



# Cross Currents



Volume 3, Issue 82

March 2011

## Midweek Lenten Service

by Pastor Chu

### Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

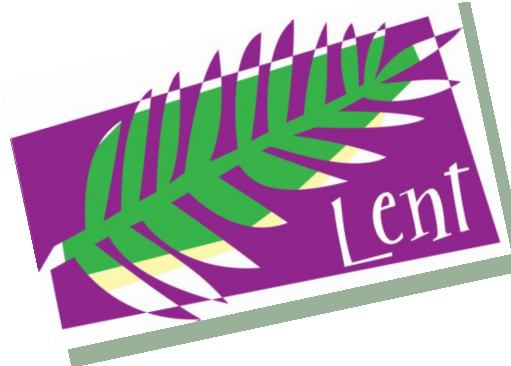
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Each Wednesday evening during Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 9, we will come together for worship. Our Ash Wednesday worship service will make use of ashes as part of the confession of sins. Ashes remind us of our sins and our mortality due to sin; ashes also symbolize our confession, humility, and repentance as we receive forgiveness in the Absolution, the Scriptures, and the Lord's Supper. Our focus for the remaining evening services will be on some of the people who had a hand in, or were around, Jesus' crucifixion and how God might use each to teach and to move us to repentance and greater faithfulness to Christ.

Many Lutheran congregations still maintain the tradition of Lenten midweek services along with the tradition of a supper before the service, even

though interest in this these Lenten traditions has been dwindling. There are a number of reasons why most Christians do not participate in midweek Lenten service.



First, we are busy people, and it is difficult to fit yet another event into our already full calendar.

Second, it is difficult for some to drive at night, especially in inclement weather.

Third, churches read the "signs of the times" and determine that such traditions are no longer "relevant" (though I wonder whether churches are only reflecting what is/is not "relevant" in the culture

or are actually defining what is/is not relevant).

Fourth, increasingly we think of worship as just a "Sunday" thing, so that additional worship services are superfluous.

In spite of the obstacles to participating, I invite you and encourage you to join in our Wednesday evening suppers and worship services during Lent for fellowship and the Word of God.

And whether you are able to attend these evenings or not, I encourage you to engage in a personal time of worship and devotion. Set aside time each day, even if it's only for 15-20 minutes, to read the Bible and to pray. Read and study Martin's Luther's Small Catechism. Bless your days and lives during Lent with the Word of God.



## Church Secretary Opportunity

We are looking for a Holy Cross member who is interested in part time job serving as Holy Cross Church Secretary. This is a paid position and offers the additional benefit of on-the-job training and mentoring from Rhonda Liedtke and Grace Gin. Please see Pastor Chu, Gregg Syrovatka, Mike Liebe for the job description, with questions or to express your interest.

## Valentine's Day Luncheon

The luncheon was held on Sunday, Feb. 13 after Sunday School. It was such a beautiful event focusing on the theme of "Love". Thanks again to all who helped out and donated time, as well as food and many other things. It took lots of planning and brainstorming to bring it all together. Thanks again to "Spirit of Hope" singers, nice to see familiar faces. Such a warm event and it was all wrapped up with a presentation of roses to the singers. Thanks Mike for the funny icebreakers. Thanks Pastor for the words of encouragement. Thanks Marilyn Neumann team leader for food prep and helpers: Ann and Dave Caruso, Kim and Carol Chu, Lauretta Oliver, Idalene Stadler, and Pat Easby. Thank you Marlene Roberts, for heading the desserts prep. We enjoyed yummy cookies, Chocolate covered strawberries and Terry Hawyard's sold out cheese cakes. We appreciate and in awe of Idalene and Suzanne Stadler and Pat Easby's beautiful decorations. Last but not least...thank you Cherylene for the awesome agenda. God's blessings.



**COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES** were sent off on Wed. Feb. 9th and some were even hand delivered (local). We managed to get enough donations to fill 9 boxes! Thanks to our congregation for being so generous and also for signing personal cards for the students. We look forward to hearing back from the kids and the notes will be posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall. Good job by all the many hands and organization that went into this worthwhile project. Thanks Marc Albano for your words of encouragement at church too. God's blessings. Respectfully submitted, Carol Lau



*Please Remember  
to Keep these Friends  
in Your Prayers*

Doris Mortenson, Wilma Burch, Eyona Pargman, 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, Laurence Grandt, Robert Grandt, Inge Stone, Luca Nishimori, Sienna Lee, Elizabeth Bothé, Kathy Kinser, Abbi and Alex Roman.

## March

### *Birthdays &*



### *Anniversaries*

### Birthdays

- 1 Terry Maurer
- Idalene Stadler
- 6 Cal Kallsen
- 11 Kamryn Coyne
- 12 Pastor Chu
- Linda Sheppard
- 18 Rachel Gemar
- 23 Jean Eissner
- 24 Jack Mortenson
- 25 Nathan Pass
- 30 Doris Mortenson

### Anniversaries

- 7 Rev. Bob & Gerda Koch
- 19 Glen & Susan Stenson
- 23 Gary & Denise J. Brown
- 26 Jack & Doris Mortenson



### Ash Wednesday, March 9

Supper: 5:45PM

Service: 7:00 PM

### Midweek Services: March 16, 23, 30 April 6, 13

Supper: 5:45 PM

Service: 7:00 PM



Choir Rehearsals will  
be on March 8, 15, 22  
No Rehearsals on  
March 1 & 29

### Trinity Lutheran Preschool, Walnut Creek

announces their Open Enrollment for the 2011-2012 year. The Preschool has been caring for children ages 2-6 for over 40 years. They provide a safe Christian environment where the needs of children come first. Location: near Walnut Creek Bart and the 680/24 interstates at **2317 Buena Vista Ave.** For tour, call **925-935-3362/Email: Stephanie@tlcchurch.org**

Open House  
Mar 12, 3pm-5pm

## Chabot Space and Science Center Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> 2011 By Marv Kteitz

Surround yourself with the wonders of the Universe! At Chabot Space and Science Center the universe is yours to experience. Set amid 13 trail-laced acres of East Bay parkland with glorious views of San Francisco Bay and the Oakland foothills, Chabot is a hands-on celebration of sights, sounds and sensations.

We plan on visiting the Ask Jeeves Planetarium, a "full dome digital projection system" with various shows running daily. Also the Tine Mega Dome Theater, a 70-foot dome screen auditorium with various IMAX shows running. There is a area called The Challenger Learning Center where there is a hands-on simulated space mission environment.

The center is open Wednesday from 10:00AM –500PM the cost of admission (which includes two shows) is \$11.95 and parking is free. **Meet at church at 8:45 leave at 9:00.**

Lunch will be at the café in the Space Center...

Sign up so we know how many to plan on...Bring a friend. ( Special note we visited the Space center in July of last year when they had the Planetarium closed which is now open The IMAX show we saw was so enjoyable we thought we would go again to see them both. )

## Outreach Sunday FEB. 27, 2011 4th SUNDAY OF THE MONTH By Pat Easby

**Katie Pass** arrived in the kitchen after church service, she began to make sandwiches for the shelter. An hour later, Luker, Annaliesa, Kiley & Mindy, & Carol Lau joined her. (We missed Loretta & Terry). They made 5 huge platters of various kinds of sandwiches, we used potato salad & meats donated from the P. O'Leary & G. Brown memorials, we also served 2 huge pots of chili with cheese, green salad & fresh fruit cups. **THANK YOU** for the bags of candy left on the outreach table. Holy Cross truly blessed by you caring people!

