



Holy Cross  
Lutheran Church,  
LCMS

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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

# Cross Currents



Volume 8, Issue 98

September 2012

## Leaven or Lump?...

By Pastor Chu

Which are you? Which are you living as?

Paul uses the metaphor of "leaven" in Galatians 5 and 1Corinthians 5; he reminds us in each case that *"a little leaven leavens the whole lump."*

In Galatians 5:9, "leaven" refers to the false and spiritually fatal doctrine that perverted the Gospel among the Galatian Christians. A faction was insisting that to be part of God's people (i.e., salvation), Gentile Christians not only trust Jesus as Savior but also observe Judaic practices, particularly circumcision; this was a "gospel" condemned by Paul and contrary to the true Gospel that Paul preached, which was (and is) the Gospel of salvation by God's grace through faith on account of Christ crucified and risen.

In 1Corinthians 5:6, "leaven" refers to the cancerous influence of immorality among the Corinthian Christians, specifically occasioned by the incestuous conduct of a man in the church in Corinth.

The Galatian Church was the "lump" in danger of being leavened by the

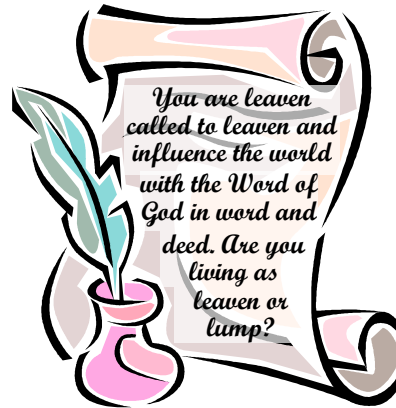
leaven of false doctrine; the Corinthian Church was the "lump" in danger of being leavened by the leaven of immorality. Unchecked, undeterred, but allowed to fester, false doctrine and immorality,

however seemingly insignificant or small at first, will pervert the Gospel and corrupt the people of God.

We, the people of God through baptism and faith in Christ, can act like either leaven or lump.

As Christians, we are a new creation in Christ (2Corinthians 5:17). We have the Holy Spirit (John 20:22; 1Thessalonians 4:8; 2Timothy 1:14). All by God's grace (Romans 3:23-25; Ephesians 2:8-9). And as God's redeemed people by grace through faith in Jesus as Savior, we are called to be the leaven that leavens and influences our world with God's Word of both Law and Gospel and by our Christian conduct.

But sinners that we are — our sinful nature fights against our new nature's desire to do the will of God (Romans 7:15-25) — often we become like the lump that is leavened by the world and influenced by the world's philosophy, theology, and moral relativism.



*You are leaven called to leaven and influence the world with the Word of God in word and deed. Are you living as leaven or lump?*

(Continued on page 2, leaven and lump)

## leaven and lump

(Continued from page 1)

Paul writes in Ephesians: <sup>22</sup>...*Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,* <sup>23</sup>*and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,* <sup>24</sup>*and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness* (Eph 4:22-24). This we do by using the means of grace and daily repenting (confessing sins and receiving God's forgiveness) and relying on God's grace by God's grace working in us through the Gospel.

Even a little false doctrine leavens; so does even a little immorality. Unless excised, each can and will pervert the Gospel and corrupt the people of God.

Conversely, we, the people of God, can leaven the world. The good works we do out of faith and by faith leaven those around us. What we do may seem small, but God can and will bless what we do in His name. The Word of God we speak may seem to us insignificant and to the world foolish, but that Word is the power of God that accomplishes the will of God. When we share with people the Gospel of Christ crucified for their sins, we leaven, influence, and sow the seed that is the power to bring sinners to faith in Christ.

You are leaven called to leaven and influence the world with the Word of God in word and deed. Are you living as leaven or lump?

