



Holy Cross
Lutheran Church,
LCMS

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"Faith is a living and unshakable confidence, a belief in the grace of God so assured that a man would die a thousand deaths for its sake."

—Martin Luther

Cross Currents



Volume 9, Issue 99

October 2012

We Trust in the Name of the LORD

By Pastor Chu

It's still a month away and people are already on edge. And the closer we get to it, the more anxious people will become and the wilder the misconstructions and misdirections by each candidate to divert attention from his own weaknesses while highlighting his opponent's. "It" is the 2012 presidential election. Emotions are already running higher than recent presidential elections. Neither President Obama's nor Mitt Romney's supporters want to even consider what a loss by their candidate in November would mean for the future of this country, e.g., the appointment of U.S. Supreme justices whose rulings will impact this nation for generations, including rulings on abortion.

Come November 7, the day after the national elections — assuming there are no court challenges to the results — about half the voters will be elated while an almost equal number will likely be in a state of shock. You will be one camp or the other, as will I.

I remind myself and I encourage you to remember — even if you are very passionate about politics and strongly identify with a political party and/or political philosophy — that whatever the results of this and future elections, God is still God and it is He who has ordained government and allows those in office to be elected or appointed, whether or not we agree with His divine wisdom (and many of us will not in the days following November 6).

St. Paul writes in 1 Timothy 2: ¹*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings*

and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

As Americans living in a country with guaranteed rights and freedoms, we are free to vote as we choose and to disagree with our elected officials, including the President of the United States.

As Christians living by the grace of God through faith in Jesus the Crucified and Risen Christ, who gave His life in atonement for our sins and the sins of the world, we are called upon to pray even for those who we cannot imagine occupying the White House, governors' mansions, mayors' offices, legislative seats, judicial benches, etc. In fact, it is not only our freedom and right to do so but also our God-given responsibility and expression of our faith in the Triune God and trust that He is in control and that no matter what the circumstances, we are in His gracious hands.

We might change a few words in Psalm 20:7-9 to make the passage apply specifically to today (e.g., replace "king" with "president"), but the psalm should speak for all of us as we approach the November 6 election and prepare to live with the election result thereafter, regardless of who is elected President:

⁷*Some trust (boast) in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. ⁸They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright. ⁹O LORD, save the king! May He (God) answer us when we call.*

JOIN US FOR THE
**Holy Cross Annual
Congregational
Oktoberfest
Saturday**



October 27, 4:00 PM

The annual Oktoberfest will be held in the Parish hall on Saturday, October 27 beginning at 4 PM. The German food will be outstanding. Suggestion donation is \$10....beverages included! Feel free to bring your family, friends and other guests.

Sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board by the office. Don't miss out this special event.



OCTOBER 14th

LWML Sunday

Lutheran Women Ministry League

The theme for the worship service is "Salted for Service".

Ladies, there is a sign-up sheet for ushering, greeting and help with our worship service. We appreciate everyone's ideas and hands in service to the Lord. Thank you to everyone for all the participation and your contributions to our mite projects.

**LWML Bake Sale
following Service**

All proceeds go to our mite box projects!

We need volunteers for bringing baked goods-small sizes, individually wrapped please. Please sign up on the WoHC bulletin board. Thank you!



**October
Birthdays &
Anniversaries**

Birthdays

- 1 Shelby Oatis
- 3 Erna Beutel
Glenn Stenson
- 6 Claudia Gemar
- 13 Mike Liebe
- 14 Walter Hoffman
- 18 Kimberly Chu
- 24 Annaliesa Liedtke
- 28 Betty Kallsen
- 29 Sandy Coyne
- 30 Cheryl Syrovatka
- 31 Gregg Syrovatka

Anniversaries

- 12 Gregg & Cheryl Syrovatka
- 19 Joe & Peggy Odrzywolski
- 20 Ken & Liz Ballard
- 30 Tom & Sue O'Malley



Those who are in need our prayers:

Norris Mantooth (recovery-brain surgery, Gregg Syrovatka's co-worker), **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 Alex 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), **Herb Borchers** (treatments), **Tia** (Coyne teen family member), **Stephanie Woolley** (Lauretta Oliver's daughter-migraines), **Diana Butterfield** (shoulder surgery 9/20), **Brian Fawcett** (Diane Oatis' brother), **Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Carrie Kroeger** (recovery), **Betty Kallsen, Eyona Pargman** (back pain), **Marjorie Keisling** (Pat Kroeger's sister), **Nora Encinas** (secretary-First Lutheran), **Pastor Phil Scharnitzke** (Our Savior Lutheran-Livermore), **Percy Nichols** (father of friend of Amy Beutel).

