



**Holy Cross  
Lutheran  
Church, LCMS**

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**ELECTION DAY**

**TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 6**

# Cross Currents



Volume 10, Issue 100

November 2012

## *Thy Will Be Done?*

by Pastor Chu

Hearing and reading the debate analyses from each candidate's campaign and supporters, one wonders whether they watched the same debate.

Those who would vote for the Democratic ticket regardless of what transpired in the debate found Vice President Joe Biden inspiring as they watched this elder statesman and foreign policy expert school the young upstart, Congressman and vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan, who couldn't get his facts straight on foreign affairs and the economy.

Those who cannot imagine four more years of Joe Biden as vice president saw a rude, snarky, condescending boor who interrupted Paul Ryan some 85 times during the 90 minute debate and snickered and laughed derisively throughout at Ryan who politely, respectfully, and confidently stood his ground and addressed serious issues with serious, thoughtful responses.

Opposing critiques... reflective of a nation more divided than during any other election cycle in the last three to four decades, divided not just on how to fix the economy but also on such issues as foreign policy, immigration, healthcare, abortion, homosexuality, marriage, and race. So divided that one can even find on Twitter numerous tweets promising to riot and threatening to assassinate one of the candidates and his supporters should he win the presidential election.

Thank God that Christians, regardless of political party affiliation, find unconscionable such threats and the thought of

rioting even should their candidate lose. Still, even Christians are divided along political lines. However, though we subscribe to different political philosophies and principles and support different candidates, we are united by what transcends politics: we are united by faith in Jesus Christ: *"one body and one Spirit... called to the one hope that belongs to [our] call — one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.."* (Ephesians 4:5-6). And every Lord's Supper, we partake of the one body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. And we know and trust that the Triune God is the one true God, the Creator of heaven and earth and the Lord of the nations, and that as St. Paul says in Romans 13, *"there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."*

So with the national elections just a week or so away, do we dare cast our votes as is our right, privilege, and responsibility as citizens of this country yet trust that whatever the results, God is still God and the results will bear His imprimatur? Every Sunday and maybe every day in our personal devotional time, we pray *"Thy will be done."* Do we dare pray *"Thy will be done"* as we cast our votes, no matter passionate we are about a particular candidate or political party?

In such an important election as this and with so much on the line, do we trust the Lord enough to pray, *"Lord, Thy will be done?"* and mean it?



### November Birthdays

- 1 Clara Huppert
- George Oatis
- 4 Joe Odrzywolski
- 7 Annah Reiter
- 8 Emily Humphrey
- 10 Liz Aduan
- Andrea Beutel
- 15 Laurretta Oliver
- 21 Sue Saalfeld

### Anniversaries

- 2 Mike and Gail Baker
- 5 Terry and Revia Maurer
- 9 Dwight and Claudia Gemar

November Acolyte Duty List	
4	Drew Oatis
11	Gavin West
18	Kaytlin Reiter
25	Noah West



### Daylight-Saving Time Ends on November 4

Be sure to wind your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday!

**Altar Guild Meeting:**  
Please join the altar guild as we prepare for the upcoming holiday season. We will be meeting on Saturday, Nov. 3 at 9AM in the conference room. We will be planning for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas worship activities. We would love to have some new members, all are welcome. Contact Andrea Beutel with questions at [andbeutel@gmail.com](mailto:andbeutel@gmail.com) or 672-9605.



### Sunday, November 11

Please join us for the Voters Meeting after service and stay for the Thanksgiving Dinner afterwards.

### Those who are in need our prayers:

**Wanda Armstrong, Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Ellen Stenson** (Glenn Stenson's granddaughter), **AJ Stanley, Lloyce Logan** (Judy West sister-in-law), **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), **Abbi and Alex Roman, June Stewart** (Judy West's friend), **Vivian Hock** (Trudy Huenninghaus's friend), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Alice Mikolasek**, (Violet Griffin's friend), **Herb Borchers** (treatments), **Tia** (Coyne teen family member), **Stephanie Woolley** (Laurretta Oliver's daughter-migraines), **Diana Butterfield** (recovery), **Brian Fawcet** (Diane Oatis' brother), **Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Betty Kallsen** (recovery), **Eyona Pargman** (back pain), **Marjorie Keisling** (Pat Kroeger's sister), **Nora Encinas** (secretary-First Lutheran), **Pastor Phil Scharnitzke** (Our Savior Lutheran-Livermore), **Norris Mantooth** (recovery-brain surgery, Gregg Syrovatka's co-worker), **Katty Spiegel** (recovery-healing), **Pastor Chu's mother, Calvin Dummer** (Melarie Seidel's brother).



