



Cross Currents



Volume 9, Issue 77

October 2010

The great "solas" of the Reformation

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

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OCTOBER

Rev. Matthew Harrison, in his address to the delegates of the 2010 LCMS convention following his election as the 13th president of the synod, said, "I wish to inform you that you have kept your perfect record of electing sinners as presidents of the Missouri Synod. I guarantee you I will sin and fail. I will fall short."

Obviously, Harrison wasn't boasting about his sinfulness; he was humbly admitting that though a saint by virtue of God's grace through faith in Christ who died on the cross to atone for the sins of the world, he (Harrison) remained a sinner who would continue to sin but live by the forgiving love of God in Christ.

Harrison's words echoed the truth St. Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans:

¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate...

¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is,

in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing...

²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!...

Describing the struggles of his new nature in Christ against his own



sinful nature, Paul described the plight of all Christians. Our problem in our life of sanctification — in living our Christian faith — is not that we don't know what God's Law says. It's not that we don't know what God wants us to do. Our problem is that we can't do perfectly what God

wants us to do. Our struggle is that often we don't do what we know to be godly and god-pleasing; we do the opposite.

This is why Lutheran preaching historically has been a Law and Gospel approach:

1. To hold before us sinners God's Law God to tell us what God requires and show us that we do not and cannot please God on our own.

2. And to proclaim the Gospel to show us what Christ has done for our salvation, give us faith to trust in Him as Savior, assure us of forgiveness, and strengthen us with the grace of God to enable us to lead a Godly life.

The great "solas" of the Reformation — *sola gratia* (by grace alone), *sola fide* (by faith alone), *sola scriptura* (by Scripture alone)... and *solus Christus* (Christ alone) restored to the church's conscience

(Continued on page 2, Solas)

Solas (Continued from page 1)

the inviolable Scriptural truth that God justifies us (declares us “not guilty”) by grace alone, through faith alone, on account of Christ alone, and this we know by Scripture alone. These *solas* are also indispensable in our Christian life, as clearly stated by St. Paul. We are not saved by works but by God’s grace. Neither are we able to live a godly life merely by our own efforts; rather we live our Christian life by God’s grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone by the power the Holy Spirit working through the Gospel.

I’m sure this comes as no surprise to any of you: I too am a sinner, and I will sin, every day. I don’t say this with any arrogance or pride, but with utmost humility and thankfulness to God that I am saved and am a forgiven sinner, just like St. Paul, redeemed by the blood of the Son of God who was crucified to atone for my sins, your sins, and the sins of the world.

— Pastor Chu



*Please Remember
to Keep these Friends
in Your Prayers*

Paul Daule, Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Trudy Huenninghaus, Bob Richards, Gary Cox, Lloyce Logan, AJ and Caylin Stanley, Phyllis O’Leary, Charles and Chuck Johnson, Brennan and Devin Helmer, Christine Helmer, Joy Parker, Mr. and Mrs. McDavid, Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor, Burma Grandt, Laurence Grandt, Robert Grandt, Inge Stone, Luca Nishimori, Sienna Lee, Elizabeth Bothé, Kathy Kinser, Linda Martino, Abbi and Alex Roman.



Fall Altar Guild Meeting

Please join us for the fall altar guild meeting on **Saturday October 9th at 9:30 am** in the conference room. We will be planning for the upcoming Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas activities. New members are always welcome. This is a good way to serve as a couple or as a family. Contact Andrea Beutel with any questions at 672-9605 or at andbeutel@comcast.net

Sunday, October 10th LWML Sunday and



WoHC Annual Bake Sale for Mites

To all who enjoy home baked goods - plan to purchase some delicious goodies. All proceeds will go to Mites & fund our 2010-2012 Mission Grants.

To our Holy Cross bakers - please see sign up sheet on Women of Holy Cross board in Parish Hall. You can help by:

- 1-2 servings each (4-6 cookies/bars, 2-3 cupcakes/muffins)
- package in/on disposable containers/plates
- label (especially if product contains nuts)
- drop off in kitchen before church on Oct. 10th

See Joyce Liebe for additional infor-

JOIN US FOR THE

Holy Cross Annual Congregational Oktoberfest

**Saturday
October 30
4:00 PM**



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

NEW BIBLE STUDY



**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
7:00PM,
PARISH HALL**

This is for anyone who is interested...especially for those who couldn't make it any other times ...come check it out!