## ATTENTION SINGERS!

**CHOIR REHEARSALS** resume Tuesday, September 4 at 7:15 pm in the choir loft. Looking forward to another great season of praising the Lord with music! September rehearsals will be September 4, 11, & 18.

Not a current member but thinking about it? If you're prayerfully considering joining this music ministry or have any questions, email or call Diana Meux (dianamcm02@yahoo.com or 510-526-3294).

*"Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; Burst into jubilant song with music!"* (Psalm 98:1,4)

## "Worn and Loved"

### Attention Women and Girls of All Ages:

Women of Holy Cross will have a "Welcome Back Luncheon" for all women and girls on **Sunday, Sept. 9th at 11:45 a.m.** Bring your favorite doll and a friend to lunch and share stories and information. Special speaker, Pam Lee, will share her experiences with dolls and be able to answer questions about vintage dolls. Her expertise is in dolls made in 1950 and older.

Sign up in the Parish Hall to reserve your space. See you there!

## Monday Women's BIBLE STUDY

will resume on **September 10<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30pm – 2:00pm** in the Conference Room. **All Women** are invited to share God's Word. The studies will be from our Lutheran Women's Quarterly magazine. Hope to see you then.

## September Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- 3** Eric Ingle  
Ray Krause
- 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



## Those who are in need our prayers:

**Melarie Seidel & Family** (Her mother passed away on August 27), **The O'Malley Family** (Sue's father-in-law passed away recently), **Eyona Pargman** (back problem), **Carrie Kroeger** (recovery from back surgery), **Betty Kallsen** (recovery from broken hip), **Herb Borchers** (treatments), **Tia** (Coyne teen family member), **Stephanie Woolley** (Lauretta Oliver's daughter-migraines), **Diana Butterfield** (shoulder surgery 9/20), **Brian Fawcett** (Diane Oatis' brother), **Wanda Armstrong**, **Sue Saalfeld**, **Muriel Strieter**, **Ellen Stenson** (Glenn Stenson's granddaughter), **Gary Cox**, **Lloyce Logan**, **AJ Stanley**, **Joy Parker** (Gayle Bothe's sister), **Wanda Schwartz**, **Dorothy Taylor** (Karen Gamble's mother), **Robert & David Grandt** (Liz Aduan's brothers), **Inge Stone**, **Elizabeth Bothé** (Gayle Bothe's granddaughter), **Kathy Kinser**, **Abbi and Alexandria Roman**, **June Stewart** (Judy West's friend), **Vivian Hock** (Trudy Huenninghaus's friend), **Clint Lau** (Dennis's father), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Alice Mikolasek**, (Violet Griffin's friend), **Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church**.

## Chaplains among the armed forces and those serving in the military:

**Jabriel L,vont White-Bynum**, **Jon and Mike Dawers** (Bill Koch's grandsons), **Matthew Seeger**, **Derek Patterson and Dustin Philips**, **Taylor Bothe-Yates** (Gayle Bothe's grand-niece), **Capt. Richard Hill**, **Navy Spec. David Aiman**, **Joel and Jordan Bennett** (Violet Griffin's great nephews).

## Nifty Fifty Senior September Activities

### Min's Kitchen Restaurant Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 2012

We are again planning two outing for Sept. The first, which should prove to be a real experience, is at Min's Kitchen located at 3505 Clayton Road Concord, Cal 94519. (Near where Fry's used to be).

Min's is a family-owned restaurant that opened in 2009. It serves breakfast and lunch only. Three-egg omelets and scrambles are on the menu as well as eggs Benedict. Min's signature hamburger should satisfy a hungry appetite. Their Fish and chips is made with fish from Oregon. Half sandwiches served with a house salad or bowl of soup are for lighter appetites. They are noted for their big lunches like Meatloaf, Rib Eye Steak etc which includes soup or salad and two sides. Potato both baked and mashed etc. Their menu is posted on a board and looks as if it could be changed daily. I will post the menu with the signup sheet in the Social Hall. Sound like a great place to get a real Home Cooked Meal...

