



Holy Cross  
Lutheran Church,  
LCMS



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# Cross Currents



Volume 8, Issue 87

September 2011

## Trust in Him at all times, O people

By Pastor Chu

On September 11, Americans will observe the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. Those old enough to remember the unprovoked attack on this country can recall what they were doing when they first heard the news or saw the videos of the jetliners deliberately being flown into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, or that Pennsylvania field. Each will observe this 9/11 in his/her own way. Some will attend memorial services in honor of the fallen. Some will express their patriotism at community events. Some will spend time with family. Others will call for the celebration of the "common heritage" between Christianity and Islam (i). Still others will use the occasion to renew their criticisms and verbal attacks on America.

However you choose to observe 9-11, I encourage you also to read the Bible and be reminded that even at times when we seem to be at the mercy of others, God is God, He is the Lord of the nations, all things are in His hand, and we are in His mercy. We may not understand why He allowed 9/11 or other tragedies, but we are in His gracious hand.

As you read the Scriptures, be still, and know that He is God (Ps.46) even during such atrocities as what happened 10 years ago on 9-11. Know that He loved you enough to offer His Son, Jesus, as the ransom to save you from eternal death by dying in atonement for your sins and the sins of the world. If you have any doubts, look at the cross. Trust in Him for salvation. Trust Him... at all times!

*my rock and my salvation,*

*my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.*

<sup>3</sup>*How long will all of you attack a man to batter him,*

*like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?<sup>4</sup>They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.*

*They take pleasure in falsehood.*

*They bless with their mouths,*

*but inwardly they curse. Selah*

<sup>5</sup>*For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.*

<sup>6</sup>*He only is my rock and my salvation,*

*my fortress; I shall not be shaken.<sup>7</sup>On God rests my salvation and my glory;*

*my mighty rock, my refuge is God.*

<sup>8</sup>*Trust in him at all times, O people;*

*pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. Selah*

<sup>9</sup>*Those of low estate are but a breath;*

*those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up;*

*they are together lighter than a*

*breath.<sup>10</sup>Put no trust in extortion;*

*set no vain hopes on robbery;*

*if riches increase, set not your heart on them.*

<sup>11</sup>*Once God has spoken;*

*twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,*

<sup>12</sup>*and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.*

*For you will render to a man according to his work. (Psalm 62)*

i. For the record, Christians and Muslims do not worship the same God. The God of the Bible is the Triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: three persons, one God); the god of Islam is not. The Bible teaches that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ crucified for the sins of the world; Islam has little use for Jesus, who, for them, is a prophet below the status of Mohammed.

<sup>1</sup>*For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.* <sup>2</sup>*He only is*

## ATTENTION SINGERS!

Choir rehearsals resume Tuesdays at 7:15 pm starting **September 6**. (Typically 3 rehearsals, 2 services per month.) Not a current member but thinking about it? Concerned about time, etc? *"We should never be discouraged --Take it to the Lord in prayer!" For "He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing."* If you're prayerfully considering joining this music ministry, contact the choir director Diana Meux at

[dianamcm02@yahoo.com](mailto:dianamcm02@yahoo.com) or 510-526-3294. We would love to have you join us!

"Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:19)

(In above quotes: What a Friend We Have in Jesus--LW 516 vs. 2; Beautiful Savior--LW

## AL THE WOPS

**Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Back by popular demand is a trip to Al the Wops. ( Dave said if you go back to Al the Wops count me in). It's so great to have Dave and Herb on our senior board as they are soooo enthusiastic and full of suggestions. We hope more of you will join us as we wind our way through the scenic Delta to the old town of Lock and visit the renowned and extraordinary restaurant "AL the Wops" featuring New York Steak with a jar of Peanut butter and it's companion jar of jelly to be used either on the steak or on the piping hot french bread according to preference . Lock as you know was founded by a group of Chinese merchants from near by Walnut Grove who reached an agreement with George Lock to build on his land. By 1920 Lock stood essentially as you see it today This is a really great trip through the Delta back in time to a really historic town. Don't miss this trip. **Meet at church at 11:45 leave promptly at 12:00 noon** lunch is at 1:00 PM Bring a friend.. All members of the Church are invited. You don't have to be 50 to attend. Just sign up and come!!!