October Birthdays

- 1 Shelby Oatis
- 3 Erna Beutel
Glenn Stenson
- 6 Claudia Gemar
- 13 Mike Liebe
- 14 Walter Hoffman
- 18 Kimberly Chu
- 24 Annaliesa Liedtke
- 26 Erin Boettcher
- 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

A Letter from Jason Gullidge

September 5, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of my favorite childhood authors was Dr. Seuss. He was quoted once saying, "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." As I read this quote, it summed up what I felt when I ended my internship at Holy Cross and First Lutheran. These past couple months, since I have left Concord, have been an adventure. I wish I could tell you the transition back to Portland was easy, but it had its difficulties, yet God's guiding hand was definitely upon it. Let me take a quick moment to update you on my life.

Christa and I headed back to Portland together on July 5th. We were planning to make it in a day, but with constant truck trouble we had to split it into two. For the next month I lived with one of my former roommates from college. During this time I applied for jobs and apartments. After twenty plus applications, I landed a job with a company called Pentagon Technologies located in Portland, Oregon. I am a blast specialist, which means I sand blast solar panel parts. On average I

am working between 48 and 58 hours weekly.

With the generous gifts given by Holy Cross and First Lutheran, I was able to get a two bedroom apartment in Vancouver, Washington. In my free time I have been hanging out with Christa, unpacking my apartment, and planning a wedding. It has been a busy few months.

I miss doing ministry at both churches. Thank you for all your prayers, encouragement, support, and financial gifts given throughout my internship both at First Lutheran and Holy Cross. Each of you has been a blessing to me. It has been a true honor to serve the Lord with you. May our God continue to bestow blessings on each of you.

God's Servant,
Jason
Romans 8

Contact Info:

New Address:

7420 NE Hazel Dell, Apt #26,
Vancouver, WA 98665

Phone Number: 206-947-0553

Email: jasongullidge@yahoo.com

Nifty Fifty Seniors' Corner

Trip to Acapulco Restaurant

It was a sparkling day with a scent fall in the air as we journeyed west on highway 24 to East Oakland then over the 29th Street Bridge from Oakland to Alameda and the Acapulco Restaurant. The restaurant was opened in 1953. The same family still runs the restaurant and the food is still as good as it was when it opened. Most of us ordered half dinner entrée's at \$8.50 which came with rice and refried beans as well as a choice of flour or corn tortillas (more than most of us could eat). Good food at a reasonable price. Thirteen seniors attended including Ingra Stone who lives in Alameda and Muriel Strieter from Lafayette. Herb Neumann (our new Elder) said grace. What a great way to spend a day with fellow Christians. The picture we took of everyone at the table didn't turn out so we used the one we took outside the restaurant. Other pictures posted on the wall in the social hall.



Marilyn Neumann, Wilma Burch, Herb Neumann, Trudy Huenninghaus, Muriel Strieter, Violet Griffin, Eyona Pargman (l-r)

Day on the Bay Tuesday Oct. 19th 2010

The Nifty Fifty Seniors will Travel on the Bay via Ferry from Jack London Square to pier 41 on Tue Oct 19th. Relax and enjoy the aquatic scenery along the Estuary and on Bay. Expect to views huge cranes and container ships loading and processing containers.

Lunch will be at 12:30PM at the Rain Forest Restaurant located next to the Wax Museum in the Fisherman's wharf area. I'm sure we will see Mimes performing their acts on the way to the restaurant. Among the dining companions will be elephants, cheetahs and monkeys to name a few.

Meet at church at 9:30AM.
Leave promptly at 9:45AM.
The Ferry leaves Oakland Jack London Square at 11:00AM and arrives in San Francisco at 11:45AM.

We plan on returning on the Ferry that leaves at 3:45PM and gets into Oakland at 4:40 PM. Cost of the Ferry for Seniors round trip is \$7.50.

Parking is free at the Ferry Terminal at Jack London Square. Be sure you get your parking ticket validated aboard the ferry, or on the pier. Sign up is in the Social Hall so we know how many to plan on.... Bring a FRIEND!

NEWS FLASH!

NEWS FLASH!

By Pat Easby

The Clayton Women's group is holding their annual **"Holiday Hutch Christmas Boutique"** at Holy Cross this year. (Around 2000 people will be in and out the doors at this 2 day event.)

They contacted Cherylene, our WoHC president & asked if WoHC would be interested in providing Breakfast & Lunch for their Boutique.

WoHC will set up a 'cafe' in the Parish Hall & all profits will go toward the **"Holy Cross Parking Lot fund"**.

Men & Women are encouraged to help!

This is a wonderful event you won't want to miss, the Parish hall will be completely transformed!

