



THE CALVARY CALLING

Dear Calvary friends,

Thanks to all who attended a zoom meeting from our Southwest California Synod that had two presenters on how to work to prevent gun violence. It was VERY informative, and gave ideas for action and contemplation within congregational settings. Nancy Koppl, I believe, took very good notes, which she might be willing to make available to us, once she returns home! Also, Gary Brochtrup introduced a link to a program on gun violence in Baltimore, where 300 young people between 16 and 28 are killed every year! That's from a group we estimated to be between 50 and 70,000 young people! We don't live in Baltimore, but it does focus one's mind.

Our group studying on how to widen the joy of contributing to the weekly sermon is nearing its term. This month we will have our last session together, as well as a private one with the professor, Dr. Shauna Hannan. We already know that we are going to continue to expand the number of people who might be willing to preach. I think we are up to over half of a dozen more than have already blessed us with their words from the pulpit. One of our next steps is to begin scheduling people, and determining how I and others can help them prepare.

Other steps might include having zoom gatherings either before or after a given sermon to give input and then later debrief. These groups would likely be open to anybody who wishes to participate. And then there's the possibility of doing written sermon feedback. To me, it all sounds both a bit fraught and greatly exciting!

All of this brings up a dynamic in congregations. That dynamic is that within a group of even a dozen people, there are always differences of opinion, some of them quite wide. For instance, whenever the topic of guns are brought up, some people are on the greater regulation side and others are on the greater freedom side. The aim of a congregation should be, with general wisdom and influence from our Christian values, find some actions that are generally acceptable.

And I know that we aren't all in agreement about what should be said and who should say it from the pulpit. You all must know that I am inclined to land on the side of discretion respect, though sometimes, Jesus calls out to me to be more prophetic.

And as for who can preach, Rachel Jacoby reminded me that in our books of worship, one of the vows that we make, or is made by our parents and sponsors, is to "proclaim Christ through word and deed"! That explains some of my excitement to widen the preaching responsibility.

At February's council meeting, I acknowledged that my last promise was to stay as bridge pastor at Calvary at least through this month of February. At the meeting, I told the members that I am now making an open-ended commitment to the congregation, and will be in continuing discernment in prayer about how God can use me through ministry with you.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Brian

Please Join Us!



LENT WORSHIP - During all the Wednesdays of Lent, we will be holding mid-week soup suppers and short worship services. Supper starts at 5:30 pm and worship at 6:15 pm. You'll be home by 6:45 pm, depending upon how close you live to Calvary! Worship will center on healing stories of Jesus, all from the gospel of Luke. There will be singing, a joint reading of the lessons, and some discussion and prayer. You will be blessed! If you are able to contribute soup or bread or dessert for any of the Wednesdays, please sign up on the sheet that is at the kitchen pass-through.



MEN'S GROUP

We meet again for informal conversation at the Stein-Webber house, this month on Monday, March 6th, 1:00 to 2:30 pm. Our address is 1302 17th St. in Los Osos. See you men there (or here!).

Stein-Webber Trip Plans

On the weekend of March 11th and 12th, Mary and I will be taking a trip up north again to attend a legacy society event at the seminary as well as attend the memorial service for the president of PLT Seminary when we were students, the dear Dr. Walter Stuhr. We will be staying with our daughter Juliana and her partner, as well as try to visit our son Philip and his partner at their new home in Auburn. It will include a lot of traveling! Rev. Amy Beveridge, who just finished pastoring at Bethel Lutheran Church in Templeton, will be the guest preacher. She will also be speaking on her newest vocation. I trust you all to be as excited as Pastor Amy being with you as when I'm there! Do me proud!

Property Issues

Our fence contractor Chris, with help, finished a splendid job of replacing the parsonage fence, that promises to last for thirty years or more. He also installed a post with motion-detector lights that will provide needed security for the parking lot. Previously, the lights were controlled by a switch in one of the parsonage closets. Now they will come on as needed! Also, Sandy McMillan persuaded her current house painter to come correct some water damage high up on one of the fellowship hall walls, and personally covered the cost. Thank you, Sandy! Meanwhile, the custom gate with windows and cross leading into the church patio was utterly destroyed by the recent wind, having been weakened over the years. A few of the posts were being propped up with wax and tape. We say, Thank you! to the gate, and will be seeking solutions for its replacement.