### 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), **Cadet Megan Gemar, P.O.W. and M.I.A.s.**



### Choir Note

Rehearsals on November  
6, 13, and 20

(No rehearsal November 27)



Women of Holy Cross  
"Corner Cafe" Hours

Fri. ~ Nov. 2

9:00a.m.~9:00p.m.

Sat. ~ Nov. 3

9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.

Invite your family, friends  
and neighbors to the  
"Holiday Hutch Boutique"  
in our parish hall. Come and  
eat breakfast, lunch, and  
dinner and support our  
parking lot fund. We appreciate  
any and all donations  
for this church project.



JOIN US FOR THE  
**Annual Congregational  
Thanksgiving Dinner**  
**Sunday**  
**November 11**  
**Noon**

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the office. Suggested donation is \$8 per person. All proceeds will be going toward the parking lot fund.

We need help with clean up. (at least space for four)

### The Women of Holy Cross

invite ALL women to join us for our

**Christmas Non-Progressive Dinner**

**Monday, December 3, 2012**

We enjoyed a break from "doing it ourselves"  
and went to DVC Norseman's the last 2 years.

This year Rhonda Liedtke has generously  
offered to be our hostess!

**Dinner and Dessert at**

**Rhonda Liedtke's Home**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

We hope you can join us for an opportunity to  
dress festive, enjoy a delicious meal, and share  
warm fellowship with the Women of Holy Cross.

See your Mailbox for invitation with details.



## Nifty Fifties Seniors Corner

written by Marv Kreitz, President

### Speiskammier German Restaurant

October 11, 2012

It was a sparkling day, with a touch of fall in the air and we noticed that the deciduous trees seemed to have started to change color overnight as we sojourned through the tunnel to the restaurant in Alameda. Every time I get a chance to drive in the Bay Area I am impressed with how beautiful and fortunate we are to live here. I'm from Minnesota and they have already had freezing weather with Months of more to look forward to.

There was seven that attended our luncheon and like our visit to the Clayton Oktoberfest everyone was in a festive mood. Parking along the side of the Restaurant took real talent as there was a truck that stuck out and we had less than six inches on each side to get by...No scratches were received!

The food as always was excellent Eberhard, Anke and I had the full dinners of Wiener Schnitzel with roasted potatoes and I had enough for a 2nd meal at home. Bill Reichmann started with Potato Pancakes (Trudy had them last time and Bill had a taste) along with a vegetable dish that looked tempting. All and all everyone had what they desired along with a beer, and a good time was had by all. Those who didn't attend missed a great outing with Christian Friends.



### Clayton Oktoberfest

Oct .7<sup>th</sup> 2012

The Nifty Fifty seniors visited the Clayton Oktoberfest on Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup> after church and met in the big tent at 11:00 AM. I had six people signed up and we ended up with over 20 . What a really great turn out. Not all were there at 11:00 but we had plenty of room, so those coming late had a place to sit. Everyone was in a jovial mood. As they were playing German music on the big speakers, I could see several tapping their fingers on the table... Soon it was time to have a beer, which was part of the enjoyment of being at an Oktoberfest. Most had Stein's from last year so all they needed was a ticket (cost \$5.00) otherwise you needed to buy a stein (cost \$5.00) in order to get something to put your beer in. I just bought a ticket and when I got my beer at a different booth they had paper cups that held a ½ liter so I avoided buying a Stein. ...I sometime think I'm too frugal (cheap) but I have several mugs at home.

Most of us purchased our lunch at DJ Bistro's booth and had Wiener Snitzel and potato Salad. A large lunch was two pork patties \$8.00 or one for \$6.00. I ordered two and couldn't eat it all. Soon the band arrived and the show was on. I told Annaliesa that I wanted to dance but felt I couldn't being so unsteady on my feet, but she said give it a try anyway, which we did and I had a great time. There indeed was a Carnival atmosphere with venders of various apparel and home items setting up booths throughout downtown Clayton. I was a little disappointed in that they didn't have the professional dance group in the tent on Sunday but the enthusiasm of the band players made up for the loss. A great time was had by all....

### Jade Garden Lunch

Thursday Sept. 27, 2012

Our Nifty Fifty Lunch at the Jade Garden had just Bill Reichmann , Jack and Doris Mortenson and myself. Not a very large turnout It seemed as if everyone had something else planned. The food as always was excellent and very ample ... Jack had Broccoli and Shrimp Doris had Cashew Chicken, Bill had just Vegetables and I had the Kung-Po Shrimp. Everyone raved about the food...I know mine was excellent. After the Oktoberfest at Clayton on Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup> and the Lunch at Speiskammier German Restaurant on October 11<sup>th</sup> we try to have only one outing a Month.



