

CROSS CURRENTS

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS

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Christ is Risen; we too shall be raised! Alleluia!

Pastor Chu

- ¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead,
how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?*
- ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.*
- ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised,
then our preaching is in vain
and your faith is in vain.*
- ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.*
- ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.*
- ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised,
your faith is futile
and you are still in your sins.*
- ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.*
- ¹⁹If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.*

Having already laid out his case for Christ's resurrection on the basis of eyewitness testimony (1Cor.15:3-8), Paul responded to the skepticism of some Corinthian Christians concerning the resurrection of the dead, whether, in general, the dead will be raised and, specifically, whether they themselves would be raised from the dead as promised by the Lord and preached by Paul. (1)

Paul approached their skepticism by working backwards, answering a not asked by the Corinthians but which is raised by any denial of resurrection through faith in Christ: "If there is no resurrection of the dead, what would that say about Jesus' resurrection?" Since the Lord promised resurrection (John 11:25-26) for us and our resurrection is the result of and guaranteed by His resurrection, then saying that we will not be raised from the dead is saying that Christ Himself has not been raised, (2) which would have dire consequences.

If Christ has not been raised, His death was for nothing, our preaching of Christ is useless, our faith is in vain, we are false witnesses because we continue to preach Christ's resurrection as truth and history, our dead in Christ are forever lost, as we will be, and we are of all people most to be pitied, because Christ's resurrection is the basis for our hope in our own resurrection; and if Christ has not been raised, then He is still dead and we are trusting, following, worshiping some dead guy.

(Continued on page 2)



March 27, 2016

(Continued from page 1)

Christ's resurrection is a settled issue because Christ has been raised, people's skepticism notwithstanding; so is the certainty of our own resurrection through faith in Jesus as Savior, into whose death and resurrection we have been baptized. (3) However, it is almost a certainty that there will be attempts to refute the resurrection of Jesus Christ around Easter; it happens almost every year. New Testament scholars will try to cast doubts on the resurrection; others will appeal to "lost gospels" to ask Christ in fact was raised from the dead.

Paul answers skeptics then and now and he assures us: *²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive!*

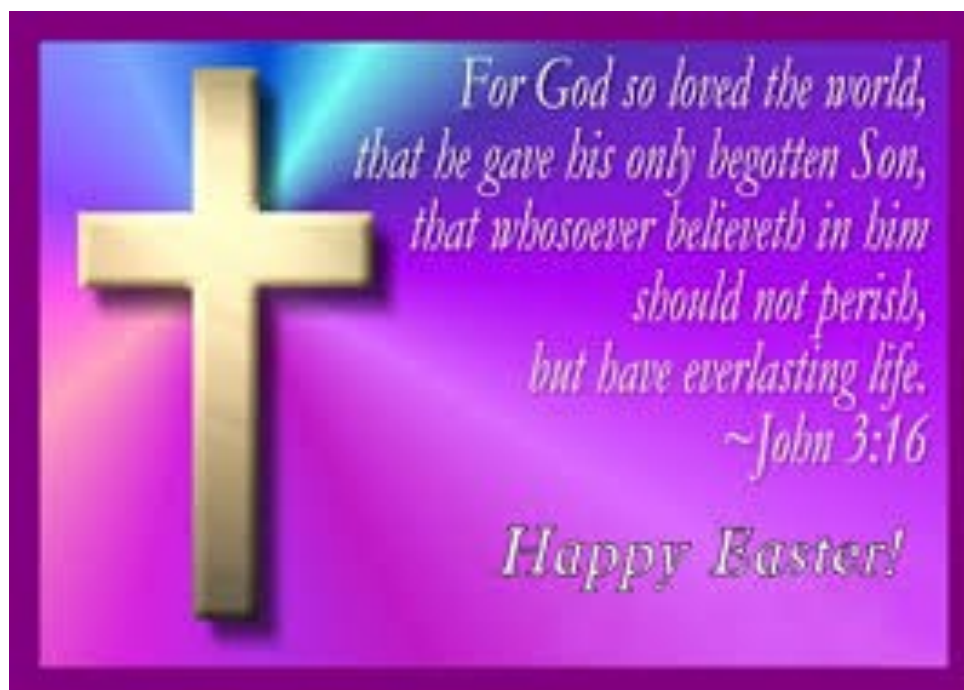
Because Christ has been raised, our faith is not in vain and our proclamation of Christ crucified and risen is not useless but is the power of God to give spiritual, eternal, and resurrection life by creating faith to trust Jesus Christ as Savior and follow and worship Him as God and Lord.