Scriptures for March

March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42	1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45

Council Highlights

Pastor Brian said that he might be becoming a supervisor for a seminary student currently serving as pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Reedley for an internship. This would mean that Pastor Brian would meet with the student/pastor once a month on Zoom.

- Cash flow in January ended with a positive of over \$2,700. Income for the month was 140% of budget and expenses were 121% of budget.
- The overage from last year was assigned to several designated funds as follows: Kitchen Kitty - \$1,000; Vision/Outreach - \$1,000; Worship Banners - \$300; Parsonage Fund (for repairs) - \$6,000; Continuing Education for pastor and others - \$1,000; Property Needs Fund - \$5,000; Local Hunger - \$988; New Minister Fund - \$2,000. (These amounts are subject to change as necessary.)
- As with nearly everybody, the church's gas bill went way up, to \$1,001 for last month. This is about 300% of average for recent years. But we understand that gas rates will be going down. May it be so!
- It was recognized that the work on the parsonage fence is proceeding well. Thanks to Andy Jacoby and Gary Brochtrup for their assistance of the contractor! And to Nancy Koppl for learning from Pastor Berg where the switch was for the outside parking lot lights!
- There was consideration given to an idea of upgrading our streaming of worship services by placing cameras on the rear wall of the sanctuary. Mary Stein-Webber will research the matter and give a report next month.
- Gail gave a report of a conversation with one of the bishop's assistants regarding the present and future status of our congregation. Our Council were happy to give a positive report.
- Gail reported that the same person who presented the CPR training last week is happy to present two more free trainings. The first, on May 6th, will be on First Aid. The second, on May 27th, will be on Nutrition. More information on these events will follow later.

Outreach Committee

The Disciples landed on the beach on the first Sunday in Lent! They hope to fill their boat with food contributions for Iglesia. Last year the twelve Disciples collected 688 pounds of food for Iglesia during Lent. This year we hope to collect even more. Some needed items: beans, rice, cereal, peanut butter, Cooking oil, flour, maseca, sugar, salt, small pasta, snacks, hygiene products, diapers. Let's rock that boat with donations!

Treasurer's Report

As of January 31, 2023, Income \$12,679.97. Expenses \$9,976.02. Income was at 140.43% of the 2023 Budget for the one (1) month ended 01/31/2023. Expenses were at 121.42 of the 2023 Budget for the same period.



Community Dinners



Calvary received this nice letter from our partners at the Morro Bay Community Dinner:

Hello Morro Bay Community Dinner Volunteers!
Last night was yet one more rocking successful dinner!
Many thanks to Calvary Lutheran Church for the

wonderful dinner they provided: meatloaf, pasta salad, & French bread! We served 65 guests ! I have to tell you Nancy's pasta salad is a meal in itself, & quickly becoming a "fan favorite " Many of our guests complimented the "chef's " on the moist meatloaf, & the French bread was a great compliment to the meal! There was enough for volunteer staff to have a dinner, in addition to some seconds were served, a heartfelt thanks to Calvary Lutheran who brought dinner ready to serve! Good job Much appreciated! Our request for a larger quantity of food to serve has been "heard" & we thank U all for your time & effort, for your willingness to serve the community Kind gestures do make a difference! Once again thank U to our MB Lions , the awesome Volunteer staff , & our Chief, Chuck Stoll who provides outstanding leadership by example, & very importantly provides us music via his iPhone & playlist, Thank U All till next week! Rock On
Warmly, Kristy Ann Muinos

By Popular Demand

Here is a recipe that was promised to many of you:

Dorthea's Date Nut Bread

- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 cup chopped dates or combination of dates & raisins
- 2 Tbsp butter
- 1 tsp baking soda

Pour boiling water over the mixture above and let cool

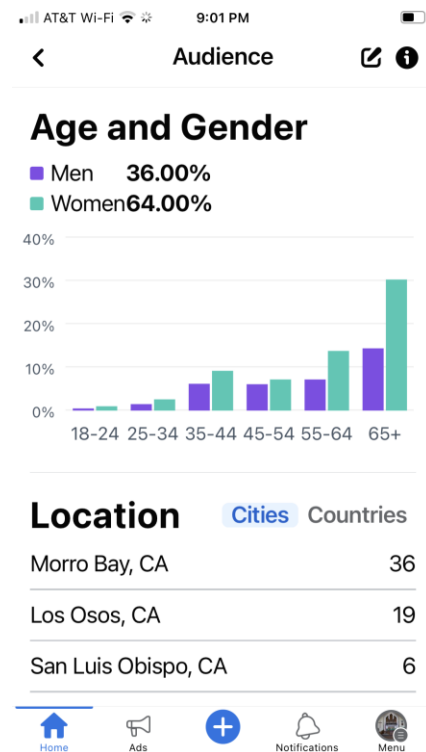
Beat until fluffy:

- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla

Add nuts as desired

Add 1/4 cups flour alternately with the cooled date mixture. Grease 14 ounce size cans and fill 3/4 full. Place on foil lined baking sheet and bake at 350 for 45 minutes.

