

# THE CRIER

## HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

### APRIL 2016



**From the Pastor** -- It is probably the best known verse in the Bible -- or at least in a close tie for that honor with the 23rd Psalm. Many people know it by heart -- if not the exact wording, then something pretty close. When you hear the biblical reference -- "John 3:16" -- your mind and heart get swept up in the beautiful and cherished language: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life."

Despite our familiarity with this passage from Scripture, however, putting our trust in its incredible promise can be challenging. We may know quite well the central theological doctrine of the Lutheran Church, which is consistent with the words of John 3:16. We may know quite well we are "justified by grace through faith." We may know quite well we don't have to earn God's love through our good behavior, but instead God loves us freely and unconditionally. We may know all of that -- and yet such intellectual knowledge doesn't always translate into our day to day living.

Our relationship with God too often gets clouded with worry. Worry that we don't measure up to the standard God expects of us. Worry that because of our failures we are unworthy of God's care and attention. Worry that we need to do something more, be something more, in order to truly be acceptable in God's eyes.

The antidote for such worry is being reminded again and again of how God actually feels toward us. Being reminded again and again that God loves us without any strings attached. Being reminded again and again that God loves us as we are right now.

Does God want us to grow in our faith, and be transformed in how we speak and act? Yes, he does. But only because such growth and transformation will bring joy into our own life and into the lives of others. Not because God doesn't accept and love us in our present condition.

It may seem hard to believe, hard to trust, but God's love for us does not depend on our growing or changing in some way. What leads us to grow and be transformed is not the feeling that God is withholding his love from us until we do so. What leads us to grow in faith and be transformed in how we live is the assurance that God already loves us as we are right now, no strings attached. It is such unconditional love from God that empowers us, motivates us, and strengthens us to change.

We have just celebrated Easter Sunday, and the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus. May your journey through the remaining weeks of the Easter season, be one you undertake with a deep and abiding sense of God's love for you. May the incredible promise of John 3:16 take hold in your life, and lead you to a place of joy and hope: the always open arms of your heavenly Father. God's love for you, as you are right now, knows no bounds. God loves you so much he gave his only son for you -- so that just as Jesus was raised from the dead, you too will have eternal life.

When it comes to those worries that can creep in and undermine our hope, here is a wonderful little exercise I would recommend. It comes from a devotional booklet written by Henri Nouwen. *"Today, I will set aside three minutes to make a list of my worries. Then I will imagine myself handing the list to Jesus. What joy!"*

May the joy of being loved by God -- as you are right now, with no strings attached -- fill your heart and soul, as we celebrate the Easter promise of new life in Christ.

*Pastor Rich*

## MESSAGE FROM A COUNCIL MEMBER

by Joy Judd



### My Life:

Born, Joy Fern Zwiebel, in Waterbury, CT on 10/26/1941 (which puts me about three quarters of the way to my goal of at least 100 years.) I was the younger of two children and was baptized, confirmed and also married (to Peter Judd on 12/17/1960) in the First Lutheran Church in Waterbury. For 35 years Pete and I lived and raised our three children, Roy, Jennifer, and Karyn, on Country Drive in Watertown, CT. Pete and I are "Grammy and Grampy" to five GRANDchildren: Kyle and Andrew, Daniel, 13, Robert, 9, Meggie, 12, Lauren, 9, Ethan, 8 and also several unofficial grandkiddos.

I started my nursing career in 1976 as an LPN and then went back to school again and continued as an RN after graduating in 1993. Ophthalmology has been the specialty I have enjoyed most of my working years. I have been employed at Eyecare Medical Group in Portland since 2000, a year after we moved to Maine, to be where our kids were living. Still love working occasionally, as needed.

### My Church Life:

Pete and I became members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church only a few short years ago, but got involved in many of the "goings on" after several of the warm friendly parishioners encouraged us to join some groups, and we haven't stopped joining. You will see my name on the list of Deacons, the Altar Guild, Social Concerns Committee (sewing for the Blueberry Festival), serving at the Bean Supper, and occasionally at the Friendship Lunch (mostly socializing). I am a new member on the Church Council and am looking forward to another new experience- going to the New England Synod Assembly in June. Please join us and share in any or all of these wonderful opportunities at Holy Cross.

## PRAYER CARDS

Prayer cards are in a basket in the Narthex with a prayer for the refugees of the world. Please take one to use as a reminder there are those who need our prayers for well-being and safety.

