



Cross Currents



Volume 8 Issue 119

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

September 2014



MESSAGE
FROM
PASTOR CHU

“Convert or die!”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Birthdays/ Anniversaries	2
Choir Note	2
Pastor Vacation Schedule	2
Parking Lot Update	3
NFS Sept Activities	3
NFS -Activity Recaps	5
LWML District Zone Fall Rally	5
WoHC Happenings	6
Prayer List	6
Sept. Event Calendar	7
HC Weekly Schedule	8

“Convert or die!” Christians have faced this ultimatum since the beginning of Christianity. Countless chose death rather than reject Christ by converting to whatever forces of evil were forcing them to make such a choice. Others denied Christ in order to save their lives. Though some of these might have been Christians in name only and did not believe in Christ, no doubt many trusted Jesus as Savior but verbally renounced Christ out of fear for their lives. Of these latter, let’s not judge them too harshly; who knows how we would respond to such a threat.

We in America do not have to convert or die, whether we trust Jesus as Savior or not, and it is not likely that such a choice will be forced upon us, and Lord willing, it never will. However, many of our brothers and sisters in Christ in Iraq, Syria, and other countries, along with people of other faiths, are being forced to convert to Islam or be murdered and/or subjected to horrific crimes. Almost daily, new atrocities against Christians and people of other non-Islam faiths are reported. “Infidels,” as they’re called, are being shot, beheaded, and even buried alive. Women

and girls are kidnapped and violated as part of a “sexual holy war,” which, as one kidnapped young woman described, is worse than death; “Let those (American) jets come to bomb us and save us... by killing all of us,” she said.

It used to be that only once in awhile did we hear of Christians being persecuted. To be sure, persecution of Christians has always taken place; we just know it until the stories came out in newspapers, magazine, or television, which often had more “important” news to report. Now with such the Internet and non-stop cable news, there’s no excuse for not knowing. Question is, what will we, as Christians, do?

Above all — and if nothing else — pray!

Pray for our President that he be given sound counsel by his military and civilian advisers so that he can make informed decisions. Pray that he, our leaders in this country, and the leaders of nations will do what is right and necessary to deliver and protect not just Christians but all who face atrocities that we can hardly even imagine.

(Continued on page 2, Prayer)

ATTENTION SINGERS!

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD! God has given us so much, from everyday life blessings to His greatest gift of all, His Only Son Jesus Christ. So let us "Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!" (Psalm 98:1). Choir rehearsals resume on Tuesday, September 9 at 7:15 in the choir loft. September rehearsals will be 9/9, 9/16, and 9/23. If you've been thinking about joining or even if you're just curious, feel free to drop by. You can also contact Diana Meux at dianamcm02@yahoo.com or 510-526-3294. Thank you for using your time and talents to the glory of God!



Pastor will be on vacation Sept. 21 through Oct. 5, 2014.

- Wednesday evening Pastor's Bible study will meet Sept 3, 10, 17.
- Sunday Bible study will not meet on Sept. 14, 21, 28.
- Communion Schedule: Holy Communion on Sept. 7, 14; no Communion on Sept. 21, 28.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 3** Eric Ingle
Ray Krause
- 5** Karen Gamble
- 10** Linda Pass
- 12** Judy West
- 16** Brandon Voss
- 18** Inge Stone
- 19** Mitzi Albano
- 21** Violet Griffin
- 23** Marlene Robert
- 24** Melarie Seidel
- 26** Brian Gin
Jaan Kaigas
- 27** Caitlin Pass
- 28** Ken Ballard

Anniversaries

- 3** Bill & Gayle Bothe
- 4** Bill & Roberta Morfeld
- 13** Mike & Melarie Seidel

Prayer (Continued from page 1)

Pray for God to sustain those who are suffering. Pray for their deliverance of body, mind, and spirit. For Christians, pray that God would sustain their faith in Christ, comfort them with His presence, and give them peace in Christ that transcends even their horrendous circumstances. For those who are not Christian, pray for their physical deliverance but pray also for their spiritual deliverance from unbelief, that they be brought to faith in Christ who suffered and died for them.

Pray for God to bring to repentance the true infidels — those whose rallying cry is "Convert or die" and who murder and rape and destroy in the name of their god. Pray for God's grace to bring them to faith in Jesus.

And pray for God to stop those who perpetrate evil. I will not tell you what specifically to pray for but will leave that to your con-

science. I will suggest that Jesus didn't mince words in Matthew 18 when speaking against those who would cause His little ones to stumble and fall from faith: *"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea."* At the least, we can pray for God to bring an end to the evil and preserve and protect the innocent by whatever He means deems fit.

