



Holy Cross
Lutheran Church,
LCMS

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**VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL**

**Vacation Bible School
2011** at Holy Cross
will be held on
July 25 - 29.

Please pass the word out
to neighbors and friends!
(See pg. 6 for more info)

Cross Currents



Volume 7, Issue 86

July/August 2011

...God is our refuge and strength...

By Pastor Chu

Psalms 46 offers comfort and hope that transcend circumstances. Whether those circumstances are of our own making or beyond our control, *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble* (v.1).

The psalm is as timely today as it was when it was composed.

Our particulars may be different but our need for an anchor and security that are outside the instability and uncertainty of our circumstances is as great today as it was then. The Psalmist might as well have been addressing our world.

We see kingdoms raging and tottering (v.6), for example, in the Middle East. Wars and skirmishes rage in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Yemen, and elsewhere. Percolating unrest threatens to explode into full-scale riots and uprising in many countries due to economic crises and political oppression. We've also had horrendous natural disasters of fire, floods, tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis.

And if wars or natural disasters have not impacted our physical and emotional welfare directly, all of us have faced or will face personal tragedies, crises, and other difficulties — health problems, death of loved ones and one day our own death, financial crises, relationship issues, etc.

Yet... God is God. He is omniscient; He knows our plight. He is omnipresent; He is with us. He is omnipotent; He has the power to be our refuge and strength. God is also gracious and mer-

ciful — so gracious and merciful that in the fullness of time, as promised, He sent forth His Son to redeem us — so that He is our refuge and strength in our uncertain times and unstable world, and against sin, Satan, and death, and we can be still and know that He is God and trust His power, His goodness, His Word.

With God as God, with Christ as our Savior, we can confess with the psalmist:

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. ⁵God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. ⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Our 2011 Confirmands



Congratulations!

Abigail Roman (l) and Kaytlyn Coyne (r) were confirmed at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 5, 2011. In preparation for this special day, they were very diligent in studying the Holy Scriptures. May the Holy Spirit guide and bless you in the continuation of your study in God's Word and bestow you wisdom and strength to carry out the work that God has prepared for you. Blessings!!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

JULY BIRTHDAY

- 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 BIRTHDAY

- 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
Darrell Humphrey

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 25 Dale & Debbie Boettcher
- 26 Scott & Idalene Stadler
- 28 John & Andrea Beutel



Photo (L-R), front: Diana Meux, Nancy Hoffman, Gail Baker, Marilyn Neumann, Grace Gin; back: Melarie Seidel, Idalene Stadler, Diana Butterfield, Trina Godsey

On Pentecost Sunday, June 12 2011, the Holy Cross Choir went on a field trip to Grace Lutheran Church in El Cerritos,

HC Choir at Grace by Grace Gin

where their choir director, Diana Meux, attends when not at Holy Cross. They were invited by that congregation to sing at their service. They sang two songs and one of them, "Worship in Spirit and Truth", was composed by Diana. Guess what?! You can watch it on YouTube.com under 'dianamusic76'.

Grace's congregation was very appreciative for their participation and complimented the choir tremendously. There is a standing invitation for the future...After the service, the

choir was invited to a lunch prepared by Diana's mother. During which time, the ladies of the choir presented Diana a gift of appreciation. It was a basket full of goodies and fun things.

Thanks Gail for putting the basket together!





DREW OATIS, MIDDLE SCHOOL



Drew graduated from 8th grade on Thursday, May 26, 2011, from Walnut Creek Christian Academy. While attending WCCA, Drew was on the honor roll, played the following sports: flag football, basketball, soccer, track and field, and volleyball, and was a member of Student Council. He received the diligence award in flag football, third place in the ACSI speech meet, and a leadership award for volunteering. During the graduation ceremony, Drew was honored by receiving the Timothy Award which was given to students who strive to set a positive example for others in conversation, lifestyle, and concern for others—I Timothy 4:12. Drew is looking forward to attending Berean Christian High School in the fall.

