



Holy Cross
Lutheran Church,
LCMS

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Cross Currents



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August 2012

Quality Time vs. Quantity Time...

By Pastor Chu

... was all the rage in the 1970s-1980s' dialog about parenting. The premise was that parents didn't need to be overly concerned about spending less time with their children — due to career pursuits and/or both parents having to work outside the home to pay the bills — so long as the time they spent with their children, however little, was "quality" time.

The debate is not always black and white. For example, the amount of time spent with children will almost necessarily decrease as they get into their teenage years due to increasing demands on their time from homework, athletics, and other activities. What would kids want if they had a choice and could make an informed choice — would they opt for quantity or quality? How does one define "quality?" A large quantity of poor quality time is not a good thing; neither is high quality time but only for a few minutes a day. Of course, the best of all worlds is a large quantity of time that is of the highest quality.

Quality time vs. Quantity time is also an important consideration when it

comes to reading the Bible regularly.

Reading (and studying and hearing) the Bible is essential for the Christian:

The Bible is the Word of God.¹ It is not just a truth but *the* truth.² God's Word — particularly the Gospel — shows us Jesus and gives us faith in Christ that brings forgiveness and eternal life in Christ.³ God's Word is the norm for preaching and teaching and it is the final arbiter on doctrine and judging other "truths," including what we hear from pulpit each week.⁴ It is also the norm for our life in Christ.⁵

Do you read the Bible regularly on your own and with fellow Christians in Bible study/Bible class? What quantity of time do you spend with God's Word each day, each week? Is reading the Bible a part of your regular routine? What is the quality of that time?

"I didn't have time" is the reason often given by Confirmation class students for why they didn't memorize the weekly Scripture passage or part of the Catechism, to which I usually respond, "If you can't find 5 minutes a day for the Word of God, you're way too busy." Of course, it's not that we can't find 5

minutes each day to read the Bible; it's that we choose not to.

Christians who don't spend time with the Scriptures regularly are neglecting God's means of grace that gives them faith to trust in Jesus as Savior and sustains and strengthens that faith for their life in Christ. Each person has 24 hours each day to live his or her life. If we can't even set aside 5 minutes a day for reading the Scriptures...

Children need both quality time and quantity time. We, children of God, also need quality time and quantity time... with our Heavenly Father in His Word. We have many demands on our time, but surely we can "spare" 5 minutes a day to read the Scriptures. We can all set aside more than 5 minutes a day — but if 5 minutes are all you can spare for now — to read the Word of God, make those minutes quality minutes — No TVs, radios, computers, iPod, or any other distractions, but rather mind and heart focused solely on the Word of God.

That quality time you spend with the Lord in

(Continued on page 2, Quality Time)

July Birthdays

- 2 Gerda Koch
 3 Peggy Odrzywolski
 5 Carol Chu
 18 Hannah Johnson
 Eric Roman
 20 Pat Easby
 Dwight Gemar
 25 Michael Gemar
 29 Philip Aduan
 31 Megan Gemar

July Anniversaries

- 10 Michael & Carla
 Neer
 18 George & Diane
 Oatis
 23 Peter & Annaliesa
 Liedtke
 26 Mike & Tina Voss
 30 Allen & Cherylene
 Brueckner

August Birthdays

- 3 Kayleigh Coyne
 6 Dave Caruso
 7 Kayla Neer
 Scott Stadler
 8 Abby Humphrey
 10 Marilyn Neumann
 14 Ann Caruso
 Carrie Kroeger
 16 Eyona Pargman
 20 Michael Liedtke
 21 Chris Roman
 22 Carla Johnson-Neer
 24 Gail Baker
 31 Kathryn Gin Lum
 Darrell Humphrey

August Anniversaries

- 26 Scott & Idalene
 Stadler
 27 Michael & Rhonda
 Liedtke
 28 John & Andrea
 Beutel

Quality Time (Continued from page 1)

His Word will, by the power and grace of His Word, lead to a desire and zeal for spending more quantity time with the Word, because God promises that His Word will accomplish His purpose.⁶ When that happens? The spiritual blessings will be limitless.

1. 2Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2. Peter 1:20-21

²⁰Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2. John 17:17

¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Ephesians 1:13

¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

3. Luke 24:27

²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

John 20:31

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 5:39

³⁹You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.