The gates of hell cannot and will not prevail against the church of Jesus Christ (Matthew 16:18), but in this life, persecution, atrocities, and even death can and will prevail against the people of God at the hands of sinners. Pray for the Church. Pray for the people for God. Pray for our leaders. Pray for sinners. Pray for God's will to be done. †

Special Voters Meeting on Parking Lot Status

Sunday September 14, 2014
After Service

PARKING LOT UPDATE

AUGUST 27, 2014

There will be a special Voters Meeting September 14, 2014 for presenting information on the status of the parking lot project. The committee will be proposing two possible alignments as well as giving reports on one contractor's proposal and a second contractor's preliminary estimate for budgeting purposes. There will be an information and display area set up in the Parish Hall prior to the meeting. Please take the opportunity to study the display and ask questions.

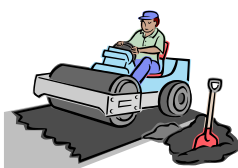
We believe that the City of Concord and PG&E are close to an agreement on tree removal and that we should be at the top of the list to have trees removed that are located in the PG&E right of way.

We are anticipating there will be a member "work party" to remove the cubs and car stops.

Once the Voters' approve a course of action the committee will develop a "Scope of Work".

Because we are nearing the rainy season, it is possible the project may not be completed this year.

The amount of the July transfer from the operating budget to the parking lot fund was



NIFTY FIFTIES SENIORS SEPTEMBER OUTINGS

Mac's Old House

Friday Sept 12th 2014

Our first outing for September is lunch at Mac's Old House located at 3100 18th St Antioch Ca. This is the second time we are going there all though I go there at least 3 or 4 times a month...the food is soooo good, the portions are Huge and the prices are even better. If you have never been there you are in for a treat. This is really an old house that was turned into a restaurant. Bar Drinks are \$2.50 for a single \$3.00 for a double and \$3.50 for a triple (and they say its really big). Lunch menus are on the place mats and run from Prime Rib for \$10.95, Calamari Steak (three large pieces) \$9.95, and my favorite is their Ground Round priced at \$6.95. Lunches are served with a big bowl of Minestrone soup, or salad, pasta and a vegetable along with a basket of sourdough bread. I usually get the Ground Round and for a buck more have their potato salad along with the soup...almost more than I can eat. Cash only! In order to eat in the front room, we should be there when it opens at 11:30 We still may have to sit at separate tables. Gratuity is 20%. Meet at Church at 10:45 Leave at 11:00, I usually eat breakfast around 9:00 AM so I'm just going to skip it or have some little thing. Sign up in the social hall as we do need to have an idea how many are going....Bring a friend!

Fort Bragg -Skunk Train

Sept. 23rd - 25th 2014

The Nifty Fifty Seniors are for the first time planning a trip that entails staying overnight for two day in Fort Bragg California. We plan on leaving on Tue the 23rd of Sept driving up 101 to Willits and then cutting over on HI way 20 to Fort Bragg on the Ocean. Fort Bragg was a

(Continued on page 4, Fort Bragg)

Fort Bragg *(Continued from page 3)*

lumbering town with a Company Store and area of small houses where workers for the lumber mill lived. I don't believe there is any lumbering going on now. It's mostly a fishing community where the fishing fleet enters the Noyo Harbor to load and unload their catches.

We are staying at Harbor Lites Inn on the edge of Fort Bragg that looks down on the Noyo River and the fishing fleet. We have (at this time) reserved 5 room with two Queen beds in each, 1 extra large family room with a sink, chairs where we will meet for cocktails and general gathering before dinner on the 23rd and 24th. All rooms area view of the Harbor and will accommodate two people. I talked with the manager and he said the price of \$103 plus tax was for one or two, so if you have someone that you would like to bring and share???? They have a continental breakfast which includes Oat Meal Waffles toast juice, hard boiled eggs, etc. You won't leave hungry. It is 181 miles from Walnut Creek and takes around 4 + hours to drive and I don't plan on rushing to get there as I want to enjoy the drive.

The first night we plan on eating at the wharf and the 2nd night at one of the nicer places in Fort Bragg. On Wed at 10:00 AM we will take the Skunk Train (which costs \$54.00 plus tax) from Ft Bragg along the Noyo River to Northspur Station. This is a 3.5 to 4 hour round – trip and travels along the Pudding Creek estuary out to the city limits then passes tunnel No 1 then the train emerges into the Noyo River Canyon. Traveling at the base of the canyon, you are constantly looking up to see the tops of redwoods.

