



Cross Currents



Volume 6 Issue 107

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

June 2013

**Holy Cross
Lutheran
Church, LCMS**

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From the Editor:

The July/August Cross Currents will be combined into one. The deadline for that issue is July 22, 2013.

He is "our refuge and strength,...."

If you've been on a cruise, you're familiar with the mandatory safety drill that teaches you how to put on your life vest properly and where you are to assemble with your life vest in case of emergency.

During the safety drill on a recent cruise, we were assured that should there be a need to abandon ship, trained crewmembers would be available to assist those who need help (e.g., those in wheel chairs) getting to the lifeboats.

As I attended this drill on Easter Sunday afternoon shortly before we sailed, I looked at the crew members stationed around the theater and wondered, "If the ship were to take on water, would they and the rest of the crew really risk and even sacrifice their lives to help/save passengers who cannot get to the lifeboats on their own?"

I had little doubt that many, if not most, of them would do everything they could — and some might even give up their lives — to save passengers. I also had little doubt that a few of them

would abandon ship and passengers in order to save themselves, which was what the Captain and some crew members of the Costa Concordia, which ran aground and capsized in 2012, did; they abandoned ship and left passengers to fend for themselves, 32 of whom died.

If we were crewmembers on a sinking ship, would we sacrifice ourselves to save people we don't even know?

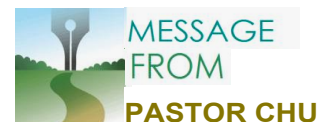
If we had been at the Boston marathon bombing, would we have risked our-

selves to tend to the injured, knowing that other explosions might follow? Many first responders and runners risked their lives to help the injured. We pray that in such situations we would have the courage and resolve to help, even at risk to ourselves, but the only thing we can say with certainty is that we won't know for certain until we face such situations.

We thank God that Jesus willingly and willfully sacrificed Himself on the cross for us and for all people to save us, not from physical death, but from eternal, endless suffering and death — the certain fate of all sinners apart from faith in Jesus and His atoning death for salvation. Jesus died to save sinners! That was and is the Good News of Good Friday. The crucified Christ has been raised from the dead, and because He is risen and lives, we and all who trust in Him as Savior will also be raised from the dead and live with Him forever. That was and is the Good News of Easter.

And the Good News on top of this Good News is that this same Jesus, who died and has been raised for us, is with us. He is with us in good times and bad. He is with us always (Matthew 28:20) and will not abandon us (Deuteronomy 31:8).

People often wonder during and after tragedies why God allows suffering. We know that all suffering is a result of sin, but we also know that God is God and He is omnipotent (Genesis 17:1; Psalm



(Continued on page 2, Strength)

Strength (Continued from page 1)

115:3; Matthew 19:26) and He is good (Psalm 136:1). So why does He allow suffering? He can avert natural disasters; why doesn't He do so more often? He could have stopped the bombers in Boston or the tornados in Oklahoma. Why didn't He? How are we to make sense of tragedies in view of the Almighty God who is Good?

Many answers will be offered. Some answers will comfort. Some answers might help us begin to make sense of tragedies and sufferings, to the extent that any sense can be made of tragedies at all. No answer can or will adequately plumb the wisdom of God.

What we know for certain is that whatever situation we find ourselves in, we are in the hands of the all-powerful, good, and gracious Savior who so loved us that He sacrificed himself to save us. It won't take away the pain or stop our tears. But God assures us that He, *"the eternal God, is [our] dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms"* (Deuteronomy 33:27) and He is *"our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble"* (Psalm 46:10). †

Vacation Bible School

Holy Cross is not having Vacation Bible School this summer. First Lutheran (Concord) and Faith Lutheran (Pleasant Hill) will be having theirs. If interested, their VBS fliers are available at our church office.