## HOLY CROSS BRIDGE

Starting in September, Bridge resumes on the second Monday of every month at 1:30 pm. All HC bridge players are welcome to come sharpen your skill and exercise your brain. If you do not know how to play and want to learn, this is your opportunity!! Bring a

## FELLOWSHIP POT LUCK...

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2011** is the 10 year anniversary of a very tragic day in the United States. Please join us to Honor and Remember and Sing our Patriotic Hymns.

We always have plenty of food so please join us in fellowship and lunch.

Pat & Marlene



## CLAYTON OKTOBERFEST

**Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**

The Nifty Fifty Seniors will visit the Oktoberfest in Clayton on Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 2011.

There is a real Carnival atmosphere with vendors of various apparel and home items with booths set up throughout downtown Clayton. Various tempting cuisines are offered at the food booths where you can make your selection of German or American foods. You can tote your aromatic treasure to the huge dinning tent full of tables and be entertained by German bands and professional dance groups doing various folk dances while you eat and In past years we dined on Viener Snitzel and Spaetzel from D.J. Bistros Restaurant of Concord. **Meet at church at 11:15 leave at 11:30** or if you wish meet us at the Oktoberfest in Clayton. This is a really fun outing and a great way to celebrate the arrival of autumn... Many who visit on Saturday will come back for the fun and food on Sunday. . The entertainment in the big tent usually starts around 1:00. Sign up in the Social Hall so we know how to try and get a table for everyone.



## September Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- 3 Eric Ingle
- Ray Krause
- Eleanor Tyson
- 5 Karen Gamble
- 10 Linda Pass
- 12 Judy West
- 16 Brandon Voss
- 18 Inge Stone
- 19 Mitzi Albano
- 21 Violet Griffin
- 23 Marlene Roberts
- 24 Melarie Seidel
- 26 Brian Gin
- Jaan Kaigas
- 27 Caitlin Pass
- 28 Ken Ballard

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Bill & Gayle Bothe
- 13 Mike & Melarie Seidel
- 28 Darell & Barbra Humphrey

## A Word from the Council President...

## Back to School. Back to Church. A Christian Heat



Now that most of us have completed our summer travel and vacationing, we can generate our own year-round "heat wave" by breaking the century mark (in attendance) each Sunday morning.

A simple Christian challenge – 100 or more worshippers at each Sunday service. This an easy challenge for our congregation to achieve and the rewards are priceless. Each of Us – Make it our priority to worship each Sunday. If you have transportation challenges, call our office so we can arrange a ride.

Our Immediate Family – Extend your personal commitment by encouraging your immediate family members to join you in regular worship.

Our Extended Families – Encourage your extended family members and visiting family members to join us in worship. They are welcome members of our church family.

Our Holy Cross our "pew-mates" Check in with absent members. They may need your fellowship support in other ways.

Invite Visitors – This is a challenge for many of us but a great gift to offer. Extend an invitation to neighbors, acquaintances, or others you believe may not have a regular church family.

Are you up to the heat wave challenge? Let's achieve our Christian Heat Wave with worship and fellowship and Christian growth.

See you on Sunday,  
Mike Liebe, Church Council President

Family – Encourage to join us weekly. sent church family

## August 28 Voters Assembly Minutes

By Carrie Kroeger, Council Secretary

Mike Liebe was elected President of the Congregation unanimously. Mike has been serving as the acting President of the Congregation since Al Swan moved to Washington, vacating the position. Congratulations, Mike!

Also re-elected on the same slate were Elders John Coyne, Bill Riechmann and Eric Roman; Trustees, Alan Breuckner and Jaan Kaigas; Treasurer, Cheryl Syrovatka and Financial Secretary, Scott Stadler. We really appreciate the years of faithful service and jobs well done, above and beyond the call of duty.

The President, Trustee and Seniors Reports were given. Pastor, the Elders, Stewardship, Youth, Fellowship, WoHC and Altar Guild did not report. Our Trustees and Seniors are as busy as ever! The Trustees can always use an extra hand to pitch in with the upkeep around the church or join the Seniors (they'll let you slide on your age if you're too young) for a fun outing around the Bay Area or even for lunch. Check out the Senior Corner.

Joe Ordzywolski discussed the Trinity Church space updates – in their current space in the Education Building, depending on capacity, two doors need to be reversed (open out rather than in), an additional exit needs to be installed and there's a possibility that a wall be opened. Bids are being sought but there has been nothing further brought to the Church Council nor has a decision been made yet.

Kimberly Chu was voted in as a voting member. Welcome, Kimberly! As a reminder, to become a voting member you need to be 18 years of age, attend two

voters meetings, read the Constitution and By-laws, be approved by the members at a meeting, and sign the Ledger.