## USHERS NEEDED

Some Additional People to Serve as Ushers would be most appreciated, especially at the late (10:45 a.m.) service. Generally ushers serve for four to eight Sundays during the year, though if you can serve for any number of Sundays it would be appreciated. For more information, or to offer to serve and arrange to be trained, please contact the head usher, Tom Moyer -- [trmoyerphd@roadrunner.com](mailto:trmoyerphd@roadrunner.com) or 967-0777.

## PICTURES ON BULLETIN BOARD

Is your picture included on the bulletin board in Luther Hall? Not everyone is there because those pictures are only of people who were part of the last pictorial directory. Some of our newer members have submitted pictures of their own choosing to be added to the bulletin board, and we would like to invite others in our Holy Cross community to do the same. So pick a favorite picture you already have, or take a new one – be creative! The setting for the picture could be at the beach, or at home, or on a trip you took! Try to be sure, please, others aren't also pictured – just you!) Whatever picture you choose, please submit it in one of these ways: 1) print a copy and send it to the church office; 2) bring the picture to give to Pastor Rich on Sunday morning; or 3) submit it in digital format to Pastor Rich ([pastor@kennebunklutheran.org](mailto:pastor@kennebunklutheran.org)) and we'll get it printed. Having our bulletin board photo directory up to date is very helpful for people being able to put names and faces together, so please have your picture included!



**WHAT TO SAY**  
**by Donna Simmons**

Back when I was a much younger woman my father died from mouth cancer. I wasn't there through most of his illness but I spent a short time with him the day before he died. He was no longer able to speak and I did not know what to say.

A few years after that, a friend of mine was dying of the same cancer. I volunteered to be part of the team of women from our church who took turns staying with her while her husband was at work. I still didn't know what to say, but one day our pastor came to give her communion and asked if I would take communion with her. I was humbled.

Then nine years ago my neighbor, dear friend, and 'adopted mother' lay dying of another cancer. I sat by her side in silence just holding her hand. I told her I loved her, but I still didn't know what to say.

Since then I also sat with my family as we each held onto our grandson the last night of his life. This time there was no need to say anything.

I wish I had read Henri Nouwen's book, *Bread For The Journey*, the March 15th reflection, before my experiences of sitting with those who were in need for comfort. I would have known to say as Henri said,

**“You don't have to talk.  
Just close your eyes.  
I am here with you,  
thinking of you,  
praying for you,  
loving you.”**

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

The personal interviews and the focus group have taken place. Pastor LiaBraaten will return to Holy Cross on Sunday **April 24th** to present her recommendations at the conclusion of the 10 am single service that day. Written copies of her report will be passed out for people to take home, and Pastor LiaBraaten will also be available for questions during lunch following worship.

**PARENTS' PRAYER GROUP**

The Parents' Prayer Group meets the first Monday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Lord Street house. All parents are welcome whether your child is 6 months or sixty!

A new format begins January 4th : prayer needs and prayers will be shared and offered from 6:30 - 7:30, followed by a half hour of fellowship/book discussion, for those who wish to stay. (The book we are reading is *The Power of a Praying Parent*. Copies are available.) Please join us!

He takes men out of time and  
makes them feel eternity.  
~Ralph Waldo Emerson



## **ROGER'S REFLECTIONS: Texas Lutherans**

**By Roger Rotvig**

Most of you folks at Holy Cross, know that Helen and I spend all of the month of March in San Antonio, Texas. Our youngest daughter, Sandra, is the CEO of the YMCA there and her husband Ron is the General Manager of an amusement park built for handicapped persons. They have a big house with "in-law" type accommodations, so we are very comfortable visiting here.

You generally wouldn't think of Lutheran strength when you think of south Texas, but interestingly enough, there is a large Lutheran population in the area and a strong Lutheran heritage. My introduction to the strong Texas Lutheran population came in the late 1970's when I attended a Lutheran Social Service Organization conference in San Antonio. Besides the Alamo and the River Walk, I remember an evening banquet where the music was by a German Lutheran Sangerbund, a male chorus. They were formed in 1853 and there were enough of them in Texas to hold an annual contest of Sangerbunds in New Braunfels, about 30 miles away.

