

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Message	1-2
Bible Studies, 11/6 Voters Meeting, Thank You, B'days/Anniv.	3
Baptisms	4
Thanksgiving Dinner, Food Drive	5
Holiday Hutch/Corner Café, Fishing	6
WoHC	7
YVCS 5K Fun Run	8
St. Michael/Evil One	9
Octoberfest	10-11
Nifty Fifty/Sr. Seminar	12
Nov. Calendar	13
Holy Cross Info.	14

Baptism Quotes from the Early Church By Pastor Mundinger

During the last Sunday morning Bible study I shared some quotes of the church fathers that pertained to Holy Baptism. While ultimately the Scriptures are our true source of doctrine, I find that it is helpful to look at what the church has believed through her history, especially the church closest to the Apostles teachings. It is fun to see that the teachings of the early church line up perfectly with our own believes. This is because, like the, all of our doctrine comes from the teachings of the Apostles. Here are a few quotes that some of you wanted me to post.

A Quote from the Didache concerning the practice of Holy Baptism. The Didache is a 1st century document that outlines the practices of the church. Some think that it was written by the Apostles themselves. *"And concerning baptism, baptize this way: Having first said all these things, baptize into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in living water. But if you have not living water, baptize into other water; and if you can not in cold, in warm. But if you have not either, pour out water thrice upon the head into the name of Father and Son and Holy Spirit. But before the baptism let the baptizer fast, and the baptized, and whatever others can; but you shall order the baptized to fast one or two days before."*

St. Polycarp (69 AD-155 AD). Polycarp was a disciple of John the Evangelist. Here he speaks of serving the Lord his whole life. This is significant because it shows that Polycarp must have been baptized as an infant. One does not serve the Lord his whole life if he was baptized as an adult. *"Eighty and six years have I served the Lord Christ"*

St. Irenaeus 130 AD - 202 AD. Here Irenaeus speaks of infants and little children being born again which brings them to the kingdom of God. This is a direct reference to the Gospel of John where Jesus tells Nicodemus that one must be born again (or born from above) by the water and the Spirit, a reference to Holy Baptism. *"Jesus came to save all through means of Himself - all, I say, who through him are born again to God - infants and children, boys and youth, and old men."*



Hippolytus of Rome 170 AD - 235 AD. Hippolytus writes in his work *The Apostolic Tradition* about the ancient practice of baptizing infants. Its neat to see that we all the in the twenty first century still retain these practices. If you ever wondered why the parents speak for their children in the Rite of Holy Baptism you can see here that it is an ancient tradition. *"Baptize first the children, and if they can speak for themselves let them do so. Otherwise, let their parents or other relatives speak for them."*

The Council of Carthage 345 AD. This was the third of five councils in Carthage where church synods met to discuss issues concerning the Donatist heresy among other issues. They concluded who ought to be baptized according to the apostolic tradition along with the disprove of rebaptisms. *"We ought not hinder any person from Baptism and the grace of God ... especially infants ... those newly born."*

Origen 185 AD- 253 AD. Origen wrote in his *Commentary on Romans 5:9*: "For this also it was that the Church had from the Apostles a tradition to give baptism even to infants."

St Cyprian 210 AD -258 AD. Cyprian was the bishop of Carthage in the 3rd century. This is his reply to a bishop who wrote to him regarding the baptism of infants stated: *"Should we wait until the 8th day as did the Jews in the circumcision? No, the child should be baptized as soon as it is born."* *"If, in the case of the worst sinners and those who formerly sinned much against God, when afterwards they believe, the remission of their sins is granted and no one is held back from baptism and grace, how much more, then, should an infant not be held back, who, having but recently been born, has done no sin, except that, born of the flesh according to Adam, he has contracted the contagion of that old death from his first being born. For this very reason does he [infant] approach more easily to receive the remission of sins: because the sins forgiven him are not his own but those of another As to what pertains to the case of infants: You [Fidus] said that they ought not to be baptized within the second or third day after their birth, that the old law of circumcision must be taken into consideration, and that you did not think that one should be baptized and sanctified within the eighth day after his birth. In our council it seemed to us far otherwise. No one agreed to the course which you thought should be taken. Rather, we all judge that the mercy and grace of God ought to be denied to no man born"*