- (1) The Lord's promise of our resurrection — John 5:25, 28-29; John 6:39-40,54; John 11:25-26; John 14:1-6

The Lord's promise of His own resurrection — Matthew 16:21; Luke 9:22; John 2:18-22

Record of Christ's resurrection — Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-13; Luke 24; John 20-21

- (2) *²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.* (1Corinthians 15:20-23)
- (3) *³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.* (Romans 6:3-5)



March Choir Rehearsals: March 8 and 15 at 7:15 pm and March 22 at 7:00 pm

March Birthdays

1	Terry M. Eberhard W. Idalene S.
6	Cal K.
11	Kamryn C. Sue R.
12	Pastor
14	Dave C.
18	Rachael G.
23	Jean E.
24	Jack M. Chery C.
25	Nathan P.
30	Doris M.
<i>March Anniversaries</i>	
4	Eric I. & Rayna K.
5	Steve & Janet V.
26	Jack & Doris M.

CONDOLENCES

- Early in February, Wanda Schwartz (Bob Westbury's mother-in-law), was called home unto the Lord. Please continue to keep Bob and family members in your prayers.
- Beatrice Huppert, (daughter of Herbert and Clara Huppert) passed away Friday, February 12, 2016. Her memorial service was held at Holy Cross on Saturday, February 20, 2016 at 1:00pm. Please continue to keep all of the family in your prayers.

Important March Dates

Wednesday evening Bible study — March 2, 9, 16

Monday (Ladies) Bible Study 12:30 p.m. Conference Room

Sunday Bible class — March 13

Holy Week Services

March 24	Maundy Thursday	7:00 p.m.
March 25	Good Friday	12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
March 27	Easter Sunday	10:00 a.m.
	Easter Brunch	9:00 a.m.
	Easter Egg Hunt	9:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday Dinner--The 4th Annual Palm Sunday Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 20 at 11:45 am. All the usual fixins that go with Easter will be served. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Suggested donation is \$10. Looking forward to a great meal.

Easter Sunday Brunch--Come one, come all to the Easter Sunday Brunch which will begin at 9:00 am. There is a sign-up sheet to let us know who will be coming as well as a sign-up sheet for what you can bring....fruit plate, sweet rolls, coffee cakes, etc. The kids Easter egg hunt will be at 9:30. We look forward to seeing you there! Easter eggs will be provided!!! Melarie Seidel

March 2016 - What's Happening with the WoHC? by Joyce Liebe, President

What a great turnout for our Ash Wednesday Dinner! Close to 30 came to enjoy pizza, salad, & dessert prior to the evening Worship Service. A special note to Ken Reiter for the beautiful & tasty salad! The Parish Hall was loud with conversations & busy with folks going back for seconds & then dessert. And the best part, we raised \$111.33 that will go to our mighty Mites!!! Thanks to everyone who set up, cleaned up, prepped, baked, & dined with us.

On 2/21 we will have our General Meeting that includes lunch, reveal/choose Secret Pals, & a visit to some of our home bound church members. I won't have time to get details in this Cross Current edition, so I will provide an update on this outreach activity in May.

Upcoming WoHC activities:

Sunday, 3/6, Bites for Mites Bake Sale AND Used Puzzle & Book Sale, 11am, Parish Hall

Join us for our annual Bites for Mites Bake Sale - your free will offering will go toward funding the 2014-2016 LWML-CNH Mission Grants. Sign up to donate baked goods. The used puzzle & book sale will be held at the same time - bring donations to Parish Hall by 3/5. Then bring a few dollars and get ready to shop on 3/6!

Mon., 3/14, General Mtg, Election of Officers, Bible Study, Decorate A Hat, 6:30pm, Parish Hall

Join us for an evening of Bible Study & Craft Time. Our craft is to decorate a hat (that will be provided) - if all goes as planned, we each will have something to wear on First Sunday Mite Box & Hat Sunday. We will also have elections for President & Secretary; Chair positions can be rotated, new members.

Tues., 6/14, Dinner Out with Friends & Family, Oakhurst Country Club, 6pm

Mark your calendar now for this CONGREGATION event. We will enjoy a relaxing meal with a wonderful view - for only \$18 per person (tax & tip included). Invite family & friends to join us.

Upcoming Zone & District activities:

Fri.-Sun., 4/15-4/17 LWML CNH District Convention, Visalia, CA.

Conventions provide many activities you can participate in: Bible Study, speakers, music, book store, exhibits, & business meetings (elections & voting on grants); plus there's always fun, fellowship, worship services, & surprises. We should have at least 2 WoHC attending! Convention Packets are here - let me know if you want information/registration form.

Activity details are also on our Bulletin Board & Sunday Bulletins. As always, please feel free to contact me or any of the Board if you have questions, comments, or suggestions.