### Seniors Fall Activities

#### Spaghetti Factory Thursday Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 2012

We plan on only one outing for November because we have Thanksgiving at church on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> as well as national thanksgiving on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Nifty Fifties will dine at The Spaghetti Factory located at 1955 Mt Diablo Street Concord Ca 94520. Their Classics, Factory Platters, Chef Specials Etc all come with minestrone Soup or a crisp green salad, fresh baked bread, coffee, hot tea, ice tea or milk and spumoni or vanilla ice cream - a complete meal. Meatballs and Spaghetti one of my favorites cost \$10.15. They have an extensive menu and very competitive rates. The motif includes a street car and old fashion decorations its really a fun place to have lunch... Meet at church at 12:15 and leave at 12:30 or if you wish (let me know) meet at the Spaghetti Factory at 1:00 Sign up sheet is in the Social Hall...Like Sue added knock on a neighbors door and invite them to an outing with christian friends.

## Women of Holy Cross

### LWML Zone 7 Fall Rally

Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 33 women (10 from Holy Cross) attended the LWML Zone 7 Fall Rally at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livermore. The theme was ***Salted for Service***, "*Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.*" Mark 9:90.

Our Savior Lutheran Church does not have an active LWML society, but under the leadership of LWMLer Susan Contreras from Livermore, and the Mt. Diablo Zone 7 Board the women at Our Savior treated us to a wonderful rally. Pastor Chu, Zone 7 Pastoral Counselor, led us in Bible study based on the "Salted for Service" theme. We explored the uses of salt, the occurrence of salt in the Bible, the salting effect of Christians on the earth, how can a Christian lose his saltiness, and that we must salt the earth. We **are** the salt of the earth; we alone have the Good News of salvation by grace through faith in the one and only Savior, Jesus Christ. We are reminded that we salt, but God does the saving and preserving.

The speaker was Catie Aznoe, the Community Relations Coordinator for Shepherd's Gate, a haven for women and children in Livermore, with a sister facility in Brentwood. Catie spoke to us on "No Woman Deserves to be Abused". Shepherd's Gate started in 1984 in a small home and has successfully grown to the two campuses. They have had over 10,000 graduates, with an 89% success rate upon graduation. They accept no government funding so as not to sacrifice their Christ centered program. They operate with grants, donations, the proceeds from their thrift store in Livermore, and many volunteers. We had a generous in-gathering of toilet paper, paper towels and Kleenex for Shepherd's Gate. Ninety percent of the worship offering will be sent to Shepherd's Gate.

Pastor Chu and Vicar Dennis Dirks from Our Savior Led us in worship with communion. Pastor Chu installed the newly elected officers: Ruth Spiva (Grace, Pittsburg) for a second term as VP Christian Life, and Susan Contreras (Our Savior, Livermore) for a second term as VP Human Care. Barbara Carr

### Upcoming Events

#### November

##### **Friday 11/2, 8AM-8PM**

Corner Café: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner --- fundraiser for Holy Cross Parking Lot fund

##### **Saturday 11/3, 9AM-4PM**

Corner Café

##### **Monday 11/5, 6:30PM**

WoHC Board Meeting, Conference Room

##### **Monday 11/12, 6:30PM**

WoHC General Meeting, BIBLE STUDY with Pastor Chu. Hostess: Grace Gin and Carol Lau

##### **Sunday 11/11, NOON**

Church Thanksgiving dinner

##### **Monday 11/26, 6:30PM**

December Board Meeting

#### December

##### **Monday 12/5, 6 PM**

WoHC Non-Progressive Dinner @ Rhonda Liedtke

(First, Concord) was unable to attend the rally and will be installed as President at a later date.

We were treated to a delicious salad buffet luncheon by the women of Our Savior. After lunch we had a "Servant Opportunity" where we tied five fleece throws to be donated to the women and children at Shepherd's Gate. With the highest attendance at the rally, Women of Holy Cross came home with the attendance plaque. The Spring 2013 Rally will be at Benicia Lutheran Church.

Cherylene Brueckner,  
WoHC President

## HOW IS HE CALLING YOU?

by Pat Easby

*"God is our merciful father, He comforts us so that we can comfort others with the same comfort He has given us." (2Cor 1:3-4)*

*-Serving as Jesus Empowers Us-*

Due to vacations, work schedules, the busy Holidays, and family commitments, we volunteers for 'Holy Cross Outreach' are unable to fill the fourth **Sunday, November 25 and Sunday, December 23, for the 12:00 noon** serving at the Concord Shelter (off Port Chgo. Hwy and Industrial Way).