St. Augustine 354 AD-430 AD. Augustine was one the most influential theologians and philosophers for the western church. One of the issues that he faced was the belief that a Christian should wait until his deathbed to be baptized. Augustine speaks extensively about the need for infant baptism as a removal of original sin which all humans have. *"The custom of our mother Church in baptizing infants must not be counted needlessly, nor believed to be other than a tradition of the Apostles."* *"If you wish to be a Christian, do not believe, nor say, nor teach, that infants who die before baptism can obtain the remission of original sin."* And again, *"Whoever says that even infants are vivified in Christ when they depart this life without participation in His sacrament (Baptism), both opposes the Apostolic preaching and condemns the whole church which hastens to baptize infants, because it unhesitatingly believes that otherwise they cannot possibly be vivified in Christ."*

St. John Chrysostom 347 AD-407 AD. John Chrysostom was one of the greatest preachers in the early church. Here is a sermon he preached to the newly baptize explaining the gifts that they receive in Holy Baptism. Notice that we as Lutherans hold the same belief as it pertains to the blessing of Holy Baptism. *"Let us say again: Blessed be God, who alone does wonderful things, who does all things and transforms them. Before yesterday you were captives, but now you are free citizens of the Church; lately you lived in the shame of your sins, but now you live in freedom and justice. You are not only free, but also holy; not only holy, but also righteous; not only righteous, but also sons; not only sons, but also heirs; not only heirs, but also brothers of Christ; not only brothers of Christ, but also joint heirs; not only joint heirs, but also members; not only members, but also the temple; not only the temple, but also instruments of the Spirit."*

You see how many are the benefits of baptism, and some think its heavenly grace consists only in the remission of sins, but we have enumerated ten honors [it bestows]! For this reason we baptize even infants, though they are not defiled by [personal] sins, so that there may be given to them holiness, righteousness, adoption, inheritance, brotherhood with Christ, and that they may be his [Christ's] members."

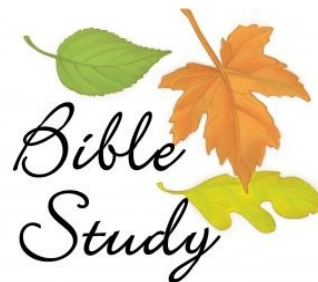
November Bible Studies

Pastor's Sunday Adult Bible Study, 11am, Conference Room

Monday Women's Bible Study, 10am, Zoom **

Pastor's Wed. Evening Bible Study, 7pm, Zoom **

** Zoom links are the same each week/listed in the Friday Announcements email.



Pastor Mundinger Elected as Voting Delegate to Synod Convention by Mike Liebe

Pastor was elected to attend our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod triennial convention and serve as our circuit pastoral voting representative. You may recall the Synod voted to postpone the convention one year due to Covid. It will be held July 29-August 23, 2023, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (of all places...) On the agenda is election of the Synod president and vice president among other Synod business.

November 6 Voters Assembly Meeting



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Our fall Voters Assembly Meeting will be Sunday, November 6, following our worship service. New business items include approving compensation for our 2023 operating budget, our annual housing accounting resolution, and a brief overview of our 2022 operating status year-to-date. See you there. Mike Liebe, Council President



Thank You!

Here's a **BIG** "Thank You!" from Options Health for the support from Holy Cross for their "Celebrate Life Gala" held October 7th. Holy Cross, together with thirty-six other sponsors, helped fully underwrite the event, ensuring that every dollar given at the Gala goes directly toward the ministry of Options Health.

It was a spectacular evening filled with beautiful music, a delicious dinner, good fellowship, and compelling stories of how Options Health has impacted our community. It was especially heartwarming to hear from three young women whose lives were dramatically changed by this organization. The annual Gala is their largest fundraiser, and this year's event raised over \$90,000, well above their \$75,000 goal.

The mission of Options Health is to give women hope and help families become stronger to make healthy decisions that will impact future generations. Do you want to be part of the team? Watch for information in the spring about our Holy Cross Diaper Drive and the Options Health Walk for Life in May 2023.

Thank you!

Cherylene Brueckner, Options Health liaison at Holy Cross



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

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

We were blessed by 2 baptisms in October!

