



Cross Currents



Volume 2, Issue 103

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

February 2013



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Before Newsweek magazine ended its eighty years of print publication with its December 31, 2012 edition, it tried to discredit Christianity with one of its last gasps. The cover of its December 10, 2012 issue asked, "Who Was Jesus?" The feature article, "What Do We Really Know About Jesus?" addressed the question to attack the historical accuracy of the four Gospels.

The author, Bart D. Ehrman, a University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, professor who specializes in the history of the New Testament, argued that the Gospels are fiction:

However valuable these writings may be for theological reflection on the meaning and importance of Jesus... they are not the sorts of historical sources that we might hope for if we are seriously engaged in trying to reconstruct the events of history. For some Christian believers that... is a liberation... from having to base faith on the uncertainties provided by the imperfect historical record...

These Gospel sources... are not historically reliable descriptions of what really happened when Jesus was born... The accounts of Jesus' life in the New Testament have never been called "histories"; instead, they have always been known as... "proclamations of the

good news"... meant to declare religious truths, not historical facts.

For believers who think that truth must, necessarily, be based on history, that probably will not be good news at all. But for those with a broader vision, a more generous appreciation of literature, and a fuller sense of theological meaning, the story of the Christ-child and his appearance in the world can be founded not on what really did happen, but on what really does happen, in the lives of those who believe that stories such as these can convey a greater truth.

(thedailybeast.com/newsweek/2012/12/09/what-do-we-really-know-about-jesus.html)

In Ehrman's and Newsweek's history of the New Testament and their understanding of the value of the Gospels, it doesn't matter whether the Biblical accounts are factual; what matters is how the "fictional" stories can speak and apply to the lives of people: it's not what's true that's important but what people find meaningful, and it's not faith in Jesus, the incarnate, crucified, risen, and ascended Son of God, but faith in our faith.

It's as if Newsweek saw fit to mock Jesus, Christianity, and Christians by denying the historicity of the New Testament even as the magazine was going out of print; this is akin to a person who curses Jesus with his dying breath. Dr. Albert Mohler ends his critique of Ehrman's essay and Newsweek with this devastating comment:

(Continued on page 2, Message)

Message (Continued from page 1)

"So, in the waning days of Newsweek as a print magazine, the editors decided to take on the New Testament. Readers should note carefully that it is Newsweek, and not the New Testament, that is going out of print."

(albertmohler.com/2012/12/11/newsweek-vs-the-new-testament-it-must-be-christmas/)

Dr. Mohler rightly points out that *"Christianity stands or falls on the truth concerning Jesus, and thus it also stands or falls on the authority and truthfulness of the Bible. What you believe about historical truth defines what you believe about Jesus Christ. Without the revealed truths of the New Testament, there is no Christianity, just superstitions and fantasies about Jesus."*

As we move into Lent and on to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, it's a good bet that we will see articles attacking the Biblical accounts of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection to try to destroy the Scriptural foundation of our faith in Christ — a faith rooted in the Jesus of the Scriptures — and move people to an individualized faith rooted in personal spirituality and sensitivities.

The proper, salutary, and salvific response to the Gospel (the Good News) that Jesus Christ was born as one of us to live the life we cannot live, offer His life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world, and raised from the dead in victory over sin, death, and Satan, is faith created by the Holy Spirit through that Gospel. The proper, salutary, and salvific response to the Gospel is trust that Jesus did what the Gospels say He did for our salvation as a gift of God's grace, so that every day and, when the time comes, with our dying breath we will confess Jesus as Savior. ✝

Ash Wednesday February 13 2013



Dinner at 5:45 p.m.

Service at 7:00 p.m.
with Imposition of
Ashes and Holy Communion

For the Wednesday evenings during Lent (February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20): We will not be having soup suppers. We will have a Bible study/discussion at 7:00 p.m. The theme will be: "The Ten Commandments: God Is Speaking to Us"

Reiter's Email Address Update

The new e-mail address for the Reiter family is

srkrkids@comcast.com. If you

have sent e-mails to the address: srkrkids@astound.net, we are not able to respond on that address.



