



Holy Cross
Lutheran Church,
LCMS

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**VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL**

**Vacation Bible School
2011 at Holy Cross
will be held on
July 25 - 29.**

Please pass the word out
to neighbors and friends!
(Registration forms will
be coming out soon.)

Cross Currents



Volume 6, Issue 85

June 2011

...let's not confuse love with a mandate to agree with false doctrine...

By Pastor Chu

First, a disclaimer: I am NOT advocating burning copies of the Qur'an or promoting hatred or bigotry toward adherents of other religions. I AM advocating and encouraging standing on the Scriptures and, as Peter says, *"In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect."* (1Peter 3:15)

Paul charged Timothy (and all pastors) to *"preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths."* (2Timothy 4:2-4) Paul's words are for all Christians as well.

Many who claim to be Christian, including members of the clergy, are scratching those itching ears by compromising the Scriptures and the Gospel. They equate Scriptural critiques of other religions with bigotry, and proclaiming Jesus to be the "way, truth and life" (John

14:6)¹ and only savior (John 3:16-19)² with promoting hate.

A good example is the June 26 initiative co-sponsored by Human Rights First and the Interfaith Alliance. According to the "Faith Shared: Uniting in Prayer and Understanding" initiative's website, "News stories on the rising tide of anti-Muslim bigotry and violence abound... *Faith Shared* asks houses of worship across the country to organize events involving clergy reading from each other's sacred texts."³

The Rev. Welton Gaddy, president of the Interfaith Alliance, is quoted as saying: "As a Christian minister who is a pastor... it is important to me for our nation and our world to know that not all Christians promote hate, attack religions different from their own and seek to desecrate the scriptures of others."⁴ Tad Stannke, director of policy and program for Human Rights First, hopes to counter stereotypes of Christian leaders making anti-Muslim statement. "We want to send a message to the world," he says, "that Americans do respect religious differences and reject religious bigotry and the demonization of Islam or any religion."⁵

Of the 54 worship centers

listed to date (May 25) as participants in this initiative, not even one appears to be a mosque. They're Catholic, Unitarian, Episcopalian, or Protestant.⁶ These places of worship will be inviting Jewish rabbis and Muslim clerics to read their sacred texts to counter anti-Muslim bigotry in order to demonstrate and promote respect for Islam in the wake of recent Qur'an burnings.⁷ (A Google search for number of incidents of Qur'an burnings vs. Bible burnings might prove enlightening.)

I wonder if Muslim leaders will call on their clerics to extend invitations to Christian clergy to read the Bible and speak on Christ's crucifixion and resurrection (or Jews to read from the Torah!) in their mosques during their prayer times (if they do, I hope that those "Christian" will proclaim the truth of Scriptures and not their own "truths"). If not, the "Christian" churches will be making unilateral compromises and concessions of *God's Word* and the *Lord's Gospel*.

If we are faithful to Scriptures and to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we stand firmly by the grace of God on the Word of God and faithfully, unabashedly, and unapolo-

(Continued on page 2, love)

love (Continued from page 1)

getically proclaim Christ Crucified as the way, truth, and the life, and contend for the faith. (Jude 3)⁸ Jesus is the only Savior. There is salvation in no other. (Acts 4:12)⁹ There is no other Gospel. (Galatians 1:6-8)¹⁰

Love your enemies? Certainly! Jesus commands it. (Matthew 5:43-45)¹¹ But let's not confuse love with a mandate to agree with false doctrine or to compromise the Gospel so as not to appear intolerant.

To speak the truth of the Word of God about salvation is NOT hatred or bigotry. In fact, Christian love loves enough to share the Gospel so that all might come to the truth about salvation by God's grace through faith in Jesus (1Timothy 2:3-4)¹²

1. John 14:6 — Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (ESV)
2. John 3:16-19 — ¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. (ESV)
3. <http://www.faithshared.org>
4. <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>
5. <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>
6. <http://www.faithshared.org>
7. <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>
8. Jude 3 — Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. (ESV)
9. Acts 4:12 — "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (ESV)
Romans 1:16-17 — ¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."
1Corinthians 1:18 — ¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
10. Galatians 1:16-18 — ⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel — ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.
11. Matthew 5:43-45 — ⁴³"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.
12. 1Timothy 2:3-4 — ...God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Don't cook - Join us for the

WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS ANNUAL DINNER OUT WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS

Monday, June 27, 6:00 pm

El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant

4633 Clayton Road, Concord

Menu: 2 item combo plate choose from:
enchilada, taco, tamale, burrito, and chile relleno.
Meal comes with soup or salad, rice, beans, and a non-alcoholic drink.

