



## Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

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### Sunday, November 6

Be sure to wind your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday!

# Cross Currents



Volume 10, Issue 89

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## Come, Lord, Jesus

By Pastor Chu

*And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars... nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places... So also, when you see all these things, you know that he [the Son of Man] is near, at the very gates. (Matthew 24:6-7, 33)*

Though these verses could be applied to any time in history—not a decade has gone by without wars and rumors of wars, nations rising against nations, famines, and earthquakes—including to 2011. The signs are there, and with our nuclear arsenals we have the capability of annihilating populations in a matter of minutes and an increasing number of nations are seeking nuclear weapons, including Islamists whose goal is to bring about the return of the Madhi (the Islamic savior) by creating world chaos and conflict that would leave Islam as the sole religion.

People have used these and other words of Jesus to predict the end of the world and Jesus' return. One website documents over 200 such predictions.<sup>i</sup> However, the signs were not given so that

we could predict the date of the Lord's return and the end of the world; they were given to help His Church—His people—to anticipate and prepare for His return by proclaiming the Gospel<sup>ii</sup> so when He returns in power and glory<sup>iii</sup> to judge the world,<sup>iv</sup> no one would be caught on the wrong side of that judgment but be among the elect whom His angels will gather for heaven at His command,<sup>v</sup> for He doesn't want any to perish but for all to be brought to repentance through the Gospel.<sup>vi</sup>

Christ will return. That's His promise.<sup>vii</sup> And He is coming soon.<sup>viii</sup> However, we don't know when He will return. "Concerning that day or that hour," Jesus says, "no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."<sup>ix</sup> It will come like a thief in the night, suddenly, unannounced.<sup>x</sup> St. Paul adds, "While people are saying, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them... and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to sur-

*prise you like a thief.*"<sup>xi</sup>

The first Christians expected Christ to return; many thought He would return in their lifetime. St. John concluded the Book of Revelation ends with the prayer of the Church, "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus."<sup>xii</sup> Today, not many Christians even think about Jesus coming back, let alone in our lifetime. But Jesus can come back anytime; He could even come back today.

So what? So what that Christ is going to come back? What does the Second Coming have to do with us? So be prepared. "Therefore you also must be ready," Jesus says, "for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."<sup>xiii</sup>

Prepare for the Lord's return by tending to your faith with the means of grace, where Christ comes to us now in His Word—specifically the Gospel—and the Sacrament of

i. [www.bible.ca/pre-date-setters.htm](http://www.bible.ca/pre-date-setters.htm). Recently, including Harold Camping's recent failed (obviously) predictions that the world would end on May 21, 2011 followed by the revised date of  
(Continued on page 2, footnotes)

(footnotes, Continued from page 1)

October 21, 2011

- ii. **Matthew 24:14** — *And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*
- iii. **Matthew 24:30** — <sup>30</sup>*Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*
- iv. **Mark 13:26** — *And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.*
- v. **Acts 10:42** — *And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.*
- vi. **Acts 17:31** — *Because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."*
- vii. **Matthew 24:31** — *And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*
- viii. **John 5:22-24** — <sup>22</sup>*The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, <sup>23</sup>that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. <sup>24</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.*
- ix. **2Peter 3:9**
- x. **Mark 14:61-62** — <sup>61</sup>*...Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" <sup>62</sup>And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven."*
- xi. **Acts 1:10-11** — <sup>10</sup>*And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."*
- xii. **Revelation 22:20a** — *He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."*
- xiii. **Mark 13:32. Matthew 24:36**
- xiv. **2Peter 3:10** — <sup>10</sup>*But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.*
- xv. **1Thessalonians 5:3-4**
- xvi. **Revelation 22:20b**
- xvii. **Matthew 24:44**
- xviii. **Ephesians 6:10-18**
- xix. **Luke 10:2**

## JOIN US FOR THE Congregational



## Thanksgiving Dinner Sunday November 20 Noon

**Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the office.  
Suggested donation is \$7 per person.**

**We need help with clean up. (at least space for four)**



Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Trudy Huenninghaus, AJ and Caylin Stanley, Charles and Chuck Johnson, Brennan and Devin Helmer, Christine Helmer, Joy Parker, Mr. and Mrs. McDavid, Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor, Robert Grandt, Inge Stone, Luca Nishimori, Sienna Lee, Elizabeth Bothé, Kathy Kinser, Abbi and Alex Roman.



