



THE CALVARY CALLING

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church in Morro Bay, California

September 2021

Rally Sunday Set for September 12th -- It's not just for kids!



Rally Day is meant for all of us! It welcomes us back from summer activities. Summer activities can draw us away from each other under the best of conditions. Factor in a pandemic and the disconnects are palpable. That's why we need an annual mission refresher! So please join us on Rally Sunday, September 12th when we'll kick off the new church program year, reminding us all of the

ministry teams and activities you might like to know more about. Like our...

- Outreach Team (learn about Iglesia Luterana, our service to our community, and several new ideas for reaching out to area youth)
- Finance Team
- Council
- Wednesday Bible Study
- Stewardship Team
- Transition/Call Committee
- Coffee Gatherings
- Or maybe you'd like to start ministry?



Come learn about what these teams and fellowship opportunities are all about. Maybe you'd like information about joining or maybe you'd just like to know about the many things happening at Calvary.

That Sunday, we'll dedicate our stain glass window installation, consecrate our Call Committee, bless backpacks for any students or educators, and celebrate our newest members. And we'll have cake! So, join us.

Remember, people fall out of church for the same reasons they fall out of bed. They weren't in there far enough!

Pastor's Pen: Luther's Rose, Welcome, and Statements of Faith

If you've not yet been back inside Calvary, here is our incredible new window. This art piece is the first thing that greets members and visitors as they enter the front door. Designed and executed by local artist Ken Foran, son-in-law of Calvary member Dick Williams, the window depicts Luther's Rose. Luther's rose is considered the single image that best represents the theology of Martin Luther and the Reformation. It's a visual representation of Luther's statement of faith. What would yours be? How would you describe your beliefs? In a 1530 letter to Lazarus Spengler, who helped design the seal, Luther writes:

"First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17). The hearts should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace — it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels. This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed. Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize the blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal."



As part of our window's unique design, Foran added twelve faceted red stones to represent the twelve disciples, along with the three crosses (in purple) for Jesus and the two others who were convicted with him.

It's such an interesting exercise to put our faith into words and pictures. What would be at the center? What values or beliefs would surround it? I met a teacher this week who had exited a religious cult. She continues to re-establish her own identity outside of their influence. For her, Integrity would be in the center, surrounded by honesty, hope, joy, kindness and teaching. That has had me thinking. I consider myself a liberation theologian meaning that I tend to interpret the gospel through the eyes and experience of the poor and oppressed. In other words a faith of lived action designed to alleviate oppression. I suppose if I had an art piece it might include someone breaking free of chains, maybe with a sun rise background and floral buds of new birth. How about you? I'd love to hear your ideas.

In Hope, *Pastor Robyn*

MEET “MIKE,” ONE OF OUR NEIGHBORS

This is Mike, one of our special neighbors who keeps our food pantry stocked whenever he can. Mike shared with Pastor Robyn that he had been homeless at one time and was helped by food pantries like the one we maintain on the corner of Anchor and Monterey. Because of his gratitude, Mike now pays it forward by bringing a small bag of non-perishable food items to share with others. He knows exactly what to shop for, explaining that cans with pop top lids are easier for those on the streets than cans that require can openers. He always brings water bottles and plastic cutlery and napkin bags so that people can enjoy their meal with dignity. He was so happy to see that Calvary had expanded our little library, that he stops by every few days to keep it full. Mike is just one of several neighbors who help.



Council Highlights

- The Call Committee has been meeting regularly.
- The return to wearing masks during the service is necessary due to increases locally in the cases of Covid. Communion will still be provided at the rail with the no-touch method we have been using.
- A sample Building Use Policy was reviewed by the group. The policy gives guidance for other groups using our building, including weddings and funerals.
- Personal note: Due to a recent diagnosis and chronic pain, Pastor Robyn will be retiring by the end of the year. The Call Committee is expected to be close to being able to select a new pastor by that time. If not, a bridge pastor will be provided by Synod.
- There are several maintenance needs on the inside and outside of the building. Gary Orback and Janet Lorenzo have created lists of things that need attention, and Ken Brocks has been busy doing painting touch up and other minor repairs outside.
- **September 12 will be the Rally Day this year.** A cake will be ordered to celebrate our new members, and the new stained-glass window will be dedicated along with, blessing any student or educator backpacks.
- Items are now being transferred from storage to the Fellowship Hall for sorting and pricing. Large items and furniture will be sold from the Parsonage driveway. Yard sale will be held on October 1st and 2nd

September 2021 Newsletter - Treasurer's Report					
		<u>21-Jul</u>	<u>2021 YTD Totals</u>	<u>2021 YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of 2021 Budget</u>
Income	\$	10,165.00	\$ 47,002.93	\$ 43,210.60	108.80%
Expense	\$	(4,944.63)	\$ (44,475.55)	\$ (49,168.10)	90.50%
Net					
Income	\$	5,220.37	\$ 2,527.38	\$ (5,957.50)	
			<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	



Outreach Committee

There are three new prospective activity ideas: A mid-week sunset group that would meet 1x monthly in the evening in a scenic place to enjoy a sunset, conversation, and a favorite beverage, a Nature Walk, and a mid week Parents' Night Out where kids can come for dinner, homework help, games and a Bible lesson. Signup sheets to indicate interest have been placed in the "We Are the Church" binder for the Sunset Group and the

Nature Walk. Parents of kids who may be interested in the Parents' Night Out have been contacted in person.

