



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

No. 328

GRAPEVINE

October 2019

Save the Date!

*Pastor Julie's official installation day is
Sunday, November 3, 2019 at 2:00pm!*



Please join us as we officially install our Pastor, The Rev. Julie H. Morris.

We are expecting several special guests, including Bishop Guy Erwin, Bishop of the Southern California Synod. There will be a reception to follow.

We hope to see you there!

Worship Schedule beginning October 6, 2019

8:30am Traditional Worship service with Holy Communion and music by the Sanctuary Choir

9:30am Hospitality on the Patio

10:00am Contemporary Worship service with Holy Communion and music by the Praise Band

11:15am Adult Education

Children's Church will be offered at both services.

The Grapevine is a monthly publication of Mount Cross Lutheran Church, 102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010 • 805.482.3847
website: www.mountcross.com • email: office@mountcross.com • Pastor: Julie Morris • Editor: Carina McVeigh
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Dear Mount Cross Members and Friends,

I know one of the challenges of family life is finding time to be all together as a family, let alone to eat all together as a family. Paul and I often feel like master puzzlers if, at the end of the day, everyone managed to be where they were supposed to be, when they were supposed to be there, and arrived home relatively intact in time for bed. Like so many other families, at the start of a new school year we voice our hopes that this coming year we will be more successful at family dinners. Over the years, we have found a few things that work for our family: picking at least one or two nights each week where we put "family dinner" or "family dine out" on the calendar, as we would any other appointment; and being flexible about time. Gathering for an early family breakfast is sometimes more doable than dinner because our morning schedules are often more compatible than our evening schedules. I would love to hear what works for your family.



Whether we live as part of a busy household or live alone, researchers tell us that there are plentiful physical, emotional and relational benefits to eating regularly with people who care about us. We know there are also many spiritual blessings that come with sharing meals. Each week at Mount Cross there are **two opportunities** for a family meal. **Every Sunday** we are invited to the Lord's Supper where Jesus is the host, nourishing us with his presence and strengthening us for the work of love and justice. **Every Wednesday at 6pm** we offer dinner, deliciously prepared by John Colby IV. Some people join us after the 5pm Adult Bible Study or the Fun with Faith children's program, others come early for Confirmation class or Choir practice, others just come for dinner. You and your family are welcome to join in these Sunday and Wednesday family meals. I hope to see you there!

Yours in Christ,
Julie Morris +
Pastor Julie Morris

P.S. For ideas and inspiration about family dinners, check out thefamilydinnerproject.org

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Children and Youth

Parents Night Out - October 25

It's that time again! Parents Night Out! Enjoy a night out while dropping your children off at Mount Cross!

Starting at 6pm and ending at 9:45pm we will have lots of fun activities planned throughout the night and a meal provided. There is a suggested donation of \$20 a child or \$50 for a family. We hope to see your children there!

Camp Sunday & Pumpkin Patch Day!

On October 20th, we will have some of the staff from Lutheran Retreats Camps and Conferences (LRCC) joining us for worship! LRCC has two camps, El Camino Pines and Luther Glen, and we are so excited to have them with us to share all the great news and events that camp has to offer! Following the 10am service, you all invited to join us for a day at the pumpkin patch!

Any questions on upcoming children and youth events? Contact Joe Zimmerly: joe@mountcross.com.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THURSDAY NIGHT MANY MEALS!

On September 12th Many Meals volunteers and diners gave recognition to the **10 YEARS** Mount Cross and Peace Lutheran Churches have served Thursday night meals together at Trinity Presbyterian Church as part of the Many Meals program. We have served the second Thursday of every month and one fifth Thursday for a total of 130 meals. Think of the thousands of meals that have been prepared and shared during that span of time! What a wonderful opportunity to serve our community.

Mount Cross has been blessed with numerous Many Meals volunteers. There are still some volunteers have been with the program from the first meal. Others come and go for various reasons, and some are just beginning to serve. Each volunteer serves an important role in the mission to share God's love. The meal and the welcoming atmosphere are always appreciated by those who are served. Unfortunately, the need continues, and there is no way to determine how many years may be in our future. We are grateful that Mount Cross keeps the hungry of Camarillo in their hearts with support of this essential program.

