS Holiday Dinning Norseman's Restaurant November 23, 2010

The Nifty Fifty Seniors enjoyed a luscious Holiday Luncheon at the Norseman's Restaurant at Diablo Valley College Culinary School on Tuesday November 23rd.

First they were dazzled by an array of various salads and appetizers such as Stuffed Mushrooms, Button mushrooms with bleu and cream cheese filling finished with a light crispy bread crumb topping, Seafood cocktails of shrimp oysters and a host of cheeses. Yummy! Entrees followed such as New York Strip Steak served with a beef demi-glace carved to order, Roasted Duck, Stuffed Chicken Breast, Airline chicken breast stuffed with goat cheese and thyme and

of course Mashed Potatoes Candied Yams with orange caramel sauce Etc. Last but not least was decadent array of desserts from, a variety of cookies to, gooey chocolate cream-filled concoctions. I thought the food was exceptional. Every dish was given special care by the student that prepared and served it. A hands on approach and a great American tradition. Eyona Pargman was unable to attend the gathering, the culinary school prepared a, (To Go) luncheon in three cartons for her enjoyment later-a nice gesture on their part. Thanks again go to Wilma Burch for making reservations and handling the tickets.

— Marv Kreitz

From humble beginnings

In 1804, William, a 21-year-old from a poor family, decided to go to New York City to find a job. He told a neighbor his plans, saying he knew how to make soap and might work in a soap factory.

The neighbor said, "Just remember to be a good man, give your heart to Christ and pay the Lord all that belongs to him. Give a dime of every dollar you make, make an honest soap and you will be a happy and wealthy man."

Sure enough, William found a job making soap. Later, he became part owner and then sole owner of the business. His product line — and giving — expanded greatly. He gave many millions of dollars to the Lord's work throughout the world, far more than 10 percent of his wealth.

William Colgate died in 1857 at age 74, but his legacy and company, Colgate-Palmolive, still thrive.

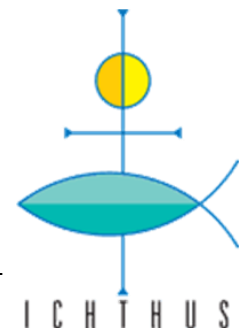
What's important

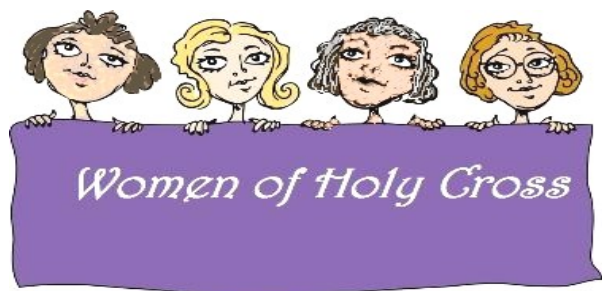
On February 4, 1968, exactly two months before Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, he delivered his last sermon at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church. In it, he described his preferences for his own funeral. He didn't want people to mention his Nobel Peace Prize, his other awards or where he went to school; none of that was important, he said. Instead, he wanted his eulogist to say King "tried to give his life serving others" and "tried to love somebody."

In that sermon, King also said "everybody can serve," regardless of background or educational level. The only requirements, he said, were "a heart full of grace" and "a soul generated by love."

+ Christian Symbols +

The first letters in the Greek phrase "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior" spell ICHTHUS, or fish. Early Christians used the sign to convey their faith and avoid persecution. In the gospels, fish are part of several miracles. They also represent people who need to be "caught" for Christ. Today, a fish bumper sticker is a popular indicator of Christian faith.





JANUARY EVENTS

Sunday, 1/2

Mite Box Sunday/Hat Sun

Monday, 1/3

Board Meeting, 2:15pm in the conf. room

Monday, 1/10

WoHC GENERAL Meeting,

6 PM sharp in the Parish Hall

Potluck Supper & Bunco plus ~

Reveal & Choose new Secret Pals, everyone is invited to join us & to **be a secret pal** to someone *if you desire*. someone, bring a friend, all ages welcome!

Nominations for March elections for Vice President & Treasurer-for 2 yr. term.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 7, Monday

Board Meeting, 2:15pm in the conf. room

We will put together college care packages in Conference Room. Coordinator: Wilma.

Feb. 13, Sunday DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

Congregational Valentines' Day

Lunch 12:30 pm

"Light, Love Lunch" in the Parish Hall **after** Sunday school.

Everyone is invited to join us for fun, speaker, entertainment, dessert, ?.

Show your love by inviting your special loved ones out for a *Valentine Lunch*; the price is right, & don't forget to watch for the sign-up sheet *so you get a good seat!! Details subject to change.*

April 9, Saturday

Spring Rally at First Lutheran Church

ATTENTION ALL SECRET PALS

It's been a fun year trying to get little gifts or notes to my "secret pal". Now the time has come for us to reveal ourselves. Please be present at our **6:00 pm Potluck/Bunco** night on **Jan. 10th, Monday** night in the Parish Hall. If you are unable to be there, please call your secret pal, walk up to her and tell her you were her pal, or write her a note! Thank you for participating in this little 'game'; we hope you will want to choose another name for the coming year.