Recycled Card Program

St Jude's Ranch for Children is in Boulder City, Nv. They take all kinds of cards and the children there make new cards to sell. There are only 2 requirements they request. We must send the whole card, so they can cut and reattach another back page. The second request is that there is no writing on the back of the cover page. They sell the cards they have created in packs of 10 for \$10. The children at St Jude receive payment for their work and learn about basic job skills and the importance of recycling. There is a plastic container in the entrance to the Social hall for the cards to be placed in. Remember all types of cards are needed.



February Choir Schedule

Rehearsals at 7:15PM
February 5, 12 and 19



Voters Meeting



Sunday, February 24
after Service



February Birthdays

4	John Coyne
5	Don Roberts
11	Rhonda Liedtke
	Sue O'Malley
12	Mike Seidel
13	Bill Koch
18	Nathan Maurer
19	Maxine Albino
20	John Beutel
	Mike Voss
22	Trina Godsey
	Tina Voss
27	Justin Beutel



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

Eyona Pargman (hand-stitches) **Debra Nourazar** (Eyona's daughter-healing),

Dale Hitzeman (Eyona's brother-in-law-strength), **Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Ellen Stenson** (Glenn Stenson's granddaughter), **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), **Alice Mikolasek** (Violet Griffin's friend), **Herb Borchers, Stephanie Woolley** (Lauretta Oliver's daughter-migraines), **Brian Fawcett** (Diane Oatis' brother), **Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Betty Kallsen, Marjorie Keisling** (Pat Kroeger's sister), **Nora Encinas** (secretary-First Lutheran) **Audrey Augilar** (Nora's niece-remove paralysis), **Pastor Phil Scharnitzke** (Our Savior Lutheran-Livermore), **Bonnie Holmer** (Gayle Bothe's aunt), **Pastor Paul and Cathy Meyer** (retired Pastor-Trinity Lutheran W.C.), **Maria Delit** (Susan Stenson's mother), **Bill Godsey, Eric Stanley** (Amber Reiter's friend-recovery heart surgery), **JoEllen Roesti** (pregnancy).

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

Jon and Mike Dawers (Bill Koch's grandsons), **Matthew Seeger, Derek Patterson and Dustin Phillips, Taylor Bothe-Yates** (Gayle Bothe's grand-niece), **Navy Spec. David Aiman, Joel and Jordan Bennett, Capt. Richard Hill** (Violet Griffin's great nephews), **Cadet Megan Gemar, Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, Army Recruit Kevin Hayworth** (Glenda's grandson-Basic training), **P.O.W. and M.I.A.s.**

Nifty Fifty Activities for February 2013

BRIDGEHEAD CAFE ANTIOCH February 7th 2013

We plan on two activities for February; the first is Lunch at the Bridgehead Cafe located at 2415 East 18th Street in Antioch Ca 94509. It is located about 6 blocks down from one of our favorite Restaurants Mac's old House on 18th Street.

Their ratings are 4 Stars or better. Top dishes are French toast (Duck with rhubarb sauce and French toast with home fries), Chicken fried steak. (Reviews state their Chicken fried steak is the best in the bay area), Eggs Benedict with Peameal Bacon and Golden Fried Chicken and Chicken Strips. Ratings also state they have the best seafood in Antioch. The restaurant is rustic much the same as Mac's old House. Seating will be interesting, in any case we should be impressed with the good wholesome food. I know I'm looking forward to going there. It's also across from a cemetery!

Lunch is scheduled for 1:00 and

we should try to car pool which is more fun..Meet at Church at 1200 plan on leaving at 12:15. Sign up so we know how many to plan on...

BLACK BEAR RESTAURANT February 28th 2013

Our 2nd outing for February is at the Black Bear Restaurant located at 700 Bancroft Road Walnut Creek Ca. 94598.

This is a Restaurant that was founded in Mt Shasta by three men that took the name Black Bear as the bear was native to the area. The Bear was big and the portions they served were big so that's how the name came about. I have eaten at the original Black Bear Restaurant in Mt Shasta and was impressed with the portions and service. Their restaurant concept sprang from a desire to bring home-style cooking and personal service back to the dining experience. Their menu provides for smaller portions if you so desire.