Special Events in June

1. Marsha Burch Memorial Service
Saturday, June 8, 2013 at 11AM
2. Josh Coyne - Confirmation -
Sunday, June 9, 2013
3. Madison Jean Mourelatos - Baptism - Sunday, June 9, 2013
Daughter of Michael and Amy (Beutel) Mourelatos
4. "California-Nevada-Hawaii District's Role, Function, and Relationship to Congregations." - June 23, 2013, 3:00PM at Holy Cross - Discussion led by Rev. Richard Rice, Pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church and the District Regional Vice President (Southern Region)

**Women of Holy Cross
Annual Dinner Out
with Family & Friends**

Monday, June 24, 6:00 pm
at

New Lim's Garden

Seafood Restaurant

4340 Clayton Road, Concord CA

Cost \$16

(tax and tips included)

**Everyone is invited,
save the cooking for another day!**

For Reservations,
please sign up on the Parish Hall
bulletin board and pay ahead
to Grace or Joyce by June 19.



**June Birthdays &
Anniversaries**

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 |
| 23 | Denise Joy Brown |
| 25 | Gayle Bothe |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 8 | Cal & Betty Kallsen |
| 17 | John & Sandy Coyne |
| 24 | Walter & Nancy Hoffman |
| | Don & Marlene Roberts |
| 27 | Bob & Diana Butterfield |
| 29 | Pastor Bill & Carol Chu |

Dinner Menu**Appetizer**

Fried Prawns & Egg Rolls

Soup

Minced Chicken & Cream Corn

Entrees

Chicken with Lettuce Wraps

Deep Fried Sole

Prawn with Honey Walnut

Beef with String Beans

Salt and Pepper Pork Chop

General Zuo's Chicken

Dessert

Fortune Cookies



*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-7yrs. Non-churched), **Abbi and Alex Roman, June Stewart** (Judy West's friend), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Herb Borchers, Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Betty Kallsen, Marjorie Keisling** (Pat Kroeger's sister), **Bonnie Holmer** (Gayle Bothe's aunt), **Billy Godsey, JoEllen Roesti** (pregnancy), **Taggart** (JoEllen's nephew-healing), **Jenny** (Taggart's mother), **Karen and Gary Cox** (Judy West's friends-cancer), **Bill Kreitz** (Cheryl's brother-cancer treatments), **Lucas** (Reiter's grandson), **Steven Liedtke** (healing), **Esther Lacey and Bernice Aiman** (Violet Griffin's sisters-elder care), **Karen Traficante** (Gregg Syrovatka's co-worker's wife-cancer-healing/solace), **George Fraine** (Kimberly Chu's friend's father-stage 4 cancer), **Eyona Pargman** (healing-surgery), **Elza Hess** (healing, guidance for career), **Matt Goodshaw** (Brueckner's family friend-melanoma, treatments-healing), **Carlene Seghezzi** (Carol Lau's sister-breast cancer).

**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-4th tour-Afghanistan), **Army Recruit Kevin Hayworth** (Glenda's grandson-Basic training), **P.O.W. and M.I.A.s.**



Carla and Mike Neer are proud to announce the graduation of their daughter, **Kayla** from Clayton Valley Charter High

School on May 30, 2013. Kayla received both Academic and Band Letters for all four years at Clayton Valley. She was active in Rally and Marching Band and enjoyed mentoring her class mates.

Kayla plans to attend San Francisco State University with a major in Creative Writing in the fall.



Nifty Fifty activities for June 2013

ROSIE THE RIVETER June 13 2013

World War II home front National Historic Park located at 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, Cal 94804 I'll bet most of you didn't know that on the Bay-side of the hills in Richmond there is a National Park representing the American women who worked in factories during World War II, many whom produced munitions and war supplies. These women sometimes took entirely new jobs replacing the male workers who were in the military. Rosie the Riveter is commonly used as a symbol of feminism and woman's economic power. If you can work and eggbeater you can work a drill was the motto. This is a National Park like Mt Diablo with Gates a Visitor Center where they show movies which we plan on visiting at 2:00 PM. Docent Flora Nomiya will show "Blossoms and Thorns" plus a second short film clip on Home Front Heroes. There is a Rosie the Riveter Memorial, a Kaiser Shipyard, a World War II Liberty Ship and the old Ford Assembly Plant where we plan on eating. They have opened a restaurant where they had the old boiler room (it's all renovated) The Ranger I

talked to said it was quite good. We plan on eating then poking around the park until 2:00 when we meet the Docent at the Visitors Center. We can decide if we want to spend more time visiting in the park after the presentation...Meet at church at 11:45 leave at 12:00 Should be a very interesting outing ...