Ina Davenport has suggested another piano concert with Edie Orloff in January, with proceeds going to the Organ Improvement fund. The Council approved having the concert in January. The use of proceeds will be decided at a later date.

The next Community Dinner will be in Los Osos at the Community Center on September 23. As always we will need cooks to make it a success! Contact Nancy Padilla, 760-521-1708, or Janet Lorenzo, 805-234-5089 if you can help.

Jim Luke, a new Calvary member expressed an interest in joining the Outreach Committee. According to our constitution, Outreach Committee members are appointed by the Council. The Council appreciates Jim's interest and officially appointed him to the Outreach Committee. Welcome aboard Jim Luke!



David Cooper	9/2
Heidi Carney	9/7
Diane Williams	9/11
Tyler Mitchell	9/14
Jim Luke	9/15
Debby Hoeflich	9/19
Kea McKee	9/23
Dylan Lange	9/26
Bob Penzel	9/29

August Anniversaries

Herb & Patti Harch -9/1/1957



Please remember that our sister congregation, "Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz" has urgent needs. They would appreciate donations of dry beans, corn flour, salt, rice, sugar, cooking oil, small pasta, rice and snacks. They also are in need of personal care products for men and women, cleaning products, and especially diapers in all sizes, especially 4, 5 and 6. Bring your donations to church. Thank you.

Prayers of Concern

Katie Brochtrup - Recovering from surgery
Janelle Muff - Cancer
Heidi Carney - Cancer
Darel & Betty Sorensen
Mikey Vedrin-pastor's grandson, for an eye infection
Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mom
Edith Tway - Illness
Iglesia - May their needs be met
The Calvary Call Committee



September Scriptures

September 5

Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10, 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 12

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 19

First Reading
Jeremiah 11:18-20
Wisdom 1:16-2:1, 12-22
Psalm 54
James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 26

First Reading
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Worship Volunteers Needed

COMMUNION HELPERS: Please sign up in the white binder sent around each Sunday if you can help us on communion Sundays. We need help setting up communion on Saturdays and cleaning up after services, or helping us serve during worship. Communion Sundays are the first and third Sundays of each month. I would really appreciate your help if you could sign up for occasional Sundays. I would be glad to show you what to do. It isn't really difficult. Also, if you've got any of our white napkins or cloths at your house, please return them to the church in the sacristy (preparation room).

USHERS: If you would like to help us with ushering on an occasional Sunday, we need you. Ushering right now is lighting & extinguishing the candles, collecting the offering, setting in the communion rail and directing worshippers forward during the distribution of communion. Please sign up in the white binder.

Thank you all for your service to our church no matter how you contribute to our success and with patience, prayer and God's love, we may all be able to worship together soon.

The Lord be with you,

Joyce Bauer

(Please call me if you have questions at 805-772-2734 or 805-748-4748)

CHURCH GARAGE SALE

Mark your calendars for our long-awaited Calvary Garage Sale!

Due to Covid precautions, the City of Morro Bay twice cancelled the city-wide garage sale. However, since our parsonage garage and office building are bursting with donations, Alice Kolb and her team have selected the first weekend in October for our sale. It will be held both Friday, October 1 and Saturday, October 2nd. Stay tuned for more details on donations and volunteer needs for set up and the sale. P.S. These dates coincide with Harbor Festival. Fingers crossed the Festival is held so that the city is full of out of town shoppers.

A Note from Pastor Robyn

Within this month's council highlights, you likely noticed a mention of my early retirement—December 31st to be precise. It's important to me that you know why.



Earlier this year, my doctor diagnosed me with a metabolic bone disease. Essentially my body had turned some of my ligaments into bone. A recent CT scan confirmed that it's more advanced than first thought or hoped. There is no treatment; only management of pain which is chronic. For any of you who live with pain, you know that pain can be draining. I had planned on retiring in June 2022, however with the call committee in full swing, Bishop Bos suggested that a bridge pastor can come in should your new pastor not be in place by the end of this year.

At this point I need to focus on what's next with my health, my engagement, and my retirement. Calvary is a special community and I pray you know that serving you has been a profound blessing. I hope that my presence here has blessed you as well. I can't wait to see where God takes you next!

Peace, *Pastor Robyn*

September 2021

*Remember in Prayer **Subject to Change

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 *Kevin & Nikki Rocha Bible Study 10:00 Fellowship Hall	2	3 *David Schafer	4
5 **In-Person Worship service With Holy Communion 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Nikki R.	6 *Randy & Carol Schuldt  Coffee Club 9:00 Top Dog	7 Finance Committee 5:00 via Zoom	8 *Ronnie Smith Bible Study 10:00 Fellowship Hall	9 Council Meeting 5:00	10 *Darel & Betty Sorensen	11
12  Rally Day! **In-Person Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Jim L.	13 *Dan & Kathie Sperow	14	15 *George & Edith Tway Bible Study 10:00 Fellowship Hall	16	17 *Georgina Tway Coffee Club 9:00 LaParisienne	18
19 **In-Person Worship service With Holy Communion 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Toni T.	20 *Toni Tway	21 Outreach Committee 1:45	22 *Diane Williams Bible Study 10:00 Fellowship Hall First Day of Fall 	23 Los Osos Community Dinner 4:00	24 *Richard Williams	25
26 **In-Person Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Assistant: Cindy H.	27 *Kate Anderson	28	29 *Sheryl Barker Bible Study 10:00 Fellowship Hall	30		



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
"Come Share Our Joy"

(805) 772-8457 * www.morrobaylutherans.org * 480 Monterey Ave., Morro Bay * PO Box 386, 93443-0386