



Cross Currents



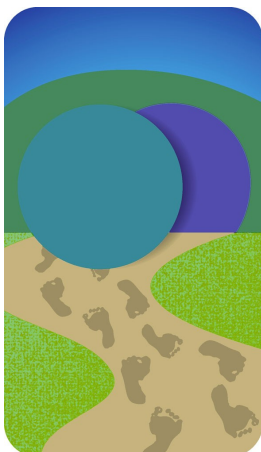
Volume 4, Issue 94

April 2012

Holy Cross
Lutheran Church,
LCMS

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A Clear and Bold Witness

by Pastor Chu

On Feb. 16, Matthew Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, testified before the House Committee on Government and Oversight.

We thank God for President Harrison's clear and bold witness to Jesus Christ and the Gospel as well as for his distinguishing the two kingdoms in which Christians live — the left-hand/secular kingdom and the right-hand/spiritual kingdom or Kingdom of Power and the Kingdom of Grace. Seldom have we seen a Lutheran leader make such a bold theologically Scriptural statement and stand so solidly on the Word God in such a public, important, national venue.

Not just LC-MS Lutherans, but any Christian who claims to stand on the Word of God, can take pride that we have a church leader who, by the grace of God, is able and willing to speak before Congress of Christ's atonement for sin and of the Christian's responsibility to stand on the Word and live his/her Christian faith by obeying God rather than men (Acts 5:29).

Below is a partial transcript of the President Harrison's statement. You can read the full transcript at <http://www.box.com/s/57dhmq3o834i2oirne7u> or watch his testimony at <http://video.lcms.org/archives/947>.

Mr. Chairman, it's a pleasure to be here. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is a body of some 6,200 congregations and 2.3 million members across the U.S. We don't distribute voters' lists. We don't have a Washington office. We are studiously non-partisan, so much so that we're often criticized for being quietistic.

I'd rather not be here, frankly. Our task is to proclaim, in the words of the blessed apostle St. John, the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all our sin. And we care for the needy. We haven't the slightest intent to Christianize the government. Martin Luther famously quipped one time, 'I'd rather have a smart Turk than a stupid Christian governing me.'

We confess that there are two realms, the church and the state. They shouldn't be mixed — the church is governed by the Word of God, the state by natural law and reason, the Constitution. We have 1,000 grade schools and high schools, 1,300 early childhood centers, 10 colleges and universities. We are a machine which produces good citizens for this country, and at tremendous personal cost...

I'm here to express our deepest distress over the HHS provisions. We are religiously opposed to supporting abortion-causing drugs. That is, in part, why we maintain our own health plan. While we are grandfathered under the very narrow provisions of the HHS policy, we are deeply concerned that our consciences may soon be martyred by a few strokes on the keyboard as this administration moves us all into a single-payer... system. Our direct experience in the Hosanna-Tabor case with one of our congregations gives us no comfort that this administration will be concerned to guard our free-exercise rights.

We self-insure 50,000 people. We do it well... Our health plan was preparing to take significant cost-saving measures, to be passed on to our workers, just as this health-care legislation was passed. We

(Continued on page 2)



Palm Sunday Service	April 1 9:00AM
Maundy Thursday Service	April 5 7:00PM
Good Friday Services	April 6 Noon & 7:00PM
Easter Service	April 8 10:00AM
Please Note: Easter Breakfast will be served before service at 8:30AM. Everyone is invited.	

Choir Rehearsals

April 3: **7:00 pm**
 April 24: 7:15 pm
 No rehearsal on April 10
 & April 17.

Witness

(Continued from page 1)

elected not to make those changes, incur great cost, lest we fall out of the narrow provisions required under the grandfather clause. While we are opposed in principle, not to all forms of birth control, but only abortion-causing drugs, we stand with our friends in the Catholic Church and all others, Christians and non-Christians, under the free exercise and conscience provisions of the U.S. Constitution.

Religious people determine what violates their consciences, not the federal government. The conscience is a sacred thing...

We fought for a free conscience in this country, and we won't give it up without a fight. To paraphrase Martin Luther, the heart and conscience has room only for God, not for God and the federal government. The bed is too narrow, the blanket is too short. We must obey God rather than men, and we will. Please get the federal government, Mr. Chairman, out of our consciences. Thank you." ☩

Outreach, Feb 26, 2012

By Pat Easby

A grocery shopping trip on Saturday to *Smart & Final* proved to be quite an experience. I needed many items for Outreach Sunday's dinner, the freezer needed to be restocked, & we needed to purchase paper products; what a sticker shock at check out time!!