JADE GARDEN RESTAURANT Friday June 28th 2013

The second outing is lunch at the Jade Garden Restaurant located in the shopping center at Ygnacio and Oak Grove Road....at 1:00 on Friday June 28th Most of you have eaten there and know how really great the lunches are...It's Chinese food and they include soup and tea with their lunches....I usually have their Kung-Po Shrimp which is hot, but I remove the peppers which then makes it the way I like it. They usually seat us in the back area which gives us some privacy. This outing is very low key and reasonable (less than \$10.00) but it gives us a chance to meet with Christian friends so just sign up and meet at church at 12:30 and leave at 12:45. It's just over the hill from church..But please sign up! Bring a friend!

NFS ACTIVITY RECAPS

BY MARV

D.J. Bistro Restaurant ~ May 9th 2013

We didn't plan to have many attending because Trudy and her friend Karol didn't make it, but we ended up with eight. This restaurant is one of our favorite eating places. I had what I always have the Yager Snitzel with red Cabbage and Spratzel; Jack and Doris had the the Wiener Snitzel. I asked Jack the difference between Yager Snitzel and Wiener Snitzel and he said with the Wiener Snitzel you get Potato Salad and with the Yager Snitzel you get red cabbage and Spratzel. Now we all know....most had the ½ liter of beer. It was a great outing and every one seemed to have a good time. Of special note the sever was a very nice lady named Monika. She said she was a good friend of Peter and Analiesia Liedtke and that she was planning on attending our Church because of the special people she already knew there, so if you see someone you don't recognize...go out of your way to be friendly.



The Red Lobster Restaurant ~ May 23rd 2013

It was a little cool as we started out from Church to the Red Lobster Restaurant in Pittsburg. From the start, I knew it was going to be a fun day as when I arrived at Church, everyone was talking up a storm. There were seven of us going so we easily fitted into two cars. I made the mistake of asking Bill Morfeld if he knew the way. Of course, since he had practiced in that area, he knew the shortest way too! I said I would follow him. Trudy, and Bill Reichmann rode with me, Karol, Trudy's friend, rode with Doc and his lovely wife Roberta, Bob Hartman went direct. They started right out. I tried to follow but we got separated somewhere along the way. They were waiting to be seated when we arrived. I didn't realize how big the restaurant was till they led us around to our table in the back area. I ordered the Cat Fish lunch which came with a choice of soup or salad. Trudy and Bob Hartman ordered the Shrimp dinner and must have received 24 or more shrimp, more than they could eat, so Doc and I had a sample. I had my usual cup of coffee while most of the others had beer or a mixed drink. Doc had a custom mixed drink as he informed the bartender how he wanted it



made. Just like when James Bond 007 orders a martini he wants it a certain way 'Stirred not Shaken'. We all had a delightful lunch and enjoyable day....

The Oakland Zoo ~ April 24th 2013

There were only four signed up to go to the Zoo, which was a little disappointing being that we had talked about it and posted info about it in the Bulletin and Cross Current's; however, Annaliesia Liedtke joined us. It was in the 60's and windy in Oakland.

We arrived at our pick up point on time even though we missed the entrance to the Zoo and had to go back.



We were welcomed by two smiling docents right on time with two Golf Carts. They were very knowledgeable concerning the Zoo. We rode two in one cart and three in the second cart. The first thing they did was ask if anyone was cold and several said they were. They brought out blankets for everyone... reminded me of Minnesota when we went riding on a cold day...blankets made it real cozy. I was impressed with the up keep of the Zoo; every display was immaculate. Where there is

(Continued on page 5, Z00)

Zoo (Continued from page 4)

water in a display it is usually tainted around the edges, but not here. Every display was clean and like what you would expect if you saw the animals in their natural habitat. In fact every display we visited, the animals were active. At the Elephant display one of the elephants was in the water eating cut up apples float-



ing on the water with his trunk.. they used it like a hand to put food in their mouths. We were so close and could see the tip of its trunk grasp the apple.