It turned out that there was a massive immigration of German Lutherans into south central Texas in the 1830's and '40s. They came in through Galveston and moved inland just enough to find good farm land where they could raise their crops, including the grain needed for German beer. The bulk of them settled within a 50-mile radius from San Antonio. A major Lutheran College, at Seguin, TX, is also in that radius. To my surprise, Lutherans in Texas today, number 2,543,000, exceeded only by California, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois.

Having been born and raised in Duluth, MN, a city of about 100,000 people with 23 Lutheran Churches in the city, I had been "brain-washed" into thinking that, apart from the pre-Revolutionary War immigration of Germans into Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, almost the only other major Lutheran arrivals from Europe were the Scandinavians, who began arriving in the mid 1800's and occupied the "upper mid-west". They came because of famine conditions in Northern Europe. They built Lutheran colleges, social service organizations and what appeared to be a Lutheran church on every corner. Garrison Keillor has it right about Norwegian Lutherans in his Sat/Sun rendition of "A Prairie Home Companion" on NPR.

Most all of us were also aware of the conservative Germans that arrived at St. Louis by way of New Orleans and the Mississippi River in 1838. The church they formed, The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) has always been the "other Lutherans" from us since they all too often failed to cooperate with most of the above mentioned groups.

The causes of this mass migration of Lutherans to different parts of our country varied greatly over the years, from the excitement of helping build a "new world", to escaping famine and impoverishment, to freedom to practice their Lutheran faith as they saw it. Whatever the reasons, we are heirs to a strong and yet diverse Lutheranism in America, which I have come to see and appreciate all the more since my exposure to "Texas Lutheranism".

### **ADULT FORUM**

The Adult Forum will continue the exploration of the meaning and purpose of Lent and its impact on our understanding of Easter for three more Sundays: April 10th, 17th, and 24th. Adult forum meets from 9:30-10:30 am in Luther Hall.

### **AUCTION FUNDRAISER**

**Friday, April 8th, is the auction fundraiser!** We are very privileged to have our own Richard Keating serving as our auctioneer! The proceeds will support the high school youth traveling to Schenectady, New York this summer on a work-camp mission trip, to paint and repair the homes of people in need. The preview is from 6-7 pm, the silent auction is from 7-8:30 pm, and the live auction is from 7-9 pm. There will also be a bake sale. Please come out to support a good cause, and invite your friends!



## ***STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY, EVERY SUNDAY, EVERY DAY***

Recently we were watching Josh Groban on Maine Public Television. I like Josh Groban. He not only has a great voice, but I can understand the words when he sings (with the exception when he sings Italian opera). One of the songs he sings well, "You'll Never Walk Alone", reminds me of the times when our kids were young and we had a cottage in Southern Vermont. (Dottie says they are called "camps" in Maine.) We skied in the winter and swam, water skied, and fished in the Summer. Friday nights, after I got off the train from NYC, we would pile into the car and head off for the weekend. Many times, to wile away the time as we drove, we all would sing songs, and one of them was "You'll Never Walk Alone" from the Broadway show, "Carousel". I still think I remember most of the words.

Now the naïve person within me is wondering how does this relate to Stewardship. It really isn't a hard leap to know that we Christians believe "we never walk alone". Christ is always with us as we go through our daily lives. And sometimes as we approach special times in our Christian lives we need to be reminded that "we never walk alone". Holy Cross is approaching one of those times as we ponder and pray about our responsibility in our Capital Funds plans. Everyone is now aware of our plans to refurbish our church home by upgrading our kitchen and repairing some worn out floor covering. But a larger part of our plan is to repay our debt and give us greater flexibility to do more to reach out to others in our community and region. And here we are not only accepting Christ to help us do the right thing through prayer, but we are reaching out to all in our church family to come together to help make this important plan work. This means not only just contributing some of our "treasure" over a short period of time, but it also means we all need to work together and help be a team to accomplish this goal. Pastor LiaBraaten is working with us on how everyone can be involved. She has accomplished this kind of Capital Funds Program at many other Churches in our region successfully, and will be able to explain how we as individuals and a congregation can "walk together".

Here we are just finishing Lent and entering the Easter Season, where we celebrate the greatest sacrifice that Christ has given us, and we now have the opportunity to celebrate a personal sacrifice of time and treasure in the wonderful life of our Holy Cross Church. We will never have to "walk alone" in our faith.

