



Cross Currents



Volume 6 Issue 118

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

June 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Birthdays/Anniversaries Prayer List	2
Pastor's Notes	2
WoHC Annual Family Dinner Out	3
Photos from Mother's Day & HC/ Scouts Workday	3
Parking Lot Update	3
Letter from Gail Baker	3
NFS June Activities	4
NFS - Recaps of Apr/May Activities	5
WoHC Schedule	5
WoHC BD Recap	6
Graduates of 2014	6
Thank You Notes	6
May Outreach	6
June 2014 HC Calendar	7
HC Weekly Schedule	8

RUMMAGE SALE

**Saturday, June 7
8 AM - Noon**

Please start saving your "not so wanted" items....All items must be clean and in working order. No clothing please. You can bring your items to the Parish Hall beginning on Wednesday, June 4. All money earned will go toward the parking lot fund. Any questions, please contact Melarie Seidel, 672-8660. More details to follow so START SAVING YOUR UNWANTED TREASURES!

What is the Gospel

The last several lessons in our confirmation instruction focused on the Gospel, Gospel as in "Good News," which is the meaning of the Greek word we translate "Gospel." Under the general title, *Challenges to the New Testament Church*, we discussed what the Gospel is and what the Gospel means for our faith in Christ and our life of faithfulness to Christ.

Part 1, "Challenges to the New Testament Church: Another 'gospel,'" asked the questions, What is the Gospel or Good News of, and about, Jesus? What is the content of this Good News? How would we answer if people were to ask us, "Who is Jesus?" What did Jesus do that makes what He did "Good News?" How are we saved? Saved from what?

We read Galatians 1:6-9 where Paul talks about "another gospel." There is only one Good News of Jesus Christ but in order to know what false gospels are, we need to know what the true Gospel is. We referenced John 3:16 and Ephesians 2:8-9 and highlighted that forgiveness of sins and eternal life are ours by God's grace (as God's gift) through faith (also God's gift) in Christ who took our sins and guilt at the cross and suffered the penalty we deserve, which is eternal death. We talked about what this Gospel means for our life as saint and sinner.

Part 2, "Challenges to the New Testament Church: In the World But Not of the World" centered our discussion on Jesus' high priestly prayer in John 17, where Jesus prayed for His disciples, and us, particularly verses 14-18: *"I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world but that you keep them from evil one. They are not of*

the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world."

As Christians, we live in the world but we do not belong to the world; we belong to God. We are not of the essence, if we can put it that way, of the world (the world being all that is against God and set against God). We are set apart by faith in Christ and we are to be set apart by faithfulness to Christ in thoughts, words, and deeds that are guided, informed, enabled, and grounded in the truth of God's Word.

We referenced Jesus' summaries of the First Table of the Law (Commandments 1-3) and the Second Table of the Law (Commandments 4-10) in Luke 10:27. We read Romans 12:1-2 and referenced 1John 4 and James for how our lives as God's people demonstrate that though we are in the world, we are not of the world.

Part 3: "Challenges to the New Testament Church: Faith and Faithfulness-Looking Forward: Come, Lord, Jesus," which we didn't get to, would have been a discussion how we live in light of what's coming, namely Jesus' return and our resurrection to life in the new heavens and new earth (2Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1). Even though we don't know when our Lord will return, we live with the expectation of His return and pray as the saints of old, *"Come, Lord Jesus."* (Revelation 22:20) A question that might be worth contemplating is: If we knew the day of Jesus' return, how would we live until that day? Will we live differently than we do now?

It's important for all of us, young and not so young, to know the faith we confess so

(Continued on page 2, Gospel)



MESSAGE
FROM
PASTOR CHU

Gospel (Continued from page 1)

that:

1. We stand firm, by the grace of God, on faith in Jesus even when it may seem that we stand alone: *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."* (Romans 1:16) 2. We know a false gospel when we see one and avoid the dangers about which St. Paul wrote to the Galatians: *"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel — not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed."* (Galatians 1:6-8) *"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."* (Ephesians 2:8-9)

3. We live that faith by the power of the Holy Spirit working through the means of grace and let St. Paul's words in Romans come to life in our lives: *"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice,*

holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:1-2)

4. We are prepared, as St. Peter encourages us to be, to share Christ with each other and with unbelievers as the Holy Spirit leads and gives opportunity: *"But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame."* (1Peter 3:15-16).

