



CROSS AND CROWN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CROSS AND CROWNICAL

Volume 40, Issue 7—July, 2007

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Web Site: *www.crossandcrownrp.org*

GALILEE BY THE SEA

Vacation Bible School

Monday July 30th to Friday August 3rd

9:00am to 12:00 noon

All ages welcome as participants or volunteers

Once again it is time for Vacation Bible School. For one week a year, our church property is turned into a Hawaiian Island or a space ship or . . . you never know. This year we will turn our church into the Sea of Galilee at the time of Jesus. There will be a market place and a synagogue school and great music and unbelievable energy. We expect to have about 120 kids and sixty volunteers roaming the halls for a week. What a blessing!

Please thank those in our congregation who serve on the VBS team. They are dedicated, faithful and joyous. They love what they do and for the sake of that joy, they give up sleep for a week.

VBS has always been an example for me of the church at its best. It is faithful Christians working together as hard as we can, to bear witness to a living Lord. It is chaotic and it is full of prayer and it is full of joy. We do everything we can to make this a place of welcome for the children and parents of this community. We throw the doors as wide open as we possibly can . . .

. . . And they come. They come to hear of Jesus. They come to experience Jesus through the hands and hearts of our adult and teenage leaders. The volunteers who make up our VBS team do it year after year. The joy of being part of this team is contagious. Please consider joining us. There are volunteer and participant forms available outside Pastor Newt's office. If you are not able to join us, please let the children and families in the circles in which you travel know that they are welcome. Check the supply board and donate as you are able. Offer a scholarship to a child who would not otherwise be able to attend.

And please pray. Pray for the children whose first experience of Jesus may be this week. Pray for the children who consider this home for one week a year. Pray for the volunteers who give of their time and who are humbled by the blessing. Pray for our directors. On behalf of the VBS team, we thank you for your support and prayers.

We invite you to stop by during the week if you are able, just to see what is going on. We would love to welcome you.

In his Peace,
Pastor Laura

Confirmation Statements

Each year, the young people being confirmed are asked, as part of their preparation for confirmation, to prepare a statement of their faith. These are the statements prepared by this years confirmands.

I believe in Jesus Christ because it is impossible to imagine a world without His love, and everything we are able to accomplish could never be done without His help. I believe Jesus has a special relationship with each and every person. He is by our side every day and I think He is part of our conscience, helping us to make good decisions. He trusts us to learn from our mistakes and He wants us to take our errors and use them to become better people.

K. D.

I believe in Jesus Christ for many reasons. They have made me realize how great life is. I believe his love for me and mine for him is eternal life. It will keep me strong until he comes to judge the living and the dead.

I believe God wants me to show other people to believe in more than what you can see. God will show us all the mysteries of life and answer all of our questions. He will lead us to a world we can only imagine.

We should love everyone for who they are, not for what they are not. To spread the Word of his love to everyone by the power of the Holy Spirit.

L. G.

I am choosing to affirm my faith to the Lutheran Cross and Crown Church because I want to be with god and praise him. I want to love him and pray to him and want him to hear my prayers. I want to join other people and prayer with my fellow Christians.

S. G.

I am choosing to affirm my faith and become an adult member of Cross and Crown because this is the community that I have grown up in and this is the community which I have grown in.

C. J.

Like my parents before me and their parents before them, I am choosing to affirm my faith and become an adult part of Cross and Crown. My brother has always been my role modal, and five years ago, as I watched him take the steps to become an adult member of Cross and Crown, I know that's just what I wanted to do. I waited patiently for it to be my turn to go to confirmation class and to be part of the whole confirmation process. When finally my turn came, I was so happy that I got to go and meet all my classmates and learn more about the Lutheran church and Jesus Christ.

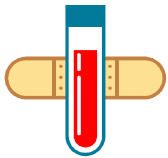
After one year I had so many new friends, and as time went on I couldn't wait to fall to come so I could be in class with them on Wednesdays.

When September came I went to my dance class called Nordquist, and there I saw two of my confirmation classmates. Seeing them brought back that good feeling of being in the church and learning all that stuff. We laughed and talked and caught up. During our confirmation classes we would ask each other for help with understanding things one of our teachers had said. Or laughed when trying to figure out one of our dance steps, and tripping over each other.

This experience I want to pass on to my kids, the delight of going to confirmation classes and seeing friends and learning things they never knew. I hope they can have great teachers like Pastor Gene Winterfeld and Jean Bashi and Pastor Newt, because I know I was blessed with the opportunity to be in their confirmation class. This experience is something I will never forget. I'd like to thank all my teachers, my parents, my grandparents, and all my friends for being there for me and supporting me through this experience.