We thank you, Gracious Father, for receiving Tera and Nathaniel, through Baptism, into the covenant and kingdom of your grace, in which we have forgiveness of sin and the hope of everlasting life. We pray that, being buried to sin with Christ in Baptism, they may be as St. Paul says in Romans 6: *"dead unto sin and alive unto righteousness,"* that in the end, together with all believers, they may obtain the promised inheritance in heaven. Strengthen us all in our own baptisms, so that we may share eternity together, and the salvation you have given us all, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

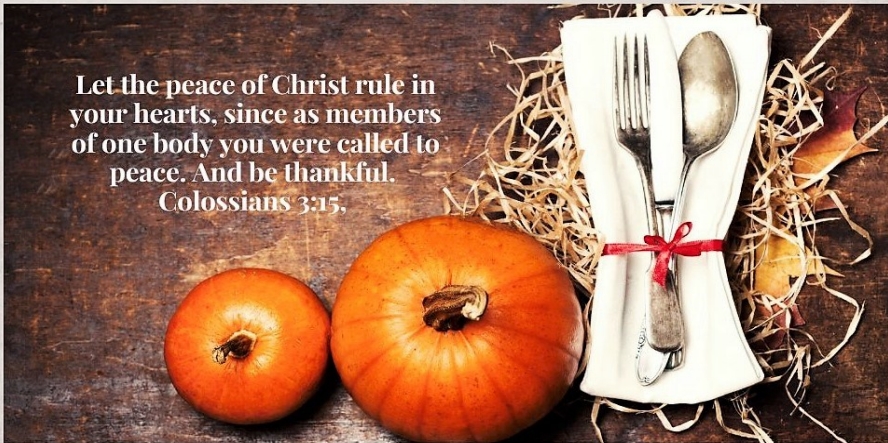


Holy Cross Thanksgiving Dinner 2022

Sunday, November 13, 11:30am, in the Parish Hall

Join us for our annual, traditional Thanksgiving meal.

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.



**SIGN UP
TODAY!**

Please sign up so we have a seat (& food) for you .

\$15 suggested donation; proceeds going toward The Food Bank of CC & Solano

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Food Drive
for Hunger



**Third Annual
Food Drive**

. . . . In partnership with . . .

Let's see how many
barrels we can fill
with food for our
neighbors in need!



Make a Difference!

DONATE

- ☐ Natural Peanut Butter
- ☐ Canned Tuna and Chicken in Water
- ☐ Beans and Lentils (dry or canned)
- ☐ Rice
- ☐ Pasta
- ☐ Whole Grain Cereals
- ☐ Low-Sodium Canned Vegetables
- ☐ Canned Tomato Products
- ☐ Hearty Low-Sodium Soups
- ☐ Canned Fruit in Juice
- ☐ Nonperishable Ready- to-Eat Meals (chili, ravioli, etc.)

NO GLASS, PLEASE!



This year we
are trying to
fill the Food
Bank's

"Most Wanted List",
so here is a handy
shopping list for you.
Remember, **NO GLASS**
containers accepted!



Food drive runs from Halloween

. . . thru Thanksgiving (10/31- 11/24/2022)

The Holiday Hutch is back AND our & Holy Cross Corner Café will be open!

See flyer —> for Holiday Hutch details.

Our Corner Café hours:

Friday, 9:30am - 8pm & Saturday, 9am-4pm.

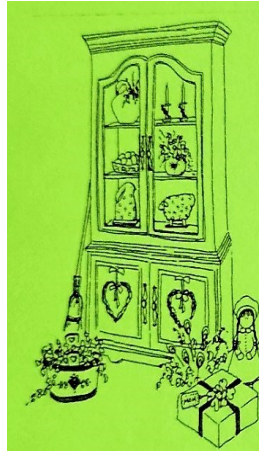
Here's how you can help:

- ⇒ **Sign up to work a Café shift**
- ⇒ **Stop by for snack/meal AND to shop**
- ⇒ **Invite family & friends**

The Corner Café was established in 2010 by the Women of Holy Cross as a fundraiser for our new parking lot. The food & décor (& where the proceeds go) have changed over the years.

However what has not changed is the congregational support for this annual event. We thank everyone who has helped make this tradition a success each year!

This year, the Corner Cafe proceeds will be split between Mites & our LSS Christmas Gift Drive (we have 47 adults/children).



Holiday Hutch Winter Boutique 2022

For more than 40 years...
Quality Handcrafts, Reasonably Priced
Friday, November 4 9:30-8:00
Saturday, November 5 9:00-4:00

Be sure to stop and sit for awhile at the corner Café....

Great parking, easy to find...always something new from our crafty members!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
At the corner of Alberta Way and Ygnacio Valley Road
1092 Alberta Way, Concord, CA 94521



Follow us on Facebook

We May Need a Bigger Boat by Mike Liebe



On the morning of **Saturday, November 12**, we are heading out for a "three-hour tour" of fishing, fellowship, fun, and maybe grilled Pop Tarts, at Los Vaqueros Reservoir off Vasco Road on the other side of Mt. Diablo.