Price: Complete meal & beverage-\$16 a person
(tax & tip included). You can pay me the night of dinner.

Everyone is Welcome (men, women, young, & old)

We've reserved their back room

Sign up (Parish Hall) by Wed., June 22

Questions? See Joyce Liebe

Birthdays & Anniversaries this Month

Birthdays		& Anniversaries	
2	Michael Pass	8	Cal & Betty Kallsen
9	Carol Lau	17	John & Sandy Coyne
11	Nancy Hoffman	24	Walter & Nancy Hoffman
13	Abbi Roman		Don & Marlene Roberts
15	Jack Easby	27	Bill & Eleanor Tyson
20	Jessica Aduan		Bob & Diana Butterfield
	Martin Brown	29	Pastor Bill & Carol Chu
22	Kiley Wirtz		
23	Denise Joy Brown		
24	Bill Tyson		
25	Gayle Bothe		
29	Debbie Boettcher		

Email Address Correction

Joe & Peggy Odrzywolski:

jmsodrzywolski@aol.com

ANTIQUE CAR SHOW**FATHER'S DAY****SPECIAL FREE EVENT**

You do not have to be a
Father to join us. Everyone
is welcome ~ all ages.

SUNDAY JUNE 19, 2011

CAR SHOW

AGENDA

9:00 Church Service with communion

10:00 1928+ restored Ford Model A cars arrive. They will be escorted to their roped off special parking spots in the H.C. parking lot, preparing to be viewed.

10:30 view the cars at your Leisure—Check out all the lovely restorations. So far there will be approx. 20+ cars. Holy Cross members Marilyn & Herb Neumann will be showing their lovely Model A, also Bob Westbury will show two of his restored exotic antique cars. Stop by, visit, hear their stories!

You will be able to talk with the owners; each car has its own story; you can find out where the cars were made, where they have been, their history, etc.

BREAKFAST 10:30

-- for those that signed up --

We will provide a light breakfast in the Parish Hall for approx. 1 hour.

Be sure you sign up on the **ford-blue poster** if you want to be included for breakfast.

~Sponsored by Women of Holy Cross~

NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS CORNER**DAY ON THE BAY—TO RAIN FOREST RESTAURANT**

WED. MAY 18 2011

We were a little concerned about the weather as it had rained Tue and looked Threatening to rain the morning as we set out for Jack London Square in Oakland. As we boarded the Ferry we could see the cloud cover stop in the middle of the bay and San Francisco covered with SUN-SHINE what a blessing. The trip via Ferry from Jack London Square in Oakland was exciting and the aquatic scenery complete with views of the huge cranes and container shipping was fascinating to view. Most of us

braved the cool ocean spray while seated on the open upper deck while a few enjoyed the passing landscape from the comfy confines of the downstairs lounge. As we neared San Francisco, we were treated to a spectacular view of the San Francisco landscape with its towering skyscrapers and of course, the antics of the lazing sea lions on the wharves off of Pier 39. Upon arrival we walked leisurely to the Rain Forest Restaurant located next to the Wax Museum in the Fisherman's Wharf area. Tourist sightseers were everywhere

as they ogled the "Free entertaining Mime standing on a box covered with silver paint. At the restaurant they seated us one table away from the trumpeting Elephant next to a waterfall. A huge snake twined around a tree branch rolled his eyes and forked out his tongue as we



passed underneath him. Fortunately, everyone escaped unharmed. Erna and Christl had the most expensive Hamburger they ever had at \$22.00 They thought French fry's were included which they weren't. After enjoying a tasteful lunch we wandered over to Pier 39 with Erna munching on a waffle cone she had to have as dessert which encouraged everyone else to buy a cone on the way too. Sometimes its fun just to "play the tourist" and visit familiar sights. What a delightful way to spend a Day on the Bay!

