

## Inside this issue:

Pastor's Message	1-2
Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
Nov. Bible Studies & Vision Committee Note	3
Food Drive & Treat Swap	4-5
Thanksgiving Dinner	6
Honor Veterans	7
WoHC: LWML Sunday & LSS Christmas	8-9
November Calendar	10
Holy Cross Weekly Schedule	11

Do you notice something different on this cover? Our Website committee has been working behind the scenes the last few months to make improvements to our website. Our latest & biggest change is a **NEW LOGO!** It was recently approved by our council & you will start seeing it used on various communications.

## Thy Will Be Done. By Pastor Mundinger

Personally, I believe that one of the hardest things for a Christian to believe is the third petition of the Lord's Prayer; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Of course we pray this petition every time we pray the Lord's Prayer (which should be everyday) but how often do we actually stop and ponder about its implications. How often do we really want the Lord's will to be done in our lives? If you are like me, a selfish sinner, then this can be a hard prayer to put my faith and trust in. Of course I pray that the Lord's will will be done in my life and in the life of the church and in the world, but sometimes His will can go against the will of my sinful flesh and I don't like that very much. Sometimes I think that I know better than God as if I know what's best for my own life.

We are now four days away from what seems like the most polarized and heated election in the history of the United States (granted the first election I actually remember was the 2000 election). For both sides of the political spectrum there is a lot at stake and both sides speak as if the world will end if the "other guy" wins. It's easy for us as Christians to get sucked into this way of thinking, but instead of going down the path of dread and despair we are called to go to God in prayer. Have you stopped and prayed to our Heavenly Father, Thy will be done? And if so, did you actually mean it? Do you trust that no matter who gets elected God is the one in control and that His will is being done, regardless if we like it or not?

We should remember the Lord's response to the prophet Habakkuk, who was distraught over the violence and injustice done in Israel. Habakkuk cries out to God, *"O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted."* Habakkuk cannot understand why God is allowing all of this to happen to His people.



Continued on page 2

God responded to Habakkuk saying, *“Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told.”*

Even if God told Habakkuk every little detail about His plan, he still would be unable to comprehend it. God goes on to tell Habakkuk that He is raising an army, The Babylonians, who will come to bring judgment to Israel and lay waste to the land. Habakkuk again complains to the Lord because the Babylonians are even worse than the wicked Israelites. God responds to this complaint, promising that there is good coming out of all this chaos and destruction, things that no man could comprehend. He also promises that Babylon will be crushed as well, their violence will not go unpunished. He will use this corrupt nation for the ultimate good of His people. Ultimately we know the good that comes out of all of this, which is the eventual arrival of the Son of God incarnate, Jesus Christ, which brings about the salvation of all mankind. At the time it was impossible for Habakkuk to see all the good that was going to come from these events. Indeed, Thy will be done.

God tells Habakkuk that the righteous shall live by faith. Habakkuk has this divine promise that regardless of what happens around him, he is to have faith in the Lord and trust that he will deliver His people. We are called to do the same in this election. No matter who wins we are called to trust that the Lord still reigns over heaven and earth. God has used corrupt leaders (King Nebecanezzor, Cyrus, and Caesar) in the past to exercise His will and we better believe that His will will continue to be done in our present time.

Ultimately we know that the Lord will be faithful to his called children. We know and believe that no matter how bad the world gets He will still dwell among His people to give them everything they need for their salvation. No leader, no matter how corrupt they are, can take away the victory that Christ has secured for each one of us! No army can take away the cross of Christ and all of its fruits. The righteous indeed live by faith, faith in the Son of God who reigns over heaven and earth for all eternity! Whatever it may be Lord, we pray that Your will be done!



Clara	11/1
Joe	11/4
Judy	11/8
Liz	11/10
Andrea	11/10



Dwight & Claudia	11/9
Gerhard & Shinta	11/20



I want to say thank you to everyone for the cards, gifts, and kind words on pastor appreciation day! I was completely surprised when I was greeted that morning, after I walked out of the sacristy, to your cheers and applause. It is another reminder that I am blest by God to be His under-shepherd at such a loving congregation! It meant the world to me! Pastor Mundinger