All are invited to **meet at Holy Cross at 6:00 a.m.** (with coffee or coco?) to carpool over to the lake.

Los Vaqueros is full of many types of sportfish including striped bass, trout, largemouth bass, catfish, sunfish, crappie, and bluegill (Pastor's favorite!) The guide at the marina shared a tip that the stripers, trout and maybe catfish, will be biting.

Some details: Fisherpersons 16 years or older will need a CA fishing license and a \$6 fishing pass for Los Vaqueros. You can get a one-day license for \$17.54 online, at Big 5 or Walmart, or at the marina along with the pass. Weather permitting, there are rental boats available to get out there on the water. You can consult Allen B. with questions about tackle, bait and technique. He is a fisherman and retired navy guy.

Pastor agreed to host a fish fry with our prize catches, although he clarified there is no truth to the rumor he will clean anything we catch.



WOMEN OF HOLY CROSS

From Grace Gin (article & picture)

Once a month, the Women of Holy Cross invites all ladies to go for a Mexican Train ride in the afternoon. We meet in the Parish Hall.

The first time when I saw the announcement, I actually thought it was a real train ride. How ignorant I was! On one of scheduled departure day, I decided to go for a ride. My goodness, it surely was a fun ride!

I found out that it was actually a domino game. The object of the game is trying to match all tiles on your hand to ones on the table as fast as you can, thus forming different trains. The round ends when one lays down all her tiles. The score keeper tallies up points on everyone's leftover tiles. The person with the least point wins. Of course, there are rules and regulations that make your ride with unexpected twists and turns, ups and downs; imitation of life experiences, I suppose!

We just had another ride on Tuesday, October 25th. Though only five women: Marlene, Cherylene, Cat, Linda and Grace, came for a ride, all had a great time! Marlene brought along coffee cake and popcorn for our snack. We chatted and laughed. It was so much fun.

Look out for the next scheduled ride, every woman is invited! You won't be disappointed, and oh, IT IS FREE!"



FYI— Starting in January 2022, our Mexican train rides will be every 3rd Thursday, 1pm, in the Parish Hall. Yes, this is the same day as the Men's Mandatory Formation. This way we have something for everyone on that Thursday!

From Cherylene Brueckner

Take a look at the WoHC bulletin board in the Parish Hall for updates on our LWML Mites. There is a new Mission Grants Poster, Fall 2023, showing the payment progress on the 2021-2023 LWML Mission Grants. Grants PAID IN FULL total over \$1,000,000, and partially paid grants are over \$300,000. Wow! Women and men just like you and me drop our checks, paper money and coins in Mite boxes across all 50 states. Twenty-five cents from each dollar donated funds these LWML Mission Grants. LWML CNH receives fifty cents per dollar given, and is currently working on Mission Grant #4, Hmong Lent Family Retreat in Fresno and Merced.



Also posted on the WoHC bulletin board are letters from the first four of eighteen missionary kids that are recipients of the 2022 Steinbeck Memorial Scholarship. Each year LWML CNH awards \$500 to college students with parents working in the mission field. Take the time to read these thank you letters. They are remarkable young men and women.



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

YVCS 5K Fun Run By Mike Liebe

For the third year we hosted our Holy Cross table at the Ygnacio Valley Christian School (YVCS) 5K Fun Run and Fall Festival on October 22 at Newhall Park. The event included the 5K run/walk with participants in many creative costumes including a big T-Rex who managed to lumber through a complete a lap. The festival combined a couple of bounce houses, an obstacle course, music, lawn games, raffle prizes and some very tasty Mexican food prepared fresh onsite.

Our Holy Cross table featured promotion for the food drive contest we are hosting for YVCS students, fresh lemonade, and the "Great Cup Caper" contest with treats and prizes. Pastor captivated and delighted all with his sleight-of-hand in constantly moving and weaving the three red cups before the contestants selected which cup held the ping pong ball underneath. It was a very popular contest, although despite Pastor's

dexterity the ball was found nearly every round. So we resorted to trickery by putting tape inside a cup that caused the ball to stick and "disappear" even if the correct cup was selected. But they were on to us quickly and all received their prizes even with the sticky ball.

Lots of groans and laughs!





St. Michael Slaying the Evil One





Oktober Festivities By Mike Liebe

Take a look at these pictures from our festive and tasty Holy Cross Oktoberfest on October 15. We enjoyed music, great food and fellowship, and the "tapping" of the three selections of beers brewed by our Holy Cross brewmeisters.