Interesting Statistic: Just in case you ever wondered who is looking at Calvary's Facebook page - this was captured on February 27:



Calvary Coffee Club

In February, the Coffee Club members enjoyed breakfast and coffee at the newly remodeled Foghorn in North Morro Bay (pictured). It was so enjoyable that they will be going there again the third Friday in March, March 17. You really should try to make it to a coffee group meeting with this lively and entertaining group!



Please Remember in Your Prayers

- Diane Williams -hospitalized with abdominal issues and possible surgery
- John Cribb - death of his father in South Carolina
- The Aparicio and Padilla families of Rebecca Aparicio who passed this week
- Ron Forster - recovering from pancreatitis
- Gary & Eileen Orback whose home was damaged in the storm
- Betty Johnson - recovering from infection and blood clot while undergoing chemotherapy
- Jennifer Kurrle - adjusting to new medications
- Ina Davenport - Healing of her arm
- Aaron Brochtrup - still unable to return to work - neck pain, headaches, neurological trauma
- Janelle Muff -Healing after surgery and blood clot
- Joanne Kulczyk – recovering from a fall
- Sally Mingo, Jennifer Kurrle's mother - knee injury
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas - continuing to make progress in recovery
- Linda Luke - to gain weight and strength
- Jim Luke - supporting Linda's recovery
- Becky Padilla- responding well to treatment for cancer
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- ongoing abdominal pain
- Christopher Buckles, Kate Anderson's son
- Marcia and Rick Walt, friends of Cindy Haener
- Darel and Betty Sorenson - Betty remains in nursing care on Hospice
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting the new COVID-19 omicron variants
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing and protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them

March Birthdays

Carly Muff	3/2
*Robin Karas	3/4
Georgina Tway	3/4
Randy Schuldt	3/9
Jennifer Chrismen	3/13
Jacob Rocha	3/15
Rachel Jacoby	3/17

Happy Birthday!

March Anniversaries

Gary & Eileen Orback	3/11/1968
Mike & Janet Lorenzo	3/26/1988

Happy Anniversary!

Calling all Prayer Pals! Prayer Pals will meet for the first time after the service on March 19. See you there!



First Aid and Nutrition Training Offered at Calvary!

Marcy Mullen who provided us with recent CPR training has offered to come back and present trainings on First-Aid and Nutrition. The First Aid training has been scheduled for May 6th, 9 - 12:30, and the nutrition training will be on May 27th, 9 - 12. Look for a sign-up sheet soon.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
March 2023 *Please remember in your prayers. Worship services are live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org			1 *Brenda Ouwkerk Bible Study 10:00 Soup Supper 5:30	2 *Nancy Padilla	3 *Bob Penzel	4
5 Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:00 The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 6:00 -8:00 PM	6 *Joe & Angelina Rice Coffee Club 9:00 Los Osos Golf Course Club House Men's Group 1:00	7 *Kevin & Nikki Rocha Finance Committee Zoom 5:00	8 *Ronnie Smith Bible Study 10:00 Soup Supper 5:30	9 *Darel & Betty Sorensen Council Meeting 5:00	10 *Dan & Kathie Sperow	11
12 Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:00	13 *George Tway	14 *Georgina Tway	15 *Toni Tway Bible Study 10:00 Outreach Committee 1:45 Soup Supper 5:30	16 * Diane Williams	17 *Dick Williams Coffee Club 9:00 Foghorn	18
19 Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:00 Congregational Meeting 11:00 The People's Sermon Group 6:00 -8:00 PM	20 *Glenna Baker	21 *Andy & Judy Cantrell	22 *Jean Clemons Bible Study 10:00 Los Osos Community Dinner 4:00 Soup Supper 5:30	23 *Joy Olson	24 *Grant & Patti Anderson	25
26 Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:00 Zoom Discussion Group 6:00-8:00 PM	27 *Robin Karas	28 *Brenda Pool				