



Cross Currents

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

July –August 2020

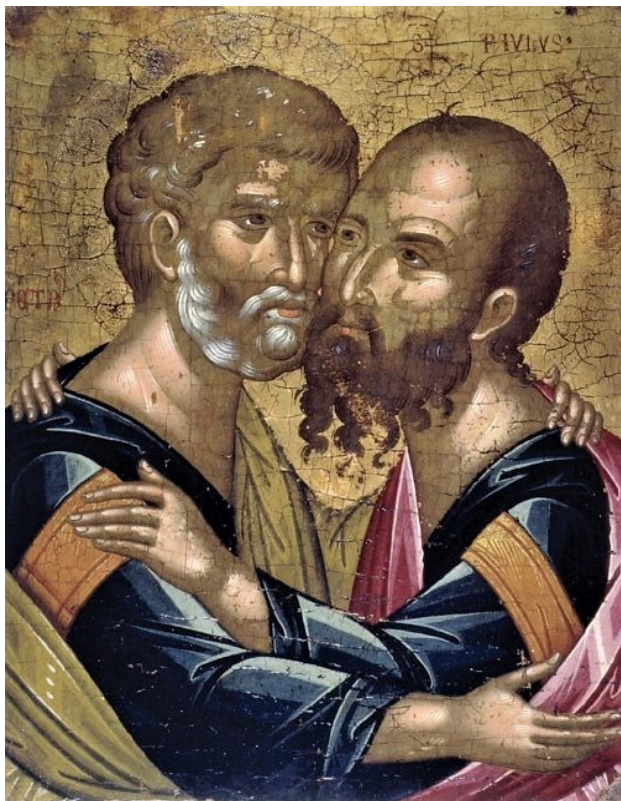
Volume 5 Issue 173

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Message	1-2
On Line Activities	2
In Person Worship Services	3
Time to Pray	4
Drive In Worship Services	5
When to Call Your Pastor	6
WoHC, LWML	7-8
Secret Sister Reveal	9-11
July Calendar	12
August Calendar	13
Holy Cross Weekly Schedule	14

Festival of Saints Peter and Paul: A Day of Reconciliation

By Pastor Munding



On June 29th the church commemorates the martyrdom of the apostles Peter and Paul. On this day these two faithful teachers entered into eternal glory with the One whom they confessed boldly before the world, Jesus Christ. While this is a day to celebrate their faithful witness of the Gospel, we also remember these once bitter rivals who are now reconciled in Christ.

It might be a stretch to say they were actual bitter rivals, but there is no denying the fact that Peter and Paul had quite a few disagreements in their

ministries. Paul seems to allude in his letter to the Galatians that Peter was partly to blame for their troubles. Paul informs them of this disagreement when he writes, ***“when Cephas [Peter] came to Antioch, I opposed him face to face because he had been condemned!”*** (Galatians 2:11).

Peter had once been sitting and eating with Gentiles Christians but changed his mind and withdrew from them to sit with Jewish Christians instead. This treatment of Gentile Christians was a big controversy at the time which resulted in Paul's travel companion Barnabus leaving him. It is quite possible that when Paul writes, ***O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified.”*** he may have been referring to Peter. (Gal 3:1)

It is clear that these men are flawed like all sinful men. Peter denied Christ three times at his trial and Paul persecuted the church before his conversion. Only in Christ could these two sinful men have reconciliation

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

with one another. We don't know how or when they reconciled but we know it was sometime before their deaths. This is demonstrated in Peter's last words before he entered into eternal glory. In Peter's second letter he speaks of Paul's writing as Scripture and worthy for the faithful Christians to read and learn from.

"Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for the new heavens and the new earth be diligent, without spot and without blemish, so that you may be found by Him in peace. Regard our Lord's patience as salvation, just as our brother Paul — according to the wisdom given to him — wrote to you.

Just as he does in all his letters, when he speaks about these things [that is, the end of time], there are things that are difficult to understand, which the ignorant and unstable make crooked, just as they do with the rest of the Scriptures. This they do to their own destruction.

You, therefore, beloved, guard what you have previously known, so that you will not be carried away by the deception of licentious people and so lose your own stability.