5. We boldly confess Christ and lift high the cross when opportunities are given us to witness to Jesus Christ as Savior: *"For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God,"* (1Corinthians 1:18) and we say with St. Paul, *"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified."* (1Corinthians 2:2)†

**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), **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), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Betty and Cal Kallsen, Billy Godsey** (healing), **Jeannine Godsey** (inner peace), **Karen and Gary Cox** (Judy West's friends-cancer), **Steven Liedtke** (healing), **Esther Lacey and Bernice Aiman** (Violet Griffin's sisters-elder care), **Matt Goodshaw** (Brueckner's family friend-continued multiple melanoma treatments), **Philip Aduan** (hand-healing, surgery), **Ken and Kathy Horneck** (Ann Caruso's brother in-law-proper treatment, salvation), **Maddie Conklin** (Judy West's friend-lung, pancreatic cancer), **Bob Oliver** (surgery-healing), **Herbert and Clara Huppert** (healing, guidance), **Don Roman** (physical and spiritual healing), **1 yr. Blake Francis** (Bill Luker's grand nephew-cancer), **Ade-line** (Carol Chu's co-workers premature baby-medical problems), **Bill Bothe** (successful radiation treatments), **Herb Borchers** (restoration, strength), **Lee Rankin** (Jennifer's mom-healing), **Eyona Pargman** (healing), **Mark Paulson** (Tina Voss' father-bypass surgery), **Nick Engle** (healing-shoulder surgery), **Julie Oback** (Diana Meux sister-cancer-healing).

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

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

Pastor's Notes

1. Pastor will be out of the office June 12-15 (Thursday through Sunday). Pastor's Bible class will not meet on June 15.
2. Confirmation classes are over
3. Holy Communion on June 1, 8, 29
4. Rite of Confirmation: June 8, 2014— Gavin West, Noah West
5. Wednesday night Bible study will meet: June 4, 11, 18, 25

**Birthdays**

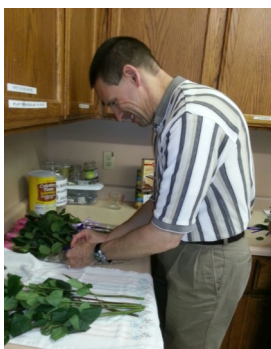
- 2 Michael Pass
- 7 Aroon West
- 9 Carol Lau
- 10 Tom O'Malley
- 11 Nancy Hoffman
- 13 Abbi Roman
- 15 Jack Easby
- 20 Jessica Aduan
- 25 Gayle Bothe

Anniversaries

- 5 Randy & Aimee Syrovatka
- 8 Cal & Betty Kallsen
- 17 John & Sandy Coyne
- 24 Walter & Nancy Hoffman
- Don & Marlene Roberts
- 29 Pastor Bill & Carol Chu

Roses for Holy Cross Mothers

Elders Preparing Roses on Mother's Day



Holy Cross / Boy Scouts Work Day



PARKING LOT UPDATE BY JEAN EISSNER



The parking lot project was the victim of city regulations regarding tree removal. We are in the process of obtaining a permit to remove the tree near the entrance. Hopefully the permit will be received so that the removal can take place the last week of May or the first week in June. You will remember that the Council approved the removal of the tree based on falling branches and root damage to the driveway. We are still waiting for more information regarding the removal of other trees by PG & E. In the meantime information is being gathered about paving contractors that would be suitable for our project.

Women of Holy Cross

Annual Dinner Out ~ All Church Event

Oakhurst Country Club, Clayton, CA

Tuesday, June 17, 6:00 pm

The menu is as follows:

- ♦ *Pasta Bar with two different kinds of pasta: Meat Sauce with Spinach, Vegetable Alfredo* ♦ *choices of salads: Caesar and Mixed Greens* ♦ *warm herb bread rolls and butter* ♦ *iced tea, hot tea, coffee* ♦ *dessert*

The cost is \$16.00 per person.

