

CROSS CURRENTS

Volume 1, Issue 69

January 2010

*Message from
the Pastor*



God is our refuge and strength

Doesn't seem that long ago when the year 2000 generated a once-in-a-life-time excitement for many people: not only was it the turn of the century, it was the dawn of a new millennium (whether the new century and millennium started in 2000 or 2001, most people celebrated 2000 as the de facto start). There was also widespread fear that "Y2K" would wreak havoc on computer systems and create global chaos which gave self-professed prognosticators saw as a sign that the end of the world was near. Thank God that He brought us safely through that crisis.

We may not be worrying about computer systems crashing à la Y2K as we start 2010, but we are concerned about the economy, terrorism, wars, crime, hostility against the Gospel, and a host of other issues that may cause us to wonder what the year holds; issues in our personal lives add to the uncertainty.

Whatever this year brings, we have the assurance that God, who is gracious, merciful, and faithful and does not change (Malachi 3:6), will be with us. No matter what uncertainties and challenges 2010 holds, we have the certainty that God, who so loved us He gave His own Son, Jesus Christ, to the cross to atone for our sins, will continue to love us and we will face this year as we have faced every year: in the arms of the loving God who is our refuge and strength. God assures us:

¹*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

²*Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.*

⁴*There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.*

⁵*God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.*

⁶*The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is*

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**Happy
New Year!**

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January at a Glance

January 3

Mite Box / Hat Sunday

January 4

WoHC General Meeting, 6:30PM
Conference Room

January 7

Men's Group, 7 PM
Conference Rm

January 11

WoHC General Meeting, 7:00PM
Parish Hall

January 12

Elders Meeting, 6:30PM

January 13

Senior Board, 1:00PM

January 18

Church Council, 7:00PM

January 20

Senior Outing, "Al the Whop's"
11:45 AM

January 21

Men's Group, 7 PM
Conference Rm

January 24

Outreach

refuge

(Continued from page 1)

our fortress. ⁸*Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.* ⁹*He 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!"* ¹¹*The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.* (Psalm 46, ESV)

God is your refuge and strength; be still and know and trust that He is God. *May [God's] mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.* (Jude 2)

MEN of the CROSS



MEN of the CROSS: Join us every 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 7-8pm. We are looking at topics that 21st century males face and seeing what the Bible says about those topics. For the beginning of the new year we will be discussing what it means to be a "Good Shepherd". Our next meeting will be January 7th. Hope to see you there!



Birthdays & Anniversaries This Month!

Birthday

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

Anniversary

- 10 Peter & Liz Aduan

"In darkness there is no choice. It is light that enables us to see the differences between things; and it is Christ who gives us light."

—Augustus Hare

Choir Note:

No Rehearsal Tuesday, January 5



Our dear friend and brother in Christ, Arthur Kroeger passed away unexpectedly on November 28. He was a faithful servant of the Lord and a pillar at Holy Cross. His presence would deeply be missed. His memorial service was held at Holy Cross on December 6, 2009.

Our condolences to Pat and Carrie Kroeger and the rest of his family.

CARE CORNER



*Remember
those who are in
need of our prayers...*

Benjamin Oback, Steven Liedtke, Mike Meintzer, AJ and Caylin Stanley, Phyllis O'Leary, Chuck Johnson, Margarette Dahle, Marv Kreitz, Christine Helmer, Joy Parker, Mr. and Mrs. McDavid, Wanda Schwartz, Georgia Eissner, Dorothy Taylor, Burma Grandt, Laurence Grandt, Robert Grandt, Inge Stone, Luca Nishimori, Glorine Brown, Sienna Lee, Elizabeth Bothé, Kathy Kinser, Linda Martino, Herb Burroughs, Abbi and Alexandria Roman, Virginia Highsmith, Herb and Clara Huppert, Hannah Johnson, Red Lundgren, Phyllis O'Leary, Suzanne Saafeld, Inge Stone, Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor

Letter from DCE Intern

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

3...2...1...Happy New Year!!! We all celebrate the incoming new year in our own way. Some people like to party in the New Year, others just hangout at home. Still others fall asleep before the clock strikes twelve. Last year my girlfriend, now fiancé, and I got dressed up and went to a fancy restaurant for dinner then danced the night away. Each of us has our own special tradition on that night. One of the more common practices is to make a New Year's Resolution. These usually deal with making a positive change in our lives or trying something new. A recent study found that 52% of people make some sort of resolution for the next year. The same study also found that only 12% of the people were able to see their resolution come to pass. The Bible teaches us about the powerful transformation Christ can make in our daily lives.

The Church of Corinth had turned away from the teachings of God. The Apostle Paul calls this body of believers into repentance of sins in his first letter to them. Later he received a report about how the church turned back to the teaching of Christ. In response Paul writes with great joy he, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new

has come (2 Cor. 5:17)." This message is not just the ancient church of Corinth, but also for us, in the 21st Century. Despite our failures and regrets from last year, we are made anew because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As a new creation, let us be reminded of the love and joy that comes with our Savior. Allow this coming year be the one that changes your relation with God forever.

I encourage you to make a resolution to seek God more in your daily living. This might be accomplished by increasing the amount of time you are reading your *Bible*, praying, or just getting more involved in activities at the church. God's blessings on your year 2010!

God's Servant,
Jason
Romans 8
✠✠

When the new year begins for us

In 46 B.C., Roman emperor Julius Caesar first chose January 1 as the date of the new year. Six hundred years later, the Roman church proclaimed that the new year would henceforth be March 25, the date of the Feast of the Annunciation (when the angel spoke to Mary).

March 25 was the accepted New Year's Day for almost 1,000 years. In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII moved it back to January 1.

Nifty Fifties Seniors

Highlights of the Delta and "Al the Whop's"

On Jan. 20th join the Nifty Fifty Seniors as they wind their way through the scenic Delta to the old town of Locke and visit the renowned and extraordinary restaurant "Al the Whop's" featuring New York Steak with a jar of Peanut Butter and its companion jar of Jelly to be used either on the steak or on the piping hot French Bread according to preference. Locke was founded by a group of Chinese merchants from nearby Walnut Grove who reached an agreement with George Locke to build on his land. By 1920, Locke stood essentially as you see it today. Marv will lead a group via the Twitchell Island levees where marinas are afloat with expensive yachts and a relic or two of yesteryear vintage can be viewed. For those who want a more direct route, still a beautiful scenic drive, they can follow 160 after crossing the Antioch Bridge direct to Locke. Invite a friend and join us as we journey through the Delta to the town that time forgot. Meet at Church at 11:45 leave promptly at 12:00 noon. Lunch is planned for 1:00 P.M.

Christmas Seniors Luncheon

by Marv Kreitz

On wed Dec. 16th the Nifty Fifty Seniors enjoyed a delightful afternoon starting with a pot luck consisting of delicious casseroles and luscious salads and desserts served and the consensus of opinion was that every one of the ladies was a gourmet chef.

Then we listened to a great presentation by our bible scholar Jack Mortenson. Jack talked about the Christmas celebration as a reminder of God's powerful love for us expressed in his gift of Christ Jesus. As Peter wrote in his second letter and I quote Jack's reading "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and God lives through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness" "He has given us his very great and precious promises so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world" These are God's promises as fulfilled in the birth of Jesus. The coming of Christ was predicted 700 years before his birth. Jack revealed many interesting facts leading up to the birth of our Savior in Bethlehem as well as the meaning of occurrences taking place at that time. Thank you Jack for a most informative talk.

Then we enjoyed the balance of the afternoon where we sang Christmas Carols accompanied by Melanie Seidel on the piano and Marv Kreitz leading. A highlight of the afternoon came when we had just sang Silent Night and Melarie asked if anyone could sing it in German... Annaliesa Liedtke came forward and with a beautiful voice sang it in German. What a blessing to have such a great group and what a wonderful way to herald in the Christmas Season.