The event was a combination of hosted dishes and potluck items that filled plates, Oktoberfesters and to-go containers.

Food selections included Pastor's specialty grilled beer brats, a variety of German kimchee (sauerkraut), spaetzle, mashed potatoes and gravy, hot Reuben dip, pickled beets, salads and many other side dishes, with a finale of apple pie and ice cream!



Be sure to mark your calendar for our next fellowship event!





Nifty Fifty

A-Z Lunch

GN Café, Concord,
10/27/2022



2022 SENIOR OPTIONS SEMINAR



A free, informative and entertaining day for
seniors, their adult children and caregivers

FREE LUNCH, REFRESHMENTS AND DOOR PRIZES

Saturday, November 5, 2022 @ 8:30am-2:30pm
Benicia Lutheran Church
201 Raymond Dr., Benicia, Ca 94510

RSVP by October 31 to 925-586-2575 or at
blcpastor@sbcglobal.net

www.benicialutheranchurch.com



PWD PARKING
AVAILABLE

Benicia Lutheran Church Invites Holy Cross Family & Friends!

Senior Options Seminar covering a variety of topics
for seniors, their adult children and caregivers,
Saturday, November 5th, 8:30 AM—2:30PM.

Presentations cover legal and financial topics,
health and safety issues, care giving and
emergency concerns, dementia, and hospice
considerations and so much more.

This is a free event, including lunch, door prizes,
entertainment by International musician, Ken
Medema (<https://kenmedema.com/>), and
exhibitors at Benicia Lutheran Church, 201
Raymond Dr. Benicia. For more info or to RSVP
call 925-586-2575 or blcpastor@sbcglobal.net or
www.BenicaLutheranChurch.com/ministries

NOVEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 3pm -> Holiday Hutch & Corner Café set up 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	3 5:45pm Choir Practice cl 6-8pm Holiday Hutch Preview	4 9:30am-8pm Holiday Hutch & Corner Cafe	5 9am Vision Meeting 9:30am-4pm Holiday Hutch & Corner Cafe
6  9:30am Worship Service After Coffee Fellowship & Voter's Meeting 11am Pastor's Bible	7 OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Women's Bible Study Zoom	8  10:30am Prayer Group, Brueckner's 7pm Trivia, Calicraft	9 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	10 5:45pm Choir Practice cl	11	12 6am Los Vaqueros Fishing Expedition, meet at HC to carpool
13 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Thanks Dinner 	14 OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Women's Bible Study Zoom	15 10:30am Prayer Group, Brueckner's 7pm Trivia, Calicraft	16 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	17 1pm Nifty Fifty A-Z lunch, Huckleberry's 5:45pm Choir Practice cl	18	19
20 9:30am Worship Service After Coffee Fellowship 11am Pastor's Bible Study E	21 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Women's Bible Study Zoom	22 PASTOR VAC 10:30am Prayer Group, Brueckner's 7pm Trivia, Calicraft	23 OFC CLOSED PASTOR VAC 7pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	24 OFC CLOSED PASTOR VAC 	25 OFC CLOSED PASTOR VAC	26 PASTOR VAC
27 9:30am Worship Service After Coffee Fellowship 11am Pastor's Bible Study E	28 OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Women's Bible Study Zoom	29 10:30am Prayer Group, Brueckner's 7pm Trivia, Calicraft	30 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom			

YVCS School Daily Schedule

*Morning Care: 7:30a - 8:40a
Classes Mon-Fri: 8:45a - 3:00p
*After Care: 3:45p - 5:30p



cl=choir loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg., PH=Parish Hall



Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

www.holycrossconcord.org
office@holycrossconcord.org
(925) 686-2000

Find us on Facebook



Find us on YouTube



Pastor: Rev. Andrew Munding

pastor@holycrossconcord.org
(608) 797-9163

Visiting Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10am-2pm

President: Mike Liebe

Vice President: Gregg Syrovatka

Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger

Financial Secretary: Jan Walker

Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka

Trustees: Allen Brueckner, Bill Luker

Elders: Bill Riechmann, John Coyne,
Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Joyce Liebe

Church Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9am-1pm

Newsletter Editor: Joyce Liebe
editor@holycrossconcord.org

Sunday Worship Schedule:

Worship Service 9:30am

Pastor's Bible Study 11am (In person)

Youth Bible Study 11am

Sunday School 11am

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday (Ladies) 10am Zoom

Wednesday (Adult) 7pm Zoom

Bulletin & Cross Currents Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

Dec. 2022 Cross Currents: Nov. 22, 2022