



THE CALVARY CALLING

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church in Morro Bay, California

October 2020

Pastor's Pen- "Deepening Our Roots, Expanding Our Impact"

October is stewardship month at Calvary. I have a special love for stewardship, in part because I view it as a spiritual discipline—a daily way of relating to God and to our resources in expansive ways. **Have you ever considered that God has literally built generosity into all of creation?** You may need to read that last sentence again. We need only think of how creation functions, for example the trees, who generously give up oxygen, seeds and leaves for the benefit of plant, animal and human life. We know that leaves draw in precious energy only to be given up for the building of the soil. Indeed God has embedded generosity deep into the genetic code, leaving us to conclude that **living means giving.**

Everything around us bears witness to God's generous intent! Fruit gives life! Seeds encapsulate the future and are given up to die in order to be born again. In other words, creation has been encoded with God's giving heart. **In giving we synchronize our heart with God's heart.** In giving we live out our identity. In giving we discover our true peace and joy.

This is not meaningless talk. It's a clue to how we can see stewardship as a mutual opportunity to bless and be blessed. We are **blessed to be a blessing.**

A stewardship campaign is a conversation. It's an invitation to recognize that we are surrounded by abundant resources. A stewardship conversation invites us into a covenant (a God involved promise) to use our resources wisely towards God's greatest imagination. It's an opportunity to create a community that is resource conscious.

In the coming weeks you will receive a mailing about Calvary's Fall Stewardship campaign "Branching Out." It will include the opportunity to pledge for 2021. Being asked to prayerfully declare and share our resources lets us explore our sacred interconnectedness. After all, we are each a part of God's generous creation. Finally, this interim period is a holy time to cast a vision to draw your new pastor into your midst. Right this very moment God is planting seeds into the heart of whoever he or she is. Now THAT is exciting. Together let's deepen our roots and expand our impact.



In Gratitude,
Pastor Robyn

In This Issue:

MET	2
Council Highlights	2
Outreach Committee	2
Let's Talk Music	3
First Outside Service	3
October Ministry Assist.	3
Scriptures for October	4
October Birthdays	4
October Anniversaries	4
Memorial Bench	4
Blessing of the Animals	5
Painting by Ken Brocks	5
New Refrigerator	5
Iglesia	6
Prayers of Concern	6
Calendar	7



Ministry Exploration Team (MET)

The interviews are in process. If you don't hear from anyone, and you would like to be interviewed, please let Gail Brochtrup know. (805-772-0237)

Council Highlights

The Treasurer reports that income is at 69% of annual budget, and expenses are at 70% of budget. We are approximately at 69% of the year meaning we are on track. This month we will pay our first Portico invoice (pension plan per Pastor Robyn's employment agreement). The first payment will include July, August and September at \$200 per month. This expense was not included in the 2020 budget.

Pastor Robyn and Pastor Russ Gordon are presenting a Zoom workshop on **UNCONCIOUS BIAS** (stereo typing, prejudices, etc.) how it can negatively affect church welcome and creativity. The workshop will be available for all at Hope and Calvary Lutheran churches on Sunday, October 18 at 4:00.

The Outside groups are not currently using our patio for their meetings.

Finally, council agreed that it would be safe and enjoyable to worship outside, weather permitting and for people to bring their own lawn chairs, socially distance, with masks. We'll meet on the grassy area facing Monterey St. The windows will be opened wide, and hopefully folks will be able to hear and enjoy the service. We will try it on September 20. **(Note: California is now RED instead of PURPLE, allowing us to worship indoors with restrictions. We will continue to worship outdoors until we have a detailed plan for moving indoors. Stay tuned.)**



Outreach Committee

Design is in process for two wings to be added to the library structure. One for food, and another for prayer requests.

Pastor Robyn's plan to do some outreach and ministry, ("The Covid Chaplain is in") is on hold pending information on how to participate in the Farmers' Markets.

There has been some interest in tutoring or reading with students online. Stay tuned for more information.

There will soon be an opportunity for one or more people to donate a bench with a plaque in memory of a loved one. See article on page 4.

In spite of Covid, plans for safe holiday events are underway!



Hi everyone! I'm back after a brief recovery from a fall. I may look like a pirate, but believe me I look better with the mask on! I am happy to be back and feel fit as a fiddle.

Here's something of interest you may not know: Soli Deo Gloria is a Latin term used by Johann Sebastian Bach to mean "Glory to God Alone". Bach wrote the initials S.D.G. at the end of all his church compositions. He was a musical Giant in the Lutheran Church. Other composers, including Bach's contemporary, George Frederic Handel also used this idea to give Glory to God. So now you know! See you in church!

Peace and blessings,

Ina



First Outside Service

On the cold and foggy Sunday morning of September 20, several of us gathered outside on the lawn for a service dedicated to our Care of Creation! Everyone brought their own lawn chair, and masks were worn along with sweatshirts and blankets! Doors and windows to the sanctuary were open and the music drifted out to reach us and inspire us as always! Alice Kolb treated us to a tribute to Kara Kolb who would have celebrated her 46th birthday on September 22.



There was special music, and it was a beautiful service. The best part was seeing all the familiar faces we have missed over the last few months. The smiles were very visible under masks. There will be a gathering in this way every Sunday now, weather permitting. The services will still be live-streamed on Facebook and posted on the website for those of you who are not ready to join us in person.