Romans 10:17

¹⁷Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

John 6:68**Those who are in need our prayers:**

Carrie Kroeger (recovery from back surgery), **Betty Kallsen** (recovery from broken hip), **Herb Borchers** (treatments), **Tia** (Coyne teen family member), **Bill Koch** (recovery), **Stephanie Woolley** (Lauretta Oliver's daughter-migraines), **Diana Butterfield** (shoulder), **Brian Fawcett** (Diane Oatis' brother), **Wanda Armstrong**, **Sue Saalfeld**, **Muriel Strieter**, **Ellen Stenson** (Glenn Stenson's granddaughter), **Gary Cox**, **Lloyce Logan**, **AJ Stanley**, **Joy Parker** (Gayle Bothe's sister), **Wanda Schwartz**, **Dorothy Taylor** (Karen Gamble's mother), **Robert & David Grandt** (Liz Aduan's brothers), **Inge Stone**, **Elizabeth Bothé** (Gayle Bothe's granddaughter), **Kathy Kinser**, **Abbi and Alexandria Roman**, **June Stewart** (Judy West's friend), **Vivian Hock** (Trudy Huenninghaus's friend), **Clint Lau** (Dennis's father), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Alice Mikolasek**, (Violet Griffin's friend), **Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church**.

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

Jabriel L, von White-Bynum, **Jon and Mike Dawers** (Bill Koch's grandsons), **Matthew Seeger**, **Derek Patterson** and **Dustin Philips**, **Taylor Bothe-Yates** (Gayle Bothe's grand-niece), **Capt. Richard Hill**, **Navy Spec. David Aiman**, **Joel and Jordan Bennett** (Violet Griffin's great nephews).

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

2Timothy 3:14-15

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Romans 1:16

¹⁶For 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.

4. 1Thssalonians 5:21

²¹But test everything; hold fast what is good.

1John 4:1

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Acts 17:11

¹¹Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

Galatians 1:8-9 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.

⁹As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

5. Joshua 1:8

⁸This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Psalms 1:2

²But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

6. Isaiah 55:10-11

¹⁰"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.



Pastor Chu will be on vacation from July 30th to August 20th. In his absence, Pastor Jed Maschke of First Lutheran Church will be on-call for pastoral care. His contact information:

Home: 925-261-9646

Cell: 925-222-5673

Email: pastormaschke@gmail.com

Thank You Elders!

Our elders put their cooking skills together and gave us perfectly heavenly hotdogs, cheese burgers and hamburgers. Our church has some wonderful cooks with a variety of salads and desserts to complete our lunch after the Voter's meeting on June 24th. A big thank you to all who participated. There were games for all to play.

Pat Kroeger

Quarterly Treasurer Report April-June

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 52,577.57	\$ 58,700.01
Expense	\$ 49,306.67	\$ 58,824.77
Net Income	\$ 3,270.90	\$ (124.76)

August Duty List

	Acolyte	Altar Guild
5 th	Drew Oatis	Marlene Roberts & Rayna Kamerzell
12 th	Gavin West	Marlene Roberts & Rayna Kamerzell
19 th	Kaytlyn Coyne	Liz & Jessie Aduan
26 th	Kaytlin Reiter	Liz & Jessie Aduan

HCLC Voters Meeting • June 24th 2012

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Our 2012 Vacation Bible School "Babylon - Daniel's Courage in Captivity" conflicts with St Bonaventure's but will continue as planned.
- Donations are welcome, as is help spreading the word.
- Otis Nicholson has given his notice of his official retirement after seven years of faithful service at the end of August 2012. WoHC will host his retirement party. As such, a new organist is being sought. If the congregation has any suggestions or input, the Council would be grateful.
- The quarterly financial report is now being published in Cross Currents thanks to Cheryl Syrovatka's efforts. All members are welcome to attend Council meetings if they would like to see the financials. A copy should be available in the office with the minutes within 10 days of a meeting.
- Individual giving (envelopes and misc. income) net to date is \$8,172 compared to the budgeted shortfall of (\$4,500).