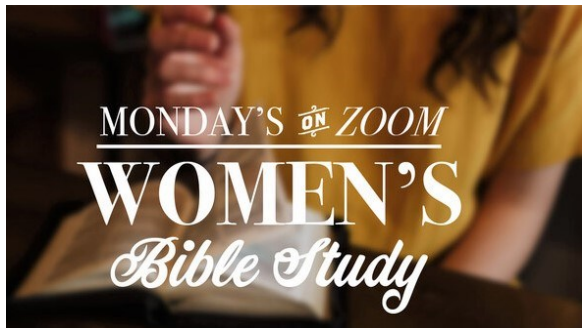
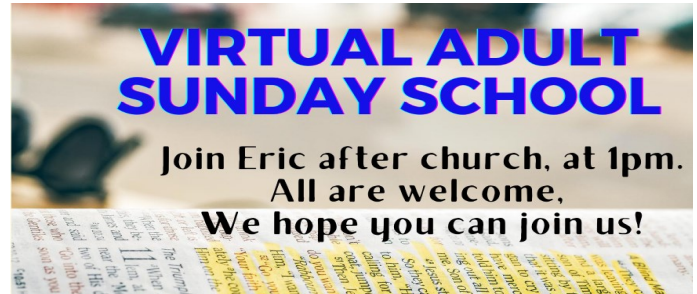
# **November Holy Cross Bible Studies**

## **Adult Sunday School, 1pm, Zoom**

**Join us for Sunday School with Eric!**

The link is the same & is in the  
Friday Announcements.

Questions? Contact Eric Roman  
at [ericroman@gmail.com](mailto:ericroman@gmail.com)"



## **Monday Women's Bible Study, Zoom**

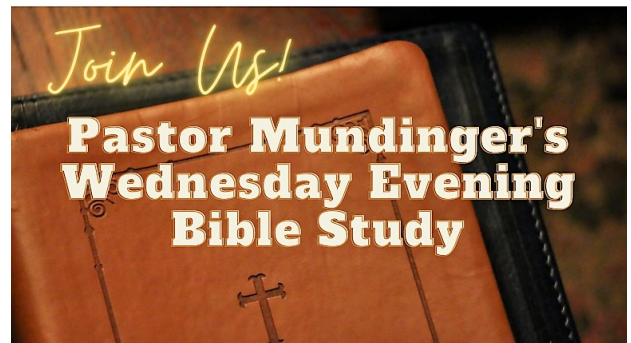
**Annaliesa will lead our study on  
Mondays, 10-11:30am.**

The link is the same & is in the Friday Announcements.

Questions? Contact Annaliesa,  
[annalisaliedtke@gmail.com](mailto:annalisaliedtke@gmail.com) or 827-3385

## **Pastor's Wed. Evening Bible Study, 7pm, Parish Hall & Zoom**

Bring & wear your mask. There is plenty of room  
in the parish hall to sit away from each other so  
we can remain safe. We have Zoom available for  
those who do not wish to meet in person. The  
link is the same & is in the Friday Announcements.



### **Purple to Red to Orange! Oh, My!**

In the past month the COVID rating for Contra Costa County has improved from purple to red to orange. This means we have been able to return to our sanctuary for worship and also restart other activities including Pastor's Wednesday evening bible studies. All with precautionary procedures in place that include masks, hand sanitizer, distancing, gloves and prayer. While it has been a blessing to be back together in person for worship, communion and bible study, we know several of our Holy Cross family members are not ready for in-person activities. As time passes and conditions improve, we look forward to all of us being comfortable to have worship and fellowship together.

Until that happens, there are many ways to participate and support each other that include:

- Online sermons /worship services that are posted for all (we continue to work out technical bugs; thank you for your patience)
- Zoom bible studies - Eric's on Sunday afternoon, and the women's study on Mondays led by Annaliesa.
- Pastor's Wednesday evening bible study - In person or live on Zoom
- Ladies Monday morning Coffee Chats on Zoom
- Our upcoming Thanksgiving Celebration and fellowship
- Advent activities just around the corner
- Calling a Holy Cross family member to catch up

On a stewardship subject - A benefit of being away from our church facilities for these many weeks has been some savings of operating expenses. Allen and others have continued to volunteer faithfully in many tasks to keep our grounds and other needs up to speed. With us getting back to more normal use our expenses will also increase. Please continue or resume your faithful first fruits giving to support our ministry work at Holy Cross. If you cannot make offerings in person we can offer alternatives. Thank you to all of our Holy Cross family members who contribute in so many ways.

