



# THE CALVARY CALLING

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church in Morro Bay, California

February 2021

## KEEPING THE PROMISES MADE A DECADE AGO

Recently we asked about how our sister church Iglesia Luterana came to be. In 1997, some of the Lutheran pastors of the Central Coast Conference began a grassroots effort to start a new church, one that would reach the Hispanic community. Calvary Lutheran was part of that original conversation. This effort has always been rooted in the dreams and vision of the churches on the Central Coast and was not instigated by the Synod.

When Patricia Muran (at the time a member of Saint John's Lutheran Church) announced that she would be entering PLTS to ultimately serve the Spanish speaking people, the mission church idea took hold.

So while Patricia tended to her seminary studies, the core group of pastors strategized how to find mission support and to rally the conference churches to advocate for a new church.

With much prayer, they contacted and secured financial backing from 1) local ELCA churches 2) Southwest California Synod 3) ELCA church wide ELCA office in Chicago.



In 2001, when Patricia graduated from seminary, she was ordained and called as a mission developer in Santa Maria. Her church served a very marginalized community of mostly Mexican immigrants that have minimal education, speak Spanish and a native Mayan language, and



have an indigenous culture. Many work in agriculture. The grace of Christ touched their hearts and lives and continues to do so after Patricia retired in 2016.

Pastor Esteban Salazar was called to IL Santa Cruz and currently serves there with his wife Angie. We are hoping to reinvigorate our conference around this work as we keep the promise we made to them at their founding. **Last year, IL Santa Cruz presided at over 50 baptisms and 22 confirmations, by far the healthiest of all our churches.** Currently they share sanctuary and office space with Bethel Lutheran Church in Santa Maria. Stay tuned.

## Pastor's Pen: A Lenten Walk in the Woods

**H**ave you found yourself saying recently, "I can't wait until we are out of the woods." I know I've said it. Many of us are wanting, and planning, for a return to life outside of the woods. 2020 and 2021 has been challenging so longing for normalcy is understandable. Our faith tells us that Jesus is with us. There is nowhere we can be where Jesus is not. However, at times like now, ours is to live where we are and not where we prefer to be. Ours is to become more aware of Jesus' presence and providence. This Lenten season, ours is to reflect again on the greatest love of our Savior.

My friend Tom Jolivette has been giving this metaphor of the woods a lot of thought. *"Living in the woods is scary. It takes both a different mindset and a different skillset. Instead of trying to find our way out—back to normal—we must learn to live in our new reality."* Since the day we left Eden, the people of God have been trying to make our way back to the place we most deeply belong—to the literal dust of our making and the unfathomably deep heart of God.

Journey is a common theme we witness throughout the bible. It brings to mind a quote from writer Ram Dass: "We're all just walking each other home." And so it is with the idea of Pilgrimage. We need each other. Like God whispering to Elijah on the mountain, we will come to realize that the journey is the real flesh and blood of our endeavor—to find and connect with God and our fellow pilgrims that accompany us.

**It might be a more challenging life.**

**It might be a better life.**



Therefore, I invite you into a special Lenten

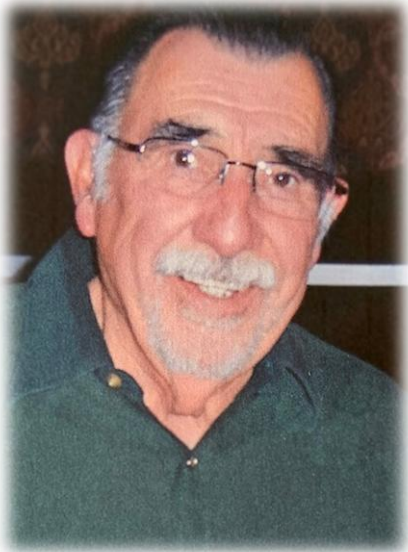
Journey—a pilgrimage—to the cross. It will be a time when we'll supplement our Sunday readings with midweek devotions and discussions. Via ZOOM, we'll enjoy soup suppers in our homes, visit with each other during the meal, and reflect on the devotion. If weather permits we may add a group walk. We hope you'll be inspired to take your own reflective walks? What wonders await? What riches will be found in intimate conversations with Christ?



