



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

No. 323

**GRAPEVINE**

April 2019



**Help decorate our Easter Cross.**

On Easter Sunday, everyone is invited to bring cut flowers and greens and help to decorate the large cross that will be located on the patio. When you arrive for church, add your flower gifts to the cross. As it grows in beauty, it will also serve as a nice location for a family photograph.

**Lent & Holy Week**

April 3 & 10:

6:00 PM Soup Supper & Fellowship  
7:00 PM Worship Service

Maundy Thursday, April 18, 7:00 PM  
Good Friday, April 19, 7:00 PM  
Easter Vigil, April 20, 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 21  
Services at 8:30 & 10:30 AM  
Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:30 AM  
Easter Egg Hunt during second service  
children's church



Call Committee members:  
Sonja Demeter, Tabitha Ebright, Melissa Henry, Herb Holler, Henry Moraga, Susan Prosser, Becky Riley, Bill Stoll, Brian Stouch.

**Call Committee Update**

The Call Committee has been meeting regularly to prepare for the interview process ahead. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, a number of names and their Rostered Leader Profiles will have been provided for us to study and pray over. Soon interviews will be scheduled and conducted. We would like to come up with a good match from the first list.

It is the aim of the Call Committee to keep you informed of our progress. We will not be secretive about our sessions, but we need to explain that we cannot be more open because of the need to keep confidentiality. Some pastors desiring to serve at our church have not let their current congregations know that they are looking to move, and we don't want to jeopardize their current positions. We realize that we will not be able to please everyone equally, but we will do our best to recommend to you, through the Council, a pastor well qualified to be the spiritual leader of our congregation. Please continue to hold us in prayer, and if you have any concerns, to share them with any member of the Call Committee.

The Grapevine is a monthly publication of Mount Cross Lutheran Church, 102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010 • 805.482.3847  
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Like us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/MountCross](http://www.facebook.com/MountCross)) or Follow us on Twitter-@MountCrossCam.

## CHURCH STAFF CHANGES

Our Mount Cross Lutheran Church office manager, Sheri Groenveld, has resigned effective June 30, 2019. Sheri joined our church staff in August of 2013 and has worked faithfully with other staff to support and advance the variety of ministries in our congregation. We will miss her!

Sheri has accepted a position with Harbor House, a new non profit organization, in Thousand Oaks and will serve as their operations manager. "I was not anticipating this offer", Sheri explained. "But the timing in my life, my family's lives, and the opportunity to work with a non-profit organization as it begins all came together in a remarkable way. I felt I could not pass up this opportunity." Sheri added, "It is with a heavy heart that I leave Mount Cross. The Mount Cross community has welcomed me and my work here has been meaningful. The people at Mount Cross are so special and I will miss everyone."

The posting of our office manager position is underway and details will be shared shortly. Both members and non-members of Mount Cross are encouraged to apply. Sheri has agreed to train her replacement.

Please watch our worship bulletins and newsletters for additional information as it develops.

- Pastor Jim



### Church Workday April 14 - Palm Sunday

We all want the sanctuary and grounds to be spiffy for Easter. We welcome all ages to join us after worship as we clean the church premises, and start to decorate for Easter. We hope to gather many volunteers. A small lunch will be provided. In addition to Easter decorating our list of jobs includes polishing the brass in the sanctuary and raking under the bushes around the church property. Watch for more information in upcoming church emails.

-Your Property Committee





### Mount Cross Cares

If you have or know of a need for: someone to go on the prayer chain; someone who needs to have communion delivered to them; someone who needs or would appreciate having a visit from the pastor or other form of support; please call the church office at (805) 482-3847.

### PRAYER CONCERNS

**Gina** (friend of Melissa Henry); **Susanne** (friend of Melissa Henry), **Kaitlyn Bateman** (granddaughter of Arlene Kochans); **Jan Beat, Bonnie Brundage** (sister-in-law of Joan Brundage); **Janet and John Colby, Linda Dederman** (a friend of the Stevenson family); **Sherri Dietz** (cousin of Melissa Henry); **Steve Engh, Chuck Forare** (uncle of Nanette Phipps); **Jo Holler, Betsy Lee-Myers, Sally Salado** (friend of Jo & Herb Holler); **Pat Springer** (mom of Joan Brundage); and **Donald Sterner** (uncle of Melissa Henry).