See you at church, **Holy Cross Vision Committee**



# **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE... A DRIVE-THROUGH HALLOWEEN FOOD DRIVE & TREAT SWAP**

**Food Drive goes through Sunday, 11/22**

**We suggest donations of healthy,  
nonperishable food you would like to  
eat if you were hungry.**

Details: <https://www.foodbankccs.org/give-help/host-a-drive.html>

**WE ARE TEAMING WITH:**



**Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
1092 Alberta Way, Concord 94521  
contact: [office@holycrossconcord.org](mailto:office@holycrossconcord.org) or (925) 686-2000**

In November we are **focusing on helping our community with the Food Drive.** A barrel will be placed in the narthex & 1 will be outside the office on when Pastor or Joyce is in the office. Here is a list of **FOOD BANK'S MOST-NEEDED FOODS:**

**Natural Peanut Butter  
Hearty Low-Sodium Soups  
Canned Tuna and Chicken in Water  
Low-Sodium Canned Vegetables  
Whole Wheat/Grain Pasta**

**Whole Grain Cereals  
Beans and Lentils (dry or canned)  
Canned Fruit in Juice  
Brown Rice  
Canned Tomato Products**

**Nonperishable, Low-Sodium, Ready-to-Eat Meals (chili, ravioli, etc.)**

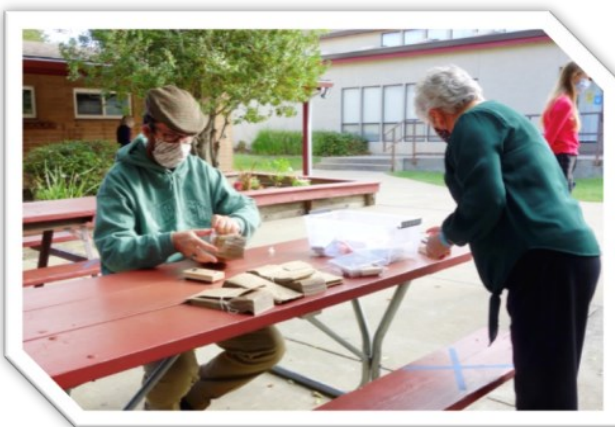
**NOTE: glass containers CANNOT be placed in the barrels, please keep them separate.**

If you want to donate via check, make it out to Food Bank Of Contra Costa & Solano.  
Give to Cherylene Brueckner (or Joyce). **THANK YOU!**

## Food Drive & Treat Swap

After Sunday service on Oct. 25, about a dozen volunteers filled 350 treat bags in preparation for Holy Cross' first Drive-Through Halloween Food Drive and Treat Swap.

The job was done in less than 1-1/2 hours. Many thanks, volunteers!



By Grace Gin



# Holy Cross Thanksgiving Dinner

Saturday, November 14, 4:30pm  
In our Courtyard

*Traditional Thanksgiving meal. We will offer  
in person dining, pick-up, or delivery.*



Let the peace of Christ rule in  
your hearts, since as members  
of one body you were called to  
peace. And be thankful.  
Colossians 3:15.

**Advanced sign up required.**

\$15 suggested donation, with proceeds going to LSS  
Christmas Angel Tree gifts.

*Social distancing & masks while not eating/drinking required.*

**You can attend in-person, get meals to-go, or have meals delivered.** NOTE: Weather permitting we will eat in the courtyard, back-up plan is to eat, socially distanced, in the parish hall.

**You must sign up\*\* in advance for any option.**

**\*\* Joyce will have a signup sheet today & next Sunday, or email office, or call.**

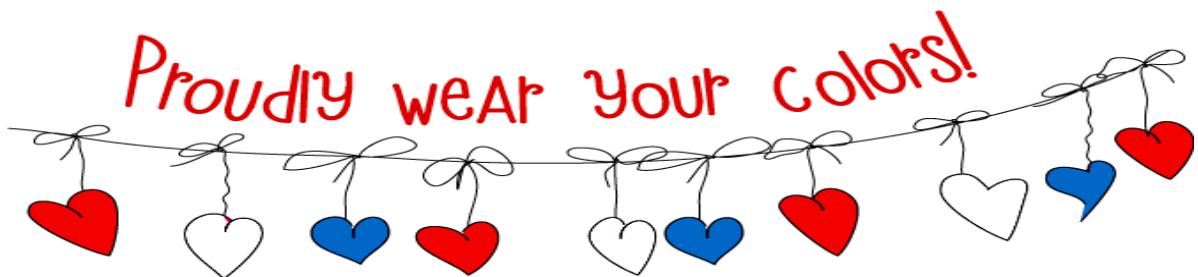


**Veterans Day – November 8, 2020**

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

We will honor you Sunday, November 10

**Thank you !**







**WoHC** (Women of Holy Cross)



## **This & That**



The only picture from LWML Sunday. Ruth, Joyce, & Judy.