Meet at church at 12:15 leave at 12:30 lunch is at 1:00 Signup sheet in social hall. Bring a friend...

Creekside Cafe Rossmoor ~ Thursday, January 24, 2013

By Marv Kreitz

We had plenty of rides from Church to the Creekside Restaurant in Rossmoor....Herb and Marilyn had space for two. Bill Reichmann who arrived with a new Shinny (Red no less) Hyundai could take three. He did take Jack & Doris. I took Trudy and Christl, and we stopped to pick up Muriel Strieter at The Kensington on Geary Road then we



headed onto I680 South to

(Continued on page 4, Creekside)

Creekside *(Continued from page 3)*

Olympic Blvd, which allowed us to miss much of the downtown traffic in Walnut Creek to Rossmoor's Creekside Restaurant...

Herb was there helping seat our group. We ended up with 16 seniors and the only place they could seat us was in the Bar area. which was not as nice as the dining area....They had a special on Wine of \$4.00 so most of us had a glass..by then the conversation was going strong and you could hardly get a word in edgewise.....

I had shaved beef on a roll with French fries along with a cup of minestrone soup.



All excellent. Jack and Doris had salads that looked huge and delicious. Bill and Roberta brought a delightful guest which I understand was Bill's nurse when he had his practice ...Sue and Ken were so far down the long table I couldn't see what they had. The menu was so extensive everyone had their pick of delicious items .

I hope this write up will help convey to those not attending the camaraderie, and delightful, feelings our group has when we journey no matter where we go It's like family.. .Set aside time and date to come to our outings when you read the Cross Currents or the weekly bulletins...Like the guy on TV selling suits says" I guarantee you will like it."

Claim Jumper Restaurant~January 10th 2013

by Marv Kreitz

We had planned to go to Humphrey's on the Delta, but Humphrey's closed without notifying anyone so you seniors decided to substitute the Claim Jumper in its place...

We had 10 or 12 sign up for Humphrey's and almost everyone switched to the Claim jumper in fact we had 15 attend our luncheon....What a blessing...

They had a table that seated 12 which I had reserved. Plan-

ning on having two on each end if we had to which would handle up to 14, but when 15 showed up we had to place two couples at a booth on the end... Herb and Marilyn Neumann and Dave and Ann Caruso volunteered without a word. Our group is getting to know one another to the point that we really are like one big family...

The motif was interesting with old rusted horse shoes, Gold panning and gold digging equipment from the gold rush days. The food was excellent and the conversation seemed to cover everything from Obama Care to Past Vacations....It was a delightful enjoyable

day with Christian Friends...All Seniors (you don't have to be 50) are urged to come and enjoy our camaraderie.



WoHC BUNCO Night & General Meeting

January 14, 2013

Eighteen women showed up for a fun evening of BUNCO, dessert and a short General Meeting. After Melarie and Idalene gave us a brief review of the rules to play BUNCO,

we got right at it, and it was so much fun! It was my second time to play BUNCO with the WoHC, and this time I enjoyed it even more (it takes me longer than most people to get something through my brain). I carefully observed the demeanor, and "style" of those women who seemed to win a lot. Sue, Jean, Marlene, Joyce, Cherylene, Lauretta, Trudy, Gayle and others just exuded confidence and kept a cool, confident demeanor, even when they lost. I guess that's what they call "putting on your game face". Grace was most unique – I noticed she kept her "game face" by nervously stuffing it with the mixed nuts that Melarie and Idalene provided in bowls at each table. Eventually (by the last round of the evening), I finally realized that I had no ability to keep a game face and if I won a round, it was by sheer luck. I hope to learn the difference between getting a Bunco and getting the Pig the next time we play.

Melarie, true to her word that there were going to be "fabulous" prizes, called out the different categories of "winners" and invited them to a table laden with loaves of her delicious homemade breads. I may be mistaken but I believe everyone was a winner because we all got to pick a loaf of bread. I chose a loaf of Raisin Bread which I enjoyed, toasted and buttered, with my morning cup of coffee for the next few days. I even let Herb have some.

