



# Cross Currents



Volume 8 Issue 109

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

September 2013

## Prayer as the First Resort



MESSAGE  
FROM

PASTOR CHU

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The point of the July/August 2013 newsletter article was that we have the privilege and power of prayer from and to our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier as a first resort rather than last, which is a great comfort especially when we feel the burden of chaos and uncertainty in life, including those brought on by world and national events.

At the time of this writing, the Middle East situation has worsened. Egypt is at the very least on the verge of civil war. Britain is poised to launch a strike against Syria's President Assad who has used chemical weapons against his own people. The United States is reportedly ready to follow Britain's lead pending international cooperation. All the while, Russia and Iran, which is racing toward nuclear armament, are warning the West against such actions, and Israel has its finger on the trigger.

Racial tension continues to boil in this country. Several recent black-on-white murders have highlighted what some see as a presumption by civil rights leaders, politicians, and the media, of a "racial context" in white-on-black crimes but a rush to dismiss race as an issue in black-on-white crimes. They point out that many who were quick to denounce Travon Martin's shooting death by George Zimmerman (dubbed a "white Hispanic" by the New York Times) as racially motivated are now silent or guarded in their responses and reporting on the August 16 shooting death of Australian college student, Chris Lane, in Oklahoma by 3 teenage male suspects, two of whom are black, the August 21 beating death of 88 year old WWII veteran Delbert Belton, in Spokane, WA, by 2 teenage black male suspects, and the August 12 shooting death of David

Santucci in Memphis, TN, by 3 young black suspects (2 males, 1 female). They note how one civil rights leader who said on July 15 that "if Travon Martin were not a young black male, he would be alive today" refers to Chris Lane's murder only as a "senseless violence [that] is frowned upon and the justice system must prevail."

The normalization of sin advanced as California students can now participate in uni-sex sports and use whichever gender bathroom they wish based on their self-determined gender identity. The state legislature passed and the governor has signed into law on August 12 Assembly Bill 1266 to amend Section 221.5 of the Education Code, which now reads in part, "(f) A pupil shall be permitted to participate in sex-segregated school programs and activities, including athletic teams and competitions, and use facilities consistent with his or her gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on the pupil's records." (Underline added for emphasis)

Attacks on Christianity and the teachings of God's Word intensified with the August 22 unanimous ruling by New Mexico's Supreme Court that Christian wedding photographer Elaine Huguenin and her husband, owners of Elane Photography, violated the state's Human Rights Act when they refused, on religious grounds, to photograph a lesbian commitment ceremony in 2006; Elaine and Jonathan Huguenin are Christians who believe in the Biblical teaching that marriage is the union of one man and one woman. In his concurring opinion, Justice Richard Bosson's noted that though the Huguenins "now are compelled by law to compromise the very religious beliefs that inspire their lives..."

(Continued on page 2, Prayer)

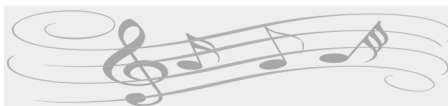
## prayer

*(Continued from page 1)*

*The Huguenins are free to think, to say, to believe, as they wish; they may pray to the God of their choice and follow those commandments in their personal lives wherever they lead... But... in the smaller, more focused world of the marketplace, of commerce, of public accommodation, the Huguenins have to channel their conduct, not their beliefs, so as to leave space for other Americans who believe something different. That compromise is part of the glue that holds us together as a nation, the tolerance that lubricates the varied moving parts of us as a people. That sense of respect we owe others, whether or not we believe as they do... In short, I would say to the Huguenins, with the utmost respect: it is the price of citizenship.* — What is down the road for churches and pastors who refuse to officiate same-sex weddings or teach what the Bible teaches, that homosexuality is a sin?

... .. Thank God that He is Lord of the Church. Thank God that He is Lord of heaven and earth. Thank God for Jesus whose death on the cross atoned for the sins of all. Thank God for the Gospel of forgiveness and salvation by grace through faith in Jesus that can and will bring about repentance. Thank God that He does not wish any to perish but that all come to saving faith in Jesus Christ. Thank God for His Word that will accomplish the purpose which He sends it. Thank God that He has called us to faith and washed us in Holy Baptism to be His own, to be the light of the world and the salt of earth, to proclaim His Word faithfully, trusting that He will accomplish His will through His Word. And thank God for the gift, power, and promises of prayer in the name of Jesus for believers and unbelievers alike.