*Carl Graves*

## ***SCHEDULING***

To Schedule Meeting Space (in Luther Hall, Lord Street House, sanctuary, etc.) please be sure to contact Faith Gillman -- [faithgillman@yahoo.com](mailto:faithgillman@yahoo.com) – to avoid any conflicts on the Church Calendar.

## ***FRIENDSHIP LUNCH***

The April luncheon will be held on Monday, April 11th at noon. The meal will be sloppy joes, cole slaw, corn and a surprise dessert. All are welcome and if you'd like to volunteer and help us out, please contact Mary Keating.

The Friendship Lunch is always held the second Monday of every month.

## ***SHARE THE BOUNTY***

The next free bean supper will be on Saturday, April 2nd from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. As always, the menu will be baked beans, cole slaw, hot dogs, a variety of breads and a large selection of pies. Anyone from the community or our church is invited to attend. It is a great time of fellowship and sharing delicious food!

If you would like to volunteer, please see Julie Clapp! Thank you!!



# ***EASTER 2016***



## ***JOKE OF THE MONTH***

Submitted by Jack Bates

### Lost Keys

Leaving the store, I couldn't find my keys. They weren't in my pockets. Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My husband has scolded me many times for leaving my keys in the car's ignition. He's afraid that the car could be stolen. As I looked around the parking lot, I realized he was right. The parking lot was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen. Then, I made the most difficult call of all to my husband. "I left my keys in the car and it's been stolen."

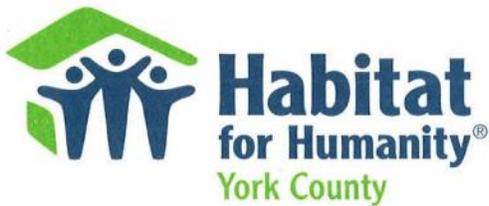
There was a moment of silence. I thought the call had been disconnected, but then I heard his voice. "Are you kidding me?" he barked, "I dropped you off!"

Now it was my turn to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, "Well, come and get me."

He retorted, "I will, just as soon as I convince this cop that I didn't steal your car!"

Welcome to the golden years.

Thank you, Donna



February 8, 2016

Rev. Richard Horner & Karen Indorf  
Holy Cross Luthern Church  
2 Lord St  
Kennebunk, ME 04043

Dear Rev. Richard, Karen, and members,

Thank you so much for your donation on 2/8/2016 donation to Habitat for Humanity of York County in the amount of \$1000.00. Because of your generosity our Habitat families have the opportunity to own an affordable house and create stability for their families. Buying a Habitat house doesn't just mean stability today; it means stability for the future and reaching new goals for the families and their children. Habitat families are all striving for similar goals – helping their children have a brighter and better future.

In 2016, we plan to build two new Habitat homes. We have just poured the foundation on the Veterans Build in Kennebunkport. Fund raising and family selection has begun for a build in West Kennebunk on Cole Road. Habitat home building projects also offer an opportunity for community members, of all walks of life, to come together and work side by side. They strengthen our local community, improve lives, connect to others and transform their own lives.

We value and honor your continued support and couldn't do our work without your help! Thank you for putting your faith and love into action.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amy Nucci".

Amy Nucci  
Executive Director

Thank you very much for this very generous gift. We are grateful for your support.

*Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.*

P.O. Box 267, Kennebunk, Maine 04043-0267 (207) 985-4850  
office@habitatyorkcounty.org www.habitatyorkcounty.org



# April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 8:15 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:30 GS Cookies (LSH) 10:45 Worship 6 pm Seaglass (LH)	4 10 am Morning Grp (LH) 6:30 pm Parents prayer grp (LSH)	5 10 am Prayer Shawls at Kreie home 7 pm Worship Cmte (LH)	6 8:30 Bible Study (LH) 9 AI-Anon (downstairs)	7 9-11am Pastor's Office Hours 6:30 pm Men's Grp (LSH)	8 All Day Auction Fundraiser (LH) 6 pm Auction preview 6 pm Silent auction 7 pm Live auction	9 9am Seaglass (LH)
10 8:15 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:45 Worship 6 pm Seaglass (LH)	11 10 am Morning Grp (LH) 12 pm Friendship Lunch (LH)	12 7 pm Cong. Council (LH)	13 8:30 Bible Study (LH) 9 AI-Anon (downstairs)	14 9-11am Pastor's Office Hours 6:30 pm Men's Grp (LSH)	15 6:30-9 pm Tim's Music Class (LH)	16 9 am Seaglass (LH)
17 8:15 Worship 9:30 Adult Forum 10:45 Worship 6 pm Seaglass (LH)	18 10 am Morning Grp (LH)	19	20 8:30 Bible Study (LH) 9 AI-Anon (downstairs)	21 9-11am Pastor's Office Hours 6:30 pm Men's Grp (LSH)	22 6:30-9 pm Tim's Music Class (LH)	23 9 am Seaglass (LH)
24 9:00 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship 6 pm Seaglass (LH)	25 10 am Morning Grp (LH)	26	27 8:30 Bible Study (LH) 9 AI-Anon (downstairs)	28 9-11am Pastor's Office Hours 6:30 pm Men's Grp (LSH)	29 6:30-9 pm Tim's Music Class (LH)	30 9 am Evergreen (LH) 9 am Seaglass (Sanc)