**Our Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday which is February 17<sup>th</sup>.** We invite you to gather outside on our west patio at 4 PM for a brief service of reflection. We will impose ashes in the form of a temporary tattoo. Without touch, you'll receive a cross along with the ritual reminder, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." The significance of the cross reminds us that it is the grace that clings; that we are marked by Christ. This Lenten season we'll continue to "walk dusty" with Christ, reflecting as we journey together towards Easter hope. And no matter what, Easter always comes.

With prayers for a holy Lent, may we each remember who and whose we are.

*Pastor Robyn*



## In Loving Memory and a Life Well Lived

December 12, 1933-December 19, 2020

Von Edwin Carney died on December 19, 2020. He is survived and loved by his wife, many children, grandchildren and other family and friends.

He was 87 years and 7 days old. Von had had a short battle with cancer, but it was his heart that finally couldn't go on. Maybe because he gave so much of his heart to us. Anyone who met him loved him.

He was a member of the Chicasaw Tribe, a Korean War Army Veteran, a Huntington Police Officer, Morro Bay Police Officer and retired as a California Department of Corrections Correctional Officer at the California Mens Colony.

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## Have you ever wondered where the Sunday prayers come from? Good question.

They come from two places. Sundays and Seasons being the first. Sundays and Seasons is a Lutheran subscription resource for worship planning. It follows the three year lectionary cycle of scriptures and provides prayers, blessings and dismissals based on those scriptures.

We also receive prayers written by members of the church wide (denominational) staff via a weekly blog. These prayers tend to be timelier, based on the weekly scriptures as well as current events. You can always check out the blog at [www.blogs.elca.org](http://www.blogs.elca.org). They have many resources for worship in the home. Our denominational website is also a wonderful place to browse for faith statements, social statements, videos from our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, plus resources for congregations and clergy. Our synod website is likewise a treasure at [www.socalsynod.org](http://www.socalsynod.org).



## MEALS FOR THE MUFFS

Janelle Muff and her family are so very appreciative of our prayers and the generous and delicious meals that have been prepared for them while Janelle undergoes chemotherapy. Keep those prayers coming!

We are looking for folks who are willing to prepare and deliver a dinner during the month of March.

Please contact Gail Brochtrup, 805-772-0237 if you can help.

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# Council Highlights

The Council met last on January 14. Officers were elected: Gail Brochtrup and Joyce Bauer will be Co-President, Janet Lorenzo will be Secretary, Sandy McMillan will be Treasurer.

Pastor reports that worship will continue virtually for the foreseeable future. We enter Epiphany this Sunday, January 10. We are ready to distribute the survey (value voting) to get congregation wide feedback on the things they would prioritize. The survey will go out electronically later this month.

The Treasurer reports that The current balance in the Chase General Checking account is \$22,709.72 as of January 7, 2021. We had budgeted a total income of \$73,760.00 and \$73,760.00 for expenses. In reality, we received a total of \$84,896.74 in income with expenses of \$77,363.03 as of 12/31/2020.

## Outreach report

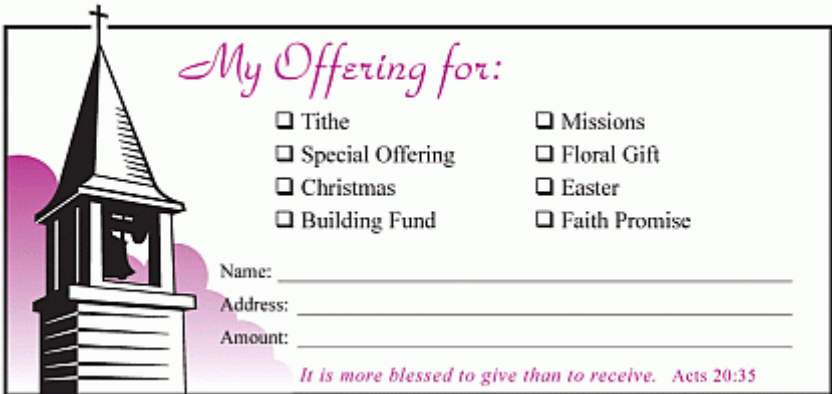
The Outreach Committee is excited to start organizing volunteers to cook for the Community Dinners in Morro Bay and Los Osos. See article on page 5 for more information.