Sunday proved to be a very busy morning in the kitchen of Holy Cross preparing food for the people at the Concord Shelter. Early kitchen help was sparse, but we ended up with 12 of us serving at the shelter.

With so many of us we had to change our serving plan - *as room is very limited at the shelter*. Some served from the counter for the main course of: *pulled beef ball tip, potatoes, gravy, dressing, green beans almandine, & salad with mango dressing*. We had the rest of our group at two tables dishing up & serving the guests at their tables. They delivered: broccoli soup, tri-tip with barley soup, pear sauce, & drinks. Candy bars were also handed out!

They enjoyed a *variety of sandwiches*, & they could add 5 different condiments to them. Needless to say, they were so stuffed they saved the sandwiches for later afternoon snacks. In all, we plated 100 servings!

*They are always very appreciative. **To God Be the Glory!***

Many Thanks to you that support Outreach, & to our volunteers: the ever faithful's Bill Luker, Kevin & Aliza, Scott & Jan Selby, Mindy, Kiley Wirtz & friend, Glenda B, An-nah Reider & friend, & Pat E.

Watch for our March outreach in the next newsletter...

Special Events in April

WE'RE HAVING A PARTY!

Please join us in the celebration of Jack and Doris Mortenson's 68th wedding anniversary, Doris' 90th birthday and Jack's 91st birthday on **Sunday, April 1**.

A light brunch will be served following the church service in lieu of donut hour. Please use the sign up sheet posted on the wall in the hall of the parish hall. A basket will be provided for cards.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Breakfast will be served at **8:30 on Easter morning**. It is for everyone. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for kids during that time.

5th SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for a POTLUCK with BUNCO to follow after service on **Sunday, April 29**.....please bring your favorite dish to share. Great prizes will be awarded. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. SEE YOU THERE!

April Birthdays

- 2 Richard Liedtke
- 5 Muriel Strieter
- 13 Dorothy Taylor
- 17 Ron Gamble
- 21 Barbra Humphrey
- 23 Kaytlyn Coyne
- 24 Trudy Huenninghaus
- 26 Herbert Neumann
Diane Oatis
- 29 Timothy Hintz

Anniversaries

- 4 Dave & Ann Caruso
- 6 Larry & Linda Sheppard
- 16 Mike & Joyce Liebe
- 29 Ken & Sue Reiter

NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS CORNER

Contributor: Marv Kreitz

Speiskammier German Restaurant

March 8th 2012 was another one of those sparking beautiful days as we sojourned to the Speiskammier Restaurant in Alameda. I left early in order to pick up Inge Stone at her new home in Alameda... She now lives on the Alameda Island near the Alameda Golf Course...I had Trudy, Carol, Wilma, with me so when we picked up Inge we had 5, four women and me I didn't have a change to give the man's side of anything. We arrived at the Restaurant a little after 1:00 to find 8 smiling Christians waiting for us seated in the back room. They had agreed to give us separate checks so everyone was able to order and just pay for his or her share. I think everyone had a drink Most had tap beer served in a ½ liter Having 6 different beers on tap they was able to tell what beer each was having by severing it in different glasses. The food was outstanding Trudy and I had half order dinners of Sauerbraten (Braised Beef Tri Tip) with Red Cabbage & Spatzel. Others had Jagerschnitzel vom Schwein Pork Cutlets with roasted potatoes and salad all the schnitzels and Spratzels etc helped make it a fun day. Everyone had their favorite German food and all agreed it was outstanding. Several had dessert Glen Stenson had Apple Strudel, Herb and Marilyn split Chocolate Chip ice cream Trudy had a Velvet Hammer. Etc Every-



one enjoyed themselves and indicated they were ready to come back again. The return trip was equally enjoyable we live in such a beautiful area.



