



THE CALVARY CALLING

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church in Morro Bay, California

February 2022

Dear Calvary friends,

It has been four Sundays with you, and now I feel like we know one another a bit better. Thank you for your unfailing warm welcome and your interest in true partnership between pastor and members. You believe in it and you ACT like you believe in it!

Some initial impressions:

- You have had some really fine pastoral leadership during this transition from long-time pastor and wife Jim and Nancy Berg's tenures. Yes, I see hints of the Bergs around. The faithful people Pastor Jim encouraged over the years. The music ministry that Nancy nourished and developed, evidenced by the folders of music that the team had. The kind words I hear about them. And then Pastors Liz and Robyn have helped steer you in the interim time to develop new modes of operation and program. Quite impressive.
- I'm loving the deep competency of your church council and the pragmatic and inspired visions and discussions of the outreach committee. I'm impressed by the assisting ministers that Joyce has organized, the various members who are stocking and overseeing the food pantry and who cook for the community meals in Morro Bay and Los Osos. I like your weekly Bible study, your occasional coffee club (no dues!).
- I enjoy the warm fellowship you share with one another, that is not cliquish, but sensitive to the new people who appear and the ones who need neighborly care.
- You love music and have a musician who also LOVES music. I feel right at home.
- I see a strong volunteer base of good folks, who in your hard work do not show evidence of being worn out.
- I notice that your reasons for being are based on a desire to create a community of the gospel, that seeks to follow Jesus' way, and influence this part of the world in positive ways.
- I am especially aware of your low level of anxiety about the future. Maybe this is just a show for my sake, but I don't believe that. You know who you are, you know your own assets, you are learning to rely on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and you are present to the moment.

What more could a bridge pastor ask for?

Epiphany blessings,
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

Recap - Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting was held on Jan. 9 with 15 members voting to approve the budget for 2022. A new Council Member, Nancy Koppl, was elected. Nancy will join the current team including: Joyce Bauer, Co- President; Gail Brochtrup, Co- President, Sandy McMillan, Treasurer, Janet Lorenzo, Secretary, Nancy Padilla, Hospitality, Kate Anderson, Cindy Haener and Dick Williams. Kathie Sperow was re-elected for a second term on the **Endowment Fund Committee**. Other members include: Bob Penzel; Kate Anderson, Sandy McMillan and Gary Orback. Two new people were elected to the **Audit Committee**: Janelle Muff and Jim Luke. The third member of this committee is Gary Brochtrup. Thanks to all who attended this important annual meeting.



Offering Envelopes - Don't Forget Yours



Offering Envelopes are now available in the Narthex. An envelope is included in the box that asks for a \$3 donation, however, the actual cost is \$5.30. If you can make a donation to cover the actual cost it would be appreciated. Please remember to pick up your envelopes next time we are back in church in-person. Thank you!

How is Your Contribution to Synod Spent?

You may be wondering what Synod does with the contributions we send them each year. Each church sends 5% of the funds collected and earmarked for the General Fund to Synod. Here is a message regarding how those funds are utilized, according to Bishop Brenda Bos:

I thank you for your generous contributions, which serve your congregation, your synod and the denomination. You join over one hundred congregations who say "yes" to God's call to be generous in this synod. Fifty percent of your mission support goes to the ELCA for national and global ministries. The other fifty percent is used faithfully to fund synodical programs, including education, roster management and support for new starts and strategic ministries. We support our local university and seminary. We support food banks and after school programs. We are working to empower each congregation to find its sense of mission in their community.

The choice to designate your giving "General Fund", or "Local Use" is up to you. Hopefully this explanation will help you to make an informed decision about where your offering goes and how it is used.



Treasurer's Report as of December, 2021

Income - \$6,082.87; Expenses - \$8,020.61. Income at the end of December was at 106.1% of our 2021 budget for the 12 months ended December 31, 2021. Expenses were at 92.5% of our 2021 budget for the same period. ***The great news is that Calvary ended the 2021 year with a net profit of \$5,415.90!***

Council Highlights

2022 Council Officers - There were no volunteers or nominations of new Council Officers. The existing officers, Co-Presidents Joyce Bauer and Gail Brochtrup, Treasurer Sandy McMillan, and Secretary Janet Lorenzo will continue to serve one more year in 2022. Nancy Padilla will continue to be

our Hospitality Coordinator.

New Council Members - The council welcomed new members Nancy Koppl and Pastor Brian Stein-Webber.

Suspension of In-Person Worship - Effective Sunday, January 16 in-person worship will be suspended for the next four - six weeks due to the rise in Covid cases. The service will be recorded live on Facebook and posted on the website.