## November Birthdays

- 1 Clara Huppert
- George Oatis
- 4 Joe Odrzywolski
- 7 Annah Reiter
- 8 Emily Humphrey
- 10 Liz Aduan
- Andrea Beutel
- 15 Laurretta Oliver
- 21 Sue Saalfeld

## Anniversaries

- 2 Mike & Gail Baker
- 5 Terry & Revia Maurer
- 9 Dwight & Claudia Gemar

## + Christian Symbols +



### Cornucopia

Cornucopia, a Greek word meaning "horn of plenty," has origins in Greek mythology. But the cornucopia became a religious symbol and was even stamped on Jewish coins. Overflowing horns, now common as Thanksgiving centerpieces, came to symbolize abundance and blessings.



### November Choir Schedule

Rehearsals on  
November 8, 15, 22  
(No rehearsal on  
November 1 or 30)

### The source

"One day I read in the 10th chapter of Romans, 'Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.' I had up to this time closed my Bible and prayed for faith. I now opened my Bible and began to study, and faith has been growing ever since."

—D.L. Moody

### Prayer of thanksgiving

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—  
who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,  
who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

—Psalm 103:2-5, NRSV

The psalmist's all-encompassing list is a good example of all the gifts of God we should gratefully acknowledge. Personalize this ancient prayer by pondering your own experiences of God's forgiveness, healing, redemption, love, mercy and satisfaction of your daily needs

## Recipe for Asphalt, White and Blue Paint

By Cherylene Brueckner

What do you get when you mix asphalt, white paint and blue paint? *A parking lot with bright, white stripes and convenient handicap parking spots!*

Our parking lot at Holy Cross is in dire need of repair, and you can help! On Friday and Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, the Women of Holy Cross have organized Corner Café to serve food and beverages at the Holiday Hutch Boutique in our parish hall. The funds raised at the café are the beginning of the Holy Cross Parking Lot Fund. There is still time to support the event by coming by to eat! *The ladies at Holiday Hutch will be glad to have you **shop** as well.* Only the funds raised at the café benefit our Parking Lot Fund, but what a great time to get an early start on your Christmas shopping!

Watch in future issues of the Holy Cross newsletter for updates on the Parking Lot Fund and more opportunities to help it grow. Together, one step at a time, we can make this happen. Read in **Nehemiah 1-6:16** about



### Women of Holy Cross "Corner Cafe" Hours

Fri. - Nov. 4

9:00a.m.-9:00p.m.

Sat. - Nov. 5

9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.

Invite your friends, family  
and neighbors to the

the builders of the wall of Jerusalem. Side by side, with the help of God, the wall was complete.

## Nantucket Restaurant Senior Outing Wednesday, November 16 2011

The Nifty Fifty Outing for Nov. is to the Nantucket Restaurant located at 601 Port Street Crocket, Ca 94525.

This is a sea food restaurant hidden under the Carquinez Bridge and is a little difficult to find. It serves delicious seafood in a friendly atmosphere. They have Italian style soup, prepared daily, with fresh crabs, prawns, clams scallops in a stew with tomatoes garlic and herbs. They also have clam chowder and a host of other foods. I understand the Fish and Chips are great! Should be an interesting outing as you have to walk over railroad tracks to get to the restaurant.



### Seniors Fall Activities

Lunch will be at 1:00 . We will meet 12:00 and leave at 12:15 , or if you wish meet at the restaurant. Signup sheet is in the Social hall so we know how many to plan on

Special Note: Normally we attend the Norseman Culinary Restaurant at DVC in Nov. for their Thanksgiving Buffet, but because it is on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the day before Thanksgiving and for the first time they are offering a Holiday Buffet on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> we decided for go the Buffet in Dec instead. We are also planning on a Sing-a-long on the 21<sup>st</sup> of Dec.

## D J. Bistro Lunch - Oct.19, 2011 By Marv Kreitz

What a really great turnout for our lunch at D.J Bistro. 13 Seniors attended and I can truthfully say you couldn't get a word in edge-wise....Mur Strieter attended and looked great. She is also planning on attending our Nov. outing at the Nantucket Inn in November.

Eyona Pargman with her hand still bandaged attended as did Doris Mortenson with Jacks help...adding to our group was my son Bill and his wife Bonnie from that cold country Minnesota. what a great group of Christians. The food was outstanding . I had the small Yager Snitzel with red cabbage and Spratzel \$8.00.along with a half liter of beer. \$4.00 and had trouble eating the portions served.. Herb and Dave had the Bavarian meat loaf at \$9.50 Others had the small Wiener Snitzel \$8.00 Sauerbraten or other German selections . The restaurant is difficult to find but well worth it.