*For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in,
Matthew 25:35*

Educational Opportunities

Sunday Afternoon Adult Education 11:15am

Adult Education will begin a new series on October 6: "Living our Baptism: The Five Gifts of Discipleship."

Join us on Sunday's at 11:15am in the Parish Life Center to learn more about living out your Baptism.



Wednesday Adult Bible Study

All are welcome Wednesdays at 5pm for a Bible Study where we focus on the Gospel reading we will hear Sunday in church. Come to be nourished by the Word and then stay for dinner at 6pm. to be nourished by a caring community and a delicious meal!

Men's Bible Study

All Mount Cross men and their friends are invited to Men's Bible Study every other Thursday at Denny's (1659 E Daily Dr) at 7:30 am. In October, we meet on 10/3, 10/17, and 10/31.

Women's REAL Bible Study: "In Good Company"

REAL stands for Refreshment, Empathy, Accompaniment, and Love.

Tuesday mornings from 8:30am-10am, all Mount Cross women and their friends and Child Development Center moms, grandmothers, and friends are welcome to join us to study and pray with stories of women in the Bible as we share some of our own stories. For more information, please contact Pastor Julie at

pastorjulie@mountcross.com.

Service & Missions

Mission of the Month for October: Lutheran World Relief Kit Making Night October 2



Lutheran
World
Relief

Mark your calendars to join the whole Mount Cross family to complete the work on the LWR kits. We will be working the night of **Wednesday, October 2** to assemble and box the School Kits and Personal Care Kits. We will start at 5 pm and join the Fun with Faith children as we begin with Personal Care Kits. We'll break for a family meal at 6pm, then continue after dinner with the School Kits. By the end of the night, all the kits should be boxed and ready for blessing and shipment! Come be a part of a special night.

LWR Quilt and Kit Blessing October 6

Please join us in church on **Sunday, October 6** for a special blessing on the Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits! It will be a celebration of thanksgiving as we express gratitude for the many hands (YOURS!) who worked to make quilts and kits, and a time of blessing as we send those items out into the world to be a support to others in a time of struggle. These items help us reach out to people in their time of greatest need with a strong message of hope - you are not alone - somewhere in this world, someone is thinking of you in your time of need. Come be part of the day!

Monthly Fair Trade Sale October 6



Our next Fair Trade Monthly Sale will be **Sunday, October 6**. Stop by the tables on the patio to browse for some yummy fair trade food options. Remember, the benefits of fair trade include a focus on more money supporting the farmers who do the work and grow the crops, as well as more environmentally sound farming techniques. It's a win for small farmers, and for the earth - plus the chocolate is delicious!

Special Opportunity for Fair Trade Gifts October 24

The Monthly Fair Trade Sale focuses on food items. But did you know there are other items which are also Fair Trade? Clothes, jewelry, home furnishings, etc...? **Thursday, October 24** we will be having a catalog sale of Fair Trade items. Think of it as an opportunity to get ahead of your shopping list for the holidays. Or just a fun evening out, looking at pretty fair trade things, and chatting with other Mount Cross members! If you want to join us or need more information, contact Carol Broderick at 805.444.2898 (text or voicemail). All are welcome; we just need to know you are coming! We'll have a cup of fair trade tea or coffee waiting for you.

“Each person on this planet is here for a purpose... That purpose is to care for other people and to help this world become a better place through service to others.”
- Gary Sinise

Service & Missions

Potluck and a Movie - "Beating Guns"

Please join us for a potluck meal and the screening of a documentary on faith and guns in America. We will gather on Tuesday October 22nd in the Parish Life Center for a potluck meal at 5:30 p.m. and start the movie at 6:00 p.m.

The movie screening is free, but please RSVP to Gordon Henry (ghenry33@hotmail.com or 805.279.9250) so we have the right number of seats for the meal.