POLL ON WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES:

- No Change (9am Worship Service, 10:30 Bible Studies)
- 8 am Worship Service, 9:30 Bible Studies
- 9:30 am Worship Service, 8 am Bible Studies
- 9:30 am Worship Service, 11 am Bible Studies
- 10 am Worship Service, 8:30 Bible Studies
- 10 am Worship Service, 11:30 Bible Studies

There will be a poll on the timing of church services this week and next and the Elders also ask that you add a comment if you are more or less likely to attend if the service time is changed.

If you've already taken the poll, please add the comment on attending.

TRUSTEES REPORT:

Work day on Saturday July 14th by the Boy Scouts will need to have members volunteering to direct.

Council Election Results:

Elder(s): Herb Neumann and George Oatis

Trustee(s): Bill Luker

Vice President: Gregg Syrovatka

Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger

DISTRICT MISSIONS CONTRIBUTIONS has been amended to 3% of Weekly Envelope Giving from 7%.

Submitted by Carrie Kroeger, June 27, 2012

NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS CORNER

Peter's Steak House August 9 2012

The Nifty Fifty first outing is to be lunch at Peter's Steak House located in Isleton Cal. Which is an old town that existed during the gold rush period of 1849. Chinese immigrants lured to California for gold stayed on to begin a hand labor task of dredging and constructing levees to hold back the water and when the water was pumped out there were islands formed creating what Isleton residents now call home. The town consists of old building with metal exterior siding as a fire precaution against fire, much the same as Lock (Al the Wop's) just a short distance from Isleton. Both Dave Caruso and Herb Neumann have eaten there and felt it would be a great adventure for our Nifty Fifty Group' Sooooo we are looking forward to Lunch there. All lunches are served with a choice of green salad or steak fries and of course they have Prime Rib, Steaks, Fish and Chips etc and a host of Sandwiches. I'm looking forward to another place similar to Al the Wops...Lunch is at 1:00 meet at church at 11:30 and leave at 11:45. The drive through the Delta is always enjoyable and there may be farms along the way selling fresh fruit and vegetables. Sign up in the Social Hall so we know how many to plan on.... I promise it will be and enjoyable outing with Christian friends.

Red Lobster Restaurant August 23 2012

Red Lobster Restaurant August 23rd, 2012
The second outing for the Nifty Fifty Seniors is lunch at The Red Lobster Restaurant located at 4095 Century Blvd Pittsburg Ca. This is a favorite of Trudy one of our board members and I certainly enjoyed the delightful assortment of good food offered whenever I dined there. The Shrimp Jambalaya Tender shrimp, sweet roasted peppers, onions, celery andouille sausage and spicy Creole seasonings over wild rice \$8.25, Shrimp and Wood-grilled Chicken \$8.99, Farm Raised Catfish \$9.50, Shrimp Linguine Alfredo \$10.75 etc...is just samples of the extended Menu the offer for lunch. I will post the Menu for lunch in the Social hall near the signup sheet. The Restaurant is located in the Shopping Center just off Summersville Rd (it may be Auto Road now) in Antioch Lunch is planned for 1:00 so plan on meeting at Church at 12:15 and leaving at 12:30 or meeting at the Restaurant. Please sign up so we know how many to plan on.



Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco July 12 2012

The day was, as most days in our area, delightfully cool and we had anticipated it being cooler in San Francisco, so we came prepared dressed in layers. The Ferry was a little late but we enjoyed just looking out over the bay at the ships going by and the Potomac the ship President Roosevelt used when he was in the area, berthed at an adjoining pier. The fare was \$6.20 round trip rather than the \$7.50 we had been paying. We did indeed enjoy the aquatic scenery along the Estuary, stopping at the Ferry Building and finally arriving at Pier 41.