There is an open car that you can stand in as it passes under the trees. Food and beverages are available in the concession car with more options available at the Northspur station. It's a great way to see the redwood forest and I understand the engineers provide an enlightening fun filled commentary explaining how things work etc. and why the engineer blows the whistle off and on..

We leave the motel on Thursday morning; I plan on going south along HWY 1 which passes the Heritage House (where Ruth and spent time on our 50th wedding anniversary) one of our favorite places to stay. The drive along the coast is especially beautiful but windy and difficult to drive; we pass through Mendocino and turn off at Albion on 128 which brings us through Boonville and Anderson valley where some of the best Winery's in California are located. We may even stop for a sample. We plan on eating on the way home at winery just north of Healdsburg. As I remember it, it is very elegant and you dine out in a covered area next to the vineyards. White table cloths etc...I plan on checking it out on my way to Fort Bragg. We can adjust our plans as we go...Don't miss this outing Bring a friend!!

If you plan on going, you have to call Harbor Lites Inn for room reservations at 1-800-866-1690. Room price is \$103 + tax.

For reservations for the Skunk Train on Sept. 24th, please call 1-707-964-6377. Cost per ticket is \$54 + tax

Questions?

Call Marv Kreitz at 935-7739

N. F. S. AUGUST 22, 2014 PETER'S STEAK HOUSE RECAPS

BY MARV KREITZ

August 22, 2014 was one of those blistering sparking days when we met at church for our sojourn to Peter's Steak House in Isleton. We had seven signed up Trudy, Karol (Trudy's Friend) Christly, Herb Neumann, Tim Hintz and Kristie Barton and Me. Marilyn showed up with Herb and Kristie was a no show. so we had seven which allowed us to just use just two cars. The drive through the Delta was absolutely delightful. I was surprised at the level of the Sacramento River It was actually boiling and seemed to be as high as I have ever seen it. In spite of our drought..Its no wonder southern California would like to have a portion sent their way...We had reservations for 8 at 1:00 and we arrived about two minutes after...The bar was loaded with Old Timers with beards and they were having a great time not even trying to hold down their voices...But it was very orderly and good to see them enjoying themselves. They had

us seated in front by a window with plenty of room and a beautiful table...Our waitress was oriental but was very HIP and full of fun I had the Prime Rib Sandwich and it was great..Marilyn had the Fish & Chips and it looked very appetizing. We stopped on the way back at a food stand (actually a Store) where HI way 12 and 160 crossed and Trudy and Karol bought some produce.. Then it was back to Concord always with our beautiful Mt Diablo leading us home...



Jesus Calling Us to... MEND

ZONE FALL RALLY

LWML CNH District - Mt. Diablo Zone

Saturday, October 18, 2014

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Grace Lutheran Church

195 Alvarado Ave

Pittsburg, CA 94565

Registration Donation \$10 include

Continental Breakfast & Lunch

Program Presentation by Teen Challenge

Sign Up Sheet is posted on WoHC bulletin board in the Parish Hall

Respond to Jesus' call to... MEND

Ingathering: Lutheran World Relief Fabric Kits (assembly instructions below)

2 spools of matching or neutral colored general purpose threads (250-300 yd each)

2 pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabrics (no knits or 100%)

Fabric should have no stains or holes and be cut into pieces measuring:

2 1/4 yards of 60" wide fabric OR

3 yards of 44" wide fabric OR

4 yards of 36" wide fabric

Wrap all sewing notions inside fabric and tie with string or yarn.

*Please bring completed kits only.

WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS

What's Happening with the WoHC?

by Joyce Liebe

The WoHC (Women of Holy Cross) Board met in August to finalize our upcoming years' program. Even though we have a couple openings on the Board, we are very fortunate that the women we do have work well together and share in the work and fun of our events!

We've varied the days, times, and content of our activities in hopes that each woman will be able to join in at least one of them. So, come on down and join us!

Please mark your calendar with the upcoming key activities:

- **Sunday, 10/12.** **LWML Sunday AND our Welcome Back "Mugs and Muffins" gathering** after church. Each woman is to bring their favorite mug and we will provide the beverages and muffins. The 2014-2015 Program will be introduced handed out.
- **Saturday, 10/18.** **Fall Zone Rally** at Grace Lutheran in Pittsburg. Carpool from HC available.
- **Monday, 11/10.** **General Meeting** with Pastor Chu leading a Bible Study followed by craft time.
- **Monday, 12/8.** **Annual Christmas dinner.** We will be in our festively decorated Parish Hall again!!! Because everyone loved seeing the individually decorated tables last year, we will be looking for women to host a table. To make the decorating easier, the board will set up the tables and chairs, tablecloths, plates, napkins, and utensils. Each table hostess will provide a centerpiece and a small table favor for each guest at her table – be as simple or over the top as you want. And yes, we will have white elephant gift exchange again. We have an idea to speed up the pace and improve viewing of the action, but still retain all the fun (stealing). Save the date as you will not want to miss this special Christmas tradition.

