



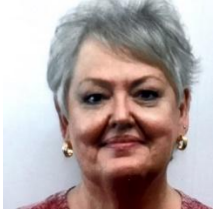
THE CALVARY CALLING

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church in Morro Bay, California
2021

May

Pastor's Pen: May, the Gateway to Summer Renewal

I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint. - Jeremiah 31:25



May is here—the official gateway to summer! Growing up in Napa, we could count on the weather turning from warm to hot in May. I have fond memories of eating lunch under shade trees, stealing eggs to cook on the sidewalk and standing in front of the portable water cooler in our home until somebody yelled for me to move. And every year I looked forward to vacation. Oh where would we go? This year it seems we're talking more about how to vacation safely. Despite our recent quarantines, staying home for months on end didn't feel restful. It felt stressful. This year we need renewal and refreshment.

I find the deepest rest when I can wander mentally, emotionally, spiritually and physically. Last night I flew home from a week's vacation in far northern Ohio. I stayed in a tiny farming town, surrounded by horses, cows, tractors and men in overalls. My fiancé's family owns a huge campground and RV park and it was opening weekend of the 57th season. It was divine. No alarm clocks, meetings, and no place I *had* to be. I seldom really slow down even though we live where others come to do just that. The pace was unfamiliar and more needed than I realized!

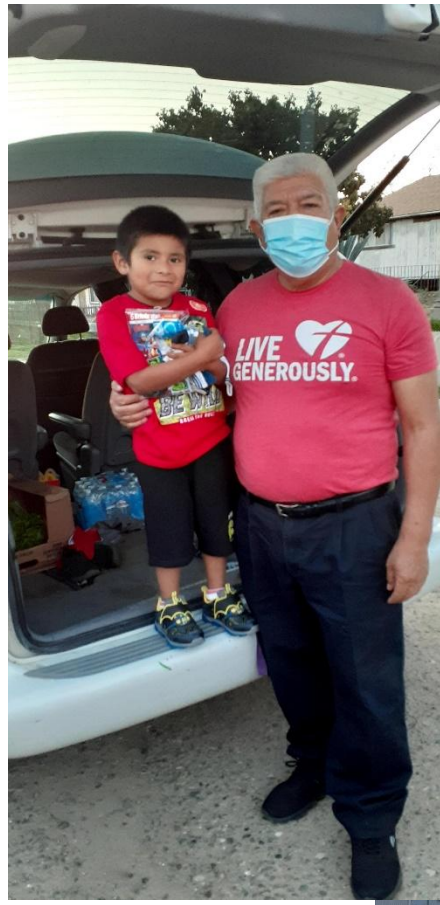


Just how we find renewal and refreshment is very personal. Our Father has built Sabbath rest into our every week. Rest is tantamount to health and yet I know I've confused rest with filling every moment with activity, as long as the activity was different from the other six days. How will you find the rest and renewal you require this summer? What forms will it take?

In a way, vacations are like interims. They are in-between times. Even Calvary is resting to find best ways forward for renewal. I hope you are listening closely to who you are, what you need and how best to call a pastor with the skills and temperament to walk with you on that journey.

In my experience these kinds of personal and communal renewals have led to unique future ministries. I know of congregations that made community out of gathering musicians, poets and writers. I know of congregations that provide community space for youth activities and special schools. I've seen others who work exclusively with neighbors who live with poverty or who house small nonprofit organizations who serve the homeless. When a community of people land together on a need that refreshes their own spirits, they will gather more people who are likewise refreshed by the same things. When that happens organically, the sky is the limit. Going to church is only the first part. BEING the church is what comes next. I pray we all get some much needed vacation time to re-boot, connecting with whatever makes you feel most alive. What would make Calvary become most alive? Those are some of the questions we'll answer this year in the call process.

Peace & Renewal, *Pastor Robyn*



COMMUNITY LIFE

Pictured above left to right: Pastor Esteban from Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz with two of several migrant children who received new shoes, clothes and food from a Calvary fundraiser. They and their parents were very excited. At right is Calvary member Sherry Barker who lives in Bayside Care Center. Sherry loves visitors and cards. Bottom right: Council approved the budget to professionally trim our beautiful trees. Now they are not only healthier, they will let in more light to the sanctuary.