T.U.

(Continued on page 7)



BLOOD DRIVE

BLOOD DRIVE IS COMING

SUNDAY, JULY 8

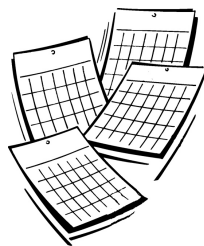
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

In the Downstairs Classroom

The goal for this drive is 24 units donated. Tell your neighbors, roll up your sleeves, and let's have the most successful blood drive ever!

Contact the church office (795-7853) now to reserve your time.

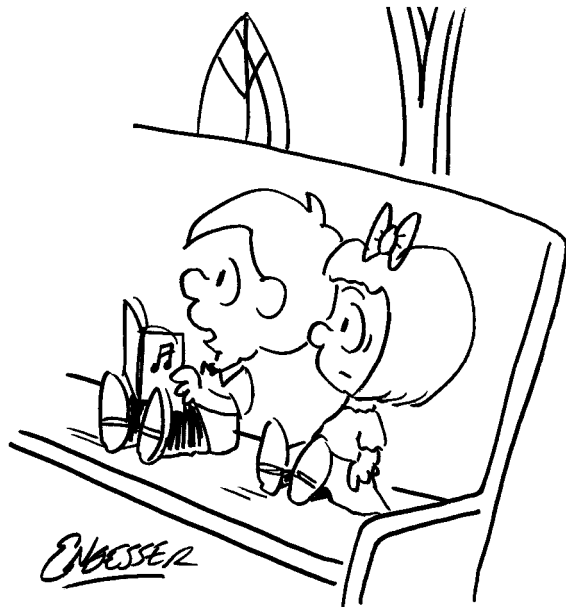
SUMMER CALENDAR CHANGES



There will be no **Adult Education** classes on Sunday during the summer. Adult Education will resume on Sunday, September 9.

The **Brown Bag Bible Study** will not meet during the months of July and August. The study will resume on Wednesday, September 5.

Primetimers I will not meet during July and August. They will resume meetings on Thursday, September 6.



"Dad's 'Joy, joy, joy, joy down in his heart' turned out to be indigestion."

Prayer Requests

**Kitchen
Cleaning**



**THE CHURCH
KITCHEN
IS CLEAN!!!**

A HUGE THANK YOU to the Board of Fellowship who cleaned the church kitchen on June 28. Any dishes or utensils that are not needed have been placed on tables in the Fellowship Hall. If you left any dishes or utensils in the kitchen that you would like to have back, please look for them on the tables today. Any items unclaimed will be donated to the Hospice Thrift store.

Just as your household expenses continue when you are away on vacation, so do the expenses of your church household continue.

The church is “open for business” on a day to day basis during the summer, just like the utility companies and your housing providers, and it takes your regular support to keep the church functioning in a healthy manner.

Please take a few minutes to review your giving for this year do your part to keep your “church household” finances in a healthy condition.

You’ll find an envelope in this newsletter to facilitate your response.



The Unchurched

Knowing where the typical unchurched is coming from is the first step to connecting with them. Researcher Thom Ranier interviewed thousands of unchurched Americans and published the results in *The Unchurched Next Door*.

Many of the following findings may surprise you:

- Most of the unchurched prefer to attend church on Sunday morning if they attend.
- Most are not anti-church or anti-religion.
- Most Americans have never been invited to church—never.
- 82% of the unchurched are at least “somewhat likely” to attend church if they are invited.
- Two percent of church members invite an unchurched person to church.
- Very few of the unchurched have had someone share with them how to become a Christian. And Christians have not been particularly influential in their lives.
- The attitudes of the unchurched are not correlated to where they live, their ethnic or racial background or their gender.
- Many of the unchurched are far more concerned about the spiritual well-being of their children than of themselves.

STORM WARNING

Stop telling God how big your storm is; instead, tell the storm how big your God is!

Appetizers, Bunco,

Camaraderie,

Dessert

Friday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Sign-up in the Narthex

Bring an appetizer or dessert to share

Kid's Activity:

Popcorn and a movie

Confirmation Statements (Continued)

I believe in Jesus Christ because of the learning of my parents and the pastors. I know that he will always love me no matter what I do or say. I believe Jesus wants me to live my life a happy person and know there is always hope.

M. M.

I believe that God forgives everyone's sins, when we ask for it.

I believe he made everything and sent his son down for us.

I believe that he is always present, no matter where we may be.

I believe he protects us from evil and leads us in the right direction.

I believe he is the one and only God, and that he knows what is best for us.