Because we are unable to meet in person and share resources, we will be creating hygiene packets individually to be added to the library/food pantry. Hygiene items such as deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc. can be placed in gallon zip lock bags. The packets that were recently placed there are gone already, so there is a need for these supplies. In addition to packets, individual items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste will be added for those who don't need a whole packet. Feel free to make up packets yourselves, or if you would like to donate supplies contact Nancy Padilla, 760 521 1708, or Janet Lorenzo, 805 234 5089.

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# Offering Envelopes

Council is in the process of distributing offering envelopes for 2021. When you receive yours, we would appreciate you designating a minimum \$5 donation to cover their cost. Thank you in advance.



*My Offering for:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Tithe	<input type="checkbox"/> Missions
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Offering	<input type="checkbox"/> Floral Gift
<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas	<input type="checkbox"/> Easter
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Faith Promise

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

*It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35*

## Katie Brochtrup is Ready to Help



Are you looking for someone to chat with over email? If so my name is Katie and I'm willing to chat with you. Write me a note

and soon I will email you back.

Write to me at [katiebrochtrup@gmail.com](mailto:katiebrochtrup@gmail.com).

Hope to hear from you soon!



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## Outreach Team Joins the Efforts in Feeding the Homeless and Food Insecure



Ten years ago a small circle of friends saw a need and stepped in to address it. Since then a growing number of others, including churches and civic groups, have rotated feeding our neighbors every Monday evening at the Morro Bay Veterans Hall. Calvary joins the circle this month, preparing meals for 60-80 individuals, assigned to one Monday every other month. This week there were 39 at Community Take-out dinner.

Because of the wind, they staged the pickup for free food and the entree inside. Guests were given masks and gloves and shopping bags as needed. They were very grateful to be out of the wind if only for a short while. Beginning February 8, our assignment is to prepare trays of casserole style meals. A different group of volunteers packages them in individual servings, adding sides and desserts to the takeout bag. It's the community coming together for its own. Los Osos has a similar program which we will also assist.

Donations are provided by the Food Bank in partnership with the Morro Bay Lion's Club, Grocery Outlet of Los Osos, Jim Quesenberry (via donations from Ralphs and Costco), Sharon O'Leary, from the City of Morro Bay (via donations from Albertsons and elsewhere), and Spencer's Market of Morro Bay. Thank them if you see them.

Groups supplying dinner are (in alphabetical order) the Calvary Lutheran Church, Central Coast Circle of Friends, the Estero Bay Methodist Church, the Lion's Club, Morro Bay Quota, North Morro Church, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and St. Tim's Catholic Church. Most of these lovely groups of citizens have been feeding our guests for years. Give them a big hand, too



## Holding our annual meeting via ZOOM

...is not how we've done it in the past, however given our safety restrictions, we are blessed to be able to gather and see each other via this remarkable technology.

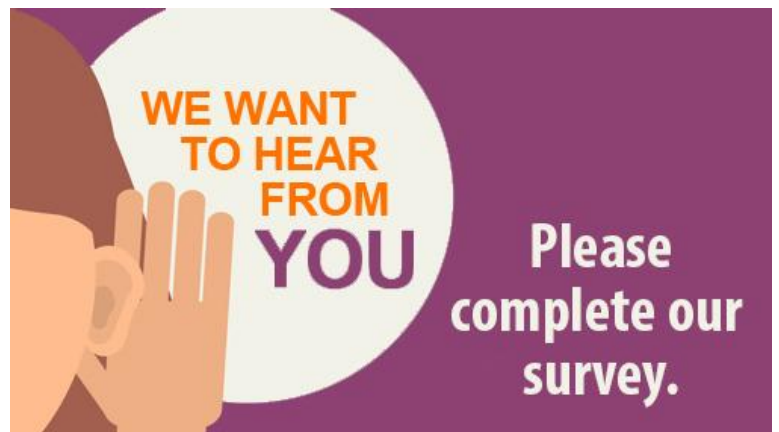
We want to thank everyone who took the time to log in to the meeting and to share their thoughts during discussions. It was a very good turn out. We were able to pass the recent updates to our constitution and we made two bylaws changes: 1) to have only one annual congregational meeting instead of two, and 2) to remove the "ex officio"

wording of our council treasurer's presence on our finance committee. We ended the meeting with two major celebrations. The first one was that, pandemic or not, we ended 2020 with a small surplus in the budget! The second was that we raised \$850 dollars to provide grocery gift cards and gifts for the families at Iglesia Luterana in Santa Maria. Finally we passed a conservative budget for 2021, putting us in a favorable position going forward.