CHRISTMAS 2015-ANGEL TREE-Our church joined 7000 other churches to share the Gospel message to hundreds of thousands of children of prisoners. Thank you for your cooperation and support of this local mission project. There is an Angel Tree Appreciation event for the Bay area Counties in Hayward on April 2, 2016. This luncheon is hosted by Palma Ceia Baptist Church. More details to follow. This is a great way to learn more about Angel Tree. Carol Lau





"Bites for Mites" is back!

Pick up your favorite goodies and support mites.

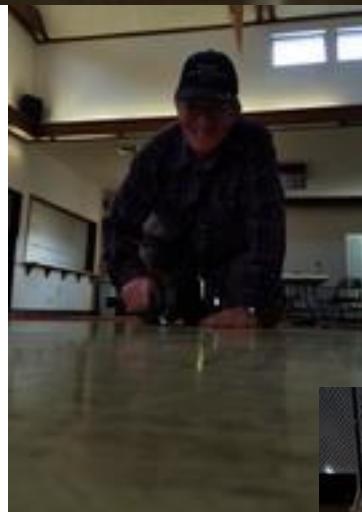
"BAKE SALE" (100% PROCEEDS from the BAKE SALE WILL GO TO MITES.) Be sure to put your Mite Donations in the containers marked "mites". Men, women & children are encouraged to donate their coins, paper money or checks to support Missions near & far. A very worthy cause. Checks may be written to: "WOHC Bites for Mites." THANK YOU!

Pat Easby

WoHC General Meeting—February 21



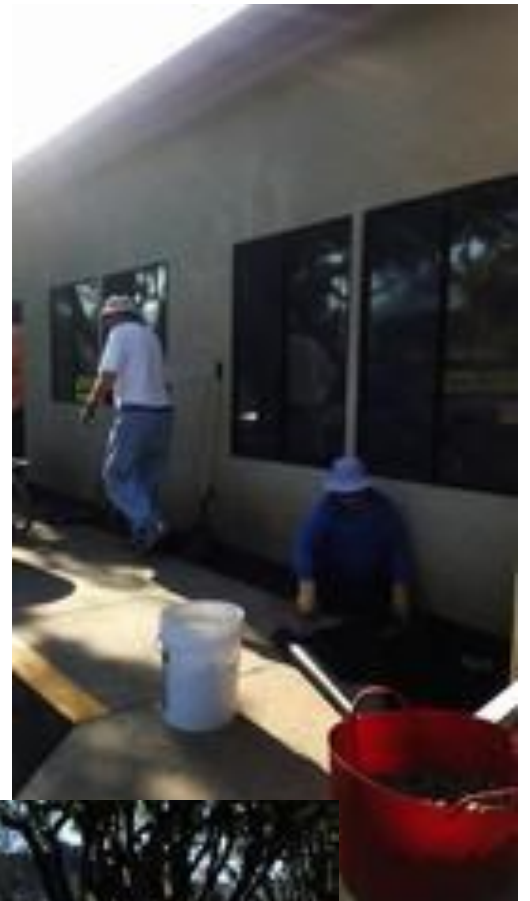
VOLUNTEERS —INSIDE AT HOLY CROSS



Tile Repair—
We appreciate your
time and
hard work!



AND OUTSIDE AT HOLY CROSS—THANK YOU!!!



Taking Care of the Outside Drainage Issues

Join Us: Sunday, March 6

During Our



Bake Sale

Used Puzzle & Book Sale

In Holy Cross Parish Hall, 10:30am – 1:30pm

Proceeds go toward our Holy Cross parking lot fund
AND WoHC (Women of Holy Cross) General Fund

Price: free-will offering: pay/donate what you want for the books you take.

**Book Sale is open to all – invite your friends & family
(or choose some books for them!)**

Book donations accepted, see collection boxes in Parish Hall.

Questions? Contact Joyce Liebe

Say goodbye to the past & bring in the New Year
Hold on to good times & let bad times disappear
Keep close your friends & family as the year does tick away
And make some space for new friends who will guide you on your way
Remember those that we have lost & keep them in your heart
Be strong, be brave, & be fearless as this New Year does start
And although the future is not certain & your path is not always clear
Most of all be thankful that you have been given one more year.

Pat Easby



MARCH 27, 2016

Inviting all Ladies:
WoHC General Meeting
Monday, March 14, 6:30PM ~ Parish Hall

Activities:

Election of Officers



Bible Study



&

Craft: Decorating Felt Cloche*

Refreshments



Hats will be provided by Marilyn Neumann. Please bring your favorite decorating items: ribbons, flowers, lace, etc...for your hat!