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please e-mail the church office at [office@mountcross.com](mailto:office@mountcross.com) or call 805-482-3847.*



## Stewardship

### OBSERVING LENT 2019

What if instead of GIVING UP you chose GIVING OF? What if each of us took a new look at the tradition of "giving something up" for Lent and instead decided to GIVE OF ?

Members of Mount Cross are asked this year to consider how you might GIVE OF some of your Time to offer your Talent to the church in taking on some new or additional act of service. During Lent at Wednesday Soup Suppers and Wednesday and Sunday Worship, Time and Talent Survey Forms will be available. You are encouraged to complete a form if you have not yet had a chance to complete one for 2019 or if you would like to consider adding to what you may have already submitted.

Watch for Help Wanted Ads in newsletters and printed material throughout LENT for highlighted opportunities to serve. The need for your involvement is not limited to those that are highlighted, follow your heart and interests. Those indicating an interest in serving will receive a follow-up contact from a volunteer leader or staff member to discuss service possibilities. What a wonderful time to reinvigorate our ministries and programs!

Knowing and serving God is enhanced by engaging with fellow Christians in service.

Craig Blois, Karen Cherry, Cy Johnson, Gayle Johnson, and Susan Prosser  
Mount Cross Stewardship Team

## Notes n News



### Child Development Center Preschool Registration In Process

Mount Cross CDC registration is open for the 2019-2020 school year. Children may start at 2 years and 6 months of age. If you would like to tour our school or have any questions please contact Cathy Channels at 805-482-9706.



### FUNDRAISER SUCCESS

Saturday, March 16, was the date of a successful fundraiser for the Child Development Center, our Mount Cross Preschool. Gathering for an ample breakfast at Applebee's in Camarillo were parents, children, staff members and members of Mount Cross ready to enjoy this first-ever event. A hearty meal was enjoyed by all, as the children delighted to see their teachers and Pastor Jim wait on tables and serve them breakfast.

The event raised over \$800 for our CDC budget, and donations continue to be received. Applebee's staff commented that we were one of the best-prepared organizations they had worked with. Service was smooth and timely, all tables were cleaned and re-set for the restaurant opening, and we waved good-bye to the manager and walked out the door at 10:30 a.m.

We are thankful for the members and friends who joined us to support this fundraiser. It was lots of fun. We plan to offer this event again next year, and we hope you'll be part of the crowd. Thanks so much for your support!

- Pastor Jim



### Food Basket for April

April 7 Canned meat  
April 14 Pasta and/or Sauce  
April 21 Canned vegetables  
April 28 Cereal

### Treasurer's Report – March 2019

- † Pledged income through February is at 91% of budget (\$4,243 short).
- † Total income for that same time period is 86% of budget (\$9,855 short).
- † Reserves are at \$31,767. This is down \$4,897. We are at risk of going to negative reserves in May when we have a 3 pay period month.
- † Operating expenses are 93% of budget \$4,900 under.

At the Executive Committee's request, the Budget & Finance Committee is beginning work on a policy for using Square credit card processing.

There is a free workshop (including lunch) put on by the Synod on March 30 called "I'm The Church Treasurer – Now What." It is available to church treasurers and those involved in church finance and governance. The workshop will be held at Luther Center, 1300 East Colorado St, Glendale from 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM. Contact Keith Selbrede if you wish to attend.



### Noisy Offering For World Water Day

Thanks to all members and CDC students who participated in the "noisy offering" for World Water Day. So far, we have raised enough to provide 21 families (over \$600 raised) with a water filtration system, so

that they will have clean water to drink. What a gift of health that will be for them! Thank you all for being a blessing to others, as we give gratitude for the gifts we have been given. If you forgot your coins last week, the collection jar will be in the narthex until the end of the month.