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If you haven't yet taken our online survey, please check your email or fill out the paper survey that was mailed to some of you. Your feedback is important as we form a picture of Calvary's hopes for it's future pastor.

Thank you in advance.



To mail a letter or your tithing check to Calvary, please do not use the street mailing address. Please use:

**PO Box 386, Morro Bay, CA 93443**

Thank you.

## February Birthdays

Carol Frasier 2/4  
Connor Schuldt 2/4  
Lanaya Schuldt 2/4  
Joyce Bauer 2/12  
Aaron Brochtrup 2/21  
Katie Brochtrup 2/21  
David Schafer 2/23



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## February Anniversaries

Dan & Kathie Sperow 2/12/76



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## Remember in Prayer

- Heidi Carney - cancer
- Janelle Muff- cancer
- Elaine Grawe - loss of her daughter and mother
- Family of Ken Donohoo
- Brenda Ouwerkerk - aging parents
- Darel and Betty Sorenson
- Marcia Shep- Jennifer Kurrle's' grandmother- recovering from hip replacement surgery
- Mercedes Stevens- Katie Edson's elderly mother
- Joyce Bauer - eye surgery
- Georgina Tway- accepted at San Francisco State University
- Iglesia - May their needs be met
- Covid 19 - May those who are infected heal, and may others follow the restrictions to stop the spread.
- Thanks for this beautiful and much needed rain!

## Readings for February

### February 7

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm: Psalm 147:1-11, 20  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

### February 14

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm: Psalm 50:1-6  
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

### February 21

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10  
Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22  
Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

### February 28

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31  
Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25  
Gospel: Mark 8:31-38



Easy Oven Stew

**One large onion, chopped**

**2 stalks celery, chopped**

**3 potatoes cubed**

**3 carrots sliced**

**One large package beef stew meat**

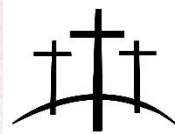
**One can V-8 Juice**

**3 Tbsps Tapioca**

**One Bay Leaf**

**Place vegetables and meat in a Dutch Oven. Pour the V-8 Juice over the top and sprinkle the Tapioca over the top. Cook in the oven at 250 for 6 hours.**

# *Lent 2021*



*This year we long to be out of the woods. And we ask if, for such a time as this, living in the woods is where we are called to be?*

*During Lent we have the opportunity to reflect on our lives alongside the life of Jesus and to journey to the cross with Christ.*

***Please join us as we discover new ways to grow our faith- together.***

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## ***Schedule***

***Wednesday, Feb. 17, ASH Wednesday, 4 p.m.***

*Gather socially distanced, outdoors on the west patio for a brief service and the imposition of ashes.*

***Wednesdays Feb. 24, Mar. 3, Mar.10, Mar. 17 and Mar. 24***

*Midweek, Virtual “**Bring Your Own Soup**” Suppers*

*6-7 p.m. via Zoom*

*Gather to eat, visit, reflect and pray*

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## **HOLY WEEK**

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*Palm Sunday is March 28, Good Friday is April 2*

*Easter Sunday is April 4*



# February 2021

*\*Please remember in your prayers.*

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 *Debbie Chrismen	2	3 *Travis Chrismen  Bible Study via Zoom 10:00	4	5 *Jennifer Chrismen	6
7 Worship service live- streamed on Facebook 10:00 and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Brenda O.	8 *Bob Clemensson	9	10 *Jean Clemons  Bible Study via Zoom 10:00	11 Council Meeting  Time TBA	12 *David Cooper	13
14 Worship Service live- streamed on Facebook 10:00 and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Nikki Rocha  Valentine's Day	15 *Ina Davenport	16	17 *Valerie Donohoo  Bible Study via Zoom 10:00  Ash Wednesday Service 4:00 On the Lawn	18	19 *Rosalie Draeger	20
21 Worship Service live- streamed on Facebook 10:00 and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Joyce Bauer	22 *Katie Edson	23	24 *Ron & Audrey Forster  Bible Study via Zoom 10:00  Soup Supper 6:00pm ZOOM	25	26 *Carrie Forster- Osterthaler	27
28 Worship Service live- streamed on Facebook 10:00 and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Cindy Haener						



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
"Come Share Our Joy"

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