MEALS FOR THE MUFFS

Janelle Muff and her family are very appreciative of our prayers and the generous and delicious meals that have been prepared for them while Janelle recovers from her recent surgery. She is recovering well. Keep those prayers coming!

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

Council Highlights

Council met on Thursday, April 8.

The Treasurer presented an estimate of \$1,000 to have the trees trimmed. Council approved having the trees trimmed using funds in Designated Funds #3221-Property Needs.

GENERAL FUND: The current balance in the Chase General checking account is \$20,296.75 as of April 8, 2021. Actual Income for March, 2021 was \$5,370.00; Actual Expenses were \$5,994.01. Net income of (\$624.01).

Council agreed that in-person worship will continue with masks and social distancing as long as it is safe and allowed to do so.

Normally the new Council members are installed during a service in January. This did not happen this year because of Covid-19. Pastor Robyn would like to install the Council members now that we can meet in person. Council members will be installed on Sunday, May 2.

Joyce B. and Gail B. attended a Zoom Synod Leadership Conference. Discussions included Empowering every member of the Council, succession planning, code of conduct, and recognizing other leaders and inviting them to participate. Gail B. sent a summary of the conference to Council members. Our Mission Statement will be worked on by the Call Committee.

Some of the Executive Council met with Ina Davenport, the Music leader and agreed on the terms of an updated contract.

Outreach report

The Outreach Committee meeting spent their April meeting time assembling goodie bags for Easter. Members provided candy, butterflies and Alleluias to fill the bags. The Community Dinners in Morro Bay and Los Osos are going well, and we're always looking for more cooks and helpers. The next dinner will be in Los Osos on May 27. If you're interested in joining our team, contact Nancy Padilla, 760 521-1708 or Janet Lorenzo, 805 234-5089.



Luke 1:37 - "For nothing will be impossible with God."



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

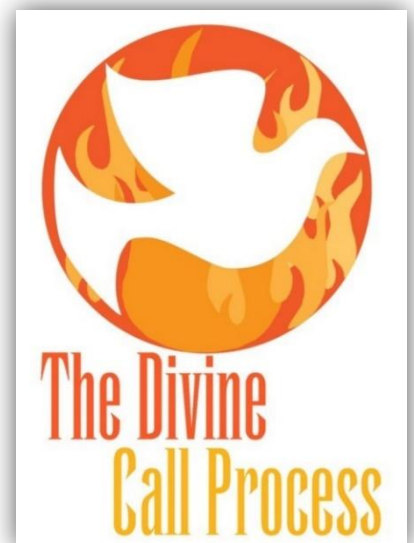
PO Box 386, Morro Bay, CA 93443

Thank you.

