



# THE CALVARY CALLING

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church in Morro Bay, California

April 2021

## Holy Week is here and all Creation is beginning to Exhale

After more than a year of pandemic cautions, many Calvary members and neighbors are being vaccinated. Talk of the town is about daring to look forward to an eventual return to normal. But not quite yet...therefore,

### **Palm Sunday (3/28) will begin our Holy Week.**

We'll continue to broadcast on Facebook Live and via our website, not meeting in person. Palm leaves are available at the back door to the fellowship hall. Please stop by to pick up enough for your family, waving them from your homes as we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Soon the rock will be moved.



Links to **Good Friday Services** will be posted on our website ([www.morrobaylutherans.org](http://www.morrobaylutherans.org)). The Synod has selected New City Parish to provide a special experience for us all. New City Parish is coalition of eight Lutheran Churches fighting for one cause: transforming our communities through collaborative, holistic ministries and social outreach programs. One of their pastors has guaranteed some amazing music! We'll email you the link as soon as we have it. The synod website has an entire page of links to worship services from around the synod. [www.socalsynod.org](http://www.socalsynod.org)

## **We will be open for in person worship on Easter Sunday!**

...and we will broadcast and record the service for any who are not ready to join us. Ina is pulling out all the stops for wonderful music. Easter will also be a communion service. We'll follow CDC and ELCA best practices for touchless distribution of the elements, inviting you to come forward to serve yourself while Pastor and our ministry assistant will address you in the traditional way, "The body of Christ, given for you, " and "The blood of Christ, shed for you." Masks will still be required as will social distancing.

Waiver forms will be available at the door. It's going to be a reunion! Please come if you're ready.



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## Pastor's Pen: Agents of Easter Hope

So much has changed since last Easter. We know ourselves better. We've weathered a historic pandemic. Now, it's time to dust ourselves off to stand on the truth of Easter going forward. Easter is the event that changed our world forever. As Easter people we have been "Eastered" so that we can share this good news with the world. Death was defeated, sin was conquered and the grave is still empty! Jesus is risen! Alleluia!



As we prepare to celebrate Easter's Paschal feast, please be reminded once again that hope is everywhere! Death will never again have the last word! Jesus' willingness to live fully, even to the point of death, expects something of us. His sacrifice calls us to that same fully lived life, a life dedicated to helping others do the same, in his name. This IS not a drill. It is God's greatest hope.



This is why John 10:10 (left) is one of my essential bible verses. How we imagine the future shapes how we live in the present. The future that my faith imagines is a rich feast for **all** people.

Another of my essential verses is from Jeremiah 17:8 *"They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit."* In this verse I hear God speaking to our resilience and ability to stay the course without being overcome by anxiety. It is a word of hope!

And finally Micah 6:8 *"God has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."* Throughout the bible, God has left holy breadcrumbs of love and guidance. Truly, God has provided everything we need to be agents of hope in the world.

I have enjoyed our time together during Lent and I look forward to celebrating with you this holy season. Thank you for the opportunity to walk with you on our journey of hope. Happy Easter Calvary.

Peace, Hope & Possibility,

*Pastor Robyn*

P.S. April 1 I will begin a new contract with part time hours. My days off will now be Monday, Friday & Saturday. If a council or pastoral urgency comes up, I will make myself available.



## 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 recovers from her recent surgery. Keep those prayers coming!

We are looking for folks who are willing to prepare and deliver a dinner during the month of April. Please contact Gail Brochtrup, 805-772-0237 if you can help.

## Council Highlights

The Synod Conference Assembly will be held on "Holy Humor Sunday", April 11. Pastor Robyn will deliver the sermon at 10:00. It will be live-streamed and serve as our service. People are welcome to attend in person at Gloria Dei in Santa Maria.

General Fund: The current balance in the Chase General checking account is \$19,838.47 as of March 11, 2021. Actual Income for February 2021 was \$5,633.00; Actual Expenses were \$5,151.93. Net income of \$481.07.

The newsletter is accessible on the website, however it has come to our attention that not everyone knows how to access it on the website so many are not reading it. A new group email will be created in our new membership program so that the newsletter can be directly emailed.

Thrivent money was originally requested to buy pre-packaged food and soft drinks to sell at the yard sale, with the proceeds going to keep the food pantry full and to assist Iglesia. Since the yard sale was cancelled, the money will be used to buy food for the pantry and for Iglesia.