We all enjoyed slices of Melarie's homemade (from scratch) Pineapple Cake with dollops of Cool Whip, and hot coffee and cold lemonade.

So with tummies exercised by lots of laughter, and sated by the delicious dessert, we sat down for a brief meeting conducted by our President Cherylene Brueckner in which we learned how the Lord has blessed the LWML in 2012 and what is being planned for 2013.

Thank you, Melarie and Idalene, for planning another fun BUNCO Night, **and can we have the recipe for the delicious Pineapple Cake?**

—Marilyn Neumann, *Publicity*

WoHC Upcoming Activities

- Sunday, February 3 ~Hat/Mite Box
- Monday, February 4 ~Board Meeting
- Monday, February 11 ~General Meeting: potluck, secret pal revealed and short business meeting
- Monday, March 11 General Meeting, Speakers from The Network of Care.
- April 26-28, 2013 LWML CNH - Ferndale Event "Rooted and Grounded in Love" Eph. 3:17-19. Inspirational speaker, Pastor Tom Zelt, senior Pastor of Prince of Peace in Fremont. Registration by 4/20. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for additional information, or contact a board member.



A Word from the Nominating Committee

Dear Ladies: A quick note to pick your brains. I'm on the for the up-coming election for the "Women of Holy Cross" Board.

The positions open are for Vice Pres. and Treasurer.

Please let me know if you, or anyone you know, may be interested in accepting either of these positions. We also have positions that are not elected, that can be filled. If you are interested in possibly being on the Women of Holy Cross board, please let me know.

We're always open to new ideas & suggestions. This is your chance...speak out! Contact me by calling Pat Easby @ 925-672-6388 (Lv. msg.) or my cell 925@ 872-3536 We're always happy to hear new ideas from you & the youngens. Looking forward to hearing from you ladies. Get involved~~~See results!! BLESSINGS!

Hello! From Dave Thomet

1/20/13

Tomorrow it will be a toasty -7 and -28. Tuesday will break zero.

How does one survive? Go to the library and pick up some books and CD's. Stock up on junk food like pizzas and tin Roof Sunday ice cream.

Fortunately my car has a block heater that I can plug in at the apartment. This really helps. I don't have to go back to work until Tuesday night. So in the mean time I'll stay toasty.

So far this winter is comparatively mild like last year. There has been very little snow. We deserve it. The winters of 2008 - 2012 were brutal.

Brrrrr! Stay warm and dry!

Gospel Outreach

~ Praise God ~

By Eyona Pargman, Gospel Outreach

Next newsletter, I will go on with grants 9-12. I want to include some of the national grants that have to have their money in by March 31st. 2 more grants have been funded; they are for \$36,127.50

District Grants 2012 to 2014

- | | | |
|--|--|-----------------|
| 1. ZION ZONE AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAM | Zion Lutheran Church, Winnemucca, NV | \$22,650 |
| 2. DREAM CATCHER YOUTH GROUP | North Cheyenne Reservation near Lame Deer, MT LCMS | \$6,000 |
| 3. PRODUCTION OF BRAILLE MAGAZINES | Lutheran Blind Mission | \$5,000 |
| 4. ALL GOD'S CHILDREN SING | Zion Lutheran Church, San Luis Obispo, CA | \$12,850 |
| 5. OUTREACH TO THE HUNGRY: FOOD FOR BODY AND SOUL, | Bethany Lutheran Ministries, | \$7,600 |
| 6. EARLY CHILDHOOD CHRISTIAN CURRICULUM | Bethany Lutheran Ministries, Vacaville, CA | \$1,500 |
| 7. LIGHT OF THE HILLS LCMS HISPANIC OUTREACH | Cameron Park, CA | \$5,000 |
| 8. EARLY CHILDHOOD OUTREACH CENTER | Redeemer, Atascadero, CA | \$15,000 |

Italics = Funded

for Children's Nutrition and Care/Vietnam. This completes the total funding of \$72,255 for this grant that works with government agencies to help wipe out malnutrition and also provides instruction in English to students at the International School in Hanoi. The school was built and staffed by LCMS World

Mission. \$50,000 for Children's Developmental Disabilities Group Home and Rehabilitation Center/Dominican Republic:

The final payment completes the \$100,000 that shows God's love to children with development disabilities by providing for the construction of a group home and rehabilitation center where children and their families can receive spiritual and physical care and training.

