

CROSS CURRENTS

Volume 7 Issue 64

August 2009

Note from the Pastor



This and That...

On V.B.S.

After our Vacation Bible School closing program, a grandmother shared with me a wonderful story about how her granddaughter, who had been part of our V.B.S., counted 13 disciples in the Bible. The story went something like this:

The father was reading the Bible with his little girl and asked her how many disciples Jesus had. She said, "13." The father said, "13? Let's count them.." They counted and the girl again said, "13." Her father asked her who the 13th disciple was since there were only 12 names. And the girl said, "Me! I'm number 13. I'm disciple of Jesus' disciple."

What a neat story. Out of the mouths of babes! Praise God for the father who reads the Bible with his young daughter and shares with her the Good News about Jesus. *"Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."* (Romans 10:17)

Praise God for her faith!

Speaking of V.B.S... THANK YOU to all who served the Lord with your time, talents, and efforts at this year's V.B.S. You planted and watered the Word of God in the hearts of 43 children throughout the week and shared the Gospel with a number of their families at the closing program.

Beyond the smiles on the faces of those children, the hugs they gave you during the week, and the joy with which they sang about God's love for them, you may never see the results of your labor, but God promises that the His Word that you shared with them this week will accomplish His purpose (Isaiah 55:10-11).

On page 5 you will find the names of the V.B.S. staff. I apologize in advance to anyone whose name I inadvertently omitted. Besides those who served as staff "thank you" to all who supported V.B.S. with your prayers, donations, and your help with set up and clean up.

Special thanks to Sandy Coyne who directed V.B.S., organized the staff, planned and prepared the crafts, designed the sets and made this one of the best Vacation Bible Schools we've had.

On being a disciple of Jesus

Back to the story of the little girl who counted herself as the 13th disciple. Would that all of us see ourselves in such singular distinction as this little girl did, that is, counted among Jesus' disciples because that is who we are. By faith in Jesus, we are His disciples, redeemed by His death on the cross. Do we live in a manner consistent with who we are? Do our attitudes, values, and priorities reflect what it means to be a disciple of Jesus?

The book of Acts tells us how Jesus' followers lived in light of their

(Continued on page 3, Disciple)

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August Events

August 2

Mite Box / Hat Sunday

August 10

WoHC Board Meeting, 6:00PM
Joyce's House

August 11

Elder's Meeting, 6:30PM

August 12

Senior Board, 1:00PM

August 17

Church Council Meeting, 6:30PM

August 19

Nifty Fifty Seniors Outing to
Berkeley

August 23

Outreach

June Voters Meeting Minutes

By Scott Stadler

The meeting was called to order by church president Al Swan at 10:30 AM.

The Council Secretary a the Church President confirmed that there was a quorum present.

The meeting opened with payer by Pastor.

The minutes from the January 11, 2009, voter's meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Pastor Chu announced that our intern DCE Jason Gullidge will be arriving on June 26th and will be living at the Clayton Creek Apartments on Clayton Rd.

A motion was made to accept the electoral slate for elected officers of the Church as presented.

The motion was passed and all candidates were elected. The elected officers of the Church were

Al Swan, *President*

Mike Liebe, *Vice President*

Cheryl Syrovatka, *Treasurer*

Scott Stadler, *Financial Secretary*

Alan Brueckner, *Head Trustee*

Elders Elected

John Coyne

Eric Roman

Bill Riechmann



this Month

BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Kayleigh Coyne
- 7 Kayla Neer
Scott Stadler
- 8 Abby Humphrey
- 14 Carrie Kroeger
- 15 Andrew Swan
- 16 Eyona Pargman
- 21 Christine Roman
- 22 Carla Johnson-Neer
- 24 Gail Baker
- 27 Doris Kaemper
- 30 Phyllis O'Leary
- 31 John Ballard
Kathryn Gin
Darrel Humphrey

ANNIVERSARIES

- 25 Dale & Debbie Boettcher
- 26 Scott & Idalene Stadler
- 28 John & Andrea Beutel

Care Corner



Remember

Our Homebound and Hospitalized Members with cards and Prayers:

Glorine Brown, Herb Burroughs, Connie Harstad, Virginia Highsmith, Herb and Clara Huppert, Hannah Johnson, Ruth and Marv Kreitz, Red Lundgren, Phyllis O'Leary, Suzanne Saafeld, Inge Stone, Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor

Teacher of the Year



Bob Butterfield, Diana Butterfield's husband, teaches advance mathematics at Pittsburg High School, has been selected as the teacher of the Year. Congratulations, Bob and Diana!!