In the words of Mordecai to Queen Esther in Esther 4:14, *"Who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"* Fact is, God has placed us in the Kingdom in and for a time such as ours to pray for unbelievers, for the faith and faithfulness faith of God's saints, and for our leaders, and to be the voice of God's Word of Law and Gospel to our world. Thank God that in such a time as this in which God has placed us, we are not alone; God is with us and He is in control. †

**ATTENTION SINGERS!**

CHOIR resumes Tuesday, September 3 at 7:15 pm in the choir loft. Come join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord! We rehearse three Tuesdays per month, and typically sing 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays plus festival days. September rehearsals are September 3, 10, and 17.

Music is such a blessing from God. Even scientific studies have shown group singing releases oxytocin, a chemical that manages anxiety and stress. 😊

We have lost a few members and are really in need of more members in our music ministry. If you're thinking about joining, please prayerfully consider and contact the choir director Diana Meux at 510-526-3294; or email [dianamcm02@yahoo.com](mailto:dianamcm02@yahoo.com) Thank you!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the last Sunday in September. Holy Cross is having a congregational Pot-luck fellowship and game day after the worship service. Come bring a dish to share and join us for a game of Ping Pong, Table Hockey, Foosball or board and card games.

Don't forget...  
SUNDAY, SEPT 29th!

## September 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 Roberts
- 24** Melarie Seidel
- 26** Brian Gin  
Jaan Kaigas
- 27** Caitlin Pass
- 28** Ken Ballard

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3** Bill & Gayle Bothe
- 13** Mike & Melarie Seidel



### *Those who are in need our prayers:*

**Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Lloyce Logan** (J. West sister-in-law), **Joy Parker** (G. Bothe's sister), **Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor** (Karen Gamble's mom), **Robert & David Grandt** (Liz Aduan's brothers), **Pauline Fudge** (Liz Aduan's Aunt-heart failure) **Inge Stone, Elizabeth Bothé** (G. Bothe's granddaughter-7yrs. Non-churched), **Abbi and Alex Roman, June Stewart** (J. West's friend), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Betty Kallsen, Bonnie Holmer** (G. Bothe's aunt), **Billy Godsey, Taggart** (JoEllen's nephew-healing), **Jenny** (JoEllen's sister-Taggart's mom), **Karen and Gary Cox** (J. West's friends-cancer), **Bill Kreitz** (Cheryl's brother-cancer treatments), **Steven Liedtke** (healing), **Esther Lacey and Bernice Aiman** (V. Griffin's sisters-elder care), **Karen Traficante** (G. Syrovatka's co-worker's wife-cancer-healing/solace), **George Fraine** (K. Chu's friend's father-stage 4 cancer), **Eyona Pargman** (healing-surgery), **Matt Goodshaw** (Brueckner's family friend-melanoma, treatments-healing), **Scott Stadler** (recovery-knee surgery), **Revia Maurer** (recovery-knee surgery), **Terry Hawkyard** (healing), **Don Roberts** (healing-knee replacement), **Sherry Liebe** (healing-fall), **Philip Aduan** (hand-healing), **Marla Kuefner** (healing-surgery).

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

**Cpl. Michael Dawers** (Bill Koch's grandson), **Taylor Bothe-Yates** (Gayle Bothe's grand-niece), **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-4<sup>th</sup> tour-Afghanistan), **Army Recruit Kevin Hayworth** (Glenda's grandson-Basic training), **P.O.W. and M.I.A.'s**

## Nifty Fifty Outings for Sept 2013

### **Lunch at D.J. Bistro Restaurant, Thursday Sept 12**

D J Bistro's forte is Wiener Snitzel, Bratwurst and Sauerbraten with Red Cabbage and Spatzel. A variety of German draft beer is offered in half liters to quench your thirst. It is located at 1825 Sutter Street, Concord, across from the Park and Shop Center in Concord. Carpool at church at 12:15, leave at 12:30. Lunch is at 1:00. If you haven't been to this place before, I suggest you ride with someone who knows the way as it is a bit difficult to find.