— Marv Kreitz

NIFTY FIFTY SENIORS NEXT OUTING**THE WESTERN RAILWAY MUSEUM** BY MARV KREITZ

The weather was somewhat brisk as we left church at 9:15 and journeyed across the Benicia Bridge, where the mothball fleet was visible and the countryside was carpeted with green what a beautiful sight. There was very little traffic and the trip on 680 to 80 and right at Fairfield on 12

for the 121/2 miles took less time than I planned.

When we arrived at the Western Railway Museum even though we were early there was already a line of people waiting to buy tickets to the museum and the train ride. We all took the \$9.00 ticket though they were pushing the \$14.00 ticket which included a Private car with lemonade and cookies served. The train ride was enjoyable, but most of the flowers had already bloomed. We did see 180 giant power producing windmills close up that generated enough power to handle a city the size of Fresno. The antique train we rode on was the only train that stops for cars in the state of California. Our conductor was a fountain of information and was taking some friends on a personal tour of the new Car Barn after

the train ride and invited everyone to join him.

The tour really made our visit. The Car Barn was



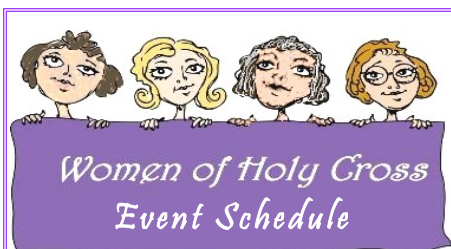
loaded with antique rail cars in prestige condition. The barn was humidity and temperature controlled with a ceiling fan and sprinkler system that cost over \$850,000 to install. We saw rail cars that used to travel across the Bay Bridge between Oakland and San Francisco. Street Cars that required a motorman and a conductor, Parlor Cars and cars with a platform used for political campaigns when they spoke traveling cross country on their whistle stop tours. There was even a hobo riding the rails under a box car (picture in social hall). What a really great outing. Our next stop was The Point Restaurant in Rio Vista on the Sacramento River. The food was excellent and We did solve all the world problems during lunch. What a really great way to spend a day.

**AMTRAK TRAIN RIDE TO OLD SACRAMENTO
TRAIN MUSEUM - JUNE 22 2011**

Want to be a Kid again? Want to ride a train and see what's in everybody's backyard? Join the Nifty Fifty Seniors as they chug their way through the beautiful Delta area via Amtrak to Old Sacramento where they will visit the Train Museum. There are 21 meticulously restored locomotives and cars and numerous exhibits that illustrate how railroads have shaped people's lives. Included in these exhibits are a Pullman-style sleeping car, a dining car filled with railroad china, and a Railway Post Office you can actually step aboard these cars. First opened to the public in 1976, the California State Museum complex is one of Sacramento's largest and most popular visitor destinations. Over 500,000 visit the Museum annually, with guests traveling from throughout the world to experience this world-renowned facility.

We plan on purchasing Amtrack Commuter Tickets which are 10 one way tickets for \$104.00, or \$20.80 round trip per person. If we purchase individual senior tickets they cost \$17.00 one way or \$34.00 round trip. We will take the total cost of all the tickets and divide by the number going. On this trip because we will be purchasing the tickets ahead of time, we would like those going to pay \$21.00 by Sunday June 19th. Amtrak leaves Martinez at 11:04 and gets into Old Sacramento at 12:15. Our return trip leaves at 4:40 and arrives in Martinez at 5:40.

Lunch will be at Fat City which is about 3 blocks from the station. Cost of admission to the museum is \$9.00. We need to car pool as parking at the Martinez train station is very difficult. It helps if you have a handicap card so you can park in metered locations. Meet at church at 9:45 leave at 10:00. Come join us and with a Toot! Toot! of the train whistle you will be off for a very enjoyable day! Sign up in the social hall so we know how many to plan on.