Chabot Space and Science Center

March 23rd 2012 was an absolutely beautiful day for a trip to the Chabot Space and Science center in the hills of Oakland. We had just had rain and the air was sparkling clean one of those days (if you like blustery weather) where you are glad you are alive. The trail-laced acres of park and the view of the Bay was indeed gorgeous. The Tine Mega Dome Theater was showing Solarmax at 12:00 so we went straight to the presentation. 93 million miles just got a whole lot closer. We traveled around the world to visit historical sites of sun worship, saw scientists studying the Sun and viewed the majesty of a total solar eclipse. The seats allowed you to lay back and view the 360 degree movie as if you were in the center of the universe. Lunch was at the cafe in the center and the soup (home made broccoli) was excellent. Most of us had a half of a corn beef sandwich and a bowl of soup. After lunch we visited the hands on science exhibits. Trudy and I went to where the telescopes were on the top floor where a docent told told us about the viewing of the planets, stars, constellations etc.. What a really great and knowledgeable person. Made us want to come back some evening to view the stars etc. At 3:00 we all met at the Ask Jeeves Planetarium and saw Tales of the Maya Skies also with reclining seats and 360 degree viewing. The movie allowed you to immerse yourself in the beauty of the "seven wonders of the modern wold"and hear the story of the ancient Maya Civilization. Tales of the Maya Skies transported us to the jungles of Mexico and the rich history and culture of the ancient Mayas Truly an inspiring presentation. With such an interesting outing it's hard to understand why more members didn't attend.. We welcome any suggestions.

WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS CORNER...

CRAFT NIGHT-Monday, March 12th- by Carol Lau



Women of Holy Cross gathered in the parish hall for a short meeting and time of fellowship. We thank Marilyn and Cherylene for their time and talents in putting together two crafts. The first was a pin cushion-very cute and the second was hats, our table favors for the spring rally coming up on May 19th.



Thank you to Marilyn for bringing her friend, Peggy to help. Thank you to Cherylene for the straw hat idea in red, white 'n blue. There were a lot of laughs and fun as we work with our hands to honor the Lord. Also we voted as a group to fill our two positions on the board-secretary and president. In July, Grace Gin will serve as our secretary and Cherylene Brueckner will continue to serve as our president. God's blessings.

Thanks also to Carol Lau and Eyona Pargman for the delicious desserts and beautiful St. Patrick's day decorations. It all made the evening so much fun and festive too.



Photos ©2012 Grace Gin

WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS BUSINESS

March 12 ELECTION Congratulations..., we voted *Cherylene Brueckner as WoHC President & Grace Gin as our Secretary, each for a two year term.*

April 16 next general meeting (everyone welcome) we will have **2 speakers**; one from "Loaves & Fishes" & from the "Food Bank of C.C. & Solano Co." It should be quite interesting. Hostesses: Sue & Annah Reiter & Glenda Boarman.

April 20-22 is our CNH District LWML Convention in Rohnert

Park. So far we have seven ladies attending the convention for the week-end---wonderful! Joyce Liebe was appointed as our delegate & Melarie Seidel as an alternate.

Sunday, April 29 POTLUCK AND BUNCO

Looking ahead---

May 19 Spring Rally @ Holy Cross. The speaker will be *Army Chaplain Dann Ettner from Moffett Field, CA.* (More info. at a later date)

Please save this date & plan to attend!



You're a Blessing!

To My Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, cards and calls for the recovery of my fall. I sustained a fracture on my right elbow. It is healing well and the pain is gone, but it will take a few weeks for it to resume normal function. Amazingly, my left hand is learning to pick up the slack quite well!

With Appreciations,

Grace Gin

WoHC Corner...

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THE LWML CNH CONVENTION "Extreme Service" IS COMING TO ROHNERT PARK

The goal of this year's convention is **"Because of God's extreme love for us, we are challenged to extreme service"** Don't miss it! On April 20-22, 2012, hundreds of women & men will be welcomed as they arrive. A weekend of fellowship, music, Bible study, inspirational speakers, servant events & convention business is planned. So many plans have been made to help make this a memorable convention.

The Friday schedule includes Worship Extravaganza with Gloria Edwards presenting the Lutheran Malaria Initiative, Blood Drive, Servant Activities, Fellowship & Opening Worship.

Saturday Schedule includes a Bible study with Pastor Nunes, an Inspirational Message, Convention business, elections, selection of Mission Grant Projects for 2012-2014, all capped off with a *Hawaiian theme dinner & entertainment*.