Put your hands together for our **first time servers** Brandon & Mike Voss who joined us at the shelter, Brandon handed out the sandwiches. Bill Luker loaded & unloaded the food at Holy Cross & at the shelter; he also served the handicapped their meals. Another successful day at the shelter with many happy faces & full tummies. They said they appreciated having a balanced meal & they liked the broccoli/asparagus veggie. They were very thankful for the food & complimented us many times. It was a good day. *you have been chosen God who has given you this new kind of life, & because of His deep love & concern for you, you should practice tender heartedness, mercy & kindness to others. colossians 3:12*

**THANK YOU---**When were at the shelter, came back to a spotless kitchen. Does **Carol Chu** know anything about this? A TRUE HOLY CROSS ANGEL!



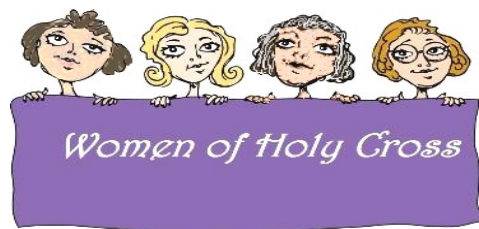
## NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS CORNER



### Seniors Bunco Game - Feb 23, 2011

By Marv Kreitz

Beanie Bag! Bunco! Snake yes! Roll 'dem dice! If that doesn't sound familiar to you, you didn't attend the Nifty Fifty Bunco Game on Wed Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Social Hall at Holy Cross Church. Shouts of "C'mon threes" "Keep it going", and "it's all in the twist of the wrist" (Betty Kallsen seemed to have the twist) resonated throughout the hall. Top honors went to Marv with 9 wins. Other big winners were awarded a prize (Melarie's home -baked bread); in fact everyone went home with two or three loafs tucked under their arm. A big thanks to Melarie & Mike for "running" the game. A tasty lunch was served by the Senior Board and special Ku-cold cuts as well as those attending that helped clean up. So see what you missed so join us next time that the Seniors meet for a fun-filled day.



### MARCH EVENTS

**Saturday 3/5**

**Sunday 3/6**

**Mite Box/Hat Sunday**

**Monday 3/7**

**Board Meeting, 2:15pm**

**Wednesday 3/9**

**Ash Wednesday**

WoHC sponsors Supper at 5:45 PM

Worship at 7:00 PM

**Monday 3/14**

**General Meeting**

*all are welcome to attend* - Election of Officers (VP & Treas.) plus our \*SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER will be Alicia Watson, who is the founder of a group that send items to our troops in Afghanistan & Iraq. All are invited!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday 4/4 Board Meeting, 2:30PM**

**Saturday 4/9 Zone Spring Rally**

At First Lutheran, Concord Blvd.

**Saturday 4/16**

**Congregational Spring Cleaning**

Everyone, including kids, are welcome.

WoHC will serve lunch.

**Monday 5/9 General Meeting**

Craft Night

**Sunday 6/19 Father's Day Event**

(Everyone is invited!)

Pancake Breakfast will be served

Watch for more information.

A SPECIAL DAY FOR DAD!

Save the Date!!

Some of the comments on

## Be My Valentine Buffet

on Sunday, Feb. 13, 2011

1. It was absolutely wonderful--just everything (All glory to God)
2. I liked having it start with the icebreakers
3. Walking into the Parish Hall made me feel warm & happy
4. The parish hall has never looked more beautiful
5. The decorations were so festive, welcoming & fun
6. Good icebreaker; was a good way to start everyone talking to each other
7. When we walked through the arch I felt so special
8. Everything was just perfect
9. The songs & singing was just beautiful
10. Nice variety of sandwiches & salads-good mac salad- all food very good
11. Loved the many desserts, they all looked beautiful-great having them at the end of buffet
12. Everything displayed so beautifully-fresh flowers-& put together so well
13. One child gazed at the Arch in awe & slowly walked through all the way to the front looking at everything; *that was repeated 7 times. (Watching that alone was special)*
14. The looks & convenience of having the small round buffet tables made it easier to get our food
15. While walking through the arch, it was like entering an outdoor garden party
16. It was good to see Melinda, Joyce & Sally & have them worship with us
17. What a warm feeling when the program ended, & the *Spirit of Hope Singers* were each sented with the red rose from centerpieces, it brought tears to my eyes.

