



THE CALVARY CALLING

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church in Morro Bay, California

September 2020

Pastor's Pen- "The Anchor Holds"



Typically September is the month when kids go back to school and when churches plan the Rally Day return to church programming. Not much is typical this year and maybe there's some good in that. School has begun, albeit in creative new formats and the church continues to be and to serve. We are not closed. Pandemic or not, September still marks new beginnings and fresh hope.

The prophet Isaiah says *"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*

I am a firm believer that we always get more of what we focus on. Focus on the hard stuff of life and soon that is all that we see. Focus on the good and the hopeful and we'll see more of the positive. Have you ever received a sample pen in the mail inviting you to order 100 pens engraved with your name or business? One year I decided to spread some positivity, so I ordered 200 pens engraved with these words:

The Universe Always Rearranges Itself to Suit Your Picture of Reality.

That is a variation of getting out of life what you focus on. Now is a perfect time to decide what it is we want, as individuals, as a community and as a congregation. Calvary is building momentum during this interim time to ask questions and listen for God's guidance. It's not enough to "make the best" of virtual worship; rather we are imagining fresh, creative ways of keeping the spirit present and our spirits up. Our endowment committee is looking at best ways of reinvesting our assets (which are many!) and our outreach committee is looking at more ways to serve with creativity. The possibility of serving weary parents and educators by providing virtual story time or one on one tutoring is a great example of creativity, passion and need coming together. The Holy Spirit is speaking and we're listening.

All of us, young and not so young, are *schooling ourselves* in new ways to live into a faithful future. Who knows? Maybe we can hold a virtual Rally Day to remind ourselves of all that is taking place while leaning into God's greatest imagination for this beloved church at the corner of Monterey and Anchor. Speaking of anchors...

Are you familiar with the song by Ray Boltz, "The Anchor Holds"? I met Ray once and he confided that the song came out of his own struggle during uncertain times. The words are this. **The anchor holds, though the ship is battered. The anchor holds though the sails are torn. I have fallen on my knees as I face the raging seas. The anchor holds in spite of the storm.** Of course the anchor is Jesus Christ. And he is guiding us towards still waters. In the meantime, we'll keep gathering, growing, and going forward. Calvary, we've got this!



In Grace & Gratitude, Pastor Robyn

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Ministry Exploration Team (MET)

The team will be practicing their interviewing skills on September 1. Soon some of you will be contacted to set up a time for an interview in a way that is safe and comfortable for you. 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 the current balance in the General Fund is \$18,010. Income is at 62% of our annual budget, and expenses are at 59% of our annual budget.
- Pastor Robyn has been busy with Outreach - see the Outreach Committee section of this newsletter for an update.
- The Council voted to continue our membership with the Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce so that we can take advantage of inexpensive advertising and also a presence in the community.
- The Council voted to allow the outside groups to use the patio for their meetings. They will not be able to use the restrooms and must agree to wear masks, be socially distant and bring their own chairs.
- A recent tax notice received from SLO County shows that all three of our properties have remained in the tax-free status.
- Plans to replace or modify Operation Christmas Child and Away in a Manger were discussed. Some ideas were to adopt families in need and participating again in assisting Iglesia families with Christmas gifts and a Christmas Caroling party or event. More ideas will be discussed in the Outreach Committee meeting.

Endowment Fund Committee Report



Several CD's are coming due in the next few months. The Endowment Fund Committee met on August 20. At this point, the Committee recommends holding the renewal monies to determine if a better interest rate can be had after November 2020.



Synod Goals & Process

The Southwest CA Synod adopted the ELCA Future directions goals based on its work: "Called Forward Together in Christ" as a basis for assessing its effectiveness, while identifying areas of strength, opportunity and challenge. Five goals are identified to help us adjust as we come out of this global pandemic, and beyond. The next meeting will be held via zoom on Sept. 3 and any interested parishioners are welcome to attend.