Please sign up so we know how many to plan on as this is not a real large restaurant. Bring a friend.

Lunch is at 1:00 so meet at church at 12:15 leave at 12:30 or meet at the restaurant.



### Jade Garden Restaurant Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 2012

Our second outing for Sept is to a favorite local restaurant. The Jade Garden Restaurant which is located in the shopping center at and Oak Grove and Ygnacio Valley Rd. on Thursday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.

Most of you have been to the Jade Garden Restaurant so you know how really good and reasonable the food is. My usually lunch is the Kung-Po Shrimp which includes shrimp, (lightly breaded), soup, rice (fried or white) two won tons, two egg rolls, tea and a fortune cookie and costs a total of \$9.00 which includes a \$1.00 tip. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time we will have gone to this restaurant this year which speaks very highly of it.

Join us for an afternoon with Christian Friend. Meet at church at 12:30 leave at 12:45 or meet at the restaurant at 1:00. Signup sheet is in Social Hall.



### Saturday September 29

We also plan on an unofficial visit to the Ok-

toberfest in Clayton on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> Meet in the large Tent at 11:00 More coming in weekly bulletin.



## Nifty Fifty Seniors - Activity Highlights

by Marv Kreitz



### DJ Bistro Lunch July 26 2012

What a really great turnout for our lunch at DJ Bistro's turned out top be. We had 18 attend and I can truly say you couldn't get a word in edgewise. Of course some of us have trouble hearing so we couldn't understand all the conversations anyway so my thinking on

today's political issues hasn't changed. I'm against Obama's health care and charged plan to rid our country of infidels which includes Christians. Everyone had a good time. I had the Yager Snitzel, which covered my plate along with Red Cabbage and Spratzel and a half liter of beer and it was great. We need to plan and outing to The Speiskammier (German restaurant in Alameda) which is a bit more ostentatious with really good German food. When we had lunch at Peter's Steak Restaurant in Isleton Ca., Herb told me that when we plan a lunch out we are blessed with a larger number of Seniors and that should tell me something sooo we are planning more lunches out locally.

### Peter's Steak House, Aug. 9 2012

The day was warm, over 90degrees, but crystal clear and the drive through the delta was absolutely delightful. The drive along the river with all the foliage on the fruit trees and farm crops at their peak helped remind me of what a beautiful area we live in. As we approached Isleton we saw Herb in front of a building waving his hands and he helped steer us to a good place to park and to identify Pete's Steak House. The building was large and had been completely renovated being sparkling clean not at all like Al The Wop's. The counter tops were finished wood which could stand dishes and hard use.

They had a row of booths open on both sides which I found interesting and they had the top windows over the front in glazed lead glass depicting the history of the town.. Ships, Cattle, Farming, Building etc. I took a picture of a Bulls Horns over the door I will place in the social Hall. The food was great; I had the Fish & Chips; Bill had the Prim Rib Sandwich, etc. I had made reservations for 10 and we ended up with 11. What a wonderful way to spend a day with Christian Friends...If you are just waiting to have something to do during the day just come to our outings!!!



### Red Lobster Restaurant, August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012

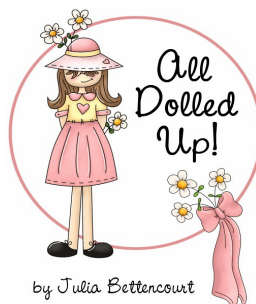
What an absolutely beautiful day it was when we met at church and set out for the Red Lobster Restaurant in Pittsburgh. We had reservations for 10 and ended up with 8. They were remodeling and making all the seating in booths. So we were seated in two booths which made it cozier and easier to talk. When we reviewed the lunch menu it looked as if everything on the menu was A La Cart, but when we ended up ordering we received a full lunch including a salad entire potatoes (Mashed or baked) and vegetable along with a basket of very tasty rolls We all agreed that the lunch was excellent and that we would come again. Trudy (who suggested going) took all the accolades in stride. What a great way to spend a day with Christian Friends.