## Service & Missions



### Mission of the Month: Habitat for Humanity Camarillo Build

Come join the celebration at the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the two new Habitat homes on Saturday April 6 at 9:30 AM at 2521 Barry Street. This is **not a work day**, but a day to meet the partner families that have been selected for the homes, city officials and other folks involved with Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County. Habitat's mission statement "Seeking to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope" is a great way for Mount Cross to show our commitment to service to others here in Camarillo. As the building progress's, there will be activity Monday through Saturday most weeks. We will set up a Saturday work day every other month to help build the homes. If you have time during the week, we can always use extra help. No prior construct experience is required, training and all tools are provided, just bring a willing heart. If you want to help or learn more about Habitat please contact Gordon Henry.

#### Crop Hunger Walk Update & Thanks

With the return of the Camarillo CROP Hunger Walk back in town this year (from T.O. last year) we had a great turnout. The show of support to help raise money and awareness about the need for clean water and hunger issues around the world was impressive. Mount Cross had 17 walkers and has raised over \$2,000 so far. There were **335 Walkers** from **eight Congregations** that have raised over \$21,000! You can still make a donation on-line at [www.crophungerwalk.org/camarilloca](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/camarilloca) or drop a check off in the church office written to CWS/CROP.

#### Partnership with Las Posas Elementary School

We received a letter of gratitude from John Reilley, the principal of Las Posas Elementary, for the donation we sent them last month. It was the outreach money from the church parking lot sale, which was earmarked for a local project. "So you know, we plan to use these resources to purchase shoes and backpacks for some of our needier families. I know that this will make a practical impact for their lives, and it warms my heart that we could only do this due to your generosity." We are also collecting school supplies for Las Posas children. There is a collection box in the back of the sanctuary. Suggested items include: colored pencils, crayons, notebook paper, spiral notebooks and pencil boxes/bags.

#### April 22 is Earth Day

On April 22, we celebrate Earth Day. Since the Garden of Eden, we were placed on this earth to "work it and take care of it" (Genesis 2:15). What are you doing to take care of this beautiful place? This April, take a pledge to do one simple thing to take care of our world. One easy thing to do is use less single-use plastics. How, you ask? Carry a water bottle or cup and use it instead of a plastic cup or single use drink bottle. Reuse the bag you brought home filled with apples to buy apples again (or better yet, skip the bag entirely). Buy one snack item in bulk and put it in reusable containers instead of buying single serving packages. Use metal silverware instead of plastic in your lunch bag, then wash them when you get home. There are so many easy practices that over time become habits - and each one reduces our need for plastic trash.

#### Monthly Fair Trade Sale

Even small exchanges such as purchasing coffee, tea or chocolate not only affect the lives of producers around the globe, they have a profound impact on the environment. Fair Trade farmers must follow stringent procedures, such as the elimination of dangerous pesticides and protection of virgin forests. You can help, just by choosing Fair Trade products. Coffee and other goodies are available for purchase on the patio the first Sunday of the month. We'll see you April 7 on the patio with three new flavors of chocolate bar to taste test. Stop by for a sample.

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children. -- Native American Proverb

## Programs & Events

### Sundays at Mount Cross

8:30 AM: Traditional worship service

9:30 AM: Hospitality time on the patio

10:00 AM: Contemporary worship service

*Children's church is available for the children in the middle of both worship services.*

11:10 AM-12:00 PM: Adult Bible Study with Pastor Jim

11:30 AM-1:30 PM: High School Youth Group

There will be no youth group on April 21 due to the Easter holiday.



### Wednesday Evening Programs

We will have the following schedule through Lent:  
 5:00-6:00 PM: Fun with Faith: (preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grades in Luther Hall) & Adult Education: (Pastor Jim's Office)  
 6:00-7:00 PM: Lent Soup Supper (Parish Life Center)  
 6:00-8:00 PM: Confirmation Class: meet for Soup Supper then class at 6:30 PM, join in worship from 7:00-7:30 PM, then small groups from 7:30-8:00 PM  
 7:00-7:30 PM: Lenten Worship in the Sanctuary

There will be no Wednesday programs on April 17 due to our Holy Week festivities.

We resume our regular schedule on April 24, the soup suppers end and dinner returns at 6:00 PM. Adult Education at 5:00 PM moves to the Parish Life Center. Hand bell practice returns to 6:30 PM and we will no longer have Lenten Worship.