Christmas Reflections

God must have wiped a tear
from His eye,
When He sent His Son to earth
to die.
The angels sang hymns and the
shepherds stood in awe,
Because of the wondrous
things they heard and saw.
We now see how we worship
the babe in the manger.
But the Christ on the cross we
regard as stranger.
For to admit we are sinners in
need of a Savior
Would require us to turn from
our sinful behavior.
But God's patience and love is
without end,
And He works with our hard-
ened hearts to soften and bend.
The Holy Spirit, as He chooses,
will cause some to awake,
And realize that Christ died on
the cross for their sake.
On the cross all the punishment
for our sins He bore,
So that our Heavenly Father
would see them no more.
For to die on the cross was His
ultimate goal,
And that was for the salvation
of our soul.
Remember that His birth is
only the start of the story,
And that His Gospel, death and
resurrection are the ultimate
glory.

So on this Christmas day look
beyond the tinsel and tree,
And remember it was the start
of salvation for thee.

Homo Familiaris



Women of Holy Cross
Christmas Progressive Dinner
White Elephant Gift Exchange
 On December 7, 2009, the Women of Holy Cross had their annual Christmas Progressive Dinner. Here are a few photos of the event.

Far left: Joyce Liebe, our dessert hostess, famous for her Bacardi Rum Cake
Near left: Sue O'Malley and Denise Joy Brown, chefs and dinner hostesses...Great Pork Loin with Roasted Pears & Shallots and Strawberry Surprise Salad...Yum!!

This bowl was hardly a White Elephant item. It was so beautiful that everyone wanted it. Not surprisingly, it went around in quick succession, and the final winner was Melarie Seidel!



Marlene Roberts got the wackiest White Elephant Gift. Ask her to wear it for you; you'll have a laugh!



This Carousal was mighty popular. It was coveted by these three ladies, Violet, Pam and Eleanor. Guess who got it at the end??

HC Facilities Users and their Monthly Schedules:

Clayton Valley Women:

2nd and 4th Tuesday 9a-Noon, Hall

Clayton Valley Women Craft:

Thursday 9:30a-1p, Hall

Boy Scout:

Monday 7p-9p, Hall (1st of month) and Library.

Clayton Valley Little League:

3rd Thursdays 7-9p, Hall

Upward Bound Tutoring:

Tuesday and Thursday 4-6p, Ed Bldg Room 2C

TORCH (Choir Group):

Wednesday noon – 2p, Ed Bldg Corner Room and Play yard

Classical Conversation:

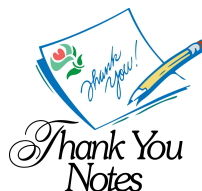
Thursday 9a-3p, Ed Bldg 1st floor (Except Conference Room)



"The WoHC Adopt-A-Family"

Many, many thanks go out to all who helped make Christmas much less stressful for those less fortunate. With the names we got from the Salvation Army, we gathered gifts and money for four families (14 people). Thanks to your generosity and that of Thrivent for matching monies, we were able to get food gift cards as well as shoe vouchers so that everyone could purchase a new pair of shoes. All gifts were wrapped and delivered to the Salvation Army on Wednesday, December 7. Also, thanks to the Kitchen Club for purchasing a bicycle for a gentleman to get back and forth to work.

Blessings to all.



On behalf of the Koch family, I would like to thank Pastor Chu for his help, the Women of Holy Cross who prepared and served the food for us, and the whole congregation for their prayers and cards for Betty Koch.

Thank you,
Bill Koch



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010

Calling all volunteers interested in helping with the 2010 Holy Cross VBS: We are going to have planning meetings in the upcoming months. Please keep looking for announcements regarding meeting dates and times. VBS this year will be held between the dates of June 21-25. If you are interested in getting involved, please sign up on your way to the parish hall or contact Jason.