Feast of Faiths

The annual Feast of Faiths, a gathering of individuals from various religions to discuss their beliefs with those of other faiths informally over dinner, will be from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, November 3 at Islamic Center of Conejo Valley. The 2019 theme is "Understanding". Members of various religions – including but not limited to Christian, Islamic, Jewish, Hindu, Baha'i, Quaker, Pagan, and Buddhist – will share a meal. The purpose of the dinner is to promote dialogue and friendship between people of different religions. Halal-style and vegetarian food will be served. More information is available on the kiosk, including how to purchase your tickets. Early bird ticket prices apply, so if you want to go, get your tickets soon!

Jordan and Andre Anchondo – an El Paso shooting story

Jordan and Andre Anchondo were at Walmart with their 2-month-old baby boy when the gunfire began. The baby, Paul, was grazed by a bullet and has two broken fingers, most likely from the moment his mother's body fell on him. He is being treated by doctors. But Jordan and Andre, the parents of Paul and two other young children, were both killed, according to their family. Jordan was 24, and Andre was 23. "She was so funny and her laugh was contagious," said Monique Terry, Mr. Anchondo's cousin. "I know everyone says that, but hers was really contagious. And she was so beautiful and just so smart. This is a really big loss."

It seems like every week we learn of more lives and families being shattered by gun violence and acts of hatred and cruelty in our communities. How many of you remember the words we say from the affirmation of baptism service? Are you feeling God's call "to strive for justice and peace in all the earth"? Then come join us, as we begin a Peace and Justice Team under the umbrella of the Service and Missions Committee.

Over the years, the ELCA has written many statements taking positions on the issues that plague our community, our nation, and our world. The Peace and Justice team will study the ELCA's positions and explore ways that we, as Christians, can help stem the rise in violence and hatred in society, as well as promote a culture of peace, caring, and kindness in our community, nation, and world. All are welcome. Anyone who is interested or would like more information about this contact Bill Stoll at william.stoll@verizon.net. Meeting dates and times will depend on those interested.

"There are three ways to ultimate success:

The first way is to be kind.

The second way is to be kind.

The third way is to be kind."

— Fred Rogers

Notes 'n News

Interfaith Labor Day Harvest

Many thanks to all who joined with Ventura County Interfaith Community for the Labor Day Harvest at The Abundant Table. We had a crowd from many different faith communities, and we got so much work done. It was a wonderful morning on the farm, and proved again that we are better TOGETHER!

Mr. Cross Preschool News

Our Preschool is off to a great start! It is so wonderful seeing our teachers back at school. They are loving and caring and have set up an interesting and fun environment for our little learners. We are looking forward to starting our chapel times with Pastor Julie.

Joe has been greeting our parents and inviting them to the special events such as movie night, Fun with Faith & parent's night out. Thank you, Joe!



Alternative Giving

If you give to Mount Cross online or by mail, we are now offering "alternative giving dollars" for you to put in the offering plate! It's important for children and visitors to see that we actively participate in giving to the ministries of the church. Feel free to pick some up as you enter the sanctuary so you can be a part of the offering every week. Just don't try to use them at Starbucks...



Get-To-Know-You Meetings with Pastor Julie

Pastor Julie would love to meet with all members of Mount Cross! She can come to your home or meet with you at the church office or even at the park down the street from the church. To schedule a time to meet, please call Carina in the church office at 805.482.3847 or go to the online sign-up at <https://signup.com/go/KozGZOP>. New time slots have been added for October and November.

Applebee's Breakfast October 26

We are appreciative of the support of our church members for the fundraiser breakfast at Applebee's last year. It was so successful in raising money for the preschool! We are doing it again on October 26th. Tickets will soon be on sale for \$10 for a full breakfast. \$5.00 of every ticket goes to our school. From 8:00 to 10:00am the whole restaurant is reserved for Mt. Cross only! You come eat, and our teachers serve!

MANY MEALS ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER November 2

This year the dinner and auction to raise funds for the fixed costs of operating the weekly Many Meals program in Camarillo will be held on **November 2nd**. Held at Padre Serra Center, this event raises money to support both the Monday and Thursday evening meals. Mount Cross volunteers have been a part of the Thursday meal since inception 10 years ago in September. If you have an interest in attending, talk with Susan Prosser who will have tickets closer to the date.

Prosser1@sbcglobal.net or 805-657-6222.



Fellowship

Wednesday Nights

Wednesday Night Programs are back in action! Come join us for the various activities that are taking place on Wednesday's.