The convention concludes on Sunday with a special Ingathering Dedication. I invite you to pray that God will bless the convention planning & all the work still left to do - that it may be accomplished to HIS glory.

Do check out all of the family fare in & around Santa Rosa; while mom/grandma are at the convention. The family can play at golf on Sat. morning, or miniature golf, bowling, horseback riding, go-carts, canoeing/kayaking, Charles Schultz Museum/Ice Rink, biking hiking trails, parks, Old Town Santa Rosa, Historic Windsor, Safari West Wild Life Preserve, Armstrong Redwoods Park, hot-air ballooning, & of course wineries galore! So bring them along for the Weekend! Doubletree Hotel **\$99 per rm. per night** for 1-4 persons.

2011-2013 LWML BIENNIUM MITE CHALLENGE



JESUS - THE REASON WE GIVE!

You aren't giving dollars - you're giving hope of Salvation & the Love of Jesus when you pray for, & support our 19 Mission Grants & our Mission Goal of \$1,825,000 for the 2011-2013 biennium. Jesus is **ALWAYS** the reason!

Mite Marathon...Stay Strong - Finish Strong!

April 8

- **EASTER** - Christ has Risen! Put a Children's Mite Box in each Easter basket - *tell your children they can share the message of Christ with their offerings.*

April 16

- Federal Income Taxes due. *Give prayers of thanks to God, for all we have comes from Him.*

April 22 - National "In God We Trust" Day.

Thank God that this statement remains on our currency as you deposit it in your Mite Box.

I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race & complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me...(Acts 20, 24)

Teen Friends into Serving Him

Teens (and tweens!) are important to us in LWML. Did you know they have their own Web page? There you will find out what **Teen LWML groups** are doing, devotions, & a fun *teen mite calendar*! Take a look at their site: <http://teens.lwml.org>.

If you are involved in **Friends Into Serving Him**, please consider sharing your special events with us at respond@lwml.org! -also check out 'Young Women', Page 9, in the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Spring 2012

Bring on the "Hot Seat"

Ever at a loss for words when witnessing about your faith? Looking for practical how-tos on sharing Christ's love in sticky situations? Hot Seat materials are available online under the missions tab & clicking on Gospel Outreach. Facilitator guidelines, a poster, stickers Bible verses, & scenarios are available in PDF format to print & use.

Those who are in need our prayers:

Wanda Armstrong, Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Ellen Stenson (Glenn Stenson's granddaughter), **Gary Cox, Lloyce Logan, AJ Stanley, Joy and Bob Parker** (Gayle Bothe's sister and brother-in-law), **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), **Leslie Bowman** (Ann Caruso's friend), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Shirley Theobald** (Tim Hintz's Aunt), **Diana Butterfield** (chemo), **Alice Mikolasek**, (Violet Griffin's friend).

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

Jabriel L,vont 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).



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Mite Box /Hat Sunday</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>9am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>10:30am Congregational Party for the Mortensons</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)</p> <p>2:30pm WoHC Brd Mtg</p> <p>7pm Boy Scout (PH, L)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p> <p>7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1p Senior Brd (L)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p> <p>7pm Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Good Friday 12pm Noon Service</p> <p>7pm Evening Service</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Easter 8:30am Breakfast</p> <p>10am Worship w/ Communion</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am CVWC</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p> <p>6:30pm Elder Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7pm Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(c)</p> <p>1:30pm Bridge</p> <p>6:30pm WoHC General Mtg</p> <p>6:30pm Church Council</p>	<p>17</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7pm Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9am Worship</p> <p>10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study</p> <p>11:30am Outreach</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p> <p>7:15pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7pm Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4pm UB Tutoring(E)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>10:30am 5th Sunday Fellowship Potluck & Bunco</p>	<p>30</p>					

(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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We're on the Web!

www.holycrossconcord.org



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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

Office Hours: M-F 8:30AM-1PM

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service	9:00AM
Communion Class	1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays
Adults Bible Studies	10:30AM (Library and Conf. Rm)
Sunday School	10:30AM

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday Service	April 1 9:00AM
Maundy Thursday Service	April 5 7:00PM
Good Friday Services	April 6 Noon & 7:00PM
Easter Service	April 8 10:00AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

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

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday 7:15PM—8:45PM

Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
April Cross Currents: **April 19**