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

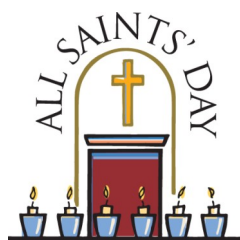
Cadet Megan Gemar (of Holy Cross), **Jabriel L,vont White-Bynum, Jon and Mike Dawers** (Bill Koch's grandsons), **Matthew Seeger, Derek Patterson and Dustin Philips, Taylor Bothe-Yates** (Gayle Bothe's grand-niece), **Capt. Richard Hill, Navy Spec. David Aiman, Joel and Jordan Bennett** (Violet Griffin's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

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Trustee Report

September 17, 2012

1. Christopher Chu and I cut up three 14" diameter tree limbs blown down by the wind. We made three trips to the Contra Costa Transfer Station where the limbs and wood were ground up for composting.
2. Repaired two toilets.
3. Watered around the church and around the church sign.
4. Conducted annual inspection of fire extinguishers in all buildings.
5. Met with a roofing contractor and pointed out visible problems with the church roof. I am waiting to hear back from him with a proposal.
6. Replaced leaking drain line under the deep sink in the parish hall kitchen.

Submitted by: Allen Brueckner, *Head Trustee*

This year, All Saints' Day is being observed on Sunday, November 4. If you would like to have a special remembrance of your loved ones who have passed away since the previous All Saints' Day, please give their names to the church secretary by Tuesday, October 30.

True joy

There is something sad in anyone's running from church to church trying to get an injection of "the joy of the Lord." Joy is not found in singing a particular kind of music or getting with the right kind of group or even in exercising the charismatic gifts of the Spirit, good as all those may be.

Joy is found in obedience. When the power that is in Jesus reaches into our work and play and redeems them, there will be joy where once there was mourning. To overlook that is to miss the meaning of the incarnation. —Richard J. Foster, *Celebration of Discipline*

Organist Retired

After serving seven years as organist at Holy Cross, Otis Nicholson has retired from his role as of August 31, 2012. The congregation and the choir will sorely miss his beautiful music and friendly smile.

Otis, may the Lord bless you with a healthy and happy retirement!



Here is a letter from Otis:

Dear Friends,

it is with some sadness that I have reached a point in my life that I need to hang up my "organ hat". but that was somewhat mitigated on my final Sunday at Holy Cross by the warm "reception" that was held in my honor.

Appreciation for my seven years of service was voiced through personal conversation, greeting cards, and gifts from the church, the choir, its director, and two very generous members. A hearty thank you to all, and especially to the Women of Holy Cross who sponsored the event.

I was especially pleased that my entire (CA) family was present to share this episode in my life. And I am grateful for the good working relationship I have had with Diana Meux and Pastor Chu.

I shall not soon forget the good people of Holy Cross.

Sincerely, Otis Nicholson

NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS CORNER

October Outings:

Clayton Oktoberfest Oct. 6th 2012

The Nifty fifty seniors will visit the Oktoberfest in Clayton on Sunday October 7th... There is a real Carnival atmosphere there with venders of various apparel and home items with booths set up throughout downtown Clayton. Various tempting cuisine are offered at the food booths where you can make your selection of German or American foods and tote your aromatic treasure to the huge dining room tent full of tables where you can sit and be entertained by a German Bands and professional dance groups doing various folk dances while you eat. In past years we dined on Viener Snitzel and Spaetzel from D.J. Bistro in Concord which is always excellent. We plan on meeting in the Big Tent at 11:00 AM which should allow us to obtain space for our group and time to eat before the entertainment starts. Depending on the number that sign up we can decide if we should car pool or just meet there. Signup sheet as usual will be in the Social Hall.

Speiskammier German Restaurant October 11th 2012

We originally planned on going to Angel Island aboard the presidential Yacht "The Potomac" however that fell through after learning that the tram tour on Angel Island was not included and the package would run over a hundred dollars. So we decided, On our second outing, to go back to the Speiskammier Restaurant in Alameda on the 11th of October. Mostly because Eberhard and Anke Wiss (former Holy Cross members) were coming to visit Peter and Annaliesa Liedtke on Sept 29 so they would be available for the Oktoberfest and the lunch at Speiskammier Restaurant. I remembered how much fun they were the last time they went with us to that restaurant.