In the Aviary, a Stork, about four feet tall, was strutting around flapping his wings. I think he was feeling his oats, being spring.

In the Giraffe exhibit, one of the giraffe stood in front of us and let his tongue hang out. It's blue and about a foot long which enables the giraffe to pull vegetation off high trees. The color blue help keeps it from being sun burnt. We saw apes swinging from trees. Camels were active, in fact, one male camel had to be separated from the others to avoid a fight! Did you know that they live together as a unit with a leader. The Docents talked about the animals on display or the Zoo in general. They did a great job. I had a great time and am ready to go back again!

Women of Holy Cross

Daughters and Mothers Luncheon Saturday, May 11, 2013

Cherylène Brueckner, our President, welcomed everyone and then turned the microphone over to Joyce Liebe, who led us in a fun ice breaker. Joyce called out different events in life and asked those who had experienced them to stand up so we could all see who might have experienced similar events throughout our lives; for example, anyone ever climb a tree?; anyone ever fall out of a tree?; anyone fluent in another language other than English?; anyone who can play the piano?; anyone who can play the violin?, and so on. It was fun to see how many had similar experiences.

Cherylène started our program off by sharing how God has blessed her life, after losing her beloved Mother at a young age. Everywhere she went, God blessed her with wonderful women who would nurture her throughout her life.

Cherylène asked each of us to write a special memory of our Mothers on the paper provided at each place setting. Many of the 30+ women who attended today's luncheon shared their memories, and it was a real blessing to hear each of them.

Cherylène thanked Idalene and her daughter Suzanne for providing the beautiful decorations. She also thanked Joyce and Mike for the wonderful entertaining videos which celebrated Motherhood in a humorous, touching way,

one that we could all relate to, and ending with the Mom's Song which was performed to the William Tell Overture.

She offered a huge thank you to Melarie for the beautiful lunch she prepared for us consisting of a Chicken Souffle, Broccoli Salad and a fresh roll and butter. Dessert was a scrumptious tart with whipped cream and fresh fruit. Beverages covered everyone's taste: ice water with lemon, iced tea, homemade lemonade, hot coffee or tea.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer, and after everyone helped with the cleanup, there was an additional fun event, a Baby Shower for JoEllen Roesti.

—Marilyn Neumann



JUNE ACTIVITIES

Sun. June 2 ~ Hat/Mite Box

Mon. June 3 ~ Board Meeting, 6:30 pm

Mon. June 24 ~ Dinner out with Friends & Family, 6:00 pm New Lim's Garden

Looking Ahead...

Mon. July 8 ~ Planning Meeting I, 6 pm at Sue O'Malley's, Potluck: A-L Salads

Mon. Aug 5 ~ Planning Meeting II 6 pm at Grace Gin's, Potluck: M-Z Salads



On Saturday, May 25th, 2013, our Lord called Wilma Burch's daughter-in-law, Marsha Burch, home unto himself. The Memorial Service will be held at Holy Cross on Saturday, June 8th, 2013, at 11:00AM.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Wilma and her family.

Thank You Notes



Choir Director:

THANK YOU to the dedicated Holy Cross Choir for another season of singing and ringing our praises to the Lord. The use of your time and talents for this fun fulfilling music ministry is so much appreciated. Have a restful summer and see you in the Fall! —Diana Meux

Dear Women of Holy Cross,
I am sorry for being so late to thank you all for thinking of me when I was ill, for your prayers, the crocheted blue and white cross, and the beautiful Easter Card! He has risen! Thanks for all the care you show to our congregation. May God bless you!
—Love, Trudy H.