Any adults is welcome, come enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow Christians. Bring a friend!

### **Mt Diablo Recycling Center Tour, Thursday Sept 26**

Mt Diablo Recycling Center is located at 1300 Loveridge Road in Pittsburg, CA. It is the largest state-of-the art recycling center in northern California with 90,000 square feet of computer generated equipments. We will learn how recyclables from ordinary trash are sorted into categories and baled for distribution to production facilities that turn used materials into new products.

We will have a 45 minutes docent guided tour of the facility and learn what and where to drop off certain recyclables such as motor oil, prescription med, etc...

We plan to have lunch around 1:00 at the Olive Garden in Antioch, where all you can eat pasta and soup or salad cost \$9.99 or just soup and salad with bread sticks for \$6.95. They also have an extensive lunch menu.

Our tour is at 11:00AM. We **meet at church at 10:00** and leave at 10:15. **Please sign up in the parish hall and bring a friend!**

## Used Book Sale

Sunday, Sept. 22

**In Parish Hall after church  
(10:30am – 1:30pm)**



### Money raised will to go into parking lot fund.

We will have hardcover & paperback books (fiction, non-fiction, cookbooks, beginning readers, self-help, kids, biography, etc.) as well as books on tape, CDs, & DVD.



### Event is open to everyone.

#### We encourage you to:

- ◇ donate books (thanks to those that have already donated!)
- ◇ ask others to donate books
- ◇ invite others to come shop
- ◇ AND for you to come shop

**NOTE: we will be setting up after the 9/21 Welcome Back Brunch. If you are able to help, you can have early chance at checking out the books**

**p.s. please NO encyclopedias, textbooks, or magazines**



## N. F. S. ACTIVITY RECAPS BY MARV KREITZ

### **Mac's Old House** July 25 2013

For this outing, we were disappointed to only had four participants: Jack and Doris, Bill Reichmann and I. Mac's is one of my favorite eating place...in fact, I go there at least three or four times a month. I had what I usually have the ground round with potato salad, vegetables and their great bowl of Minestrone soup along with a basket of bread...it's almost a meal in itself, and the cost, \$6.95. My whole meal including \$2.00 tip and coffee comes to \$12.00. Jack had the Red Snapper Doris had the ground round and Bill, I can't remember. We all went our way well satisfied. I enjoy going out to eat even though we only had a small group.



### **Amtrak Trip to Old Sacramento** Aug. 8th 2013

It was a beautiful day when the seven of us, Bill Luker, Grace Gin, Allen and Cherylene Brueckner, Gregg and Cheryl Syrovatka and I, set out from church for the train station in Martinez for a ride to Old Sacramento. Because we went in a group, we only paid \$18 per round trip ticket, saving \$20 each! When we got to the station getting ready to board, I realized I had just a print out of the transaction not the actual tickets. Thanks to Grace and Gregg who asked the clerk at the counter to print the tickets for us, we boarded on time...Whoopee. The car was nearly empty so we had our choice of seat.



The ride was delightful and the scenery beautiful. The trip took about

an hour and ten minutes. When we arrived in Old Sacramento the Red Cap Service was there with a golf cart that carried the seven of us down into old Sac. and dropped us off near the Train museum. We walked two blocks to the Fat City Restaurant where we made our Reservations at 12:30 in amble time.

We were ushered into a small glass partitioned dinning room with stained glass panels interspersed artfully and beautiful Tiffany chandeliers overhead. As we were just seated, guess who then came in....Trudy Huenninghaus with her friend Carol. They were having lunch there and plan to a play, The King and I, at a theater nearby! What a coincident!



The day's special was Ruben Sandwich on Pretzel Buns. Several of us ordered it. As they ate, they waded about the portion size and juiciness of the corn beef. I had a pulled pork sandwich with fries and cold slaw. Grace had Angel Hair Pomodoro with Prawns. She enjoyed it so much that she cleaned the plate!

After lunch we separated and played the part of tourists. Some went down by the river others just went visiting the many shops...I had an ice cream cone. The Red Cap driver picked us up at 3:00 where he dropped off. We got to station when the train was ready for boarding; we were first on and seated wherever we pleased. The ride back was as much fun as going...aren't you sorry you missed this outing.