## Outreach report

The Community Dinners in Morro Bay and Los Osos are going well. A special thanks to all the cooks: Robin Karas, Joyce Bauer, Nancy Padilla, Janet Lorenzo, Cindy Haener, Brenda Ouwerkerk, Nikki Rocha, Pastor Robyn, Kathie Sperow, and a big thank you also to Ina Davenport and Shelly Anderson for donating money to buy supplies. The next Community Dinner is in Morro Bay on April 12. If you're interested in joining our team, contact Nancy Padilla, 760 521-1708 or Janet Lorenzo, 805 234-5089.



The Outreach Committee is ready to move forward with the memorial bench for the corner of the parsonage property next to the food pantry. If you are interested in having a plaque on the bench to remember someone special, contact Janet Lorenzo at the number listed above.

*Proverbs 22:9 The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.*

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## MEET OUR GUEST PASTOR 4/25

### Rev. Joseph Castañeda Carrera

While Pastor Robyn takes a week of post Easter vacation, Pastor Joseph has graciously agreed to join us from the Synod office. Pr. Joseph is the Assistant to the Bishop for Authentic Diversity and Ethnic Specific Ministries. He is also the pastor for the Hiking Church, an outdoor church in our synod. Pastor Joseph is passionate, smart, personable and we can't wait to welcome him as he brings us the Word on April 25.



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## SPRING ELCA CENTRAL COAST CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

### APRIL 11 – PASTOR ROBYN TO PREACH AT HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY



A joint worship celebration will be held for all the ELCA churches of the central coast on **Sunday, April 11, 2021 at Gloria Dei Lutheran in Santa Maria.** For centuries, in Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant countries, “Bright Sunday” (the Sunday after Easter) was observed by the faithful as a ‘day of joy and laughter’ with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection. The custom of the celebrations was rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of

Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. The early theologians called it “Risus Paschalis” ~ the Easter Laugh. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the service will be held outdoors on the back patio at 10:00 a.m. **This service will be Calvary’s service for April 11.** No other service will take place. Those who want to attend in person are asked to mask up and wear warm clothing. Those who feel uncomfortable doing so can watch the service online. A short business meeting will be held following the service to elect Laura Krueger as our Conference Representative to the Synod Council. We encourage people to dress crazy for the day, and by all means, bring your sense of humor. Friends are welcome! Address is: 4380 Orcutt Rd, Santa Maria, CA 93455. To watch the service online go to Gloria Dei’s website at <https://www.gloria-dei-elcasm.org>.



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.

## JOURNEY WITH JESUS, LENT 2021

On Sunday, March 21, twelve hardy Lutherans set out with a scripture and good walking shoes. It was a gorgeous, windy day on the bay. We took a break to discuss what it means to “take up our cross” with Christ.” Answer: Using your gifts to serve others in Christ’s name.



Thank you to everyone who came out. Pictured from left to right: Kathie Sperow, Jim & Linda Luke, Brenda Ouwerkerk, Katie, Gary & Gail Brochtrup, Nancy Padilla, Cindy Haener, Archie (Pastor’s pup) Nancy Koppl and Valerie Donohoo. (Pr. Robyn on camera)



### Please Consider...

If you are in a position to tithe your recent stimulus check, Calvary would be most appreciative and will put it to good use in God’s kingdom.

Please mail it to the church post office box (386), Morro Bay, CA 93443

## Call Process Update

This month we completed the MET (Ministry Exploration Team) process by writing a narrative summary of our interviews and survey responses along with a snapshot of area demographics. This summary has been approved by the synod, clearing us to move forward with the call process. Thank you to everyone on the MET team. You served well.

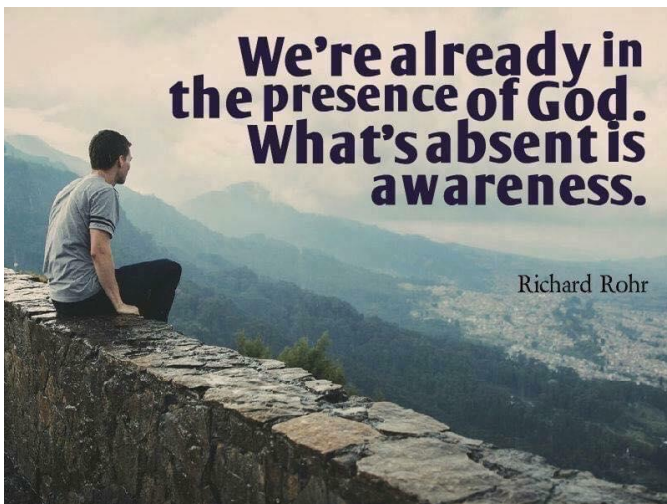
Council has decided to move slowly through these next steps in order to allow the membership and finances to stabilize, while continuing conversations with our members. The official next steps include forming a call committee and developing our "ministry site profile" or MSP. The synod will use our finished MSP to match us to available candidates.