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be all glory both now and into the day of eternity. Amen." 2 Peter 3:14-18

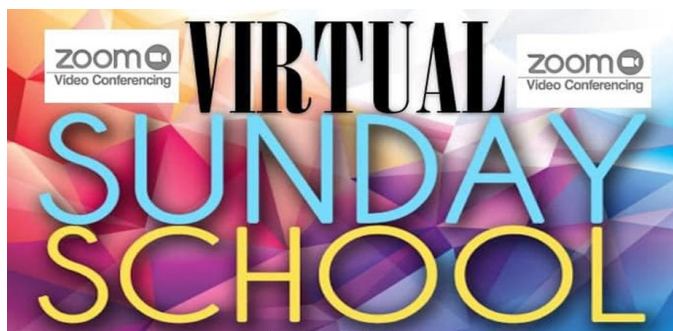
This wonderful event is traditionally depicted with Peter and Paul embracing with their cheeks touching, a reference to the kiss of peace which Paul speaks about in both his letters to the Corinthians (1 Cor 16:20; 2 Cor 13:12). This was a common greeting in the church which shows the shared peace believers have through the resurrected Christ. There was no room for strife or conflict between Christian brethren and the same goes for us. Let us always seek out forgiveness and reconciliation and put away all grudges and divisions that get in the way of the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ.

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdom: Grant that your Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

July & August On-Line Activities

(Virtual) Bible Study Wraps Up on Thursday, 7/2, 7pm, via Zoom

Pastor will finish our discussion on the Augsburg Confession on 7/2. Then we will take a summer break through August.



Adult Sunday School via ZOOM, 2pm

"Make our time with shelter-in place restrictions ZOOM by! Attend Sunday School on Zoom, held every Sunday at 2PM. Just click on the link a minute or two before 2PM to be admitted.

Questions? Contact Eric Roman

July 5: Sunday Worship Service is Planned to be In-Person, in Sanctuary, 9:30am



We plan to hold in person worship services in the sanctuary starting 7/5 (the Drive-In services will stop, recorded on-line services will continue). Our COVID 19 Guidelines have been finalized & sent out. Once again, thank you for your patience in these changeable times.



*****A Message from Pastor Mundinger Regarding In Person Services at Holy Cross*** July 19, 2020**

As many of you know, the Contra Costa County Health Department has lifted some of its restrictions in regards to religious services. Churches are now allowed to hold in person services with up to 25% of their building's capacity. This change was the topic of our last elder's meeting on Wednesday and we have decided that we will start to hold in person services in our sanctuary starting on July 5th. This will give us three weeks to gather the necessary supplies needed and to put a plan of action into place. In order for us to reopen we must follow the guidelines put out by the county which can be read here: <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-places-of-worship.pdf>

This date is subject to change if our necessary supplies do not come in on time or if the country places more restrictions on religious services. If that date is moved back we ask that you be patient with us. We are trying our best to get the church opened up on time while still making sure it will be a safe environment for all. We will have a list of all of the precautions we will be taking which will be available for you to read shortly. It will follow closely to the guidelines put out by the county.

The in person services will take the place of our drive-in services. We will continue to have the drives-in services for the next two weeks (June 21 and June 28). For those who are still not ready to come back to the sanctuary, the service will be recorded on Youtube.

If you wish to still have communion but you are not sure about gathering with others please let me know. I would be happy to schedule a time during the week where I can either visit you and give you communion or you can come to church and I can give you communion during the week.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to give me a call or send me an email. I look forward to gathering with all you in our sanctuary really soon!



TUESDAY MORNINGS

11:00 am

PRAYER GROUP

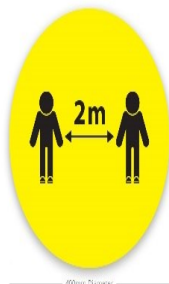
I hope that many of you continue to participate in our *Virtual Prayer Group* at Holy Cross. In mid-March we became a 100% Virtual Prayer Group, unable to meet in the Sanctuary for Tuesday morning prayers due to Covid-19's Shelter-in-Place. With the weekly Prayer List sent out by Joyce and phone call updates we continued with our prayers, each in our own space, knowing and trusting that God is still listening to our prayers.

Prayer on the Porch

In June, with less Shelter-in-Place restrictions, Gayle Bothe' and I began meeting on *my front porch* to pray together. We followed six-foot social distancing, wore our masks, and brought our own chairs! It has been a blessing to have our prayer time together once again.



Back to the Sanctuary? Not yet.



We are hopeful that worship services will soon be returning to the sanctuary, and we want to bring the Prayer Group back to the church property as well. The front porch is small, and we want everyone who can to join us in person for prayer.