June 2011 Calendar

Sunday, 6/5

Mite Box & Hat Sunday - help support local & foreign missions

Monday, 6/6 2:15pm

WoHC Board meeting Conf. Rm

Sunday, 6/19

Father's Day Car Show

-sign up for Breakfast-

Thursday, 6/23-6/26

LWML National Convention, Peoria, IL.

Monday, 6/27 6pm

Dinner Out with Friends and Family

-sign up sheet on WoHC Board in the Parish Hall

-all are welcome to join us for a fun time-

Mark Your Calendar for July

Monday, 7/11 2:15pm

WoHC Board meeting, Conf. Rm
- Planning Ahead for 2011 & 2012 and Salad Potluck (last names A-L bring salad) *hostess: Marlene Roberts*

Sunday, 7/31

5th Sunday Potluck Brunch

Special Speaker & Cream Social (Congregational Event)

Zone 7 Spring Rally at First Lutheran Church in Concord Saturday, May 9, 2011

Theme : Reach out and Touch Someone: Showing the Love of Christ in Your Community

Forty+ ladies represented by different congregations in Zone 7 enjoyed a day of fellowship and sharing during the recent Spring Zone Rally. The morning started with a delicious breakfast of baked goods, fresh fruit and juiced prepared by the hosts (ladies of First Lutheran). After we were well fed physically, we were nourished spiritually as well. Pastor Chu led us through a Bible Study based on the text from 1 John 4:11 – “If God so loved us, we also ought to love one another”. He led us to explore 4 key points: Whom we are trying to reach and touch? Why are we trying to reach and touch them? What are we trying to touch them with? What does showing the love of Christ mean?

Following the Bible Study, our District Rep Barbara Carr shared some District news with us and encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming CNH LWML Retreat in Chico, CA. We then had a short Business Meeting moderated by our zone president Sherry Bell.

After a short break, we continued on with the Panel Discussion of the day. We had 6 Panelists sharing their community service projects and experiences with us. These ladies shared their passion and inspired us to serve in our communities.

1. Liz Barenga & Debbie Weirich - members of the Sounds of Grace music ministry sharing their music and songs at hospitals and nursing care center.
2. Diane Bargaquast – organizes the annual Giving Thanks at Thanksgiving program providing home-made Thanksgiving meal to people in the community.
3. Kathy Gleason – started a program to provide children in low income neighborhood with free back to school backpacks and supplies, nutritious goodie bags for Halloween and Easter and Christmas gifts and stockings.
4. Joyce Liebe – volunteers her gifted culinary skills at various Loaves & Fishes centers preparing and providing meals for those in need of a meal.
5. Carolyn Pyle – volunteers her time and talents at the Pittsburg Community Emergency Service maintaining a food pantry and providing nutritious food to needy families
6. Theresa Scharlemann – organizes a once-a-month Birthday Party at the local food kitchen for community members and the homeless, providing them with small gift bags and ice cream treats to celebrate their birthday with them.

At the end of the day, our hosts treated us with a delicious buffet luncheon of various kinds of salads and desserts. Everyone left the rally happy, full and inspired!

EXCERPT FROM SECRETARY, MARILYN'S

MAY 9 MINUTES
WOHC GENERAL MEETING

TREASURER Melarie's REPORT: current balance is \$276.11. The Biennium Year to date total for mite donations is \$1,699.00.

GOSPEL OUTREACH – Gayle reported that as of February 28, 2011, the total mites collected this year is \$40,854.55. This amount funded the first five Mite Projects and allows for \$1,504.55 toward the 6th Mission Project - the renovation of the St. Mark's Lutheran Church Food Pantry at Malia Maleka League, Kaneohe, Hawaii.

CHRISTIAN LIFE – Lauretta led devotion.

HUMAN CARE – Marlene Roberts will send everything off and also write a letter to one of the servicemen we send the stamps to asking them to send us a photo of what they make out of the stamps.

SERVANT RESOURCES – Carol and Pat did a great job by posting sign-up sheets for our meetings and activities and writing articles to be included in the monthly Cross Currents and weekly service bulletins...

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT – Sue O'Malley will take on the role of Chairperson in charge of Membership Development in July.