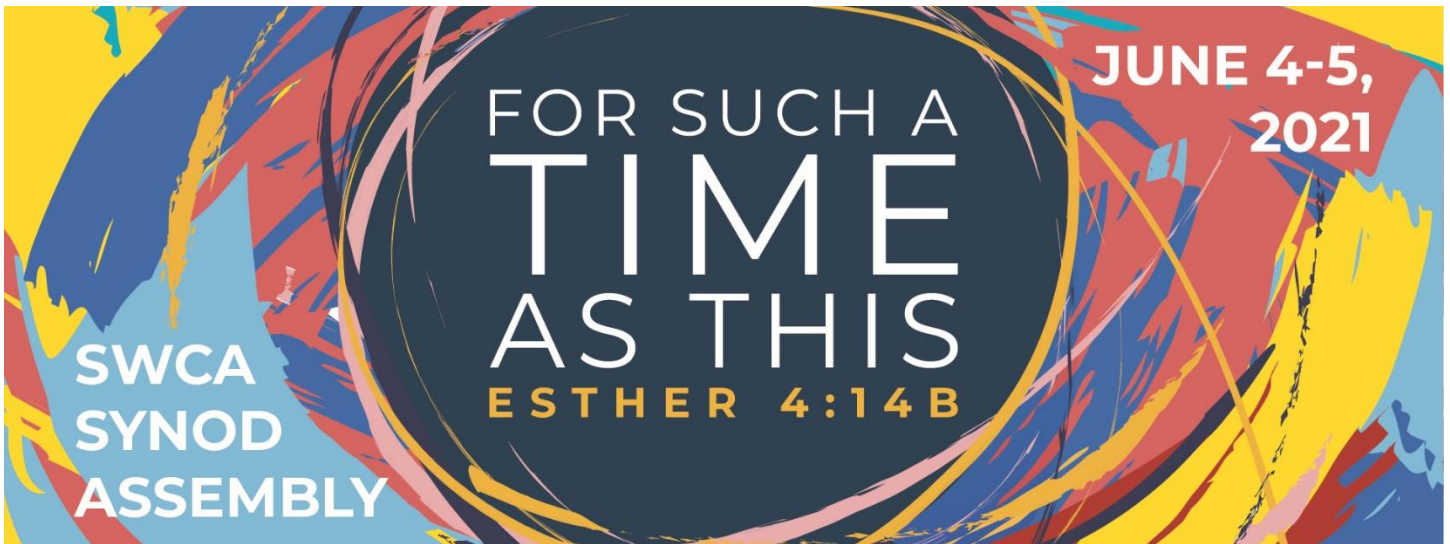
Update: It's time for us to form a Transition/Call Team

The Transition Team or "Call Committee" is a key component of the Intentional Interim Ministry process. In fact, it is the single most important element. The Team is

1. A group of trusted individuals selected by the congregation to guide the process.
2. A group of spiritually wise leaders; individuals that members would go to (other than clergy) if they had deep questions of faith.
3. Representative of the entire congregation (a microcosm).
4. A critical strategy in the process because it communicates that this is the congregation's work.
5. A model to the congregation in looking for God's movement among the people as they seek to discover God's will, purpose and direction for the future of the congregation.
6. The Intentional Interim Minister's accountability group.
7. The group who determines when the congregation is ready to draft and submit the Ministry Site Profile to the Synod. It is this group that will interview potential pastors the Synod refers for interviews.
8. A new group with a new life. This last point is particularly important. It would be much quicker and easier to simply take an existing group such as the Council or MET team and ask them to serve as the Transition Team, however the Transition Team has several objectives that help the Team accomplish their work. They will:
 - a. Become a safe, trusting and open group where members can share their disappointments and concerns .
 - b. Customize the Intentional Interim Ministry process and activities to fit their particular congregation's needs.
 - c. Lead the interim process while other leaders continue the ongoing leadership functions of "running" the faith community.
 - d. Are ultimately responsible to recommend to the council and then the congregation the selection of the final pastoral candidate.
 - e. Become a safeguard in two respects:
 - the Team facilitates the congregation's engagement of the transition work rather than the interim minister doing the work for the congregation.
 - the Team prevents the interim minister from being perceived as extending the transition time for their own personal benefit.



The Interim Minister will direct the process and attend all of the early meetings of the group. Later she will be available as needed but not attend every meeting. It also is crucial that the whole congregation has an opportunity for input and that the entire process is explained before receiving any suggestions about who should serve on the Team. Qualities apparent in a person who will serve on the Transition Team include being... *trusted, respected, prayerful, spiritually wise, a regular attender, a regular contributor, able to speak for groups within the congregation – not representatives, but representative, willing to listen to all perspectives.* Council will talk more about identifying this team at their next meeting. Stay tuned. Stay prayerful. Are you sensing a call to serve?



To the People of the Southwest California Synod of the ELCA, This year, we will gather as the Southwest California Synod as never before—completely virtually. It will be different. You won't greet fellow synod leaders in the hall or during the breaks. You will be responsible for your own coffee and snacks. And you'll have to stretch your legs as you walk around your own office or living room. But no matter the format, we will gather—in mind, body and spirit, through the wonders of the internet "for such a time as this."