Beginning Tuesday, July 7, we plan to meet in the courtyard at 11:00 am, if it is not being used by YVCS. Social distancing will remain, so wear your mask. If the courtyard is occupied, we will bring our own chairs and find a shady spot to gather. We pray the weekly Prayer List and any prayer requests that have been given to us personally.

If you are unable to be with us at church, pray wherever you may be in Virtual Prayer.

God hears our prayers, He answers:

"Before they call, I will answer;
while they are yet speaking, I will hear."

Isaiah 65:24 ESV



Take time to pray. . . Every Tuesday @ 11:00 am . . . And *listen* . . .

Submitted by: Cherylene Brueckner

Our Drive In Worship Services May 31 - June 28

(May 21, Mid-Week Ascension Service was our trial)



When To Call Your Pastor

Sometimes people wonder when they should call or contact their pastor.
Here are some suggestions developed by a retired pastor.

Call your pastor when

You're going into the hospital. Please tell your pastor when you going into the hospital, or if a family member is. Your pastor likes to visit people who are in the hospital for a few days or more. He'll bring you or your family member God's words of comfort.

You would like a prayer said for you. Your pastor is always happy to do this. (Please note: If you would like yourself or a loved one to be included by name in our prayers during a Sunday morning service, tell pastor that specifically. Sometimes people want things kept confidential, so pastor typically will not mention anyone by name in church unless he is asked or given the okay to do so.) Our powerful and loving God answers prayer!

You are not able to come to church for more than a month. If you are sick for a prolonged period of time or recovering from illness or surgery and can't get to church, your pastor will come to you. He will see how you are doing, pray with you, have a short devotion, and bring you the Lord's Supper. (Speaking of missing church, I encourage you to call or email your pastor if you will miss even one Sunday! Let him know you will be gone and he can send you a copy of the worship folder and sermon for that Sunday.) Your pastor simply wants you to stay connected to God's Word and his Sacrament. We all constantly need what God gives us when we gather in his house.

You have a question or concern about something at church. Many church-related questions that people have can be cleared up easily. Likewise, if you have a concern about something at church, let your pastor know and he'll see what he can do to resolve it. Or if you have a suggestion for something that can be done that is new or different, tell your pastor. Your pastor will not be able to implement every suggestion, but your input does matter!

You have an issue in your marriage that is unresolved after one month. If an issue in your marriage does not go away after one month, then it is probably not going to go away without some help. Don't wait to seek help until your marriage deteriorates. A Christian marriage needs to be rooted in God's Word and built on God's love. Therefore, pastoral counseling will focus on spiritual issues. Your pastor is not a professional marriage counselor. But he is able to apply God's powerful Word to your relationship!

Your conscience is troubling you and you want assurance of God's grace. God does not leave us alone to struggle with temptation and guilt. He invites us to confess our sin and receive his forgiveness. In strict confidence you can confess your sin to your pastor and receive assurance of God's forgiveness and absolution delivered personally to you. You are welcome to come even if no particular sin is troubling you. It's faith-building to receive God's forgiveness at any time.

You're wrestling with a spiritual issue or have a question about something the Bible says. Questions often come up when you're talking religion with coworkers and friends. Call your pastor if you have a question about a Bible teaching. Talk with him about it. If you encounter something in a sermon, Bible study, or in your own personal Bible reading that makes you scratch your head, let your pastor know. Your pastor loves to discuss God's Word and to see people grow in their understanding of it.

You have a friend or relative who wants to know more about Jesus. Please pass their names on to your pastor. He would love to invite them to his Bible class and meet with them to share the hope that we have in Christ. Granted, meeting with a pastor can be intimidating for some people. So assure your friend or relative that your pastor is not near as scary as he looks and offer to come along with them to meet him. Assure them that your pastor's goal is not to brainwash them, but simply to listen to them and to share with them the truth and beauty of God's Word.

Keep in mind that this is not an exhaustive list. You can certainly call your pastor at other times too. You can view this list as 'this is when my pastor wants me to call him.'



Women of Holy Cross

Well, things have been quiet the last few months... Even so, I wanted to give you an update.

First, **great news that all of our 2018-2020 LWML-CNH Mission Grants were paid!** They are listed on page 6 in our WoHC Program. While the CNH District Convention was cancelled, the voting was accomplish on-line. I was our delegate, voting with input from a handful of WoHC. The

results are our new Mission Grants & Officers are on the next page.