Weekly Communion - Pastor Brian presented the option of having Communion weekly instead of twice a month. He has heard that some people believe that Communion won't be as "special" if done more often. He has found that the opposite is true. The council agreed to wait until we resume in-person worship and the Covid numbers go down to address this idea

Internship Proposal - Pastor Brian recommends that we commit to supporting the Intern, Laura Salazar Krueger. Most of the churches in our area are participating in this one-year commitment, and the money is already in our approved 2022 budget. We will benefit by having Laura preach a sermon once or twice a year. Council voted to fully participate. A representative from Calvary will be needed to be on the Internship Committee.

Group to View "The Chosen" - Pastor Brian would like to start a viewing and discussion group on the series, "The Chosen". New member Nancy Koppl suggested using the series during the Lenten Soup Suppers. This is a great idea if we are able to have in-person worship at that time.

Prayers: Pastor Brian would like to offer praying and laying on of hands for those specific individuals that need it. These prayers will be offered either during service or after the service privately, one on one. His wife Mary, who is also a pastor has offered to assist as well.

Outreach Committee

Iglesia Support - In addition to on-going support by collecting food items for Iglesia, Council discussed a targeted drive. Each month Iglesia would let us know if there are specific needs, and the congregation would then be asked for donations. The donations would be delivered monthly. At this time there are very few people in church during in-person worship, and currently the decision has been made to stop in-person worship for the next four - six weeks. A notice will be posted in the newsletter with instructions on how to donate for those who want to donate items.



Annual Drive for Prado Homeless Shelter - A list of items needed for the Prado Center has been published. Again, during this Covid time there are very few, and now no people coming to church in-person, so collecting donations will be difficult. This will be placed on hold until we can gather in person again.

New Outreach Activities - A mid-week sunset gathering and a walk will soon be scheduled as soon as Covid numbers go down.

Bulletin Boards - The bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall is outdated. There is a plan in place to re-do the existing bulletin board and add a new one that will be titled "Your Church in Action". This board will display and explain our service projects.

Food Pantry/Library - Food is always needed to fill the pantry. It is emptied regularly, so the need for food is evident in our community. Single serve, pop top containers seem to be the most popular. A library shelf in the Fellowship Hall will be cleared to use for collecting food to refill the pantry when it is empty.

Community Dinners - The Los Osos and Morro Bay Community Dinners are going strong. There are so many wonderful volunteer cooks helping out. There is always a need to help with serving as well at the Los Osos Dinner, and after Covid dies down servers will be needed at the Morro Bay dinners as well.

Viewing and Discussing "The Chosen" Series

Pastor Brian will be leading a weekly group that will be gathering on Zoom to watch individual episodes of the new series "The Chosen" about Jesus and his disciples. It is an appropriate program to watch in the seasons of Epiphany (Jesus showing up in the world), Lent (Jesus on the way to the cross) and Easter (Jesus' resurrection and ascension and all that means for us). Two seasons have already been filmed and are available online, consisting of sixteen episodes.

All those who are interested and able will meet online on **Sundays, from 7 to 8 p.m. , starting on Sunday, February 6.** Each Zoom meeting will be recorded, and any additional participants may watch the recording during the week. Questions and comments will certainly arise in the watching and we will figure out how those may be communicated to the whole group. Most likely this will be through an email group.

Participants will be welcomed at any point in the viewing cycle, which should last through May. Friends and family outside of the Calvary community are warmly welcomed. As with all public Bible projects, this series has been subject to some criticism. These criticisms will be addressed as part of the class. Please let Pastor Brian know of your interest, if you have not already done so, at bsteinwebber@gmail.com or 925-285-7256.

Some Thoughts About Love During This Valentine's Day Month

Corinthians 16:14: Do everything in love.

1 Peter 4:8: Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

John 4:8: Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

1 John 4:16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

1 Corinthians 13:13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

♥ Happy Valentines Day ♥

Scriptures for February 2022

February 6

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

February 13

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

February 20

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38,
42-50
Luke 6:27-38

February 27

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Community

Pastor Robyn has arrived safely!

We received an emailed THANK YOU note from Pastor Robyn who has made it to her destination in rural Ohio despite a traffic incident on icy roads in New Mexico. Pastor Robyn says, "*All in all, it's good to be getting settled. I've slept till after 10 a.m. nearly every day. I think I was more tired than I thought. Archie is getting used to his new yard. Callie (her cat) has made herself at home too in the bottom of a dark closet.*" She closed with, "*Be well everyone. You're in my prayers and heart. Pastor Robyn*"

In case you wish to drop her a line, call the church office, 805 772 8457 for her new address.