Speiskammier German Restaurant is located a 2424 Lincoln Ave Alameda Cal. 94501 Some of their Dinner Entrees are Sauerbraten, Braised Beef Tri Tip aged & Marinated in Red Wine & Secret Spices served with Red Cabbage & Spatzel. Wiener Schnitzel, Pork Cutlets, breaded & pan fried served with roasted potatoes etc. The food is great and the restaurant is much more ostentatious than D J Bistro's. In Concord.. Their many tap beers come in ½ Liter s which should encourage a lively conversation. Inge Stone highly recommends this restaurant and will try to attend. We should plan on car pooling as it's quite a distance to Alameda and there is a real problem finding a place to park. Lunch is at 1:00 so we should meet at church at 12:00 and leave at 12:15. Sign up sheet is in the Social Hall....Ask a friend



Sept. 13, 2012 Min's Kitchen Restaurant

by Marv Kreitz

When we entered Min's I was greeted with fresh aroma of cooking which immediately put me in the mood for a great lunch. It was much larger than it looked from the outside and gave me a feeling of openness much different from the normal cramped dining restaurants. It was indeed open just for breakfast and lunch on Monday though Friday and for diner on Tue, Wed and Thur after 4:00 PM. I was disappointed as I wanted Meatloaf with Soup or Salad and two sides. Or the Fish & Chips. I settled for a Denver Omelet and I was not disappointed. I think Jack had the same. Ann and Dave had a Salad and Soup and something else.. Everything look great and everyone (there were 9) went away pleased. Because of the ambience of the restaurant I am planning on going back for a real home cooked meal....one of these evenings ...Sorry no pictures no one brought a camera, but we all had a good time....

"God's Changeless Word"

Feelings come and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God —
Naught else is worth believing.
Though all my heart should feel con-
demned

For want of some sweet token,
There is One greater than my heart
Whose Word cannot be broken.
I'll trust in God's unchanging Word
Till soul and body sever,
For though all things shall pass away,
His Word shall stand forever!
—Martin Luther



Speaker Pam Lee and her collection of Vintage Dolls.



WoHC and Guests' collections



Aroon West and her lovely German made doll.

Women of Holy Cross "Doll Luncheon"

by Carol Lau



Opening by President Cherylene Brueckner

Pam Lee was our special speaker and so knowledgeable about vintage dolls. She had one table with her dolls she brought and another for the dolls the women of Holy Cross and their guests to share. We learned much about the different kinds of dolls and what they are made of.

Our devotion was special as we talked about six different dolls and related them to Scripture. It was very humbling and also awesome to realize that we are created by God and He's not done with us yet.

The food was delicious and our cupcake deserts were very special with paper dolls on top of them to dress and share.

So much love went into the planning and busy hands to serve the Lord. We are all blessed when we share God's Word. The program for WoHC-L.W.M.L. for the year

was passed around so we are aware of what's coming throughout the year. Don't forget to get your pink copy on the round table in the parish hall.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed to this fun and informational event. We walked away feeling very comforted and loved by God and each other.

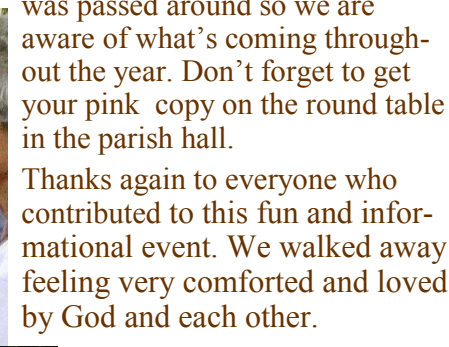


The only HC 'boy doll' ... Who does it belong to?
Ans. on pg 6

Many thanks to all the women who enjoyed our kick-off for the fall program in September. We had so much fun sharing our doll stories, relating to each other and reminiscing of our experiences of growing up.



Dressing Paper Dolls, not only for young girls!



Devotion: different dolls, relating their specific personalities to Scripture.

September Outreach

by Pat Easby

It was a busy morn'g in the kitchen, heating & preparing food for our Outing to the shelter. Pat & Annah set up the kitchen & food

before our volunteers Sue & Kenny (dish washers & cleanup) & Carol Lau arrived. Our head of transportation Bill Luker (& Kevin) were out of town. Sue Reider quickly volunteered Annah to take over the job of transporting the food. Praise God!

We fed about 50 people in the main dinning area (plus 24 more in the intermediate recovery/hospital section) a meal of mixed green salad with (Carol's home-made dressing), baby red potatoes, meatballs & gravy, baked beans & fried wieners, mixed veggies & bread, chicken salad & egg salad sandwiches, cut up watermelon, and for a warm day - two big coolers of drinks.