Mike reminded us of Holy Cross's Mission Statement. Our mission is contained in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20): "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo I am with you always, to the close of the age."

Pat Kroeger suggested that we use some of our space to build a couple of non-regulation Bocce ball courts to go along with the popular 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potlucks.

Joe pointed out that there are other things that go with Bocce ball and it was agreed that a few picnic tables and some trees would be a fine addition. Eric Roman has already scouted out the cost of oyster sand (the base material for the court).

Mike Liebe invites all those with good ideas under our mission statement to come to one of the monthly Church Council Meetings to present them. Let us know and we'll add you to the agenda!

To fulfill Christ's command, the members and staff at Holy Cross will create:

- Meaningful worship opportunities for members and guests
- Christian growth and unity through Bible study
- The sharing of Christ with family, community and the world
- Service to our community, including those less fortunate
- Internal and external fellowship opportunities



## Nifty Fifty Seniors Corner

### Tower Grill Lunch-August 17

By Marv Kreitz

It was a sparkling summer day as the Nifty Fifty Seniors wound their way to the Tower Grill bordering Todos Santos Center in concord. Parking was not a problem as we met



at the Restaurant at 11:30. The restaurant was just like a sports bar with lots of TV's all tuned to a different station so depending on your interest there was something you would like to watch... The food was excellent I had a hamburger with buffalo fries and coffee. Jack had a club sandwich and Dave had soup and salad. His salad was in a soup plate about 12 inches across to say it was huge is an understatement. We sat at three tables which kept the conversation to more of a minimum, but all seemed to be talking it's just that we all didn't know what everyone was talking about. It was a fun outing and we all are looking forward to our journey to Al the Wops on Sept. 21st. (Details on page 2)

### Mimi's Restaurant Outing, July 8

by Marv Kreitz

The Nifty Fifty lunch at Mimi's was to be a secondary outing for July with the trip to the Oakland Museum being the number one outing and the one we expected to be attended by most seniors. On the sign up sheet for Mimi's there was six people signed up when we left for the restaurant then there was four more, so we had ten attending. The trip to the museum sign up sheet had Trudy and me, and Trudy was ill. The trip was canceled.

What an absolutely great time we all had at Mimi's. They seated us in the back room (which was a good thing as the conversation was wild and loud). They had a special for \$10.99 which included a drink, soup or salad and a main dish. I had the onion soup (great) and a hamburger with French fries and lemonade. The most important thing was the camaraderie with Christian friends.



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By: Cherylene Brueckner, President, WoHC

The Women of Holy Cross board members have been busy this summer planning the events for September 2011 through August 2012. Marlene Roberts hosted our first planning meeting in July, and Joyce Liebe hosted the second one in August. Using feedback we have gotten on events we have had in the past and ideas for new ones, we are putting together the 2011-2012 WoHC program book.

Back by popular demand, we are going to host **two Bunco nights this year**. Get ready to flex your wrists and toss those dice on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>! We will start with a short business meeting at 6:30 p.m. (we need your input for the year ahead), followed by an exciting Bunco evening. Marilyn Neumann and Cherylene Brueckner will be our dessert hostesses for the evening. Invite a friend to join you. This is a great fellowship opportunity! Please don't stay home because of a transportation problem. Call Cherylene Brueckner at 685-6033 so we can coordinate a ride for you! Our second Bunco night is being planned for January.

September is a busy month with activities put aside for the summer getting back into full swing. We decided to have our WoHC "welcome back" event in October this year. Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, we plan to observe LWML Sunday, **and** invite all of the women of the congregation to a noon luncheon. Our theme is "Get on the Bus – Back to The Book". We will be distributing the 2011-2012 programs at this meeting.

Watch the Sunday bulletin and the Holy Cross newsletters for information on monthly events. Any sign-up sheets are posted on the WoHC bulletin board in the Parish Hall. There will be many opportunities to get involved as we "serve the Lord with gladness". The first weekend in November we will be coordinating a repeat of the Holiday Hutch Corner Cafe to benefit the Parking Lot Fund, Pastor Chu will lead us in a Bible Study at our November meeting, our annual Adopt-a-Family Christmas tree will be ready in late November, and we will host the first Advent Wednesday Soup Supper in December...to name a few.