October Ministry Assistants

October 4	Nikki Rocha
October 11	Joyce Bauer
October 18	Cindy Haener
October 25	Joyce Bauer





Scriptures for October

October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Isaiah 5:1-7	Isaiah 25:1-9	Isaiah 45:1-7	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalms 80:7-15	Psalms 23	Psalms 96:1-9 [10-13]	Psalms 1
Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 4:1-9	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 21:33-46	Matthew 22:1-14	Matthew 22:15-22	Matthew 22:34-46

October Birthdays

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Lisa Schuldt	10/1
Angelina Rice	10/2
Valerie Donohoo	10/3
Toni Tway	10/8
Mark Orback	10/11
Judy Kalin	10/25
Edith Tway	10/25



October Anniversaries

October Anniversaries

Jeff & Kea McKee	10/2/1982
Gary & Gail Brochtrup	10/5/1991



Memorial Bench

The Outreach Committee would like to place a memorial bench next to the little library structure on the corner of the parsonage. If anyone is interested in donating the bench in memory of a loved one, please contact Janet Lorenzo, 805 234 5089. More than one person/family may donate for the cost of the bench. All donations will include a plaque printed with the loved one's name or names.

. The bench will be selected/designed by Calvary's Council and Outreach Committee.





A Service of Blessing For Your Animals

St. Francis of Assisi is known as the patron saint of animals. October 4 (on the Feast of St. Francis) we'll hold a special service to bless your pets. The service begins at 11:15 AM, immediately following worship. It will include brief readings from Genesis and Job, a prayer, and an individual blessing for your beloved pet(s)!

Please bring your pet on a leash or otherwise contained. The service will be held on the lawn facing Monterey St. Don't forget to wear a mask.

Rediscovered! A Painting by Our Own Ken Brocks



A huge heartfelt thank you to Ken Brocks who painted this beautiful picture of Christ in the garden and also to Alice Kolb for having the painting cleaned and re-framed. The painting is now hanging on the concrete wall on the window side of the Sanctuary. Who knew we had so much talent in our congregation?! The colors of the painting compliment the colors in the sanctuary, and I think you will all agree that it provides a sense of peace and hope.

New Refrigerator

We bid a fond farewell to our old refrigerator. The seal on the door has not worked properly for quite some time, but we limped along until it gave up completely. We are so thankful for the anonymous donation of a new one, and it's a beauty! Thank you also to Gary Brochtrup for coordinating the delivery and transferring the food from the old to the new. One more thank you is in order to Morro Bay Appliance for waiving the \$45 recycle fee to remove the old refrigerator. We are truly blessed!



From Our Friends at Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz' Newsletter: Our Community and Covid 19

Pastor Esteban preparing meals for farm workers



Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz Pastor Esteban Salazar feeding the Farm Workers



This month we have been struggling with the many more families that are now in quarantine. Many of our families have one or more family members diagnosed or exposed to someone with COVID 19. The demand for resources is much more significant due to the changes in housing laws and children starting school. The pandemic has changed many things in households; some parents are not prepared to help their children because they don't read or write English or Spanish. The pandemic has also changed how many people treat others who have gotten infected with this terrible virus. It is sad to see how people are prejudice against the infected. We have seen discrimination in different places to the point where if you have been infected and recovered, you a danger to others. Our community's needs are mostly financial because many cannot afford to pay for food or rent. The situation that we are going through has made many think about going back home. Others have moved to other states thinking that the pandemic is only here in California. When they become aware of the truth, they return to their family and are out of work. This is the harsh reality of what the pandemic has done to everyone in the world. We feel so blessed to be able to help with what we can. The generosity of many people has helped to put food on many tables and fed many families. That's why we ask the Good Lord to Bless everyone who makes feeding people possible.

Prayers of Concern

Dear God, use me, use me to be of service during these uncertain times. Guide me to use my voice, my talents, my skills, whatever I have to offer, to be helpful. While it may be tempting to shut down or go into hiding, this is not a time to be quiet. Amen. (From Maria Shriver, Sunday Morning)

Carrie Forester-Osterthaler - Broken wrists
Heidi Carney - cancer and cataract surgery
Von Carney - Illness
Brenda Ouwerkerk - aging parents
Betty Sorensen - recovering at home after a fall
Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mom - health

Ken Donohoo - Illness
Family of Bill Olsen - Bill passed on September 21
Corona Virus - May those who are infected heal, and may others follow the restrictions to stop the spread.
Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz - Pray that they are safe and provided for



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
"Come Share Our Joy"

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October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Remember In Prayer				1	2 *Katie Edson	3
4 <u>Worship:</u> 10:00 Outside on the Lawn, Cindy Haener assisting Facebook live streamed and posted to morrobaylutherans.org 11:15 Blessing of the Animals	5 *Ron & Audrey Forster Coffee Monday Tidelands Park 9:00	6	7 *Carrie Forster-Osterthaler Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom	8 Council Meeting Time TBD	8 *Carol Frasier	10
11 <u>Worship:</u> 10:00 Outside on the Lawn, Joyce Bauer assisting Facebook live streamed and posted to morrobaylutherans.org	12 *Elaine Grawe Indigenous Peoples Day 	13	14 *Bruce & Cindy Haener Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom	15	16 *Victor Hansen Outreach Committee 10:00	17
18 <u>Worship:</u> 10:00 Outside on the Lawn, Nikki Rocha assisting Facebook live streamed and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Zoom workshop on UNCONCIOUS BIAS 4:00	19 *Herb & Patti Harsch	20	21 *Joe & Debbie Hoeflich Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom	22	22 *Bob & Sharron Jackman	24
25 <u>Worship:</u> 10:00 Outside on the Lawn, Joyce Bauer assisting Facebook live streamed and posted to morrobaylutherans.org	26 *Gunther & Virginia Junck	27	28 *Judy Kalin Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom	29	30 *Robin Karas	31  Happy Halloween!