*Disciple**(Continued from page 1)*

faith in Him:

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2:41-42)

Our Lord Jesus describes Christian discipleship as follows:

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. (Luke 9:23) Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. (Luke 14:27)

I think it's fair to say that we will not deny ourselves what we really want or need but will find time, energy, and money to attend to what we deem important, necessary, and priority. How faithfully do we "find" the time, energy, and money for the Lord? Do we faithfully deny ourselves and take up our cross and follow Jesus? Or do we easily deny Jesus and His Word, worship, fellowship, the Lord's Supper, prayers in favor of things we deem more important than He whom we call Savior and Lord?

Dear Family and Friends of Holy Cross,

Greetings from the Director of Christian Education Intern Office! I am Jason E. Gullidge, your new Director of Christian Education Intern. I would like to share a poem by the Christian poet. M.S. Lowndes;

Thank you for your acts of kindness
It has really meant a lot
I pray in turn that you'd be blessed
By the loving hand of God
I pray your day be filled with peace
And with God's awesome grace
And may you know His presence more
As you behold His face.

Thank you for the tasty potluck, the food that is overflowing my cabinets, the gift cards for future grocery expenses and for all those who helped move me in at the end of June. Words cannot begin to describe how grateful I am for everything you have done for me. Leaving family and friends is often difficult and I thank you for making my transition smoother.

I would like to bring your attention to some things coming up in the next couple months. At the start of August we are planning to have the first MOHCA (Men of Holy Cross Abounding) meeting and I hope to meet the many men of our congregation. Before the end of the month we are planning to have a Bar-Be-Que for youth and their family. We are also considering having a family night and I will send out details once everything is finalized. On September 13th, Rally Day, we will be having a potluck and a talent show. Keep your eyes open for flyers announcing the details of these events.

In parting I share with you a prayer of Paul's from Ephesians 3:16-21. *I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his Next power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

I look forward to meeting each of you and building our Christian family together. May God bless you all this upcoming month.

God's Servant,

Jason
Romans 8

Random Facts about the DCE Intern: He used to go out for doughnuts once a week, when he lived in Portland. Does anyone know good bakeries nearby?

Seniors Yosemite trip

By Jack Mortenson

On Wednesday, May 27th a group of seven seniors from Holy Cross took a trip to Yosemite National Park traveling together by Amtrak and shuttle bus. They enjoyed the beautiful scenery on the trip and enjoyed even more the beautiful waterfalls and stunning granite formations in the park. The falls were very full and everything was fresh and green. The bus trip from Merced Amtrak Terminal followed the Merced River all the way to the Park (about 2 ½ hours) and provided miles and miles of spectacular white rapids and green pools. The seniors enjoyed the scenery and lively conversation with fellow members of Holy Cross. There were seven of us: Erna Beutel, Violet Griffin, Trudy Huenninghaus, Annaliesa Liedtke, Doris and Jack Mortenson and Karen Reynolds (a friend of Trudy's) As always the fellowship was most enjoyable en route and we all got better acquainted.

When we got to the Park we were amazed at the size of the crowd. Traffic was substantial, parking lots were nearly full and cars were parallel parked on both sides of the road.

We had lunch at Yosemite Lodge at a very large cafeteria serving a variety of specialties to a large crowd (including us)

Four busses operated continuously stopping at seven scenic features at fifteen minute intervals. We toured the scenic route and saw two beautiful water-falls and numerous ice-carved cliffs including Half-Dome and the Yosemite Falls area. What an interesting delightful day.

Mortenson's Oil Refineries Talk

On Wednesday, July 15, the Seniors met for pot-luck lunch and heard a talk given by Jack Mortenson outlining the functions of oil refineries in our community. He described the shipping activities on San Francisco Bay which handle about one million barrels of oil per day – supplying the fine oil refineries. Then he briefed us on the processes by which black sticky crude oil is refined into useful products such as gasoline, jet fuel, diesel, lube oil and chemicals.