We walked to Tarantino's and dined upstairs at a table next to a window overlooking the fishing fleet at the pier. It was very elegant with linen tablecloths etc. After our enjoyable lunch we moseyed along the dock when we jumped back as a Mime hiding behind some tree branches jumped out at us. He was just entertaining visitors as he had a cup half full of money..and seemed to be having a great time. The whole fisherman's wharf area was loaded with visitors and Mimes. One was acting like Superman with springs which made him three feet taller and allowed him to jump (tall Buildings) Trudy had her picture taken with him. There of course were several that stood still in different poses and one that was up on an 8 foot ladder that he made walk. Another which I enjoyed, was playing the steel kettle drums. There were several amphibious boat like vessels that could travel both on land and water as well as many tour buses cruising the street which made it very festive. We had a delightful time just being a part of the tourist crowd. On the way back on the ferry we

passed a container ship loaded with cargo with a tugboat trailing behind which allowed the ship to travel under its own power yet be controlled by the tug. To our delight we watched the tug help the ship make a 180 degree turn...See all the excitement you missed!
—Marv Kreitz

Mac's Old House • June 20 2012

Mac's Old House in Antioch was the Nifty Fifties lunch outing for June. When Marilyn and I arrived at church at 10:45, there were already 12 people waiting! Shortly after, the last 2 people arrived and we left the church 5 minutes to 11:00. We arrived at Mac's at about 11:25 when we entered I was looking at a loooooong table set up for 14 people, I told the waitress that we had 2 extra and she said no problem, and promptly set up the table for 2 more at the end. Sixteen



people came to enjoy Mac's Old House. Wow, what a turnout! The waitress announced that today's lunch special was a shrimp salad. She took all our orders and soon our meals arrived, I sat at one end of the loooooong table. Two people ordered the special and it looked great but I had ordered a Calamari sandwich, which was good.

Marilyn ordered the Ground Round sandwich. We took half of it home - it was that big! At the end, our bill came all totaled together. With Bill Reichmann's help, he and I played cashier and everyone passed down their money, and it all balanced out. We all left to return to the church with a full tummy. I think everyone enjoyed their meal; Mac's Old House has a lot of character.

—Herb Neumann



Black Diamond Mines

by Marv Kreitz

Eleven of the twelve that signed up for the trip met at church and car-pooled to the mine at 12:45pm. We made it there with ample time. At 1:30pm, right on time, a van driven by the docent pulled up at the parking lot to give us a ride to the mine entrance. Trudy, Terry, Dick

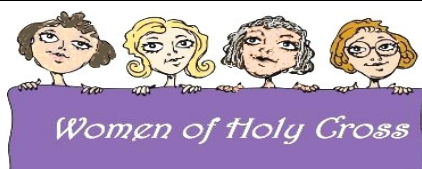


and I were the only ones that took the ride; everyone else opted for a 1/3 mile walk up the hill. When we all arrived, the docent unlocked the gate



and we entered a cold (55 degrees) narrow mine tunnel with rail road tracks running down the center and sand, sand, sand everywhere. It almost covered the railroad tracks. Our first stop was a cathedral like area where we were shown pictures of the mine workers (some as young as 8 who's job it was to open doors and at 12 they became

a regular miner), then we donned our hard hats and each received a flash light (what fun) and pushed deeper into the mine. As I navigated between the tracks I noticed 6X6's timbers were used to shore up the tunnel, also smaller plank and wood wedges used to reinforced the structure.. Everywhere we went there were areas where the ceiling had lost chunks of sand. In fact, there was a worker who's job was to poke at the ceiling to dislodge loose chunks of sand.(Kind of scary) Work stopped towards the end of the tunnel. The mine became quite unstable because of the proximity to the top of the ground that it might cave in. We crossed two bridges and went up a stairway to a higher elevation all very interesting. We saw the electric trains that moved the cars along the tracks and there were stations with phones and written messages as to what certain bells rings meant. There was an 8 inch steel pipe running along the top of the tunnel that was used to pipe air into the mine. Water was another problem; I saw only one single pipe with a water sign on it after we entered the tunnel probably trucked in, so don't expect to find water at the visitors center either. Touring the mine was a truly interesting and enjoyable experience.!



As the 2011-2012 WoHC year ends, and we begin planning for 2012-2013, it is timely to thank all of you for your support.

We all worked, shopped, and ate at the Holiday Hutch Corner Café last November. That event brought in over \$1,000 for the Parking Lot Fund. We will have a "repeat performance" this year.

You always give great support to our Adopt-A-Family outreach program at Christmas. With matching funds from Thrivent we gifted 14 people. We also provided gift cards for shoes and groceries. Look for our "giving tree" in late November so we can do this again.