Women of Holy Cross:

STAMP STAMP

Don't forget to save your canceled postage stamps. Please leave at least 1/4 " paper margin - WoHC sends them to Veterans for rehab. Thank you, they appreciate the stamps very much. There is an envelope on the WoHC Bulletin Board to put your canceled stamps Thank You..

HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS...ATTN

All: Be sure to check the table in the Narthex for your name there could be a gift or card for you. Don't forget your secret pal with a Christmas card or a small gift (\$5 or less) re-gifting ok! Remember your secret pal in prayer.

JANUARY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9a Worship 11:30a OUTREACH	28 12:30p Wm Bible Study 7p Boy Scout (L)	29 4p UB Tutoring(E)	30 12p TORCH (E)	31 12p Youth Lock-in <i>New Year's Eve</i>	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2
3 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday-School / Bible Study 11:30a Confirmation	4 9:30a Bridge 12:30p Wm Bible Study 6p WoHC Prog Dinner 7p Boy Scout (PH, L)	5 4p UB Tutoring(E)	6 12p TORCH (E)	7 9a CC(E) 4p UB Tutoring(E) 7p Men's Group	8	9
10 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday-School / Bible Study 11:30a Confirmation	11 12:30p Wm Bible Study 7p Boy Scout (L) 7p WoHC General Mtg	12 9:30a CVWC (H) 4p UB Tutoring(E) 6:30p Elders 7:15p Choir	13 12p TORCH (E) 1p Senior Brd (L) 1p CWCV Setup	14 CWVC(H) 9a CC(E) 4p UB Tutoring(E)	15	16 Classical Conv (E,H)
17 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday-School / Bible Study 11:30a Confirmation	18 9:30a Bridge 12:30p Wm Bible Study 6:30p Church Council 7p Boy Scout (L)	19 4p UB Tutoring(E) 7:15p Choir	20 11:45a Senior Outing 12p TORCH (E)	21 9a CC(E) 4p UB Tutoring(E) 7p CVLL 7p Men's Group	22	23
24 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday-School / Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH 11:30a Confirmation	25 12:30p Wm Bible Study 7p Boy Scout (L)	26 10a CVWC (H) 4p UB Tutoring(E) 7:15p Choir	27 12p TORCH (E)	28 9a CC(E) 4p UB Tutoring(E)	29	30
31 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday-School / Bible Study 11:30a Confirmation						

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



Holy Cross Lutheran
Church, LCMS
1092 Alberta Way
Concord, CA 94521

Mailing
Address
Goes
Here



Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS
1092 Alberta Way
Concord, CA 94521
(925)686-2000
(925)686-6894 FAX
Email: info@holycrossconcord.org
Website:
Holycrossconcord.ctsmemberconnect.net

Pastor: Bill Chu
Pres: Al Swan
Vice Pres.: Mike Liebe
Financial Sec: Scott Stadler
Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka

Elders:
Bill Riechmann (F-J)
Eric Roman (K-M)
John Coyne (N-R)
Terry Maurer (S-Z)

Secretary/Newsletter:
Grace Gin

Office Hour: Mon - Thu
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
DCE Intern Office Hours:
M, W 8:30AM - 4:30PM
F 8:30AM - 12:30PM

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 AM 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday,
Worship with Communion
2nd and 4th Sunday,
Worship with Choir, No Communion

10:30 AM Sunday School and Bible Studies

Weekly Bible Study

Sunday 10:30 AM Conference Rm
(Resume on Jan 17)
10:30 AM Parish Hall)

Monday 12:30 PM Ladies' Bible Study, Conference Room

1st and 3rd Thursdays
7:00PM Men's Group

Choir Rehearsal Tuesday, 7:15PM

Outreach Fourth Sunday at 11:30 AM

Publication Deadlines:

Weekly Bulletin Announcements - Noon, Tuesday
February Cross Currents: January 22