## The Brass Door Restaurant

August 22, 2013

Trina Godsey and the Mortensons carpooled with me while Bob Hartman went with Herb and Marilyn Newman to the Brass Door. When we arrived Erna and her friend Dick, Dave and Ann Caruso as well as Bill Reichmann were already seated...Pat Kroeger and Karen her guest joined us later so we had 14 for lunch. What a blessing.

Each table setting: three forks, two spoons and a knife, was neatly placed on a linen tablecloth setting the stage for a delightful lunch. Soon after we were seated, we were served piping hot bread dripping with butter. We had two waitresses that couldn't do enough to make our lunch enjoyable. I had the Senior Dinner, ground sirloin with mashed potatoes, vegetables and mushroom gravy, served with soup or salad and dessert for \$13.50. A few others also had what I recommended and gave it a thumbs up. Dave and Marilyn had sherbet for dessert and I had an Ice Cream Sunday. Pat had a shrimp sandwich of some kind. Jack had a pizza dish that looked fantastic... They handled the separate billing including tax in a very professional manner. The food and service were excellent and we left feeling satisfied. We should plan another lunch trip here soon!



## Who Are the Fats

by Grace Gin

Since the Nifty Fifty's has eaten at Fat City Bar and Café several times on their outings to Old Sac, I thought you may like to learn a little history of its proprietor.

"Fat City Bar and Café is owned by the family of the legendary Frank Fat of Sacramento. In 1939, he opened his first restaurant, Frank Fat's Restaurant, two blocks from the capital in Sacramento. It is still operating at the same location for 74 years by the same family and is the oldest restaurant in Sacramento and maybe the entire west.

Frank, whose Chinese name was Dong Sai-Fat, had a humble beginning. In 1919, he immigrated to the US from Canton, China at the age of 15. He worked on any jobs he could find, picked fruit, washed dishes and waited tables. He was able to obtain a business loan in the 1930's from a influential state official because of his honesty, which enabled him to open his first restaurant, Frank Fat's, near the capital.

In the 1980s, Fat's was coined as California's "Third House" where many landmark bills were negotiated over meals and tort reform originated from the famous "napkin deal". From a "Blind Pig" eatery, Frank Fat's had grown into the most popular Chinese-American restaurant in Sacramento frequent by not only the Capitol crowd, but also families, business executives, world travelers and entertainment and sports personalities.

Besides Fat City Bar and Café, the Frank Fat, Inc. operates and owns more than five restaurants throughout California.. The Fat family is an integral part of Sacramento history."

Excerpt from "From Humble Beginnings to a California Icon: Frank Fat's Celebrates 70 Years", Sacramento Press, [Shannon Mayo](#), published on July 23, 2009

## The mind of Christ

Kate Wilkinson (1859-1928), who ministered to young women in west London, wrote only one hymn. "May the Mind of Christ, My Savior" is a powerful message based on Philippians 2:5. "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus" (NRSV).

Here are a few verses, which can also serve as prayers:

May the mind of Christ, my Savior,  
Live in me from day to day,  
By his love and power controlling  
All I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly  
In my heart from hour to hour,  
So that all may see I triumph  
Only through his power.

May his beauty rest upon me,  
As I seek the lost to win,  
And may they forget the channel,  
Seeing only him.

©The Newsletter, September 2013, pg.7.



## WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS

### Event Schedule

**Today, September 1,  
Mite Box/Hat Sunday**

**September 13-15,  
Friday- Sunday, District  
Fall Retreat**, St Francis  
Ctr. ,San Juan Bautista

**September 21, Saturday  
11:30am-1:30pm  
"Welcome Back  
Brunch"**, info. below

**September 22, Sunday,  
after service, Used Book  
Sale**

*Looking Ahead...*

**October 13, LWML SUNDAY** "You are my Witnesses", Luke 24: 44-53 and **"Bake Sales for Mites"**, everyone is welcome to donate a few special baked goodies! Help with set up & cleanup. Sign up sheets to follow.

**October 19, Saturday, ZONE RALLY** at Benicia Lutheran Church. We will car pool from Holy Cross. These can be very interesting & fun. All ladies are welcome! WATCH FOR THE SIGN UP SHEET.....