Everyone is invited!

For Reservations,

Please sign up on the Parish Hall bulletin board and pay ahead to Melarie Seidel or Marilyn Neumann.

(Please make check payable to *Women of Holy Cross*.)

Letter from Gail Baker...

We finally made our move to Willows on Sunday. We are getting settled in and are so happy to be near our youngest son Brian and his wife Megan, and our granddaughters. After living in the Concord/Clayton area our whole lives, it has been hard to leave our family (our oldest son Keith and his wife Jenny and our grandsons Michael and Scott are still in Clayton) and so many dear friends, especially our wonderful Holy Cross family. I have cried many tears this week,

knowing I will not see you all as often. But we are thrilled to be retired and plan to come back often for visits.

Here is our new address:

Mike and Gail Baker

739 E. Sycamore St.

Willows, CA 95988

cell phone (925) 997-9873

God Bless you all, Gail

P.S. No word on the adoption of Kelvin and Dan - we are praying for a hearing and a review of the decision soon. I will let you know, and we appreciate your prayers!

Nifty Fifty two activities in June

Friday June 13th 2014

Chabot Space & Science Center

The Chabot Space and Science Center is located in the beautiful Oakland Hills just off Highway 13 in Oakland. It is designed to educate students of all ages about Planet Earth and the Universe. It is an 86,000 square foot center that offers interactive space and science exhibitions. Chabot is a hands on celebration of sights, sounds and sensations. To me the most intriguing is the Tine Dome Mega Theater. Imagine a 70-foot dome screen with 360 degrees of viewing, you can turn your head and view areas to the side and behind you just like you were actually there. If you haven't experienced this before, you are in for a treat. The Ask Jeeves Planetarium is such a theater and they are showing Tales of the Maya Skies where you can immerse yourself in the beauty of the "seven wonders of the modern world" and hear the story of the ancient Maya Civilization. Tales of the Maya Skies transports you to the jungles of Mexico and its rich history and culture. The Challenger Learning Center has a hand's-on-simulated space mission environment. At 10:00 AM when the center opens they have a planetarium show "Astronaut" that takes about 20 minutes, then at 11:00 they show Secret of the Cardboard Rocket which takes about 40 minutes. Tales of the Maya Skies is shown in the afternoon. We may not want to see both. They haven't posted the actual schedule yet but we will be able to find out about a week before the 13th. We will have lunch at the café in the space center. Sign up sheet in the social hall so we can plan carpooling. Meet at church at 9:00 leave at 9:15 Tickets (65 up) is \$13.00 Regular adult is \$16.00 Should be an interesting day..Bring a friend.

June 27th 2014

Tarantino's Restaurant San Francisco Fisherman's Wharf

Our 2nd outing is to Tarantino's Restaurant at Fisherman's Wharf in SF. We plan on taking the Ferry from Jack London Square leaving at 11:00 AM, arriving at Pier 41 at 11:45 and walk three or four blocks to Tarantino's. We plan to eat around 12:15; we can look forward to the ride on the Ferry; I enjoy riding on the top level and viewing the huge cranes and container ships loading and unloading at the Port in Oakland. There usually is a cool ocean spray while seated on the open upper deck...feels like I'm facing the elements. Those not so inclined can enjoy the passing landscape in the comfy downstairs lounge. We generally make a stop in Alameda then onto open water under the Bay Bridge, viewing the San Francisco landscape with its towering skyscrapers and of course the antics of the sea lions on the wharves off of pier 39. Sounds exciting! I expect we will also enjoy the free entertainment offered by the Mimes at the wharf. Tarantino, an upscale restaurant, located upstairs overlooking the fishing fleet with a great view of the square. The food and service has always been excellent and it was one of my favorite places to have dinner in San Francisco.

I WILL POST THEIR LUNCH MENU IN THE SOCIAL HALL. I plan to have their Boston Clam Chowder, Bowl is \$7.95 Cup \$6.25, and their half pound ground chuck Hamburger which includes French Fries for \$9.95, probably a lot more than I can eat...maybe I'll just have the Hamburger? They are noted for their Clam Chowder. They have a 3% surcharge added to all checks and a minimum of \$10.00 per person. Sign up sheet in the Social Hall. Jack Mortenson was thinking of taking Doris using a wheelchair. I'm planning on taking my walker. Those of you that need help should plan accordingly. Meet at church at 9:45 leave at 10:00. Parking at Jack London Square is free just get you ticket validated. The Ferry round trip for seniors is a real bargain \$6.40; buy your ticket on board. Enjoy a great day with your Christian friends. Bring a friend...