Meals for the Hungry

This would be a great family/friends project and a fun get together, or whatever hits your fancy! Try it, you might like it! You may serve: A good old fashioned meal, sack lunches, casserole, or pot luck to share with the less fortunate. You do not need to commit to both Sundays. This can be very low key and you serve whatever you choose to.

Feeding is inside the shelter. It is very organized, safe, and they help carry items, etc. It will probably be a much smaller group than usual because of the Holidays. We are blessed by giving and feeding, and we would like you to experience the blessings also.

\*Bill Luker is our head transporter for the food, to and fro! Please contact Pat Easby 672-6388 for questions and information, if no answer please leave a message. Thank you and BLESSINGS. **How is God tugging at your heart today and where are you being pulled?**

## The Intersection of Church and State

It's no secret that recent actions by the government have impacted the church—as well as the relationship under which church and state have operated since the U.S.'s founding. We hear the phrase "separation of church and state" bandied about quite often—but what is the reality of the relationship? A new television special from Lutheran Hour Ministries addresses this tough question.

The Intersection of Church and State, hosted by Speaker of The Lutheran Hour Rev. Gregory Seltz, explores how the First Amendment to the Constitution was crafted to protect both the civil government and organized religion and to provide a framework within which the two can often work together for the common good.

The Intersection of Church and State features careful scholarship and lively commentary by experts on faith and citizenship. In addition to providing insightful educational content, the program also challenges citizens to stay alert to government activity that affects the institution of the church.

There is a copy in the library for checking out.



To the lady that made the butter pound cake for the L.W.M.L. Bake Sale, is was mmm mmm good! So delicious and moist. Perhaps the recipe could be shared in the next newsletter?

~ Terry Hawkyard~

## Gospel Outreach Update

Our goal on our District CNH 2012-2014 Mission Grants is \$111,905.



As of Sept. 30, 2012, accounting records showed that we are just \$1,055.59 short of \$22,650 from funding Mission Grant #1. This grant is for the Zion Zone Lutheran Church youth center known as Zion Zone and is the only free faith based after-school and summer program for all youth ages 9 to 16 years old in Winnemucca, Nevada.

Our Bites for Mites went well and thank the Lord for ways we help spread the Word.

Our Mission Grant #2, Dream Catcher Youth Group on North Cheyenne Reservation near Lame Deer, MT is \$6000.

A list and pictures of our current district mission grants are displayed in the church narthex near the flower chart...thanks to Cherylene Brueckner for putting it together.

Praise God for all His blessings!

Eyona Pargman,  
Gospel Outreach

I'm so thankful for my Christian Family at Holy Cross for all the prayers, cards, and phone calls I received with my back pain.

We never know why these things happen, but God has His reasons.

God Bless All of You,  
Eyona Pargman



# NOVEMBER

## 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:30a Craft (H) 4p Tutoring	2 8a Holiday Bou- tique/ Corner Cafe	3 8a Holiday Boutique/ Corner Café 9a Altar Guild Board Mtg. (C)
4 <i>All Saints Day</i> Mite Box /Hat Sunday 9a Worship w/ Comm 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study 12p Worship <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	5 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p WoHC Board Mtg 7p Boy Scout (L)	6 6:30a Voting Polls (H) 4p Tutoring 6:30p Elders 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	7 1p Senior Brd (L) 7p Bible Study (H)	8 9:30a Craft (H) 12:15a NFS lunch out 4p Tutoring	9	10
11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> 9a Worship 10:30a Voters Meeting 12p Thanksgiving Dinner	12 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30p WoHC General Meeting 7p Boy Scout (L)	13 8:30a CVWC Prog 4p Tutoring 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	14 12p NFS Lunch Outing 7p Bible Study (H)	15 9:30a Craft (H) 4p Tutoring	16	17
18 9a Worship w/ Comm 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study	19 12:30p Wm Bible Study(C) 7p Boy Scout (L)	20 4p Tutoring 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	21 7p Bible Study (H)	22 <b>9a Thanksgiving Day Service</b>	23	24
25 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30a OUTREACH	26 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 6:30p WoHC Dec Brd Mtg 7p Boy Scout (L)	27 4p Tutoring	28	29	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 and Conf. Rm)

Sunday School 10:30AM

Advent Midweek Service: 7:00PM (starting week of 12/2)

**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

December Cross Currents: **November 23**

**Office Hours:** M-F 9AM-12:30PM