*It's Back! It's Back! It's Back!*  
**November 8 - 9, Friday & Saturday**

**"Holiday Hutch Corner Café"** will be open, serving breakfast, light lunch, coffee, and more...

*come on down meet your friends, sit and chat just like the good ole day! Men*

**Attention past board members:** if you have a WOHC/LWML purple folder, please pass it on to those that have taken your position. Thank you.

### **Welcome Back Brunch** **Sat, Sept 21, 11:30AM- 1:30PM**

By Pat Easby

**Theme: "Formal Wear", Past & Present  
Devotion: "What not to wear"**

A COMICAL READING by 5 of our Holy Cross Ladies! Good laughs.

**We need vintage type clothing**, shoes, gloves, suits, wedding/bridesmaid dresses, cruise ship, prom dresses (**past & present**), etc.



**You may wear  
the clothing/jewelry/**

**shoes, etc. to the Brunch**, or we will display it for you. We'd like to have your items days early in order to display them nicely. *Be sure to mark everything you bring.; more information will follow.*

*AND... We will have a fun and very interesting **"show & tell"** time.* Start looking through your closets, drawers & boxes; you may be surprised at what you'll find!

Invite your friends, family, neighbors, etc. Dress in the past, present, or come as you are; Guaranteed a good time! **See you on**

**Sept. 21!** *Come on, teens too!*

Questions:

call Cherylene, Pat, Idalene, Joyce, Carol, or any board member.

Sign up sheet will be out soon.



### **Gospel Outreach**

by Gayle Gothe

It is September again and the Women of Holy Cross will be starting up their activities again. One of the things we do is participate with the LWML. One of the ways we do that is also open to our whole congregation - men, women, and children. On the first Sunday of the month we put out tray(s) in front of the first pew and people bring forward their mites - change, bills, checks - they have set aside during the month. These mites from our church join with those from other congregations in Calif., Nev., and Hawaii and do a mighty good toward furthering God's Kingdom in our area and around the world. Please check out the bulletin board in the narthex and in hallway of the Parish Hall to see how far along we are in supporting the Mission Grant Projects. THANK YOU THANK YOU to all who are moved to give!!!



*Thank you!*

I want to thank everyone so much for their continued prayers for my Aunt Bonnie. She has recovered so well from the last incident (lots of blood loss) that she has been able to go home. Both she and my Uncle Gordon so appreciate all our prayers for her recovery. Please continue to hold her up that she may continue to live at home.

Thank you, Gayle Bothe

### *Monday Women's* **BIBLE STUDY**

will resume on **September 16<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30pm - 2:00pm** in the Conference Room. **All Women** are invited to share God's Word. The studies will be from our Lutheran Women's Quarterly magazine. Hope to see you then.

### **Phone Update**

Sue O'Malley no longer has a land line. You can reach her on her cell phone at

(925)586-6000

Please update your directory.



# SEPTEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Mite Box /Hat Sunday <b>9:30a Worship w/ Comm</b> 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	2 7p Boy Scout (H)	3 7:15p Choir	4 7p Bible Study	5 9:30a CVWC Craft	6	7
8 <b>9:30a Worship</b> 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	9 7p Boy Scout (H)	10 6:30p Elder's Meeting 7:15p Choir	11 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study	12 9:30a CVWC Craft 12:15p NFS Lunch Outing at BJ Bistro	13	14
15 <b>9:30a Worship w/ Comm</b> 10:30a Book Sale 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	16 12:30p Wm Bible Study 1:30p Bridge (H) 7p Boy Scout (L) 6:30p Church Council	17 7:15p Choir	18 7p Bible Study	19 9:30a CVWC Craft	20	21 11:30a WoHC Welcome Back Brunch
22 <b>9:30a Worship</b> 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	23 12:30p Wm Bible Study 7p Boy Scout (L)	24	25 7p Bible Study	26 9:30a CVWC Craft 10a NFS Mt Diablo Recycling Ctr Tour	27	28
29 <b>9:30a Worship w/ Comm</b> 10:30a Pot-luck Fellowship 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	30 12:30p Wm Bible Study 7p Boy Scout (L)					

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



Holy Cross Lutheran Church,  
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**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  
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, 2013