The Lord reminds us as we see the helpful work that others do for us that we should be thankful, always, for the daily blessings we enjoy.



Photo Above:
back row (l-r):
Erna Beutel,
Anna Liedtke,
Jack Mortenson
front row:
Doris Mortenson,
Trudy Huenninghaus,
Trudy's friend,
Violet Griffin



Photo on Left:
Yosemite Fall

! The Senior Board is planning an outing to Berkeley on August 19 to visit the Lawrence Hall of Science on Grizzly Peak. More will be detailed in the church bulletins.

THANK YOU JACK!

By Roberta Morfeld

The Nifty Fifties met July 15 in Parish Hall for a potluck salad lunch. Jack Mortenson gave us an outstanding presentation on "Refineries 101." He used various maps, charts and diagrams to teach us just what a refinery is. Included were many anecdotes from his esteemed career in his field. He concentrated on the refineries in our bay area and the horrendous problems involved in receiving crude oil, processing it and in the end producing a clean product in an environmentally sound manner. We were left with a much better understanding and appreciation of the process.



Standing l-r (back row): Claudia Gemar, Jean Eissner, Gail Baker, Sandy Coyne, AJ Stanley, Marlene Roberts, Maia Belus, Cameron Stelchek, Hasha Bhatt, Kiley Wirtz, Chris Roman, (front row): Grace Gin, Caylin Stanley, Kartini Pratiwi, Nikolas Tham, Rachel Gemar
Sitting l-r (back row): Christopher Chu, Megan Gemar (front row) Kathryn Gin, Kaytlyn Coyne, Jason Gullidge, Katie Pass, Jessica Aduan, Christine Chu

Donations: Holy Cross

Slide Show: Grace Gin (took and edited pictures)
 Kathryn Gin (recorded music of kids singing)
 Jason Gullidge (putting presentation together)

VBS Director: Sandy Coyne
 Planned and prepared all the crafts —
 Designed and built the props and decorations

V.B.S. wouldn't have been what it was without her talent and dedication...AND her family: Kaytlyn Coyne, Josh Coyne, Kamryn Coyne, Kayleigh Coyne, John Coyne

V.B.S. Staff Acknowledgment

Group Leaders: Erna Beutel, Maia Belus, Christopher Chu, Katie Pass, Jessica Aduan

Group Helpers: Rachel Gemar, Caylin Stanley, Kiley Wirtz, AJ Stanley, Cameron Stelcheck, Christina Chu, Kartini Pratiwi, Nikolas Tham

Song Leaders: Sandy Coyne, Kaytlyn Coyne, Kathryn Gin, Harsha Bhatt(helper)

Bible Lessons: Claudia Gemar, Jason Gullidge (also did the skits)

Recreation: Megan Gemar (also did the skits)

Snacks: Marlene Roberts, Judy West, Gayle Bothe, Justin Beutel, Jean Eissner — Planned snacks for the kids and staff, *With Justin put iron-ons on the t-shirts*

Set-up: Grace Gin, Kathryn Gin, Marlene Roberts, Gail Baker, Chris Roman, Jason Gullidge, Christopher Chu, Cameron Stelchek, Kaytlyn Coyne, Josh Coyne, Kamryn Coyne, Kayleigh Coyne, Abbi Roman, Alex Roman, Al Brueckner, Sandy Coyne

BBQ: Cherylene Brueckner, Al Brueckner (also was here all week setting things up, fixing equipment)
 Art Kroger (head elder)

Crafts: Grace Gin (also our photographer)
 Gail Baker (also served as Group leader)
 Jessica Costello, Josh Ballard, Chris Roman (also did the registration, served as Group leader, First Aid)



WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS

by Pat Easby

Women of Holy Cross ended their season with a lovely dinner out at the Jade Garden. We had conversation & laughs, and super good food with enough left to take home. Thanks to Joyce for setting it up and to those that attended.

REPORTS

Human Care We received a hand written Thank You from the Jewish Veterans for all the stamps we have been sending them. (*Thanks to the person that donates the shoe boxes full of stamps.*) *Keep saving stamps for the vets and be sure to leave a wide white margin around the stamps.