Outreach Committee

Hi everyone! Welcome to my spot. I'd like to invite you to join me in creating a musical atmosphere that includes new ideas for our services. If you wish to participate in special musical performances, please call me.

You may have heard a new Kyrie we have been using from Setting Eight in the ELW. It's really uplifting and joyous to sing. I have attached a link to a video of the song here so you can become more familiar with it. Paste this into your browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFq1stGOfGc>

I welcome your ideas and observations to make this part of our service even more amazing. So please feel free to contact me at 805 550 0441 with ideas and input.

Peace and blessings,

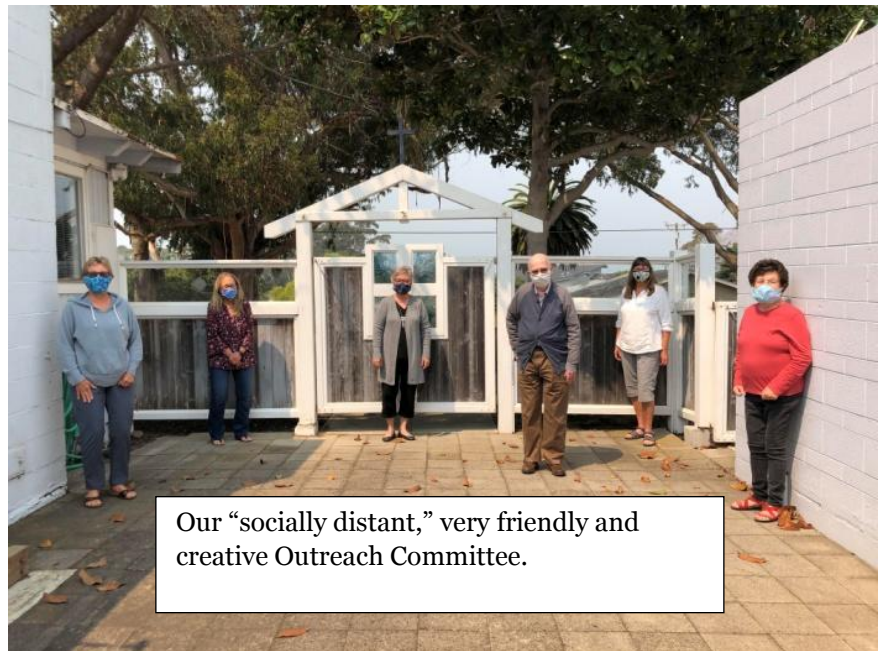
Ina



The Committee met on August 14. The group discussed ideas for outreach and ways to serve the community:

- Adding two wings to the library structure - one for food and one for the prayer box
- Pastor Robyn is considering doing some outreach and ministry, perhaps on the Embarcadero or in the neighborhood ("The Covid Chaplain is in").
- Offering to tutor or read with students online

Stay tuned to this committee to see what exciting events we come up with to make our presence known in the community and reach out to our members!



Our "socially distant," very friendly and creative Outreach Committee.

Socially Distant Outreach Committee

Necessity is the mother of invention! Yes, in order to maintain a strong internet signal, we are stringing Ethernet line from the office to the sanctuary!

You may have joined us Live-Streamed on Facebook on Sundays, but if you haven't it's definitely worth tuning in! The link to the Facebook video is also emailed to all and posted on our website, morrobaylutherans.org. We strive to bring you a quality recording, and without a resident "techy," it has not been easy! We do the best we can, and many thanks to those of you who help to pull it off. Stay tuned to the very end of the video to hear Ina's amazing postlude, and be sure to wave back at Janet Lorenzo!