We will be asking for donations of:

- a. specific baked goods,
- b. time work shift slots of 3 hours each,
- c. monetary donations, etc.

These are not finalized yet, but will give you an idea of what we'll need.

(We will have sign up sheets for all) More details later.

HOLIDAY HUTCH BOUTIQUE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

8AM-8PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

9AM-4PM

(Thurs. evening will be preview night-no sales until Fri. AM)

*be sure to Mark your calendars

Women of Holy Cross

Holy Cross Parking Lot Fund

Holiday Hutch Boutique is using our parish hall for their annual craft faire on November 5th and 6th. Liz Aduan is part of this group of crafters and asked the Women of Holy Cross if we are interested in setting up a Café Corner at the boutique to serve lunch to raise funds for a project of our choice. We decided that this is a great opportunity!

Our Holy Cross parking lot is in need of some TLC! This will be an expensive capital project that our budget for annual repairs and maintenance cannot provide for. With the blessing of the Church Council, the Women of Holy Cross are planning to launch a Holy Cross Parking Lot Fund with the funds raised at the lunch. We are asking for matching funds from Thrivent.

Just like a building fund, this project will span several years. The success of the fund is dependent on the entire congregation, but it is not meant to take away from our normal Sunday giving. Perhaps other groups at Holy Cross will sponsor events to add to the fund. You can contribute individually as well. No gift is too small! Skip that latte one day a week and put the money in the offering plate. Be sure to identify your gift for the Parking Lot Fund.

We will keep you up to date on the progress of the fund. Together we will be good stewards as we care for our church property.

Women of Holy Cross

The board members of the WoHC met twice during the summer to plan our program for September 2010 through August 2011. If you haven't gotten a new program, please let Cherylene know.

We hope that the program includes something for everyone. Some of the old favorites are returning: The Christmas party and the Adopt-a-Family project in December, Bunco and a pot-luck supper in January, and dinner out with families and friends in June. We will serve a Wednesday night supper in Advent and Lent.

Pastor Chu will lead us in a Bible study in November and a special Valentine event is planned for February. We are also planning college and military care packages during the year. There will be two zone rallies (spring and fall) and a special CNH District LWML Women's Conference. Watch for more information on these events in the newsletters and bulletins, and our sign-up sheets in the parish hall.

All women at Holy Cross are members of WoHC. Please join us in these fun events. If you need a ride, call Cherylene Brueckner. Each gathering is an opportunity to grow together as sisters in Christ. Together we are women of the Word, women in the Word, women walking with Jesus.

Serving the Lord with gladness, Cherylene Brueckner, President WoHC

LWML ZONE 7 RALLY

9:00 AM Saturday

October 16, 2010

Faith Lutheran Church

50 Woodsworth Lane

Pleasant Hill

Easy directions from Holy Cross:

Take Ygnacio Rd

Right on to Cowell Rd.

Left on to Monument Blvd. - go all the way to Contra Costa Blvd

Right onto Contra Costa Blvd, go a few blocks

Left on to Woodsworth Ln.

The church is located on your left.

Registration Cost: \$5.00

(includes AM coffee & rolls, and a yummy Lunch with your sisters in Christ)

Sign up today...Look for the bright yellow paper, next to the office door

Please mark if you **need a ride-we'll provide!*

If you haven't attended a Rally, this is the time to join us. You will enjoy a lovely casual morning of singing, communion, and a message by a special guest speaker, "*We are all part of God's Body*" (Thousands of Californians are awaiting life-saving transplants.)

In place of a WoHC **General Meeting** this Month; the WoHC are attending the Rally in hopes to get more ladies to join us. Please commit to attend. Details are on the WoHC Bulletin Board.

All ladies are encouraged to join us!

*** PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Outreach at the Shelter (September 26, 2010)

By Carol Lau

After taking a break through the summer months, the people at the shelter were so happy to see us! There were only 4 of us to serve but we managed to keep the food hot and the drinks cold. Thanks to Pat Easby for the awesome menu of rigatoni, meatballs, salad, bread and soup. Thanks to Melarie Seidel, they love her split pea soup and thanks to Violet Griffin for serving it. Mike Liebe did the hauling of the food and unloading and he's great with drinks. Thanks Mike! Loretta Oliver helped with the bread and butter in the kitchen. When we arrived at the facility, we passed out Portals of Prayers and we started by sharing the Lord's Prayer.