There will be some provided also.



**Please sign up soon so we can reserve a hat for you.*

*Sign-up sheet is posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board...
Hope you can join us!!*

New Holy Cross Budget Includes Facility Reserves

It's a good thing we had an extra leap day in February because we have been busy at Holy Cross! In addition to the start of the Lenten season, bible studies, Women of Holy Cross sponsored events and other activities, we completed our Voter's Assembly meeting on February 7 with the important business of approving our 2016 operating budget.

Some highlights of the February 7 meeting include:

- A recap of our 2015 operating results. We beat our budget projections thanks in large part to great managing of expenses by Allen B. and the Trustee team.

- Overview and approval of the 2016 operating budget. As was the case for 2015, we have budgeted income conservatively while anticipating operating and maintenance expenses that project a negative cash flow of (-\$5,559). Mike L. discussed our reliance on members and volunteers to share time, talent and treasures in the stewardship of our church, both physical structures and our worship activities, evangelism, outreach and fellowship. He encouraged all of us to prayerfully consider the many blessings we have received as we contribute in many ways here at Holy Cross. Continued attention to our expenses and a very small increase in contributions will easily continue our mission and also result in another year of positive cash flow.

- Two changes with the 2016 budget are establishing a new restricted fund account for facilities maintenance, with the first \$10,000 accrued earmarked for our anticipated preventive maintenance for the new parking lot; and a new "Summary Balance Sheet Comparison" to illustrate ongoing cash and assets, in addition to operations.

- One large facility project for this year is re-roofing of our Parish Hall using planned funds from our CEF

loan.

- We celebrated our long-anticipated and major achievement of a newly renovated parking lot! And again acknowledged the continuing efforts of Joe O. and the parking lot committee in wrapping up final touches on this milestone project, made possible by the contributions of many persons, and "parking lot fund"-raisers.

- We approved the addition of a gate that will keep vehicle traffic out of our main parking lot during hours when Holy Cross is not occupied. This step was taken to reduce nuisance activities such as dumping. Guidelines for the gate were discussed with the assurance that all persons associated with Holy Cross will be able to open the gate. And the gate will be open every Sunday, during our office hours, and anytime there are activities at Holy Cross.

All materials and reports from the Voter's Assembly meeting are available for those who were not able to attend.

And our Holy Cross Council meets each 3rd Monday evening at 6:30. You are invited and welcome to attend.

A final word from our sponsor – We are blessed with a beautiful church facility that requires both ongoing care and preventive maintenance as it continues to age. We rely on our Trustees and other volunteers to perform most of our facilities needs that do not require a licensed vendor, and they continue to allow us to operate cost effectively through their dedicated efforts. In particular, Allen B. has diligently served as Head Trustee for many years and it is time for us to lighten the load. Please share your ideas with Mike L. about how we can complete our Trustee work and let Allen be at least semi-retired. Mike Liebe

SECURITY GATE INSTALLATION

The installation of the security gate near the main entrance will be next week, Wednesday, February 24th thru Friday, February 26th. Total completion will be by the end of the month. The use of the locking system for this gate will be determined by our congregational president, Mike Liebe. The installation of the flowerbed south of the security gate will be installed shortly after completion of gate installation. For any questions or concerns, please contact Mike Liebe at:

e-mail - mliebe@pacbell.net

925-686-1037

Nifty Fifty Seniors March Activities

For the month of March we plan on two activities again. The first is Lunch at the Black Angus Restaurant located at 4814 Dublin Blvd Dublin CA 94568 on **March 11** at 1:00 (The Black Angus Restaurant on North Main in Pleasant hill is not open for lunch.) They have a special for a lunch where they offer their regular lunches for \$8.99 which includes all their lunch specials regardless of the listed price. In fact Trudi and I went there with some the former Wards employees I used to work with and they offered the entries on the Campfire Special without the Appetizer too for the \$8.99 price which I thought was a fantastic specialty. In fact our group is going back the last Tuesday in March. I had the wedge salad, salmon and mashed potatoes. You have to have a beverage with the special. Anyway most of you have enjoyed the great food especially their Steaks. They of course have their regular menu which is very extensive. Meet at church at 12:00 and leave at 12:15 or if you plan on going direct sign up anyway. It's quite a way on 680 to Dublin then East on 550 to where you can see the I-Max Theater. It's in the same shopping center but way back in the center. I will print maps for anyone that need them. This is a really fun place to eat.