I believe he has a plan for everyone, some may just take longer to unfold, but they are all important.

I believe. That is why have decided to be confirmed.

C. S.

I am choosing to affirm my faith because once along ago I was baptized. Then, people stood for me when I could not. Well, now I can. I see the options He has opened for me in the world. He is the light and love I see.

G. W.

I am choosing to affirm my faith and become an adult member of Cross and Crown because I have been attending this church for a while. I've also gone to this school for many years, so it would be nice to be affirmed to the same church.

E. D.

VBS TRAINING SCHEDULE CORRECTION

The first VBS training is scheduled for **TUESDAY, JULY 17.** Please correct your

News of the Parish

Book Club Readings for this Summer and Fall:

In July, "Silences" by Tillie Olsen:
Meeting on Wednesday, July 25.



In August, "Middlesex" by Jeff
Eugenides:
Meeting on Wednesday, August 22.



In September, "Digging To America" by Anne Tyler:
Meeting on Wednesday, September 26.

In October, "The Reluctant Fundamentalist" by
Mohsin Hamid:
Meeting on Wednesday, October 24.

**Read a book this summer and fall - and
then join us for the "fun discussions!"**

Vacation Bible School Registration Ends on July 10



Date: July 30-August 3

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Materials Fee: \$25.00 per child

Ages: 4 years old by January 1, 2007
through entering 5th graders

Forms are available on the Children and Youth Bulletin Board outside Pastor Newt's office. Return completed forms with applicable checks to the church office during normal business hours.

You will find registration sheets for youth



WHAT CAN I DO?

From time to time, extra help is needed for some activity around the church. This column will appear periodically and will have an ongoing list of things you can do to help. It will change each time you see it, so check it out and give the requester a call if you can meet any of these needs. Barb A.

THE SCHOOL GARDEN needs 4" square plastic flower pots for use in the garden. As you do your planting, please bring the pots to the church and put them in the box that is located under the Thrivent bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not bring any other sizes or shapes. This is an ongoing project, as the school garden is always in need of this size pot.

IN THE OFFICE: Due to changes in volunteer schedules, a volunteer is needed every Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30. Please contact the office immediately if you might be able to fill this need.

We also have lots of old files that need to be shredded. If you have an hour or so to spare, please call the office. This would also be a great way to work off service hours for middle schoolers and above.

LAY MINISTRY: Needs volunteers to assist with the monthly Communion service at Parkview Convalescent Center. Needed are pianists, folks to give a 5-minute or so devotional, and Communion servers.

Our Stewardship Of Service

Our Stewardship Of Service

Flowers
Readers—9:15
Readers—10:45
Acolyte—9:15
Acolyte—10:45
Usher—8:00
Ushers—9:15
Ushers—10:45
Communion
Servers—9:15
Pulpit Bread
Pulpit Wine
Lectern Bread
Lectern Wine
Support
Servers—10:45
Pulpit Bread
Pulpit Wine
Lectern Bread
Lectern Wine
Support
First Reading
Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel

Mexico Mission 2008!

Our first fundraiser for Mexico Mission 2008 was a big success. We raised \$442 by asking for a \$3 donation to park on grad night for the Ranch. We are in need of new tents and tools, so if you have any ideas or would like to help with future fundraising, contact the church office.

Thank you all for the caring words and thoughtful cards that showed your love and support after the death of Bessie's mother.

Bessie and Jeff

Our family would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone for their kind words and prayers, your donations and flowers, and those warm hugs as our family grieves the loss of Dr. Carl Anderson, our husband, father and grandfather. We acquire new strength each day through our faith and the love of our friends and family. With sincere appreciation

Pat, Bill and Malissa

Thank you to Gail and her jazz a capella group, "Take Note," who gave a fund raising concert for the benefit of the Welcome Center Fund on Wednesday, June 10. Thanks to their generosity, a total of \$529.00 was added to the fund. If you missed the concert, watch for future concerts by this group. They are very talented and nice to listen to. You might check with Gail for copies of the groups latest CD, as well as Gail's new CD.

**CROSS AND CROWN
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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*THE CROSS AND CROWNICAL IS A MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF
CROSS AND CROWN LUTHERAN CHURCH,
ROHNERT PARK, CALIFORNIA*

**Dated Material -
Please Do Not Delay**

Sunday Worship Times:

8:00 a.m. Early Communion
9:15 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School for
Children and Adults

**“As a Community rooted in grace, our Mission
is to...**

**Invite people into a relationship with God,
Grow together as devoted followers of Christ,
and
Serve others by the power of the Holy Spirit.”**