This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

Scriptures for September

September 6	September 13	September 20	September 27
Ezekiel 33:7-11	Genesis 50:15-21	Jonah 3:10--4:11	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalms 119:33-40	Psalms 103:8-13	Psalms 145:1-8	Psalms 25:1-9
Romans 13:8-14	Romans 14:1-12	Philippians 1:21-30	Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 18:15-20	Matthew 18:21-35	Matthew 20:1-16	Matthew 21:23-32

September Birthdays

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David Cooper	9/2
Heidi Carney	9/7
Tyler Mitchell	9/14
Debbie Hoeflich	9/19
Mary Rash	9/22
Kea McKee	9/23
Dylan Lange	9/26



Mom's Best Banana Bread

3 large ripe bananas
 3/4 cup sugar
 1/2 cup vegetable oil
 1/4 cup milk
 2 eggs
 1 tsp. baking soda
 1 tsp. salt
 2 cups flour
 1/2 cup chopped nuts (optional)

Mix all wet ingredients. Add dry ingredients. Mix well. Grease large loaf pan.

Bake in loaf pan at 350 degrees for one hour or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

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September Anniversaries

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Herb & Patti Harsch	9/1/1957
Bob & Sharron Jackman	9/3/1977



Cream Cheese Cookies

1 cup butter at room temp
 1/2 cup sugar
 3 oz cream cheese at room temp
 1 3/4 cups flour

Mix together all at once. Roll into balls and roll in sugar. Press with glass dipped in sugar. Bake at 350 for 12 minutes.

Just for Fun



Prayers of Concern

Please email morrobaylutherans@gmail.com with any prayer concerns

Heidi Carney - cancer and cataract surgery
Brenda Ouwerkerk - aging parents
Betty Sorensen - recovering at home after a fall
Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mom - health
Ken Donohoo - illness
Family of Bob Penzel - health issues
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

Prayers of Thanks

This is a new column this month. It's important to remember the things we are thankful for. If you would like to express your thanks, please email them to morrobaylutherans@gmail.com

From Janet Lorenzo - Thankful that Angelo's Covid test was negative
From Gail Brochtrup - Aaron Brochtrup and Cassandra Gough- wed on Aug. 30, Katie Brochtrup- new diet to reduce migraines is working!
From Cindy Haener - I am thankful for the fire fighters and all the lives they are saving, and the mules that help transport their supplies.
From Nancy Padilla - I am thankful for my friends and family who are always there for me.

Check Out Our New Banner!



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We want to let the community know that we are still here, and still providing uplifting services every Sunday!

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Summer is almost gone, and kids are returning to school, even if not in the traditional way. Parents, please keep in mind that the Outreach Committee is talking about recruiting folks to help kids with reading and/or other assignments. Is there any other way that we as a community can help our students? If you have any ideas, please email them to morrobaylutherans.org. Have a great School year!

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*Remember In Prayer</p>		<p>1 Ministry Exploration Team (MET) meets 3 PM via zoom</p>	<p>2 Bible Study 10AM via zoom *Ken Brocks</p>	<p>3 Synod meeting on Synod goals 6 PM</p>	<p>4 *Von & Heidi Carney</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 Worship: 10:00 Facebook live streamed Recorded Service will be posted on morrobaylutherans.org and emailed</p>	<p>7 *Debbie Chrismen Labor Day</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 *Travis Chrismen Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p>10 Council Meeting Time TBD</p>	<p>11 *Jennifer Chrismen</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 Worship: 10:00 Facebook live streamed Recorded Service will be posted on morrobaylutherans.org and emailed</p>	<p>14 *Bob Clemensson</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 *Jean Clemons Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 * David Cooper Outreach Committee Meeting 1:00 on the Patio</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 Worship: 10:00 Facebook live streamed Recorded Service will be posted on morrobaylutherans.org and emailed</p>	<p>21 *Myles & Jo Anna Crebs</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 *Ina Davenport Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 *Ken & Valerie Donohoo</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 Worship: 10:00 Facebook live streamed Recorded Service will be posted on morrobaylutherans.org and emailed</p>	<p>28 *Rosalie Draeger</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 *Laverne Draeger Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>	<p></p>