2nd Outing on Thursday, March 24

Our 2nd outing is a repeat at Le Cheval Restaurant located at 1375 N Broadway in Walnut Creek and is a favorite of Bill Luker specializing in Vietnamese cuisine. They introduced several new Asian flavors to incorporate their style of French Chinese and Southeast Asian cooking concepts by preparing wholesome nutritious and specialty dishes that emphasize quality with flavor. Fresh vegetables, nuts and spices are all essential ingredient of their style of cooking. The last time I went there with our group I had, what Bill ordered, the Lemon Grass Beef and it came with a large helping of beef and spiced rice that literally filled the large plate, as well as a tasty soup and was only \$9.75 I had been concerned that there wouldn't be enough to eat. WOW there was more than enough. There was also Lemon Grass Chicken, Pork, Prawns and Beef Stew mixed vegetables nuts and spices. I was also pleasantly surprised as I was concerned that it might be too hot, but it was just right. There was also a large menu of other items. If you haven't tried this type of food now is the time to try. Go direct or meet at church at 12:15 leave at 12:30. Lunch is scheduled for 1:00. I would suggest that we carpool as parking could be as problem even though there is a garage just across the street. In any case, sign up so we know how to plan. Marv Kreitz

My sojourn to the Jade Garden for lunch was trying for me as I had an appointment with a doctor at the VA at 11:30 and had to wait so I was the last to arrive. When I got there Trudy Hueninghaus, Bill Luker, Herb and Marilyn Neumann, Bill Reichmann, Howard and Judy Scouten were there and had already ordered. Their waitress, whom I knew came up and said do you want what you always ordered and I said yes so she was able to serve all of us at the same time. I always have the Kun-Pao Shrimp with Re Fried Rice and as always it was great. Most lunches start with the Sour Soup which is delicious then the meal which generally includes rice (fried or white), two egg rolls, two won tons, a fortune cookie and a pot of coffee. I left a \$2.00 tip and my bill was about \$12.00. Everyone seemed to enjoy the outing. Marv Kreitz



JADE GARDEN RECAP FROM NFS

FEBRUARY TRIP

March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 3:30-6:45p Firecracker Forum	2 7p Bible Study	3	4	5 11:00-2:00p Firecracker Forum
6 Mite Box/Hat Sun. 9:30am Worship/ Communion 11a Sunday School 10:30a WoHC BITES FOR MITES/Book Sale 2-6p Myanmar Christian	7 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 2:30p WoHC Brd Mtg. 7p Scouts	8 3:30-6:45p Firecracker Forum 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	9 1p Senior Brd 7p Bible Study	10	11 12:00p NFS Black Angus	12 11:00-2:00p Firecracker Forum
13 DST (turn clock forward) 9:30am Worship 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6p Myanmar Christian (H)	14 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 6:30p WoHC Gen Mtg. 7p Scouts	15 3:30-6:45p Firecracker Forum 6:30p Elders 7:15p Choir Rehearsal	16 7p Bible Study	17	18	19 11:00-2:00p Firecracker Forum
20 Palm Sunday 9:30am Worship/ Communion Congregation Dinner at 11:45a 2-6p Myanmar Christian	21 Holy Week 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 12:30p Bridge 6:30p Church Council 7p Scouts	22 Holy Week 3:30-6:45p Firecracker Forum 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	23 Holy Week	24 Maundy Thursday 12:15 NFS Le Cheval 7:00 p Worship/ Communion	25 Good Friday 12:00 p Worship 7:00p Ten-ebrae	26 Holy Week 11:00-2:00p Firecracker Forum
27 Easter 9:00 Easter Brunch 9:30 Egg Hunt 10:00 Worship/ Communion 2-6p Myanmar Christian	28 12:30p Wm Bible Study (C) 7p Scouts	29 3:30-6:45p Firecracker Forum	30	31		

Holy Cross Lutheran
Church, LCMS
1092 Alberta Way
Concord, CA 94521

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1092 Alberta Way
Concord, CA 94521
(925) 686-2000
holycrossconcord@sbcglobal.net
www.holycrossconcord.org

Pastor: Bill Chu

President: Mike Liebe
Vice President: Gregg Syrovatka
Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger
Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler
Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka
Trustees: Allen Brueckner, Bill Luker
Elders: Bill Riechman, George Oatis, John
Coyne; Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Sue Reiter
Newsletter Editor: M. Kuefner

Office Hours: M-F 9 AM-1:00 PM

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service	9:30 AM
Communion	1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th Sundays
Adults Bible Studies	11AM
Sunday School	11 AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday (Ladies)	12:30PM Conference Room
Wednesday	7:00PM Parish Hall

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday	7: 15PM-8:45PM
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Outreach:

Fourth Sunday of each month after service

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday
April 2016 Cross Currents: Mar. 22, 2016