Much of our business will be the same important work: receiving annual reports, adopting a budget, electing folks to serve in numerous positions throughout the synod, etc. We pray that you will be encouraged and inspired by the work we've been doing together as the people of God in this place and that you will be enriched and energized by the time shared together. (And it's our goal that this isn't just another Zoom that you have to navigate and endure.)

Our foremost piece of business will be to elect the next Bishop of the Southwest California Synod. We continue to pray that this process would bring forth leaders who are gifted and called "for such a time as this." We are grateful for this opportunity to gather together—to worship our Great God, celebrate the ministry we share, and dream together about the work God calls us to in the future.

Please note: the deadline for registration is Friday, May 7. In order to conduct the business of the church, particularly related to voting in this new medium, this deadline is firm. Please register early as soon as possible!

The Rev. Nikki Fielder, Synod Assembly Chair

Our council will be recruiting a voting member to officially represent Calvary, in addition to Pastor Robyn, however this is a rare occasion for any church member to attend online and see what the synod and our life together is all about. You can even attend in your pajamas!

With grateful hearts, we have finally heard from our Compassion child, Charite, in Rwanda. Here is the news from this nine year old's corner of the world (written for us by a neighbor.):



*Dear Calvary Lutheran Church,
Your child Charite, with her family, are so happy to greet you in this letter and may Jesus' peace be with you. They are so grateful that you are always praying for them and supporting them by giving her scholastic materials, shoes, clothes and medical insurance. Charite went back to school after 10 months without going there due to Corona Virus. She is studying in Primary One and she is studying well. Her family is so thankful to God who is continuing to protect them and praying to God that he may continue to*

protect them from Covid 19. Please keep Charite and her family in your prayers. If you are so inclined, a financial contribution can be made with your regular offering, earmarked for Charite or Compassion child.



Happy Birthday to:

Titan Christmen	May 3
Stacey Lange	May 14
Becky Mendoza	May 16
Patti Harsch	May 24
Maggie Muff	May 24
Charles Rice	May 27
Katie Edson	May 28
Emilee Lange	May 30

April Scripture Readings

Sunday, May 2

Acts 8:26-40
 Psalm 22:25-31
 1 John 4:7-21
 John 15:1-8

Sunday, May 9

Acts 10:44-48
 Psalm 98
 1 John 5:1-6
 John 15:9-17

Sunday, May 16

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
 Psalm 1
 1 John 5:9-13
 John 17:6-19

Sunday, May 23

Acts 2:1-21
 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
 Romans 8:22-27
 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Sunday, May 30

Isaiah 6:1-8
 Psalm 29
 Romans 8:12-17
 John 3:1-17

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

Calling All Graduates!

If you are graduating or you have a student graduating this year, send the name, school, grade, and future plans to Janet Lorenzo or Gail Brochtrup so we can celebrate their success!



May 2021 Calvary Lutheran

**Please remember in your prayers.*

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>**In-Person Worship subject to change</p>						1
<p>2 **In-Person Worship service 10:00 with Holy Communion live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Brenda O. Council Installed</p>	<p>3 *Kevin & Nikki Rocha Coffee Club 9:00 Top Dog 857 Main St MB</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 *David Schafer Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 *Randy & Carol Schuldt</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 **In-Person Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Joyce B. Happy Mothers' Day!</p>	<p>10 *Ronnie Smith</p>	<p>11 Finance Committee Meeting 5:00 Via Zoom</p>	<p>12 *Darel & Betty Sorensen Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p>13 Council Meeting Time TBA</p>	<p>14 *Dan & Kathie Sperow Outreach Committee Time TBA</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 **In-Person Worship service 10:00 with Holy Communion live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Nikki R.</p>	<p>17 *George & Edith Tway</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 *Toni Tway Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 *Georgina Tway Coffee Club 9:00 Location TBA</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 **In-Person Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Cindy H.</p>	<p>24 *Karen Vail</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 *Richard Williams Bible Study 10:00 via Zoom</p>	<p>27 Los Osos Community Dinner</p>	<p>28 *Diane Williams</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 **In-Person Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Cindy H.</p>	<p>31 *Kate Anderson Memorial Day</p>					