Check out the WoHC bulletin board and Sunday bulletins for more details on these and all activities.

As always, please feel free to contact me or any of the Board if you have questions, comments, or suggestions.

p.s. We are looking for a secretary. Grace and I are sharing the job now. We are willing to ease someone into the position as your time allows. Please prayerfully consider. ☸




THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS:

Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Lloyce Logan (Judy West sister-in-law), **Joy Parker** (Gayle Bothe's sister-healing), **Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor** (Karen Gamble's mother), **Robert & David Grandt** (Liz Aduan's brothers), **Pauline Fudge** (Liz Aduan's Aunt-heart failure) **Inge Stone, Elizabeth Bothé** (Gayle Bothe's granddaughter-non-churched), **Abbi and Alex Roman, June Stewart** (Judy West's friend-fainting), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's nephew-brain injury, healing), **Betty and Cal Kallsen, Billy Godsey** (healing), **Jeannine Godsey** (inner peace), **Steven Liedtke** (healing), **Esther Lacey and Bernice Aiman** (Violet Griffin's sisters-elder care), **Matt Goodshaw** (Brueckner's family friend-continued multiple myeloma), **Philip Aduan** (healing, hand surgery in fall), **Maddie Conklin** (Judy West's friend-lung, pancreatic cancer), **Bob Oliver** (healing), **Herbert and Clara Huppert** (healing, guidance), **Don Roman** (physical and spiritual healing), **Bill Bothe** (successful radiation treatments), **Lee Rankin** (Jennifer's mom-healing), **Eyona Pargman** (healing), **Mark Paulson** (Tina Voss' father-nursing facility), **Nick Engle** (healing-shoulder surgery), **Julie Oback** (Diana Meux sister-cancer, healing), **Carol Jakel** (Ron's sister in-law-cancer medications, healing), **Andrew Gamble** (Gamble's 10yr. old grandson-juvenile arthritis), **Don Roberts** (recovery), **Ron Gamble** (recovery), **Jack Mortenson, Bob Hartman, Dee Jakel** (healing), **Pat Easby** (arm-healing)

Chaplains among the armed forces and those serving in the military:

Sgt. Michael Dawers (Bill Koch's grandson-Pendleton), **Taylor Bothe-Yates** (Gayle Bothe's grand-niece, 2nd tour Afghanistan), **Capt. Richard Hill** (Violet Griffin's great nephew), **Cadet Megan Gemar, Warrant Officer Donna Cheek**, (Carrie Kroeger's cousin-Afghanistan), **PFC Kevin Hayworth** (Glenda's grandson-Hawaii), **P.O.W. and M.I.A.'s**

SEPTEMBER



2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 7p Boy Scout (H)	1	2	3 7p Bible Study	4 9:30a CVWC Craft	5	6
7 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9:30a Worship w/ Comm 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	8 2:30p WoHC Brd (C) 7p Boy Scout (H)	9 7:15p Choir	10 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study	11 9:30a CVWC Craft	12 10:45a NFS Lunch Out at Mac's Old House	13
14 9:30a Worship w/ Comm Baptism of Lorenzo Ells- worth 10:30a Voters' Assembly 11a Sunday School 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	15 12:30p Wm Bible Study 1:00p Bridge (H) 7p Boy Scout (L)	16 6:30p Elder's Meeting 7:15p Choir	17 7p Bible Study	18 9:30a CVWC Craft	19	20
21 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	22 12:30p Wm Bible Study 7p Boy Scout (L)	23 <u>NFS Trip to Fort Bragg</u> 7:15p Choir	24 9:30a CVWC Craft	25	26	27
	Pastor on Vacation					
28 9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School OUTREACH 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	29 12:30p Wm Bible Study 7p Boy Scout (L)	30				
	Pastor on Vacation					



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
Email: holycrossconcord@sbcglobal.net
Website: 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: Sue Reiter
Newsletter Editor: Grace Gin

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service 9:30AM
Holy Communion 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays
Adults Bible Studies 11:00AM
Sunday School 11:00AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday 12:30PM Conference Room, Ladies
Wednesday 7:00PM Parish Hall

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday 7:15PM—8:45PM

Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
September Cross Currents: September 18, 2014

Office Hours: M-F 9AM-1PM