**FAMILY & FRIENDS WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS:**

Adam  
Aliza  
Amanda  
Robert Arnold  
Becky  
Jessie Boria  
Kenneth Bower  
Trisha Bumby  
Arlene Casey  
Peter Chadborn  
Melissa Costa  
Robert Desjardins  
Nancy England  
Joan & Bob Westerman  
Karen Fischer  
Fred & Mary  
Frank Gagne  
Jerry Gostanian  
Dottie Graves

Greer  
Kaleigh Guay  
Sean Hanson  
Jim Harding  
Liv Hauge  
Ken Hauge  
Joe & Laurel  
Peter Judd  
Jim Keating  
Jayce Kierney  
Gerry Lallier  
Marissa Laskey  
Clint Maloy  
Nina and Paul  
Jolene Navatta  
David Nile  
Jonathan Nile  
Marion Noble

Ed and Bertha Nollman  
Pat Parnell  
Howard Phillips  
Richard  
Mike Robb  
Ken Roberts  
Rylan  
Margaret Schwally  
Gwen Shibles  
Richard Smith  
Tom and Brenda  
Mary Lou & Jack Reinholz  
Roy  
Elaine Simmons  
Barbara Stratton  
Tim  
Barbara Warner  
Landon Wilson

A prayer of thanksgiving for God’s healing power in the life of: Bob Kreie, Edda Bandle (Ingrid Strange’s mom), Norman (Priscilla Kenney and Henry Perkins’ brother), Caitlin (Michele Noble’s niece)

We commend into God’s care the spirit of those who have died recently: Fred Darling (Arlene Casey’s brother), Dick Strock (Diane Bailey’s cousin), Arnette Rowley (friend of Carl & Dottie Graves), Judy Pannier (Gregg Pannier’s aunt), Tommy (young son of Ken Stone’s cousin Tommy and wife Brianna)

**SERVING US IN APRIL**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

8:15 am  
Carl Graves, Barbara Weldon-Morin  
Mary Bates

10:45 am  
Irene Eaton  
Vicky Cherry, Dot Bois

**ALTAR GUILD**

TBA

**USHERS**

8:15 am  
Jack Bates

10:45 am  
TBA

**CRIER PUBLICATION INFO:**

To get pertinent information out to our members and friends in a more timely fashion, The Crier will now be published the last full week of each month. In order for us to use this publishing schedule, we need to set a firm deadline for submissions. *The firm deadline for the May Crier is Sunday, April 24th.*

Please send all articles to Julie Clapp at [juliane@julianemarie.com](mailto:juliane@julianemarie.com) or leave them in the church office.

# ***THE CRIER***

***APRIL 2016***

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
2 Lord Street  
Kennebunk, ME 04043

Reverend Richard A. Horner, Pastor

[www.kennebunklutheran.org](http://www.kennebunklutheran.org)

## **Worship Schedule**

Sunday, April; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>:

8:15 am Modern Lutheran Liturgy\*

9:30 am Adult Forum

10:45 am Traditional Lutheran Liturgy\*

Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>:

9:00 am Adult Forum

10:00 am Modern and Traditional Lutheran Liturgy\*

11:00 am Pot Luck

\*Holy Communion served at all services

## ***Purpose Statement:***

***Receive, trust, live,  
share God's Word  
with love and peace,  
empowered by the  
Holy Spirit!***

## ***Guiding Principles:***

***Pray always  
Step out in courage  
Listen to and empower others  
Work together  
Be humble and generous***