Another reminder

The correct mailing address for Calvary is:

**Calvary Lutheran Church
PO Box 386
Morro Bay CA 93443-0386**

Thank you!

Iglesia



Calvary continues to support our sister church in Santa Maria by collecting food items. In addition to food items, they are still in need of dish soap, laundry soap and other cleaning products. If you cannot deliver your donation, call Nancy Padilla, 760 521 1708, or, Janet Lorenzo, 805 234 5089 to arrange for pick up.

Neighborhood Food Pantry/ Library

Donations are always needed to fill the library/food pantry. Single-serve, pop top items are especially

popular. Hygiene items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste, wipes, lotion, etc. are also needed. Many people in our community access food from our pantry. It is emptied regularly and always in need! Please remember the food pantry on your next trip to the Dollar Store or grocery store. If you have items to donate while we are not having in-person worship, you can call or text Janet Lorenzo, 805 234 5089.





February Anniversaries

Dan & Kathie Sperow - February 26, 1976



- Carol Frasier 2/4
- Connor Schuldt 2/4
- Lanaya Schuldt 2/4
- Joyce Bauer 2/12
- Mary Stein-Webber 2/20
- David Schafer 2/23
- Katie Brochtrup 2/21



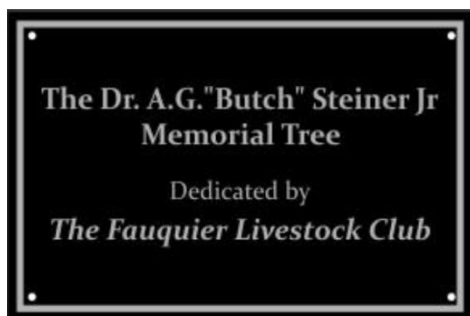
Remember in Prayer

- o Edith Tway - Heart troubles
- o Becky Padilla- cervical cancer
- o Marcia Shep- Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- o Judy Larson- Pastor Brian's friend recovering from a brain bleed
- o Ina's friend Lia, recovering from a broken back
- o James Hecker- brother-in-law of Gary and Gail B- awaiting bladder replacement surgery
- o Mikey Vedrin, grandson of Pastor Robyn
- o Christopher Buckles, Kate Anderson's son
- o Sharron Jackman-recovering from abdominal surgery
- o John Anderson- health issues
- o Jacob Rocha and Maggie Muff- away at college
- o Cathy- a friend of Nancy Padilla
- o Heidi Carney
- o Janelle Muff
- o Elaine Grawe
- o Darel and Betty Sorenson
- o Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- o Sherry Barker at Bayside Care Center
- o Iglesia - May their needs be met
- o Covid 19 - May vaccination rates increase, and may we be safe from the Omicron variant

Memorial Bench Deadline




The memorial bench is now ready to receive your dedication to a loved one. The plaques are 3" x 5" and can have up to four lines of text (as shown). You will have an opportunity to view the plaque before it is finalized. The cost is \$54 . If you would like to memorialize a loved one on the bench, please get your payment and desired text to Nancy Koppl, nkoppl@charter.net by February 15.



February 2022

Calvary is closed to in-person worship until further notice

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 *Bob Clemensson	3	4 *David Cooper	5
*Please remember in your prayers.						
6 Worship service With Holy Communion 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Lay Assistant: Linda L. "The Chosen" via Zoom 7:00 -8:00 PM	7 *Myles & Jo Anna Crebs Coffee Club via Zoom 9:00	8 Finance Committee via Zoom 5:00	9 *Ina Davenport	10 Council Meeting Via Zoom 5:00	11 *Valerie Donohoo	12
13 Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Lay Assistant: Nikki R. "The Chosen" via Zoom 7:00 -8:00 PM	14 *Katie Edson  Morro Bay Community Dinner 3:45	15	16 *Ron & Audrey Forster Outreach Committee Via Zoom 1:45	17	18 *Carrie Forster-Osterthaler Coffee Club Cancelled	19
20 Worship service With Holy Communion 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Lay Assistant: Joyce B. "The Chosen" via Zoom 7:00 -8:00 PM	21 *Carol Frasier	22	23 *Elaine Grawe	24	25 *Bruce & Cindy Haener	26
27 Worship service 10:00 live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org Lay Assistant: Cindy H. "The Chosen" via Zoom 7:00 -8:00 PM	28 *Victor Hansen					