KATIE PASS, HIGH SCHOOL



Katie graduated from Concord High School on June 8th. During her four years at Concord, her favorite classes were her choir classes. She did three years in Concert Choir, two years in Show

Choir and three years in Ladies First. She traveled to five choir competitions that took her to Boston, San Francisco,

Seattle, New Orleans and San Diego. During her junior year, she performed with Ladies First at CMEA where they received an Unanimous Superior rating. In her senior year, she and thirteen fellow Ladies First members got the opportunity to perform with Foreigner at one of their concerts. She was also asked to audition for the Chanticleer Lab Choir in San Francisco, where she was accepted and has been singing with that choir since January. In the fall, Katie will be attending Cal State East Bay at the Concord campus. She will be entering the Pre-Nursing program.

BRITTANY SYROVATKA, M.A.



Brittany graduated from San Jose State University on Saturday, May 28, 2011 with a Masters of Arts degree in Sports

Management. In the pursuit of her master's degree she was required to do a project which she chose to do on hazing in high school athletes: a qualitative examination of the differences between the public and private academic institutions.

Brittany graduated from San Jose State University on Saturday, May 23, 2009 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Kinesiology with an emphasis on Athletic Training. She has been a part of Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority for the last 5 years taking on multiple leadership opportunities. She is currently working for the city of Walnut Creek as a director and is a manager for the Oakland A's concessionaire. She will continue her coaching of volleyball in the fall for Athenian High School in Danville and looks forward to using her new found knowledge in the sport industry.



KATHRYN GIN, PH.D.

Kathryn received her PhD in History from Yale University in New Haven, CT on May 23rd, 2011. She accepted a contract offered by Oxford University Press to publish her dissertation. This summer, she will be busy revising, editing the manuscript to be submitted by March 2012. She has been teaching at Princeton University as an assistant professor since September 2010. Her next big event is to marry Nick Lum, Esq. in October, 2011.



BRIAN GIN, M.D., PH.D.

Brian received his medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco on May 16th, 2011 at Davies Symphony Hall. Specializing in pediatrics, Brian started his residency program at UCSF in the middle of June. He works on a monthly rotation basis at five different hospitals throughout SF. His first rotation is at California North Pacific Hospital (the former SF Children's Hospital) where he was born!

NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS CORNER

Two Outings in July!

Relax and Enjoy lunch at Mimi's Restaurant, July 8 2011

The Nifty Fifty Seniors have decided to have two outings during July. The Oakland Museum is our main outing on May 20th but we are having a lunch at Mimi's as an extra for those who would like to go out a second time.. Mimi's is located in the Park and Shop Center in Concord. At 1:00 PM. We will not meet at Church just at the Restaurant. It has a Chalet type atmosphere and I can personally vouch for the French Onion Soup add a ½ sandwich of Turkey Salad with walnuts and leave fully satisfied. You can have a hamburger and a cup of soup for \$1.00 extra. They of course have a variety of tempting entrees of pasta, fish, chicken or meat and roasts. We will have a sign up sheet just to get an idea of the number going. Want something to do join us on our outings and bring a friend! JUST COME...

Oakland Museum Tour, July 20th 2011

Join the Nifty Fifty Seniors when they visit the newly renovated Oakland Museum on July 20th. The Museum has many bright new spaces, new technology and collections reinstalled and integrated to give a better perspective of California history. The Museum is located at 1000 Oak St at 10th St. about two blocks from Lake Merritt. The Museum is actually three museums in one: exhibition of works by California artists: collections of historic artifacts from promo Indian basketry to Joe McDonald's guitar; and re-creations of California habitats from the coast to the Sierra Mountains. We will have a Forty-five minute tour after which we can browse at our own leisure. Admission for Seniors is \$9.00 After the tour we plan to have lunch at the Aca-pulco Restaurant in Alameda serving outstanding Mexican cuisine for 45 years. The Museum is open 11:00 A.M to 5:P.M. Meet at Church at 9:45 A.M. leave at 10:00 A.M. We should again try to ride pool as parking is expensive unless you can find space at the Museum. Sign up in the Social Hall so we know how many to plan on....Bring a Friend

August Outing!