### Kid's Comments:

Alex liked everything,  
Abby loved the macaroni salad,  
Kaleigh liked the chocolate chip cookies  
Kaytlyn enjoyed the Spirit of Hope's singing.

*You are the light that gives light to the world. In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live also that they will see the good things you do & will praise your Father in heaven. Matt 5:14-16*



## A Note From Marilyn Neumann



Herb and I had a wonderful time planning the sandwiches for our Valentine's Luncheon in February. We selected the sandwiches and made out our grocery list. On Friday before the luncheon, we paid a visit to Costco and Safeway and purchased the ingredients. On Saturday, we cooked, chopped, diced, and sliced the ingredients and made up the recipes for five kinds of sandwiches: Egg Salad, Cucumber Dill, Cashew Chicken, Ham Salad and Blue Cheese/Walnut/Pear. On Sunday morning, we got up and made sandwiches until it was time to go to church. After the church service, our team got



busy and made up the rest of the sandwiches in time for the luncheon. Many thanks to Ann and Dave Caruso, Kim and Carol Chu, Lauretta Oliver, Idalene Stadler, and Pat Easby for their help. We have typed up the recipes for the sandwiches and would be happy to share them with anyone who would like them.



## Valentine's Day Luncheon Photo Collection





# MARCH



| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday                                     | Friday | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--------|---|
| 27<br>9am Worship<br>10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study<br>11:30am OUTREACH     | 28<br>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)   | 1<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)<br>7:15pm Choir Rehearsal                            | 2<br>7pm Bible Study   | 3<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)                      | 4      | 5   |
| 6<br>Mite Box /Hat Sunday<br>10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study<br>12pm Worship | 7<br>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)<br>2:15pm WoHC Brd Mtg (C)<br>7pm Boy Scout (H, L) | 8<br>9am CVWC<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)<br>7:15pm Choir Rehearsal                | 9<br>1pm Senior Brd (L)<br>5:45pm Ash Wed Supper (WoHC)<br>7pm Service | 10<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)                     | 11     | 12  |
| 13<br>Daylight Savings Time Starts<br>10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study        | 14<br>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)<br>6:30pm WoHC General Mtg                        | 15<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)<br>6:30pm Elder's Meeting<br>7:15pm Choir Rehearsal | 16<br>8:45a NFS Outing<br>Midwk Lent<br>5:45pm Supper<br>7pm Service   | 17<br>St Patrick's Day<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E) | 18     | 19  |
| 20<br>10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study  | 21<br>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)<br>6:30pm Church Council                          | 22<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)<br>7:15pm Choir Rehearsal                           | 23<br>Midwk Lent<br>5:45pm Supper<br>7pm Service                       | 24<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)                     | 25     | 26<br>Parish Hall Reserved - Jack/Doris Mortenson                                     |
| 27<br>9am Worship<br>10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study<br>11:30am OUTREACH     | 28<br>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)   | 29<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)   | 30<br>Midwk Lent<br>5:45pm Supper<br>7pm Service                       | 31<br>4pm UB Tutoring(E)                     |        |  |

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

## Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

1092 Alberta Way  
Concord, CA 94521

We're on the Web!  
[www.holycrossconcord.org](http://www.holycrossconcord.org)



### Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

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[www.ctsmemberconnect.net](http://www.ctsmemberconnect.net)

#### **Pastor: Bill Chu**

President: Mike Liebe  
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, and 5th Sundays

#### **Midweek Worship Service Schedule for Lent:** **(3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13)**

Supper 5:45PM  
Service 7:00PM

#### **Weekly Bible Study Schedule\*:**

Monday 12:30PM Conference Room, Ladies Only  
Wednesday 7:00PM will resume after Easter

#### **Choir Rehearsal:**

Tuesday 7:15PM—8:45PM

#### **Outreach:**

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

#### **Publication Deadline:**

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday  
April Cross Currents: March 22, 2011

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