We had a great turnout and so much ♥ ♥ purple ♥ ♥ !!

Thank you Pastor Mundinger for supporting the women of LWML & mentioning your personal experience with one of our next Mission Grants.

**THANK YOU** for all of your Mite donations — we collected \$358.50 on LWML Sunday!

### **All WoHC are invited to join!**

Join us for a cup of coffee (or beverage of your choice) & spend some time with friends. We want to hear about what's going on in your life & catch you up on ours.

The link is the same & is included in the Friday Announcements.



*See Next Page for Details.*

**ANGEL TREE**



Remember our Ladies Game Nights? Well, this was from October 2019. Little did we know our silliness with masks was a foreshadow of 2020.



## WoHC (Women of Holy Cross)

### This & That continued



*ANGEL TREE*



**Lutheran**  
**Social Services**  

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**OF NORTHERN**  
**CALIFORNIA**

The LSS Angel Tree Holiday Gift Drive offers the opportunity to create a happy, joyful holiday season for children, families and former foster youth in our supportive housing programs.

A note from Melarie Seidel:

The Women of Holy Cross once again are taking on the Adopt-A-Family Christmas gift giving. This year, as in the past, we are working with Lutheran Social Services. The Christmas tree with the tickets and envelopes (for those who would rather donate money rather than shop) will be up in the alcove on Sunday, November 1. Please sign the list so I know that the gift has a donor. DO NOT wrap the gift as we will have a gift wrap session on December 6. All gifts must be at the parish hall by Sunday, November 29!

One more thing...our Thanksgiving dinner profits will help support this effort!

*Thank you*  
**FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

# November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 DST ends</b> <b>All Saints Day</b> 9am Worship Service 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom	<b>2</b> 3:30pm Election Set Up	<b>3</b>  6am-9pm Elections, PH 11a Prayer Group,	<b>4</b> 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Parish Hall & Zoom	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9am Vision Mtg
<b>8 Recognize Veterans</b> 9am Worship Service 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom	<b>9</b> OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee/Conversation Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom	<b>10</b> 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary	<b>11</b>  7pm Pastor's Bible Study Parish Hall & Zoom	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>4:30pm Thanksgiving Dinner</b> 
<b>15</b> 9am Worship Service After Worship/ Voter's Mtg 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom	<b>16</b> 9-9:45am Women's Coffee/Conversation Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom	<b>17</b> 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary	<b>18</b> 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Parish Hall & Zoom	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> OFC CLOSED	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9am Worship Service 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom	<b>23</b> OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee/Conversation Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom	<b>24</b> OFC CLOSED 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary	<b>25</b> OFC CLOSED <b>NO Bible Study</b>	<b>26</b> OFC CLOSED <b>9am Worship Service</b> 	<b>27</b> OFC CLOSED	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9am Worship Service, <b>Turn in LSS Gifts</b> 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom	<b>30</b> 9-9:45am Women's Coffee/Conversation Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom					

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



**Holy Cross Lutheran**

**Church, LCMS**

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Concord, CA 94521

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Find us on Facebook



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Vice President: Gregg Syrovatka

Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger

Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler

Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka

Trustees: Allen Brueckner, Bill Luker

Elders: Bill Riechmann, John Coyne,  
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Joyce Liebe

**Office Hours:** Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm

Newsletter Editor: Joyce Liebe  
[editor@holycrossconcord.org](mailto:editor@holycrossconcord.org)

**Sunday Worship Schedule:**

Sunday Service 9AM

Adult Sunday School 1PM Zoom

Youth Bible Study 11AM (on hold)

Sunday School 11AM (on hold)

**Week Day Bible Study Schedule:**

Monday (Ladies) 10AM

Wednesday (Adult) 7PM

**\*\*\*Above subject to change due to COVID\*\*\***

**Bulletin & Cross Currents Publication Deadline:**

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

December 2020 Cross Currents: Nov. 22, 2020