**Trip to the Cookie Factory in Oakland.
More information will be forthcoming in
future bulletins.**

Amtrak Ride to Old Sacramento & Train Museum on June 22 2011

By Marv Kreitz

It was a really hot day and we were tempted to call our trip off, but everyone felt that with an air conditioned train, museum and eating place (Fat City) we should go ahead. When I purchased the tickets, the day before, I ordered one commuter ticket (10 one way rides) for \$104.00 (\$20.80 each round trip) and one senior round trip ticket for \$34.00 he said it was \$17.00 round trip special instead of \$34.00. So I ordered six round trip senior tickets and we saved \$36.00 so we started out on a good note.

On Wed. all we had to do was park the cars (we had two handicap cards) so we were able to park in front of the station... and board the train. We chugged and puffed our way through the Delta enjoying the country. We thought it was getting warm in the car and later found out the air conditioner was not working in our car... Some moved to the car behind where the air was working. We arrived in Old Sacramento at 12:15 and walked the short distance to the Fat City Restaurant where we had a delicious lunch and yes it was delightfully cool inside. The temperature outside was 101. It was just one block to the Train Museum, but when we arrived we were glad we didn't have further to go. The Museum was excellent and all that we expected it to be. We watched a movie on the building of the Continental Railroad visited a sleeping car, dining car and a Pullman -Style sleeping car, a dining car filled with railroad china, and the Railroad Post Office.

It was a delightful experience and can understand why

500,000 people visit the Museum every year. All too soon



it was time to leave for the depot. We had a modern great car with oversized windows to enjoy the journey back to Martinez.

What a really great way to spend a day..



Nineteen Model A's made their way to the parking lot of Holy Cross on Sunday morning, June 19 for the Father's Day Car Show. One highlight of the car show was John Villandre's chassis minus its '29 Sport Coupe Body which John is restoring! He drove it (carefully from Clayton to the church) sitting on the special seat he made. We were so amazed that we did not even hear the cars as they drove into the parking



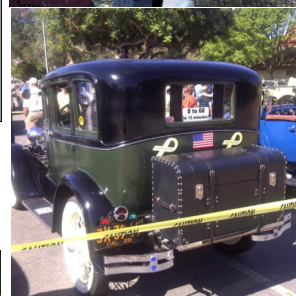
lot. Our own Bob Westbury also brought two of his beautifully restored cars: his red and white 1953 Nash Rambler and his black 1937 Ford Convertible.

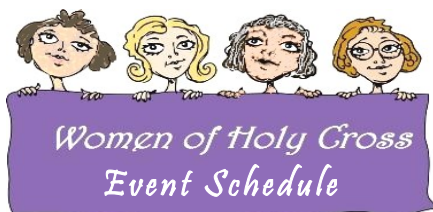


After the car show, everyone came in to the Parish Hall for a delicious brunch prepared by the Women of Holy Cross.



Many of the car club members thanked the church members for the brunch, and we in turn thanked the car club members for the great car show.





July 11 6:00pm

Program Planning for 2011-2012

at Marlene's home.

People with last names beginning with A-L are to bring a salad to share. There will be **no** board meeting in July.

July 3 after Service

5th Sunday Congregational Pot-luck

A time of fellowship for Holy Cross members. WoHC have also invited **speaker & author, Betty Iverson**. She will speak about **W.W.II** after the pot-luck. It should be very interesting, especially for those of us that had fathers, brothers, etc. or ourselves defending our country at that time. Invite your friends, neighbors, etc. Everyone is welcome to join us. Don't forget to sign up, there will be 2 **green sign-up sheets**-- on the bulletin boards, one on each side of the office door.

*SO, MARK YOUR CALENDERS for some good food & fellowship on **July 31**.*

August 8 6:00pm

Program Planning #2

People with last names beginning with M-Z are to bring a salad to share. Location to be determined.

THANK YOU

Women of Holy Cross thanks men & women that support our functions, this is why they are so successful. Wasn't the car show magnificent? If you have any ideas of what you would like to see WoHC provide, the board is setting up the plans for next year so this is a good time to let us know your ideas. Please submit to Cherylene or Joyce. We are always open to new ideas.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

is coming to Holy Cross!