As usual, many commented about how great the food was, and also how much they look forward to "the church" coming in and spending time with them. Thank you for the donated foods, the Lord always provides. We prayed first, then ate. We had time to walk around & chat with the residents which they enjoy as much as the food. There were more men than women, and several new faces. The crowd was lighter, (not

any young people) than usual as many had taken off for the wk. end. After the meal, we handed out candies & freshly baked O'Mally cookies, always a nice treat. They also enjoy the Portals of Prayer we give them... A few resident stories: *Michael told us that he was on a diet, so he passed on seconds. He is trying to lose 45 lbs to help his overall health. Steve asked for some containers to take to folks who stay off shelter grounds because they are not residents but are homeless and hungry. He shook his head at the inability of groups to feed at local parks because of city rules. Roger ("The Bear") shared his story of writing Christian poetry while in San Quentin, and he recited one poem that reflected his strong faith in Jesus no matter what life brings. He wondered if God put him at the shelter to minister to residents; no doubt about that. As usual, our shelter friends blessed us as much as we blessed them. It was a good day, a very good day indeed!*

Thank You to our volunteers, without you this couldn't happen. Everyone, Feel free to join us on the 4th Sunday, just stop by the kitchen before & right after church service, & we'll hand you a knife & get you started. It is a fun time to spend with Christians & make new friends! God Bless.

Living into faith

Tony Campolo tells of two young men who wanted to participate in Urban Promise, his inner-city ministry. Yet they had a concern: "We don't believe in God. Can we still serve?" After pausing, Campolo answered: "Yes, you can serve with us, but you'll have to pretend you believe. You'll have to pray and worship with the group, go to Bible study, teach the kids about Jesus, go through the motions all summer long. If you'll do that, you may help.

By summer's end, these young men were no longer pretending; they'd come to truly believe in Jesus. Furthermore, both went on to become priests in the Church of England.



Upcoming Events

Sunday, Oct. 7

1st Sunday of every month: Mite Box/Hat Sunday – wear a hat, and bring your mites to support the mission projects of the CNH District and National LWML! Our CNH District projects (and their "paid" status) are posted in the narthex and on the WoHC bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Monday, Oct. 8: WoHC Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room (visitors welcome!)

Sunday, Oct. 14:

LWML Sunday
Worship Theme: "Salted for Service"
LWML 'Bites for Mites' Bake Sale after service. Thanks for all the participation and for contributing to our mite projects.

Saturday, Oct. 20

LWML FALL ZONE 7 RALLY at Our Savior, Livermore.
Special guest speaker, Catie Aznoe, from Shepherd's Gate. In-gathering items needed. Please see the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for more info. Car Pooling is available.

Saturday, Oct. 27:

Oktoberfest, Congregational Event at 4:00PM, Parish Hall

Fri.-Sat., Nov. 2-3 Corner Café at the Holiday Hutch, Parking Lot Fund raiser.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7p Boy Scout (H)	2 4p UB Tutoring(E)	3 7p Bible Study (H)	4 9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4p UB Tutor- ing(E)	5	6 11AM NFS Meet at Clayton Ok- toberfest
7 <i>Mite Box / Hat Sunday</i> 9a Worship w/ Com- munion 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study	8 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)	9 4p UB Tutoring(E) 6:30p Elders 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	10 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study (H)	11 9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 12p Senior Lunch Outing 4p UB Tutor- ing(E)	12	13
14 <i>LWML Sunday</i> 9a Worship 10a Bake Sale 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study	15 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p Church Council 7p Boy Scout (L)	16 4p UB Tutoring(E) 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	17 7p Bible Study (H)	18 9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4p UB Tutor- ing(E)	19	20 9a LWML Fall Zone Rally @ Our Savior, Liver- more
21 9a Worship w/ Com- munion 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study	22 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)	23 4p UB Tutoring(E) 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	19 7p Bible Study (H)	25 9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4p UB Tutor- ing(E)	26	27 4p Ockto- berfest
28 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH	29 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)	30	31 7p Bible Study (H)			

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



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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 (Library & Conf. Rm)

Sunday School 10:30AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule*:

Monday 12:30PM Conference Room, Ladies Only

Wednesday 7:00PM Parish Hall

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday 7:15PM—8:45PM

Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

November Cross Currents: **October 20**

Office Hours: M-F 9AM-1PM