See you on Jan. 10th.! 😘

To Everyone that Attended the WoHC Non-Progressive Dinner -

THANK YOU for helping to make it a memorable evening. Our traditional Progressive dinner and dessert has always been very popular in the years I've attended or helped host. I appreciate that you were willing to try something new this year.

It was a longer drive for most of us, however being served our beverages and meal, as well as being able to spread out and enjoy the White Elephant gift exchange, was a nice change (plus no one had to clean up before or after).

I'm especially pleased to have shared DVC's Norseman restaurant with you. Chef Brian is a passionate chef and instructor. He takes a lot of time to coordinate the on-campus catering events so that us students have more opportunities to practice the skills we're learning. I found this to be a real win-win; for us, the Women of Holy Cross and also for DVC's Hospitality Program.

Thanks again,
Joyce Liebe

p.s. special thanks to Marilyn Neumann for lending us the red tablecloths and for the festive table centerpieces ;-)

Outreach Sunday at the Concord Shelter December 26, 2010

by Pat Easby

HOLY CROSS IS FULL OF THE HOLIDAY CHEER; MEETING and GREETING ONE ANOTHER...

Fa- La-La-La **-La—**la-la-la-la

The kitchen *volunteers were* at work, preparing food to serve the less fortunate; they were Lauretta Oliver, Carol Chu, Carol Lau, and Kevin Luker. Carol Lau also set up a table in the Parish Hall and put **cookies**, frosting and sprinkles on it. The Sunday School Children beautifully decorated cookies (Thanks Sandy and Chris for your help). We took the decorated cookies to the shelter. We also took large fresh fruit salads, potatoes, meats and gravy, buttered dinner rolls, chili, and the ever-loving split pea/ham soup (they ate all 3 gallons of the *soup*) it is definitely one of their favorite food items!

Twenty five pre-lunches were made up and delivered to the shelter's hospital section; we only had five handicapped to serve this month. Many of the shelter residences were at the football game; someone had donated tickets and rides for them to Oakland. About 75 folks enjoyed their lunches and all were stuffed.

Those serving the lunch today were: (first time servers at the shelter) Claudia and Rachael Gemar, and our regulars Mindy and Kiley, and Kevin Luker. Our *food 'transporters'* were Mike Liebe and Bill Luker. **Thanks to all** the volunteers and those that donated items again this month. Blessings!

'Heavenly Father, help me to love others unconditionally. As I'm reminded that You love me in spite of my imperfections, let me extend that same love to those I come in contact with.'



Eyona Pargman, Paul Daule, Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Bob Richards, Gary Cox, Lloyce Logan, AJ and Caylin Stanley, Charles and Chuck Johnson, Brennan and Devin Helmer, Christine Helmer, Joy Parker, Mr. and Mrs. McDavid, Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor, Burma Grandt, Laurence Grandt, Robert Grandt, Inge Stone, Luca Nishimori, Sienna Lee, Elizabeth Bothé, Kathy Kinser, Linda Martino, Abbi and Alex Roman.



Reason for cheer

A psychologist has determined that the Monday in the last full week of January is the most depressing day of the year. This year, "Blue Monday" falls on January 24.

Cliff Arnall calculated this date based on a combination of bad weather, Christmas debts, broken New Year's resolutions and the end of the holiday break.

But no matter how bleak things seem — regardless of the time of year — Christians always have reason for hope. Thankfully, we can look beyond our earthly circumstances to the promise of new life with God forever.

As Martin Luther King Jr. said, "We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope."

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"Are you sure you don't want to have a big finish?"



January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <i>New Year's Day</i>
2 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study 12p Worship	3 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 2:30p WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7p Boy Scout (H)	4 4p UB Tutoring (E)	5 7p Bible Study	6 4p UB Tutoring (E) 7p Men's Group	7	8
9 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study	10 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6p WoHC General Mtg 7p Boy Scout (L)	11 9a CVWC 4p UB Tutoring (E) 6:30p Elders 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	12 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study	13 4p UB Tutoring (E)	14	15
16 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study	17 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p Church Council 7p Boy Scout (L) <i>Martin Luther King Day [USA]</i>	18 4p UB Tutoring (E) 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	19 11:30a NFS Lunch and Movie out 7p Bible Study	20 4p UB Tutoring (E) 7p Men's Group	21	22 11a Phyllis O'Leary's Memorial Service
23 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH	24 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)	25 4p UB Tutoring (E) 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	26 7p Bible Study	27 4p UB Tutoring (E)	28	29
30 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study	31 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)					

(cl= Choir Loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg, H=Parish Hall, L=Library, ws=wing room)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

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We're on the Web!
www.holycrossconcord.org



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Vice President: Gregg Syrovatka
Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger
Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler
Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka
Head Trustee: Allen Brueckner
Elders: Bill Riechman, George Oatis, John Coyne,
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Rhonda Liedtke, Grace Gin

Newsletter Editor: Grace Gin

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service 9:00AM
Adults Bible Studies 10:30AM
Sunday School 10:30AM
Communion 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

Weekly Bible Study Schedule*:

Monday 12:30PM Conference Room, Ladies Only
Wednesday 7:00PM Parish Hall, All
Thursday 7:00PM Conference Room Men's Group
(1st & 3rd)

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday 7:15PM—8:45PM

Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
February Cross Currents: January 19, 2011

Office Hour: M, W, F 12:30 - 4:30PM