You can help fund the remaining seven mission grants of this biennium. The LWML has already contributed almost \$1.5 million during the 2011-2013 biennium toward the mission goal established at \$1.825 million. Your mite offerings, along with the contributions of other LWML supporters will help to make this mission goal a reality.

So if you can drop those little coins in that little box on the first Sunday of the month, God will do the rest.



WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS: We would like to thank all the ladies that attended our New Years "Bunco Night" and especially to our hostesses Melarie and Idalene for tons of laughter, lots of switching of chairs, delicious dessert, and as always the fellowship of our sisters in Christ.

Lauretta led us in a beautiful devotion for our short meeting at the end of the evening, and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

2011-2013 LWML Biennium Mite Challenge

BE A MISSIONARY WITH YOUR MITE BOX

Each of you, giving and praying for our 19 Mission Grants, brings the Mission Goal of \$1.825 million for the 2011-2013 biennium closer and brings the hope of Jesus to others. The mission grants mentioned below are still waiting for funding.

Check for updates at www.lwml.org/missions/mission-grants.php

The theme for National Lutheran Schools Week, January 27 through February 2, 2013, is "Baptized for This Moment". Pray today for school children and staff as you generously feed your Mite Box. Your mites will help fund mission grants that help children learn more of Jesus' love, such as the grant "Outreach to At-Risk Children" in the city of Detroit, Michigan, that is still waiting for grant funds.

January is National Thank You Month. Christians celebrate the hope in Jesus, thanking God for His promises daily. Praise God for your many blessings as you daily fill your Mite Box. Thank God for the opportunity to help fund the mission grant "Children's Developmental Disabilities Group Home and Rehabilitation Center" in the Dominican Republic. You are blessed ... to be a blessing to others!

February is Chocolate Lover's Month and most people LOVE chocolate, but Psalm 119:103a says, *How sweet are your words to my taste.* When you put money in your Mite Box you help missionaries share His Word with a lost world. Pray and give to help complete funding for the mission grant "Grace Place for LCMS International Missionaries."

The season of Lent provides the opportunity to reflect on Jesus' suffering and sacrifice, His life, death and resurrection. LWML mission grants share His love and His story with others. One example is Pastor Daniel Jacobs' service to the "Crow Indian Ministry" in Montana. Your Mite Box is your opportunity to help serve them as well!

FEbruary



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Study	4 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7p Boy Scout (H)	5 9a CVWC 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	6 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study	7 12p NFS Lunch Out- ing Carpool at Church	8	9
10 <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School/ Bible Study	11 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 6:30p WoHC Gen- eral Meeting- Potluck 7p Boy Scout	12 6:30p Elder's Meeting 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	13 ✦ Ash Wednesday 5:45p Supper 7:00p Service	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 	15	16
17 <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/ Bible Study	18 <i>President's Day</i> 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 6:30p Church Council 7p Boy Scout	19 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	20 7p Lent Mid-week Bible Study	21	22	23
24 <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30a Worship 10:30a Voters Meeting 11a Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH	25 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 7p Boy Scout	26	27 7p Lent Mid-week Bible Study	28 12:15p NFS Lunching Outing Car- pool at Church		

(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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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	11AM (Library & Conf. Rm)
Sunday School	11AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday (Ladies)	12:30PM	Conference Room
Wednesday (all)	7:00PM	Parish Hall

[Feb. 20, 27 Mar. 6, 13, 20 Lent Season Bible study: "The Ten Commandments: God is Speaking to Us"]

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday	7:15PM—8:45PM
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Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
March 2013 Cross Currents: **February 21**

Office Hours: M-F 9 AM-12:30 PM