Pastor Robyn has been retained for a second year, moving from full to part time while she guides us through the process of creating the MSP, interviewing candidates and ultimately calling a pastor.



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If you've not visited our Little Library/Food Pantry lately, the neighbors have largely taken over. One day it's nearly empty and the next day it gets replenished!





## Happy Birthday to:

Gwen Muff April 1  
 Janelle Muff April 3  
 Alice Kolb April 4  
 Bob Clemmensson April 11  
 Dan Sperow April 13  
 Jason Lange April 16  
 Hayden Chrismen April 20  
 Mike Lorenzo April 23  
 Carol Schuldt April 24  
 Brenda Ouwerkerk April 30

## Anniversaries

Randy & Carol Schuldt April 8, 1969  
 Joe & Debby Hoeflich April 20, 1991



## April Scripture Readings

### Sunday, April 4

Isaiah 25:6-9  
 Psalm 114  
 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8  
 Luke 24:13-49

### Sunday, April 11

Acts 4:32-35  
 Psalm 133  
 1 John 1:1--2:2  
 John 20:19-31

### Sunday, April 18

Acts 3:12-19  
 Psalm 4  
 1 John 3:1-7  
 Luke 24:36b-48

### Sunday, April 25

Acts 4:5-12  
 Psalm 23  
 1 John 3:16-24  
 John 10:11-18

## Remember in Prayer

- The family of Nathan McLean (22 years old, friend of Aaron Brochtrup) killed in a single car crash.
- James Hecker, (Gary & Gail's brother-in-law), painful side effects from cancer treatment
- Sherry Barker (member of Calvary who lives at Bayside Care Center), serious health issues and feeling overwhelmed by the isolation of Covid. She requests prayers and cards if you are so inclined. She is at Nursing Station #1, Room 26 Bed 3.
- Heidi Carney, cancer treatment
- Janelle Muff, cancer treatment
- Elaine Grawe, loss of her daughter and mother
- Families of Ken Donohoo & Von Carney
- Darel and Betty Sorenson
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's elderly mother
- Iglesia - May their needs be met
- Covid 19 - May those who are infected hear, and may others follow the restrictions to stop the spread.

**If you'd like to receive prayer request updates, or if you have a prayer request, please email pastor Robyn at [revrobyn@earthlink.net](mailto:revrobyn@earthlink.net)**

# April 2021

*\*Please remember in your prayers.*

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*In-Person Worship subject to change				1 	2 *Mike & Janet Lorenzo  Service online	HOLY SATURDAY
4  In-Person Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Joyce Bauer	5 *Scott McCorkhill  Coffee Club 9:00 La Parisienne	6  Finance Team Meeting  Via Zoom 5 pm	7 *Jeff & Kea McKee  Bible Study via Zoom 10:00	8 Council Meeting  Time TBD	9 *Sandy McMillan  Outreach Committee Meeting Time & location TBD	10
11 Holy Humor Sunday ELCA worship at Gloria Dei Lutheran in Santa Maria. Outside service with masks, warm clothes  Live Streamed www.gloria-dei-elcasm.org	12 *Nick & Becky Mendoza  Morro Bay Community Dinner	13	14 *Tyler Mitchell  Bible Study via Zoom 10:00	15	16 *David & Janelle Muff  Coffee Club 9:00 Buttercup Bakery	17
18 *In-Person Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Nikki Rocha	19 *Gary & Eileen Orback	20	21 *Mark Orback  NO Bible Study	22	23 *Brenda Ouwerkerk	24
25 *In-Person Worship service 10:00 with Pastor Joseph Castañeda Carrera - live streamed on Facebook - posted to Morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Cindy Haener	26 *Nancy Padilla	27	28 *Bob Penzel  Bible Study via Zoom 10:00	29	30 *Brenda Pool	31



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
"Come Share Our Joy"

(805) 772-8457 \* [www.morrobaylutherans.org](http://www.morrobaylutherans.org) \* 480 Monterey Ave., Morro Bay \* PO Box 386, 93443-0386