Births *Pameron & Finnley*

Cameron Paige Smith -5/15/2013
7 lbs14 oz. to Kelly O'Malley Smith

Finnley Dalton Roesti -5/24/2013
6 lbs 3oz. to JoEllen Roesti

OUTREACH **SUNDAY - MAY 26, 2013**

Pat Easby

I arrived Sunday morning at H.C.'s kitchen to find the Reiter family and Sarah busily preparing salads for our trip to feed our friends at the shelter. Heb.12:1 and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Pastor Chu donated watermelons; **Kimberly and Carol Chu** cut them in triangles; very pretty to look at and delightful to eat! Everyone enjoyed the melon! Thank you for that wonderful treat....

We left Holy Cross at 11:30 A.M. and started serving lunch (on time) at noon.

When we walked into the shelter there were *only* 3 of our friends waiting for us. 😊

Wow...and we had tons of great food! We made and plated 30 servings of quesadilla's for the people in the intermediate care section; plus they also received a plate of the same items as the people in the regular shelter section. The handicapped were served next, we looked up a few minutes later and there was a line of guests wrapped around the room! 😊
We prayed, then recognized (Memorial Day) and thanked the veterans in our midst, before we served lunch.

Mike Liebe was our chief salad server; **Luker** filled bowls of fresh mixed fruits, and he also poured and served them drinks. **Jan** made pulled pork sandwiches; **Scott** was on buttered beets, mashed potatoes and watermelon; **Pat** served baked salmon with dill sauce, and prime rib with béarnaise sauce,. We also

served them fresh buttered buns, which they really like; **Mike** topped off the lunch by handing out **Sue O'Malley's** homemade cookies.

Thank you to those who donated food, time and talents!

...Give thanks to the Lord and Praise His name. For the LORD is good and His Love endures forever; *His faithfulness continues through all generations.* Ps. 100:4-5 ✚

Banner Making Class **9:00AM ~ Saturday, June 15**

Announcing an exciting opportunity for all the women at Holy Cross to have a part in making a beautiful new Banner to be used in our Sanctuary. We are blessed to have Jeanine Harms, Sandy Coyne's mom, who is experienced in making Banners, teach us how to make a new Banner. Jeanine and her husband will be in California for the Confirmation of their grandson, Joshua Coyne. She graciously offered to lead a Banner making class while they are here.

If you can cut, sew a straight line, use a glue gun and follow instructions, AND have a good time while doing so, then please consider signing up for this fun event.

We will meet in the Parish Hall and begin promptly at 9:00am and conclude once we have finished the Banner. Which, if we have a lot of hands working together on this, we should be finished in time for a nice lunch and great conversation before heading home.

A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Parish Hall. ✚



June 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9a-3p Myanmar Activity (H)
2 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9:30a Worship w/ Comm 10:30a Sunday School/ Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	3 6:30p WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7p Boy Scout (H)	4	5 7p Bible Study	6 9:30a CVWC Craft	7	8 11a Marsha Burch Memorial Service
9 9:30a Worship w/ Confirmation & Baptism 10:30a Sunday School/ Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	10 7p Boy Scout (L)	11 6:30p Elder's Meeting	12 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study	13 9:30a CVWC Craft 11:45a NFS Outing- Rosie Riveter	14	15 9a Banner Making Class
16 9:30a Worship w/ Comm 10:30a Sunday School/ Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	17 HC Bridge - 1:30p - Parish Hall 7p Boy Scout (L)		19 7p Bible Study	20 9:30a CVWC Craft	21	22
23 HC Choir Sings at Grace Lutheran 9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH 3p CNH District Discussion 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	24 6p WoHC Family Dinner Out 7p Boy Scout (L)	25	26 7p Bible Study	27 9:30a CVWC Craft	28 12:30p NFS Outing-Jade Garden	29
30 9:30a Worship w/ Comm 10:30a Sunday School/ Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)						

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



**Holy Cross Lutheran
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Concord, CA 94521



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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 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
Summer Break, Resumes in Sept.

Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

July/August Cross Currents: July 22, 2013

Office Hours: M-F 9AM-1PM