We are glad you like to eat! Your support of our January bake sale raised \$288 to help fund the LWML CNH Mission Grants.

Your faithful monthly Mite giving helped fund **all** of the LWML CNH Mission Grants for 2010-2012, totaling \$118,610!

Our college students were the recipients of your generous gifts. Gift cards for \$405 were sent to them in January and April.

You gave us socks, Bibles and blankets/quilts for the in-gathering at the LWML CNH Convention in April. This outreach to the less fortunate was greatly appreciated.

In March the ladies helped make 54 patriotic hats to use as

table decorations at the Zone 7 Spring Rally at Holy Cross in May. At the rally, your support helped us send 145 pounds of snacks and toiletries in 15 boxes to Chaplain Eric Malmstrom in support of our troops in Afghanistan.

This year WoHC has supported Scott Jonas at the seminary in St. Louis with gifts totaling \$400. The thank you notes that we receive from the Jonas family tell us that the checks always seem to arrive at "just the right time". In the coming year we are planning to give support to

Jason Gullidge, at the seminary in Fort Wayne.

If you have suggestions for the coming year, please let me know. The WoHC board is having 2012-2013 planning meetings in July and August.

Thank you for being our partners in ministry!

Cherylene Brueckner
President, Women of Holy Cross

*Heads-up for the Big Event...
Sunday, September 9
Doll Collectors Delight!*

on WoHC is having a welcome back luncheon after Sunday School. All ladies, young and old, are invited. Pam Lee, a doll expert and collector will be our guest speaker. Bring your antique dolls. She can guesstimate their value and answer many of your questions on them. More info in upcoming bulletins....



I want to thank everyone who sent me cards, email greetings and well wishes and called me during my cancer treatments. There wasn't a week that went by that I didn't get 2 or more cards or email letters. The calls of concern didn't stop either. You have no idea how it cheered me and kept me going, knowing I was cared for by all of my sisters in Christ. I felt so special and it gave me hope more than you will know. God bless you all for your thoughtfulness. ~Diana Butterfield

Lauretta Oliver is delighted to let everyone know that she is cancer free. She wants to thank everyone for your concerns and prayers.

I am blessed to have such a loving church family at Holy Cross. Your prayers, cards and concerns for my hand surgery last month made me feel so valued. I truly appreciate everyone of you!

Thank you so much! ~Grace Gin

V.
B.
S.



This year's Vacation Bible School was held on July 16th through the 20th. Though attendants were not as many as years past; nevertheless, they had fun learning about Daniel's ordeal in the lion's den, and how he trusted God to be with him at all times from Cherylene Brueckner. Each day they learned a message in order as follow that God is with them when things change, when they need help, are afraid, are lonely and when they are thankful with a Bible verse to go along with each situation.

Other activities included crafts with Chris Roman and Sandy Coyne, snacks prepared by Jean Eissner with help from Marlene, Idalene and Grace, and the Holy Cross Youth took charge of music and recreation.

A lunch was provided for VBS families and the congregation on Friday, closing day. There were pizzas, fruits and different kinds

(Continued on page 7, VBS)

AUGUST 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Friday	Sat
			1	2 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	3	4
	Pastor on vacation					
5 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	6 7pm Boy Scout (L)	7 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	8 1pm Senior Brd (L)	9 11:30am Seniors out- ing-Pete's Steak House 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	10	11
	Pastor on vacation					
12 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	13 6pm WoHC plan- ning at Joyce's 7pm Boy Scout (L)	14 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	15	16 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	17	18
	Pastor on vacation					
19 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	20 6:30pm Church Council 7pm Boy Scout (L)	21	22	23 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	24	25
Pastor on vacation						
26 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:30am OUTREACH	27 2:15pm WoHC Sept Brd Mtg 7pm Boy Scout (L)	28 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	29 12:15p Seniors out- ing - Red Lobster's	30	31	

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



VBS (Continued from page 6)

of cookies for dessert. **Thank you** ALL Vacation Bible School VOLUNTEERS for your time and dedication in sharing God's love with these young children. God bless you all! ~Grace Gin

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 9:00AM
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 Only
(will resume in September)

Wednesday 7:00PM Parish Hall

Choir Rehearsal:

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

Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

September Cross Currents: August 22, 2012