Speiskammier Recap April 24, 2014

Surprise, surprise, surprise!!! Eight people signed up to go, but when we arrived there were 16 people that had come for the German contingency, on Trudy's Birthday. It seemed we were celebrating both at the same time. A number of guests who came were dear friends of Trudy's



and other members of our church. What a lunch it was starting with appetizers of sausage cheese scrimp etc. Everyone ordered according to their desires. Sauerbraten, Braised Beef Ti Tip aged and marinated in Red Wine & Secret Spices served with Red Cabbage & Spatzel and so on, a few had a half liter of beer (they ordered six different kinds of beer and they were served in six different shaped ice cold mugs). Trudy picked up the tab for the whole lunch. We had a gorgeous Birthday Cake for dessert. We all toasted Trudy and wished her a very HAPPY BIRTHDAY! It was truly an excellent outing and lunch. See what you missed! ♦



HC NF group on CCWD tour, Story next page

Recap on Contra Costa Water District Tour on May 9th 2014

by Marv Kreitz & Grace Gin

Wow! Wow! I don't really know how to write about this tour as it was so well planned and carried out that I can only compare it to a paid trip. As we arrived at the Contra Costa Water District Offices at 1331 Concord Ave, Concord, there was an elegant new 35 passenger bus waiting by the curb in front of the building. 11 members from our Nifty Fifty were there to go, so I felt great as each person had personally handled all the signing up over a period of two or three months. As we went into the office, Jim Freschi, a very knowable public Relations leader and our tour guide, was leaning over a map of the CCWD area with a group of people listening. I knew then it was going to be a great trip. We piled onto the bus and Jim told us that CCWD had provided us with an assortment of goodies for snack and drinks for beverages.

On the bus, Jim gave us an excellent overview of the strides CCWD took over the years to ensure water quality and quantity for the district because of that, water would be available for years even with our current drought.

Randall-Bold Water Treatment Plant in Oakley was our first stop. At the plant, I was impressed with how automated it was having a control room filled with monitors that would sound an alarm if the water wasn't being processed as planned. John Parsons (Water Treatment Supervisor) walked us through the many important phases this plant played in making our



water safe to drink. He told us that water is first treated with alum so the particles in the water will clump together forming gunks which sink to the bottom and removed, then the water is pumped through an Ozone chamber to be sterilized; through this process about 95% of water will be purified.

Next, we went to the Old River Pump Station (near Discovery Bay). This was one of several delta water intake sites we viewed. Large debris from the water were sieved out as it ran through metal slotted screen and pumped into the Los Vaqueros Reservoir.

After that, the driver drove us to Los Vaqueros Marina. Jim told the Marina is fairly new because few years ago the

dam was raised some thirty eight feet higher which rendered the old marina useless. The project increases the water storage capacity substantially. The new marina area looked denuded with no trees along the shore. We then were treated to a Naturalist's talk about conserving habitats for animal

and insect species specific to our area. He showed us a Northern California Rattle Snake and a Gopher

snake. He let people hold the gopher snake (which Trudy and Grace did). He also had two tarantulas which he took out and let walk on his arm. He said they only bite when they think what they bite is food. If they do bite, it will not cause any bad reaction or swelling, so you don't have to be afraid of them.

After the talk, we were each given bag lunch consisting of a great sandwich, a cup of potato salad, a large cookie and organic sodas for beverage. The planned 1/2 hour boat ride on the reservoir was canceled because of the wind as the boat has a canopy that would catch the wind and blow the boat off course. It was just as well as at that time most of us were ready to go back....The tour lasted almost seven hours, but was well worth it.