5:00pm: Fun with Faith and Adult Education

6:00pm: Family Dinner - All are welcome!

6:30pm: Confirmation Class

We are excited to see you all and if you have any questions about children's programs, please contact Joe Zimmerly, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries (joe@mountcross.com).



Stewardship

IT'S NOT JUST PUMPKIN SPICE SEASON – IT'S STEWARDSHIP SEASON!

This year at Mount Cross we will take the entire month of October and the first 3 weeks of November to focus on Stewardship. Unlike prior years, we will not start with a request for a commitment of time and financial gifts. Instead we will first consider our role as God's stewards and the many ways we can respond. You will find elements of worship, learning, and contemplation to support this consideration. We will talk about, pray about, sing about, and think about stewardship before ultimately making individual decisions about how God has called us to use the gifts we have been given.

Watch for a mailing to kick off a season of **JOYFUL GIVING** for it is in this "they will know you are my disciples."



Our Prayer List

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marge (friend of Evonne Kuchera), **Tami**, **The Bauske Family**, **Bonnie Brundage**, **Tim Cervenka**, **Janet Colby**, **Donald Faciano** (friend of Barbara Burke), **Laura Gramacki** (mother of Jim Gramacki), **Kenneth Harvey**, **Jo Holler**, **Rosa Hubbard** (sister of Nils Rueckert), **Cole Jordan**, **Jerry and Arlene Kochans**, **Jeff Miley** (son of Avis Miley), **Janet Padron** (friend of Kim Schmeichel), **The Purdy Family** (friends of Gail Baird), **Frances Rini**, **Alan Scott**, **Tara Smith**, **Pat Springer**, **Reagan Sullivan** (friend of Randy Churchill), **Scott Switzler** (husband of Pastor Nancy Switzler), **Jean Tillotson**, **Russ Yermasek** (friend of Barbara Burke). *Unless otherwise specified, prayer requests are printed for four weeks. If you would like to add or remove someone to or from the prayer list, please e-mail the church office at office@mountcross.com or call 805-482-3847.*

Money Matters October 13

The Learning Team and the Stewardship Committee are partnering with parents with children ages 6 to 10 to give a free educational workshop called Parents, Kids and Money Matters.

The workshop is designed for parents and their children to help kids learn about money and values. All participants will gain helpful information and receive practical tools to make teaching and learning about money fun.

Please join us for the Parents, Kids and Money Matters workshop after a complimentary light dinner on Sunday, October 13 at 5:00pm in the Parish Life Center. To reserve a seat for yourself and your children, contact Karen Cherry (ksoe39@aol.com or 805.642.6191).



Mount Cross Lutheran Church
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**The next newsletter deadline is Thursday, October 24, 2019.
Please send all articles to office@mountcross.com.**

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to...

1 Jan Mason
Bill Stoll
2 Jake Pitsch
4 Bradley Boyer
Madylin Laskey
6 John Watts
La Jean Wenzel
7 Robin Carr
Dennis Watson
8 Bill Greason
Jordan Bricker
9 Nannette Philip
11 Kyle Avery
Carol Lamb
12 Jenny Karazissis
Anna Schneider
13 Jenny Christenson
David Hauser
15 Ian Carr
Nils Rueckert

16 Leah Osslund
19 Julie Fernandez
Jason Godon
William Rowley
20 Glen Gramacki
Gary Schmeichel
Sharon Watson
22 Zachary Abernathy
Denise Sobolik
24 Marilyn Gardner
25 Melissa Sobolik
26 Beverly Rueckert
28 Arlene Proctor
Bill Bruenger
29 Thomas Rebbe
30 Nixon Burke
Julia Fickenscher
Diana Summers
31 Jan Gerck
Lisa Higginbotham
Margie Viets

Happy Anniversary to...

6 Kathleen and Eric Bergh
9 Judith and David Geary
10 Richard and Cheryl Avery
12 Chuck and Erin Carty
15 Debbie and Roger Boross
18 Anne and Gil Valencia
24 Norm and Mary Ann Morgan
25 Michael and Caroline Hobbs
26 Joseph and Karen Diehl
29 Scott and Meredith Smith