We are collecting the *pull tabs from soda (& all cans)* and donate them to the RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE in order to keep the houses going for parents of children with cancer, so they can be near their children treatment.

Sunshine Idalene has taken on a position and *Wilma Burch* is our new gal who will be your Birthday cards. Welcome Wilma! Grace has been sending out get well and sympathy cards.

Marlys Kehm on Lew Koldeway

I want to tell you that Lew is very ill. He has finally been diagnosed with a cancerous tumor on the pancreas. He has hospice. He is very weak and has a problem eating. I talked to Lois today and some of her relatives are with her. She is doing O.K. as best she can. The people at St. Mark are helping. It is a caring congregation. Their address is 333 Golf Ct. Santa Rosa, Ca 95409 Greetings to all of you. I am fine. Julie and I are going to Peru to see Steve and Patty on August 25 for a week. Marlys

Birthday Gifts *Terry Hawkyard* finished her 2nd. year; she made & distributed 72+ gifts for this year. Thank you Terry.

Idalene Stadler is the new Birthday gift person; ladies on the watch for your gift at Birthday time!

July 12 we sponsored a **Potluck** for our intern DCE Jason Gullidge, the congregation "Showered" him with pantry items & gift cards. Welcome Jason.

Cherylene carried out the Theme picnic/potluck with the decorations. The men-youth handled the games. (Thanks Mike Liebe.)

July 13th the **Women of Holy Cross Board** had a lovely & delicious supper at Judy West's home. This was our first planning meeting for the coming year. Thank You gracious Judy.

August 8th Joyce Liebe will host a salad potluck for the W of HC Board to finalize the upcoming events.

'All forward to a fun, spiritual & interesting year with Women of Holy Cross.

LADIES & TEENs are always welcome at our general meetings & events.



Jason's Contact Information

Office: (925) 686-2001

Cell: (206) 947-0553

Home: (925) 270-3870

E-mail:

jasongullidge@yahoo.com

Get Ready for Rally Day...

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 13

Holy Cross has talents...

It's August...and it's time to plan for Rally Day!

This year we plan to do something different. While Jason leads Sunday School Rally Day activities for the kids, adults will convene in *get-to-meet-your-elder* groups, and then lunch followed by HC talent show. Everyone or groups are encouraged to participate.



Have musical talents? Interesting stories to share? Skill to demonstrate? Skits? Show and tells? We need you!!

Act should be no more than 3-5 minutes each. You have plenty of time to brush up your skill; register with Grace to reserve your spot soon; otherwise, she will have to go hunting for you.





AUGUST 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study	3 6p WoHC Brd 7p Boy Scout (PH, L)	4 9a UB Tutoring (E)	5	6 9:30a Craft (H) 9a UB Tutoring (E)	7	8
9 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study	10 7p Boy Scout (L)	11 9a UB Tutoring (E) 6:30p Elders	12 1p Senior Brd (L)	13 9:30a Craft (H) 9a UB Tutoring (E)	14	15
..... <i>Pastor on Vacation</i>						
16 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study <i>Pastor on Vacation</i>	17 6:30p Church Council 7p Boy Scout (L)	18 9a UB Tutoring (E)	19 NFS Outing to Lawrence Hall of Sci- ence	20 9:30a Craft (H) 9a UB Tutoring (E) 7p CVLL	21	22
23 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study 11:30a OUT- REACH	24 7p Boy Scout (L)	25 10a CVWC (H) 9a UB Tutoring (E)	26	27 9:30a Craft (H) 9a UB Tutoring (E)	28	29
30 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study	31 7p Boy Scout (L)	1 9a UB Tutoring (E)	2	3 9:30a Craft (H) 9a UB Tutoring (E)	4	5

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



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Goes
Here



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

Elders:
Art Kroeger
Terry Maurer
John Coyne
Bill Riechmann
Eric Roman

Secretary/Newsletter:
Grace Gin

Office Hour: Mon - Thu
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

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 in September)

10:30 AM Library
(The Book of Revelation)

Monday 12:30 PM Ladies' Bible Study
(Resume in mid-August)

Choir Rehearsal (Resume in September)

Outreach Fourth Sunday at 11:30 AM

Publication Deadline:

Weekly Bulletin Announcements - Noon, Tuesday
September Cross Currents: August 20, 2009