CCWD sponsors 4 tours a year two in May and two in September. If you are interested, call Jim at 925 688 8175 in advance to save a place for you. ♦



WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Sun. June 1 ~ Hat/Mite Box

Mon. June 2 ~ Board Mtg 2:15p

Mon. June 17 ~ Dinner out with Friends & Family, 6:00 pm Oakhurst Country Club

Looking Ahead...

Mon. July 14, 6 pm ~ Planning Meeting I - at Joyce Liebe's, Potluck: A-L Salads

Mon. Aug 4, 6 pm ~ Planning Meeting II - at Cherylene Brueckner's, Potluck: M-Z Salads

Women of Holy Cross

BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON Sunday, May 18th.

The women hosted this potluck. It was a fun time for all. The food was plentiful and a variety of salads and hot dishes. The parish hall was so pretty with blue tablecloths and balloons. Joyce Liebe led us in a devotion, Mike led is in prayer. We had conversation starters about birthdays on each table. We enjoyed laughter and good music. Thanks to everyone who came and all who served. What a truly fun event. Thanks for the sharing of ideas and help all year long. — Carol Lau



Jeannie Stadler

Jeannie received her Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Saint Mary's College on May 25, 2014. She is the daughter-in-law of Scott and Idalene Stadler.

McKenna Christine Patrick

McKenna is a 2014 Graduate of Buchanan High School in Clovis, CA. She will attend Point Loma Christian University's Nursing Program. McKenna is the grand-daughter of Ron & Dee Jakel



Veronica Lynne Smith (aka Ronnie)

Veronica is a 2014 Graduate of Bearean Christian High School. She will be attending Diablo Valley College and then transfer to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She will be perusing a career as an architect. She is the grand-daughter of Ron and Dee Jakel

Thank You Notes

From the Choir Director:

A BIG NOTE OF THANKS to all the wonderful ladies of the Holy Cross Choir for another joyous season of proclaiming God's Word with music. Thank you also to Sally for accompanying and Marla for working with us as needed. I am so blessed to be part of such a talented, dedicated, fun, loving, and generous group! Enjoy your summer! —Diana Meux

THANK YOU to everyone who has been praying for and/or donated to my sister Julie's breast cancer fund. The past few weeks she had fun coloring her hair different shades before our little "hair shaving" party on 5/25. She has TNBC, an aggressive form, and has now started chemo and feeling the negative effects already. If you still wanted to donate to help her with medical expenses, you can go to the website: <https://www.giveforward.com/fundraiser/cpg4/julie-s-breast-cancer-fund> until about 7/3/14 when the fundraiser closes. Don't feel obligated though; prayers are most certainly welcome! Thank you again. Any support of any kind is so greatly appreciated! God bless, Diana Meux





June 2014



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9:30a Worship w/ Comm 10:30a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	2 2:15P WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7p Boy Scout (H)	3	4 7p Bible Study	5 9:30a CVWC Craft	6	7 8a-noon Rummage sale (H)
8 <i>HC Choir sings at Grace Lutheran in El Cerritos</i> 9:30a Worship w/ Comm / Confirmation 10:30a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	9 7p Boy Scout (L)	10	11 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study	12 9:30a CVWC Craft	13 9a NF to Chabot Space & Science Ctr	14
15 9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School/ No Bible Study today 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	16 1p HC Bridge -(H) 6:30p Church Council 7p Boy Scout (L)	17 6P Church Dinner at Oakhurst Country Club 6:30p Elders' Meeting	18 7p Bible Study	19 9:30a CVWC Craft	20	21
22 9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School/Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH 3p CNH District Discussion 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	23 7p Boy Scout (L)	24	25 7p Bible Study	26 9:30a CVWC Craft	27 9:45a NFS Lunch Outing, Tarantino's Restaurant in SF	28
29 9:30a Worship w/ Comm 10:30a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	30					

(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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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

Communion 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays

Adults Bible Studies 10:30AM

Sunday School 10:30AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday 12:30PM Conference Room, Ladies
Summer Break, Resumes in August

Wednesday 7:00PM Parish Hall

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday 7:15PM—8:45PM, Resumes in Sept.

Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month after Service

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

* July/August Cross Currents: July 22, 2014

Office Hours: M-F 9AM-1PM

* **Note:** July & August Cross Currents will be a combined issue