Second, we were not able to hold our elections as planned on 3/23. President & Secretary were up for election. There were no volunteers who expressed interest, however Jan agreed to continue for another term. Thank you so much Jan for your support! I had shared that I do not wish to continue as President. However, considering where we are with sheltering & the future unknown, I think keeping things as is right now is best. I expect many things will be changing for the rest of this year... for us personally, our church, & WoHC. I say we be flexible & do what we can, when we can. My main goal, as church secretary & a member of our church family, will be to support getting us through & past the impacts of COVID. So we will keep the Board (President, VP, Secretary, & Treasurer) until March 2021.

Lastly, I am looking for someone to do our 2020-2021 WoHC Program. It is now done in Publisher, which if you use, the updating is fairly easy. Or you can redesign or use a different program. Please contact me if you are able to take this on.

Thank you & Blessings, Joyce

2020-2021 WoHC Board & Chairpersons (Sept. 2020 – March 2021)

President	Joyce
Vice President	Annaliesa
Secretary	Jan
Treasurer	Melarie
Birthday Gifts	Idalene
Christian Life	Pat & Annaliesa
Gospel Outreach	Gayle
Human Care	Marilyn
Membership Development	Idalene
Servant Resources	Cherylene (Council Rep)
Sunshine/Cards (B'day)	Idalene
(Get Well/Anniv/Sympathy)	Marlene

June 24, 2020

Dear LWML CNH delegates and members,
Thank you to the delegates for participating in the voting process to determine the candidates and grants for the next 2020-2022 biennium. Based on the results, we are pleased to announce the following results –



**Lutheran
Women
in Mission**

- Pastoral Counselor – Rev. David Floyd
- Treasurer – Leslie Davis
- VP of Special Focus Ministries – Rebecca Weissshahn
- Bylaw updates were accepted
- Mission Goal of \$248,000 was accepted

The order in which the 2020-2022 LWML CNH Mission Grants are to be paid:

1. A Sewing Machines for Kenyan Deaconesses - \$8,800
2. D. Loving Retreat for the Lord's Disabled - \$ 7,075
3. B. Bringing Children to Jesus Christ with Noah's Ark - \$6,340
4. H. Fort Wayne Seminary Food Co-Op - \$2,500
5. G. Hmong New Year Celebration Outreach – \$6,710
6. O. Establishment of Deaf Outreach Training - \$7,000
7. E. Seminary Training for Local Church Planters/Pastor - \$10,000
8. U. Nursing Student Mercy Medical Team Scholarships - \$3,000
9. P. Leadership Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty - \$5,000
10. R. Bringing God's Word to the Visually Impaired in Prisons - \$7,500
11. S. Faith Connections for People with Disabilities - \$5,000
12. F. Food Pantry of Bethlehem - \$3,000
13. V. Support for Lutheran Family Services – Jacmel Lutheran Home for the Elderly- Haiti - \$5,000
14. L. Wheels on the Bus - \$10,000
15. C. Wheels for the Gospel - \$10,000
16. J. Mary Martha LWML CNH Pastoral Care - \$2,500
17. Q. Lutheran Lambs Pre-School Curriculum Resources - \$3,500
18. M. California to Kenya - \$3,000
19. N. Food Pantry - \$1,075
20. I. Lutheran Books for Eritrean - \$7,000
21. K. Social Ministries Outreach Expansion - \$5,000
22. T. Gospel Outreach in Malaysia – Bible Radio Project - \$5,000

Now that the order of the grants has been determined, encourage your groups to pray for the grant recipients and gather your filled mite boxes to fund the ministries here in our district and around the world.