We served 34 meals quickly to those who had just arrived from the hospital and/or jail. Then we served another 10 meals to the handicapped/wheelchair people. Then another 80 people were very hungry for some homemade cooking. It was very satisfying to talk with and encourage those who were trying hard to start a new life. We missed our regular servers this month, but if this is something you would like to help with, we welcome you to the kitchen or to the shelter, however much you would like to help. Also, whoever put together the toiletry items, they really liked those baggies full of essential items. Thank you again.

Also, thanks to Sue O'Malley for her homemade cookies. They are met with smiles from the recipients each month. Our next time to the shelter is October 24th at noon. Please keep our outreach efforts in your prayers. Thanks for all the support.



Where do we begin, to thank all of you at Holy Cross. Your prayers have been lifting us up. Cards and notes and gifts, expressions of your love, have encouraged all of us as we deal with the loss of Bill. Even when we know our loss is gain for him, his absence has brought many tears.

Thanks to all of you...our Holy Cross family, for helping the Godsey family get through these last few weeks. A special thanks to all who provided the Memorial service and the luncheon that followed. Our many friends and out-of-town relatives were delighted with your warm hospitality, and now know why we became members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Your example of the love of our Lord Jesus Christ will not be forgotten...ever!

Love, Trina and Family

A brutal murder, a struggle with faith, a disturbing note ...

THE SHACK

Join Pastor Tom Norris for a free, four-week online study of this wildly popular and controversial book.

Find out what's behind the criticism and what can deepen and enrich Christian faith.

Thursday Evenings starting October 21
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Wm. Paul Young's *The Shack* has sold millions of copies worldwide and has been translated into 30 languages. Theologian Eugene Peterson wrote of it, "This book has the potential to do for our generation what John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* did for his. It's that good!" But Pastor Mark Driscoll thinks it heresy, writing, "To those who haven't read *The Shack*: Don't."

Session 1: "The Shack: The Controversy"
Thursday, October 21 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Session 2: "The God the Scriptures Reveal"
Thursday, October 28 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.


Session 3: "What Is Salvation ... and Who Is Saved?"
Thursday, November 4 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Session 4: "The God Who Is: The Trinity"
Thursday, November 11 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Register for this free webinar series today at
bethanylc.webex.com

Visit our website for more information about this and other webinars
www.bethany-mp.org/webinars

October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 11:15a NFS Outing-Clayton Oktoberfest
3 <i>Mite Box / Hat Sunday</i> 9a Worship w/ Com- munion 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study	4 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 2:30p WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7p Boy Scout (H)	5 4p UB Tutor- ing(E) 7:15 Choir Re- hearsal	6 7p Bible Study (H)	7 9:30a Craft (H) 4p UB Tutoring (E) 7p Men's Group	8	9
10 <i>LWML Sunday</i> 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study 12p WoHC Baked Sale	11 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L) <i>Columbus Day</i>	12 9a CVWV (H) 4p UB Tutor- ing(E) 6:30p Elders	13 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study (H)	14 9:30a Craft (H) 4p UB Tutoring (E)	15	16 9a LWML Zone Rally @ Faith Lu- theran
17 9a Worship w/ Com- munion 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study	18 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p Church Council 7p Boy Scout (L)	19 4p UB Tutor- ing(E) 7:15 Choir Re- hearsal	20 7p Bible Study (H)	21 9:30a Craft (H) 4p UB Tutoring (E) 7p Men's Group	22	23
24 9a Worship 10:15a Thrivent Cof- fee Hour Presentation 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH	25 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)	26 9a CVWC (H) 4p UB Tutor- ing(E) 7:15 Choir Re- hearsal	27 7p Bible Study (H)	28 9:30a Craft (H) 4p UB Tutoring (E)	29	30 4p Ocktober- fest 
31 9a Worship w/ Com- munion 10:30a Sunday- School / Bible Study <i>Halloween [USA]</i>						

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

**Holy Cross Lutheran
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Pastor: Bill Chu

Pres: Mike Liebe

Vice Pres: Gregg Syrovatka

Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger

Financial Sec: Scott Stadler

Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka

Head Trustee: Allen Brueckner

Elders: Bill Riechman, George Oatis, John Coyne,
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Rhonda Liedtke, Grace Gin

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service 9:00AM
Adults Bible Studies 10:30AM
Sunday School 10:30AM
Communion 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

Weekly Bible Study Schedule*:

Ladies Bible Study
Monday 12:30PM Conference Room

Wednesday 7:00PM Parish Hall

Men's Group
1st & 3rd Thursday 7:00PM
Conference Room

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 Hour: M, W, F 12:30 - 4:30PM