## Happy Thanksgiving

"I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and compote the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich."

—The Turkey



"A child of God should be a visible beatitude, for joy and happiness, and a living doxology, for gratitude and adoration."

—Charles H. Spurgeon

\* \* \*

"When our perils are past, shall our gratitude sleep?"

—George Canning

\* \* \*

"There shall be eternal summer in the grateful heart."

—Celia Thaxter



## Women of Holy Cross

### Oct. 9th. - Luncheon

“WELCOME back to school - Back to the Book”

THANKS to everyone who served at the worship service on Sunday, Oct. 9th. We also had a good turn-out for our "WELCOME back to school-Back to the Book" themed luncheon in the parish hall. It was a fun-packed time together as we shared our favorite stories of school days. Some of us even remembered our grade school pictures and could find them, to bring and share. It was fun to guess who's who and what age the picture was taken. We shared so much laughter and fellowship as a group. Our booklets were passed out of the coming year's events and mission projects. Thanks to so many who donate many hours of planning and organizing. Our motto for this year is: WOMEN OF THE WORD, WOMEN IN THE WORD,

WOMEN WALKING WITH JESUS. We appreciate all the support of our congregation.

HELP-We need hostesses for our general meetings on March 12th and May 14th. It takes two people to set up light refreshments and dessert for our general meeting. If you can help in this way please contact Cherylene Brueckner. Thank you.

Mark your calendars for Monday evening @ 6:30 p.m. on November 14th-a special Bible study led by Pastor Chu. BACK TO THE BOOK-HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH-please feel free to invite friends, family, neighbors-all women are encouraged to come and learn. A general meeting will kick off the evening, then refreshments, then learning. Hope you can make it!

### Upcoming Events

#### FRIDAY 11/4, 8AM-8PM

Corner Café: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner --  
- fundraiser for HOLY Cross Parking Lot fund

#### SATURDAY 11/5, 9AM-4PM

Corner Café

#### MONDAY 11/7, 5 PM

WoHC Board Meeting, Conference Room

#### MONDAY 11/14, 6:30 PM

WoHC General Meeting, BIBLE STUDY with Pastor Chu.

Hostess: Grace Gin & Carol Lau

#### SUNDAY 11/20, NOON

Congregational Thanksgiving dinner



**Have you been remembering your Secret pal?**

Try to drop a note of encouragement/thinking of

you, in her mail slot. Remember your 'sister' in prayer. Prayer is really your best gift to her. Place her name in front of God & Praise God for daily blessings & opportunities.



"I'd prefer turkey nuggets."

# Holy Cross Brides 2010-2011

Kelly O'Malley & Rob Smith  
October 20, 2010



Brittany Syrovatka &  
Michael Olson  
October 12, 2011



Brittany & Mike with Brittany's Mom, Cheryl, background

Amy Beutel & Mike Mourelatos  
May 30, 2010



Kathryn Gin & Nick Lum  
October 29, 2011



© Brian Gin



Kathryn and Mom, Grace

© Brian Gin





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 4p UB Tutoring	2 7p Bible Study (H)	3 9:30a Craft (H) 4p UB Tutoring	4 8a Holiday Boutique	5 8a Holiday Boutique
5 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:15a Voters' Assembly 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study 12p Worship <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	7 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 5p WoHC Board Mtg 7p Boy Scout (L)	8 9a CVWV (H) 4p UB Tutoring 6:30p Elders 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	9 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study (H)	10 <i>Veteran's Day</i> 9:30a Craft (H) 4p UB Tutoring	11	12
13 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study	14 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p WoHC General Meeting 7p Boy Scout (L)	15 4p UB Tutoring 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	16 12p NFS Lunch Outing 7p Bible Study (H)	17 9:30a Craft (H) 4p UB Tutoring	18	19
20 9a Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study 12p Thanksgiving Dinner	21 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)	22 4p UB Tutoring 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	23 7p Bible Study (H)	24 <b>9a Thanksgiving Day Service</b>	25	26
27 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH	28 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 2:30p WoHC Brd Mtg 7p Boy Scout (L)	29 4p UB Tutoring	30 7p Advent Mid-week service			

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



**Holy Cross Lutheran  
Church, LCMS**

1092 Alberta Way  
Concord, CA 94521

**November**



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Www.holycrossconcord.org  
Www.ctsmemberconnect.net

**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

Advent Midweek Service: 7:00PM (starting week of 11/27)

**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

December Cross Currents: **November 18**

**Office Hours:** M-F 9AM-1PM