Photo of Daphne Lewis at the Crop Hunger Walk

### Spring Break Family Hike—Wednesday, April 17

Home for Spring Break? Do you have the day off on Wednesday? We welcome all ages to join us as we hike in Wildwood. We will meet at the church at 10:00 AM for the hike, carpool to Wildwood, hike to the waterfall (hopefully find some wild flowers), and then we will go to In-n-out for lunch.

Please RSVP to Meredith, Meredith@mountcross.com by April 16 and bring \$10 for lunch.

### Set-Up For Easter—Saturday, April 20

Join us on Saturday afternoon at 1:00 PM as we do last minute preparation and decoration for our Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt.

### Easter Breakfast—Sunday, April 21

Join us on Easter morning for our usual festivities. We ask that our middle and high school youth please sign up to help on Sunday morning as available. Sign ups will be sent to you using our Remind app, and proceeds from the breakfast will fund our summer activities.

## Fellowship



Join us on the patio for an early celebration of Earth Day on Sunday, April 14 during our fellowship time.

Dirt Cake, fruit, nuts, and other earthly goodies will be served on the patio between services  
Come early or stay late!



Mount Cross service committees will be hosting the Wednesday evening Lenten Soup Suppers, but we still need individual soup chefs to bring on their favorite soups and others who can pick up a dozen rolls or two. We also need help with set-up and clean-up. Sharing faith, fellowship and a warm bowl of homemade soup with friends is a great way to reflect on the meaning of the Lenten season.

Anyone interested in contributing can sign up on the patio or contact Valerie Patscheck.



### 3D - DESSERT, DEVOTIONS & DISCUSSION

*At Mount Cross*

#### 3D– Devotions, Discussion & Dessert Friday, April 5 at 1:30 PM

Join us for 3D on Friday, April 5 at 1:30 PM. Bring a dessert to share with the group. We will have a devotion led by Pastor Jim. We then will bring back a group favorite of rock painting. Carol Broderick will be leading us in a fun craft of Easter rock painting.

Please RSVP to the church office, [office@mountcross.com](mailto:office@mountcross.com). And if you need a ride, just let the church office know.



#### Camarillo Art Center

3150 Ponderosa Drive  
(corner of Ponderosa and Eston)

#### Colby/Power Family Reunion Exhibit March 30-April 28 Saturdays and Sundays, 1:00-4:00 PM

John Colby, a member of the Camarillo Art Center for 25+ years will be filling our gallery with his family reunion exhibit. This exhibit will include works by John's grandmother Dora May and most of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Please come by the Art Center to see this talented family's fabulous art works.

**Mount Cross Lutheran Church**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
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**The next newsletter deadline is Thursday, April 25, 2019**

# April Celebrations

## Happy

### Birthday to...

1 Nancy Rowley  
Chloe Fernandez  
2 Clair Petersen  
Landon Stouch  
3 Linda Austin  
4 Jaci Corey  
Betty Ertel  
Lars Truckenbrod  
6 Avis Miley  
Paul Christensen  
7 Jennifer Churchill  
Megan Burrow  
9 Joan Brundage  
Jordan Duran  
10 Taylor Crawford  
11 Jeanne Michel  
Rebekah Vorhis  
12 Barbara Burrow  
Jason Lu

13 Mike Carpenter  
Pam Hoffman  
14 Hailey Vieira  
David Lennox  
15 Matthew Johnson  
16 Ric Kienitz  
17 Cheryl Avery  
Christy Rueckert  
18 Jan Mann  
Stan Patscheck  
Katarina Smith  
19 Glenn Channels  
22 Brian Churchill  
Kim Tasker  
23 Stephanie Armstrong  
Randy Churchill  
Brandon Duran  
Zachary Schneider  
29 Louise Stevenson  
Wendy McClary  
30 Alice Herbruck

## Happy Anniversary to...

2 Bob & Judy Winters  
4 Tom & Teri Crawford  
Tim & Kelly Schneider  
Keith & Dianne Selbrede  
8 Jerry & Michelle Kienitz  
Mike & Kim Tasker  
11 Ron & Susan Baier  
14 William & Karen Fanner  
15 Julien & Sharon Hurault  
21 John & Janet Colby  
25 Robert & Cecelia Travick-Jackson  
28 Eric & Christine Rueckert