SUNSHINE – Idalene distributed anniversary and birthday cards for the month of May. Trina sent a get well card to Cherylene and a sympathy card to the family of Virginia Highsmith.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marilyn reported that the New Testaments arrived. A motion was made and seconded that we send 90 of the New Testaments to the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and keep the remaining 14 for future use. The motion passed.

June 19, Father's Day – planning is underway for the antique car show and breakfast. Pat and Carol will put write-ups in the Cross Currents and weekly service bulletins. We will also have a signup sheet for help with this event. The menu will consist of breakfast casseroles, cut-up fresh fruit, muffins, orange juice and coffee/tea. After the next Club Meeting, Marilyn will have an idea of how many from the Diablo A's will be bringing their cars and staying for breakfast.

Decorations will be simple, Ford blue plastic tablecloths and Marilyn will bring something unique to the car hobby for table decorations.

**DORIS**

MORTENSON would like to Thank You for your prayers, calls, and cards during my illness.

**WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS**

held their general meeting on May 9th. We had a good turnout of people who attended the workshop "How to make miniatures". A big thank you to Liz Aduan and her sister Phyllis, who were very patient with us and very organized. Thanks to the preliminary cutting and painting, we got through the project much faster. We turned a jiffy box container into a muffin store-so cute.

Thanks to Marlene Roberts and Pat Kroeger for their awesome dessert: angel food cake with fresh strawberries and real whipping cream. Yum! It was a fun, productive evening out with friends. Thanks to Joyce Liebe for leading our meeting and getting down to the business of our organization. We discussed future events and plans for this summer. So many willing hearts and willing hands-God's blessings. Keep checking the bulletins in church and the bulletin boards in the parish hall for upcoming events for all the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Lau

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have been studying the New Testament since January. Thank you to the teachers who

so diligently prepare each week. Thank you to the parents who diligently bring their children each week. It is so important to learn God's Word together and also to read His Word daily. Along with Pastor Chu, we encourage everyone to open their Bibles daily. We are looking forward to V.B.S. in July. Please invite family, neighbors, friends and anyone you know who is unchurched to our V.B.S. IN JULY. This is an excellent time to share Jesus' love with those around us-please reach out and ask people to come. Respectfully submitted, Carol Lau

**Thank You AGAIN to the Holy Cross Choir**

for another season of singing and ringing (and even "shaking") praises to our gracious Lord during the worship services. Your time and talents are ever appreciated. And we sure have a lot of fun in this music ministry, too, don't we? :)

Have a blessed, restful summer!

We also whole-heartedly thank Terry Hawkyard for providing a wonderful brunch for the choir on the 22nd. What an incredible act of kindness!

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere." (2 Corinthians 2:14)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
				9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4pm UB Tutoring (E)		12pm Boy Scouts
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Mite Box /Hat Sunday</i> 9am Worship w/ Comm 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 2:15pm WoHC Brd Mtg (C) 7pm Boy Scout (PH, L)	4pm UB Tutoring (E)	1pm Senior Brd (L)	9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4pm UB Tutoring (E)		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 7pm Boy Scout (L)	9am CVWC 4pm UB Tutoring (E)		9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4pm UB Tutoring (E) 6:30pm Elder's Meeting		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<i>Father's Day</i> 9am Worship w/ Comm 9am Worship 10:30am Antique Car Show & Breakfast	12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6:30pm Church Council 7pm Boy Scout (L)	4pm UB Tutoring (E)	9:45am NFS Outing to Old Sacramento	9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4pm UB Tutoring (E)		
26	27	28	29	30		
9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study 11:30am OUT-REACH	12:30pm Wm Bible Study(C) 6pm WoHC Dinner Out 7pm Boy Scout (L)	4pm UB Tutoring (E)		9:30a CVWC Craft (H) 4pm UB Tutoring (E)		
(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, Grace Gin

Newsletter Editor: Grace Gin

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service 9:00AM

Communion 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays

Adults Bible Studies 10:30AM

Sunday School 10:30AM

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

July Cross Currents: June 22, 2011

Office Hours: M-F 9AM-1PM