Mark your calendars for July 25th thru July 29th, 9:00a.m.-



12 noon, with dinner and short performance on Friday July 29th. Our "Jammin Jungle Adventures" are sure to be lots of fun! We will be needing volunteers for the different groups. Registration forms are in the church office and in the narthex. Invite your neighbors and friends kids and grandchildren. Come have some fun and share The Message of our Lord with his Little Ones!

Thank you!



To my Holy Cross Family –

Thank you for your calls, prayers, cards, & inquiries since my accident on Memorial Day. My recovery will take a while, however my days are brighter because of your care & concern. Also a special thanks to Mike, who called himself my secretary during my hospital stay. He was a wonderful secretary. Plus he took time, along with Kevin, to set up a comfy recovery room downstairs for me. It's a nice place for visitors too ☺.

Blessings, Joyce Liebe

Recipes

VICTORIAN EGGS FLORENTINE CASSEROLE

6 eggs, slightly beaten
1 lb. cottage cheese
1 cube butter, softened
½ lb. Swiss cheese, grated
1 pkg frozen chopped spinach, cooked and drained
½ lb. feta cheese
Grated nutmeg

Combine the eggs, all three cheeses, and the butter. Mix well. Add the spinach and nutmeg to the egg mixture. Pour into a greased two quart baking dish and bake 1 hour at 325° or until knife inserted comes out clean. Serves 8-10. This is particularly good served with broiled Jersey tomato halves.

SAUSAGE-EGG CASSEROLE

1 lb. bulk sausage (about 12 ounces)
6 eggs
2 cups milk
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup grated cheese
2 or 3 slices bread, cubed
1 teaspoon dry mustard

Brown and drain the sausage. Beat the eggs with the milk, salt, and mustard. Place the bread cubes in the bottom of a 9" x 13" buttered casserole dish. Crumble the sausage over the bread, top with the cheese, and pour the egg mixture over all. Refrigerate overnight. Bake at 350° for 40 minutes. Serves 8-10

It is an easy and fast dish to serve; you can double the recipe for larger groups.

BREAKFAST POTATOES CASSEROLE

1 – 32oz. pkg. frozen hashed brown potatoes
½ cup butter, melted
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 can cream of chicken soup
8 oz. sour cream
10 oz. shredded cheddar cheese
2 cups crushed corn flakes
¼ cup melted butter

Thaw potatoes, mix with next 7 ingredients. For topping, combine cornflakes and butter and sprinkle over potato mixture. Bake 1 hr. at 350° in 9" x 13" dish. Serves 8-10.

JULY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	4 Independence Day 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 7pm Boy Scout (PH, L) 	5 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	6	7 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	8 1p NFS Meet at Mimi's for lunch	9
10 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	11 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6pm WoHC Brd Mtg 7pm Boy Scout (L)	12 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	13 1pm Sen- ior Brd (L)	14 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	15	16
17 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	18 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30pm Church Council 7pm Boy Scout (L)	19 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	20 9:45a NFS Carpool to Oakland Museum	21 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	22	23
24 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:30am OUTREACH	25 9am VBS 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 7pm Boy Scout (L)	26 9am VBS 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	27 9am VBS	28 9am VBS 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	29 9am VBS 6p VBS BBQ	30
31 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Pot-luck Brunch	AUGUST 2011					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Friday	Sat
31 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	1 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 2:15pm WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7pm Boy Scout (h)	2 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	3	4 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	5	6
7 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	8 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6pm WoHC Brd Mtg 7pm Boy Scout (L)	9 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	10 1pm Senior Brd (L)	11 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	12	13
14 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	15 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30pm Church Council 7pm Boy Scout (L)	16 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	17	18 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	19	20
21 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study	22 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 7pm Boy Scout (L)	23 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	24	25 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	26	27
28 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:30am OUTREACH	29 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 2:15pm WoHC Sept Brd Mtg 7pm Boy Scout (L)	30 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	31			

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
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 18, 2011

Office Hours: M-F 9AM-1PM