## Words from the President:

The September 2012 – August 2013 Women of Holy Cross program booklet is ready! Our board members met in July and August to plan the dates, times, and events for the coming year. We have some new activities planned for you, and we will be repeating some “oldies”.

We will begin the year’s activities with “Worn and Loved”, our “Bring Your Doll to Lunch” event planned for Sunday, September 9th, after Sunday School. All girls and women of the congregation are invited to attend. You can also bring friends and neighbors! Our speaker, Pam Lee, has a wonderful doll collection. She will share some of her dolls and her “doll knowledge” with us and answer any questions we might have about our dolls. We will share a



devotion, “All Dolled Up”, be treated to a delightful lunch, have time for fellowship, and distribute the September 2012 – August 2013 Women of Holy Cross program booklets.

As we planned the 2012-2013 WoHC events, we tried to create a recipe for “Women *of* the Word, Women *in* the Word, Women Walking *with* Jesus.” **Bible study, devotions, prayer, and service are must ingredients. Fellowship** adds flavor and is folded in with **love** (for one another, our neighbors, and for our Lord). **You** are the master chefs. Please join us! (NOTE: NO COOKING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED.)

Serving the Lord with gladness,  
Cherylene Brueckner,  
WoHC President

## Holy Cross Day

On September 14, many churches observe a festival variously called Exaltation of the Cross, Feast of the Glorious Cross, Triumph of the Cross or Holy Cross Day.

According to legend, St. Helena, mother of Roman Emperor Constantine, while on pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 326, discovered the actual cross on which Jesus had been crucified. Although portions were taken to Rome and Constantinople, part was kept at the discovery site.

By order of Helena and Constantine, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher was built and dedicated there on September 13, 335. The following day, the portion of what was called the True Cross was brought outside so worshipers could pray before it.

While Good Friday commemorates Jesus’ crucifixion, Holy Cross Day focuses on the cross itself as an instrument of cruel death, which God transformed into the means of eternal life.

## Upcoming Events

**Sept. 2 - 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.

**Sunday, Sept. 9, 11:45 a.m.:** Welcome Back Luncheon. Theme: “Worn and Loved”

**Friday-Sunday, Sep. 21-23:** Mt. Cross women's retreat. Check our L.W.M.L. bulletin board in the parish hall for more details.

## October

**Monday, Oct. 8:** WoHC Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, Oct. 14:** L.W.M.L. Sunday. “Bites for Mites” Bake Sale Our theme for this worship service is “Salted for Service”. Thanks for all the participation and for contributing to our mite projects.

**Saturday, Oct. 20:** Zone 7 Fall Rally - Our Savior, Livermore

**Saturday, Oct. 27:** Oktoberfest, Congregational Event





## **A'S CHURCH COMMUNITY DAY!!**

Do you enjoy a good game of Baseball? How about a game of Baseball with other fellow church members? On **Saturday, September 29th**, - game time **1:05pm** the **A's vs. Seattle Mariners** will host their annual "Church Community Day event. This very popular **post-game event** is highlighted by A's players sharing their testimonials, as well as a performance by Donnie Moore and the Radical Reality Team! It is also A's Fan Appreciation Day. **This event is a special ticket event.** For more information, please contact Jeff LaBonte at 510-563-2227, or [jlabornte@oaklandathletics.com](mailto:jlabornte@oaklandathletics.com).