*Be sure to remember your Secret Pal. A card in her Holy Cross mailbox is a simple way to let her know that you keep her in your prayers.*

### Mite Projects Update

By Gayle Bothe

Projects 1 through 7 have been funded. We received notice from CNH District offices that circumstances have changed and Project #7 - HMong Ministry, St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Stockton, CA., has been canceled. The funds gathered for that project will now go toward Project #8 - Mt. Cross Adult Ministry Expansion, Mt. Cross Ministries, Felton, CA. So, while we regret the change in circumstances for Project #7, the \$6,350.00 will make a nice start toward the \$25,000.00 goal of Project #8. We are thankful to God for all he has given us and thankful to all who share their Mites with all others so we can continue God's work through LWML and their Mission Grant Projects/Mite Projects. Gayle Bothe 825-3865

### Upcoming Events

**1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Sep. 9-11:** CNH LWML District Retreat in Chico (Gayle Bothe is going)

**Monday, 9/12:** WoHC general meeting with **BUNCO** – 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, 10/1:** LWML Zone Fall Rally at Grace Lutheran Church, Pittsburg (details coming)

**Monday, 10/3:** WoHC Board meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the conference room (visitors welcome!)

**Sunday, 10/9:** LWML Sunday and WoHC welcome back lunch – "Get on the Bus – Back to the Book"



**Thank you for** all the kindnesses, cards and prayers during this difficult time. Our lives will

be forever changed without Mother. Thanks for all your care and concern. We are blessed to have a church family.

While we travelled to Iowa in July, the weather held up well. The small town church, that I grew up in, was celebrating its 125th anniversary. A special guest Pastor came to preach-some of you may know him-Matthew Harrison, our Synod President. He served at that small town church in the early 1990's. We were so blessed and happy to be a part of the celebration. Thanks again.

CAROL AND DENNIS LAU

## Vacation Bible School Highlights By Sandy Coyne

**Vacation Bible School** at Holy Cross was held the week of July 25-29, with the curriculum and theme being based on Concordia's program, "Big Jungle Adventure." There were nearly 20 Holy Cross adult and youth volunteers who helped throughout the week in many ways, as the 27 participants spent time engaged in a variety of activities.

The parish hall was decorated with a jungle theme where "Jammin' Jungle Tunes" were played daily during opening and closing. The music and hand motions to these fun and inspirational songs were enjoyed by the kids (volunteers too!) and helped build energy each day. Daily Bible points showed the kids different ways in which God, through Jesus, cares for them, rescues them from sin and death, and lives as the Light of life. Each time a Bible point was spoken, the kids responded by saying, "Wild for God!" As the week went on, this response got louder and louder!

The kids enjoyed fun and fel-

lowship at outdoor game time. They were refreshed with yummy snacks, and enjoyed watching "Chadder," a short daily video about a chipmunk who pointed out the need to rely on Jesus. The kids made jungle themed craft projects which help to serve as take home reminders of what they learned throughout the week.

Each day the kids joined together in prayer, memorized Bible verses, and learned Bible lessons. Studying the Bible showed the kids how God was present in the lives of people in ancient times, how He is present in our lives today, and how Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of everything past and present.

DAY 1 : *"Cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you."* 1 Peter 5:7

DAY 2: *"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer."* Psalm 18:2

DAY 3: *"You are the light of the world. Let your light shine before others.."* Matthew 5:14-16

DAY 4: *"The Lord has risen indeed!"* Luke 24:34

DAY 5: *"Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life."* Revelation 2:10

Many thanks to God for blessing our week at Vacation Bible School !





# SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	5	6 4pm UB Tu- toring(E) 7:15pm Choir rehearsals	7	8 9:30a CVWC Craft 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	9	10
11 9am Worship 10:30am Pot Luck & Fellowship 	12 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 1:30p Bridge 6pm WoHC General Mtg, Bunco 7pm Boy Scout (L)	13 4pm UB Tu- toring(E) 7:15pm Choir rehearsals	14 1pm Senior Brd (L)	15 9:30a CVWC Craft	16	17
18 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	19 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30pm Church Council 7pm Boy Scout (L)	20 4pm UB Tu- toring(E) 7:15pm Choir rehearsals	21 11:45a NFS Carpool to Al the Wops	22 9:30a CVWC Craft 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	23	24 11:15a NFS to Clayton Oktober- fest
25 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study 11:30am OUT- REACH	26 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 7pm Boy Scout (L)	27 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	28	29 9:30a CVWC Craft 4pm UB Tutoring(E)	30	

(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

October Cross Currents: **September 20**

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