God's blessings to each of you,

Martha E. Dubke

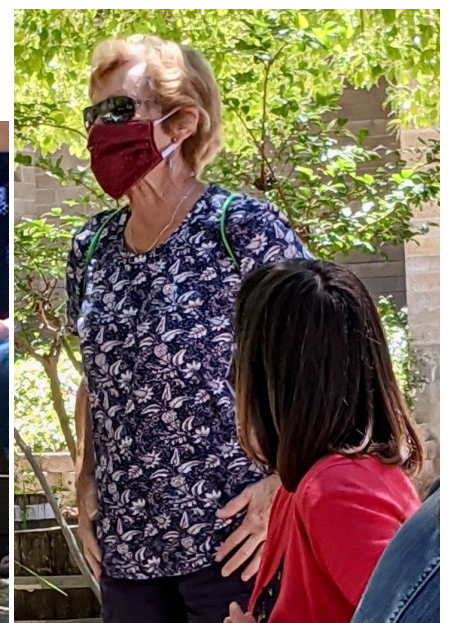
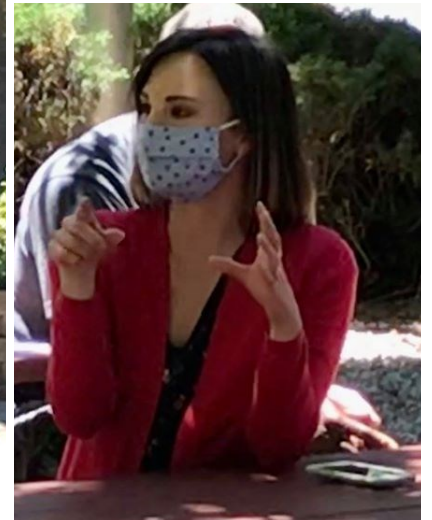
LWML California-Nevada-Hawaii President

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" Prov. 3:5

On June 9, 2020, we had our Secret Sister reveal! It was a success! So very uplifting & a blessing for us at Holy Cross to recognize & pray for the staff at [Ygnacio Valley Christian School](#). Here are pictures taken before & during the reveal. It will be interesting to look back on this time for a couple reasons... First, as Ilyn stated "What a wonderful feeling it is to meet new friends & look forward to building deeper friendships.". Second, we "revealed" ourselves to one another, with masks covering most of our face, & from at least an arms length. We absolutely plan to get back together, at a Lutheran potluck, with no masks, & hugs allowed! Here are the matchups:

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--|
| Kristie: Melarie | Ari: Chery | Marj: Cherylene | Inga: Sandy, Kaytlyn, Kamryn, Kayleigh |
| Paula: Jan | Patty: Dee | Ilyn: Jean | David, Ruth, Luci, Harold, & Dina: Joyce |
| Victor: Erna | Megan: Marlene | Kate: Pastor | Charlotte: Christine, Abbi, Alex |
| Neethi: Pat K. | | | |








After the reveal, I read a prayer that I found online. Very well written, getting into the many situations and type of people the school staff encounter. We committed to continue to keep YVCS staff, and all other teachers/staff, in our prayers

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 9:30am Training for In-Person worship 
5 Mite Boxes 9:30a Worship 2pm Adult Sunday School Zoom call	6	7 11a Prayer Group HC Courtyard	8	9 7pm Bible Study, Zoom call	10	11
12 9:30a Worship 2pm Adult Sunday School Zoom call	13	14 11a Prayer Group HC Courtyard	15	16	17	18 Pastor's Vacation
19 9:30a Worship 2pm Adult Sunday School Zoom call Pastor's Vacation	20 Pastor's Vacation	21 11a Prayer Group HC Courtyard Pastor's Vacation	22 Pastor's Vacation	23 Pastor's Vacation	24	25
26 9:30a Worship 2pm Adult Sunday School Zoom call	27	28 11a Prayer Group HC Courtyard	29	30	31	

cl=choir loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg., PH=Parish Hall, L=Library, ws=wing room

August 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						<i>1</i> 9am Vision Mtg
<i>2</i> Mite Boxes 9:30a Worship 2pm Adult Sunday School Zoom call	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 11a Prayer Group HC Courtyard	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> 9:30a Worship 2pm Adult Sunday School Zoom call	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 11a Prayer Group HC Courtyard	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
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President: Mike Liebe
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Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger
Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler
Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka
Trustees: Allen Brueckner, Bill Luker
Elders: Bill Riechman, John Coyne,
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Joyce Liebe
Newsletter Editor: vacant
editor@holycrossconcord.org

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm
(hours vary due to SIP)

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service	9:30AM
Adult Bible Study	11AM (2PM Zoom)
Youth Bible Study	11AM
Sunday School	11AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday (Ladies)	10AM Conference Room
Wednesday	7PM Parish Hall
Thursday	7PM Zoom

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday	7: 15PM-8:45PM
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*****Above on hold/subject to change due to SIP *****

Bulletin & Cross Currents Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
September 2020 Cross Currents: August 22, 2020