## **CEF RATES FOR AUGUST 2012**

Term Rates:	Rate	APY
1 yr. - \$1000 min	1.00%	1.00%
3 yr. - \$1000 min	1.25%	1.26%
5 yr. - \$1000 min	2.25%	2.27%
5 yr. - \$25,000min	2.375%	2.40%
10yr. - \$5000min	3.00%	3.03%**

### **\*\* NEW 10 year note**

For further info, call (925) 245-4030, or toll free 1-866-452-6739

## **September Duty List**

Date	Acolyte	Altar Guild
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nathan Pass	Marlene Roberts & Ann Caruso
9 <sup>th</sup>	Noah West	
16 <sup>th</sup>	Amber Reiter	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Kaytlyn Coyne	
30 <sup>th</sup>	Gavin West	

## **HOLY CROSS BRIDGE**

Starting in September, Bridge resumes on the **THIRD 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 friend.

Questions?

Contact Jean Eissner, 673-9325



**In Confessions, St. Augustine (A.D. 354-430) called human friendship "a nest of love and gentleness."**

He wrote of the many joys of Christian friendship: "To make conversation, to share a joke, to perform mutual acts of kindness, to read together well-written books, to share in trifling and in serious matters, to disagree though without animosity — just as a person debates with himself — and in the very rarity of disagreement to find the salt of normal harmony, to teach each other something or to learn from one another, to long with impatience for those absent, to welcome them with gladness on their arrival. These and other signs ... [act] as fuel to set our minds on fire and out of many to forge unity."



To all my dear friends:

Thank you so much for your prayers for my Mom....Mom passed away today about 4 PM... she was in no pain and went peacefully.... the minister from her church came by on Sunday and Monday and she passed shortly after his visit as well as a visit from my brother, Kyle....Kyle would come everyday about 3:30-3:45 to see how she was doing and we felt that after he came today that she finally was ready to let go. Hospice and the workers at Green Acres could not have been more kind and caring....all the employees at Green Acres came in during the day today to say their goodbyes, even those who were not working.

We will have a memorial service on Thursday, September 20, in Manistee when our brother, Daryl, from Salt Lake City will be here.

Thanks again for all your prayers during this difficult time.

Love and hugs, Melarie

# SEPTEMBER

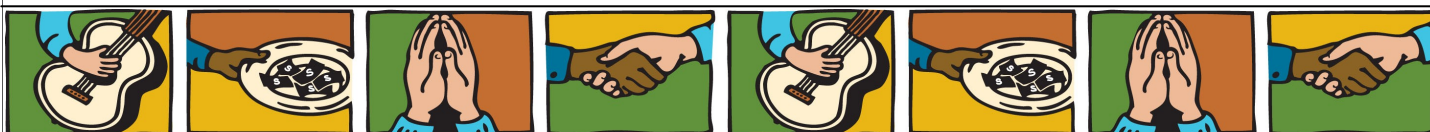
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	3 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 7pm Boy Scout (L)	4 4pm UB Tu- toring(E) 7:15pm Choir rehearsals	5	6 9:30a CVWC Craft	7	8
9 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study 11:45am WoHC "Welcome Back Luncheon"	10 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6pm WoHC General Mtg, Bunco 7pm Boy Scout (L)	11 4pm UB Tu- toring(E) 7:15pm Choir rehearsals	12 1pm Senior Brd (L)	13 9:30a CVWC Craft 12:15pm NFS to Min's Restuarent 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	14	15
16 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	17 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 1:30p Bridge 6:30pm Church Council 7pm Boy Scout (L)	18 4pm UB Tu- toring(E) 7:15pm Choir rehearsals	19	20 9:30a CVWC Craft 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	21	22
23 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study 11:30am OUT- REACH	24 12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 7pm Boy Scout (L)	25 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	26	27 9:30a CVWC Craft 12:30pm NFS to Jade Garden 4pm UB Tu- toring(E)	28	29 11:00am NFS to Clayton Oktober- fest
30 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study						

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



# **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 (Library & Conf. Rm)

Sunday School 10:30AM

## **Week Day Bible Study Schedule:**

Monday 12:30PM Conference Room, Ladies Only

Wednesday 7:00PM Parish Hall, All are Welcome

## **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