



THE CALVARY CALLING

Dear friends of Jesus at Calvary,

Mary just read me a devotion about finding joy in the midst of darkness. It includes a story about an eminent black pastor who was receiving threats against him and his congregation. As you can imagine, the pastor was very upset and on edge. One night, he heard some rumbling in his house and suspected that it was due to an intruder, who wished him and his family harm. When he got up, courageously, to investigate, he found his daughter in her room, awake and dancing, with the most flamboyant style. He smiled and lowered his shoulders and asked what this dancing was all about. His daughter responded that she just felt like dancing. In the middle of the night.

The pastor's conclusion was to realize how important it is to retain our sense of joy and jubilation in the midst of difficult circumstances. And he noted the verses from Psalm 30, verse 5: *Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.* Which made him cry.

Jim Luke talks this way in the wake of his dear Linda's death, after much struggle. He says that he is indeed sad about her dying, but content, and even happy, that she is now not only with her dear loved ones, including her grandmother Nonnie, but also with God. This is joy in the midst of distress.

Joyce Bauer spent many days in the hospital due to her heart arrhythmia, and is now home, and the source of her heart's trouble has not yet been tracked down. But to hear her talk, she is not discouraged, but mainly glad to be sleeping in her own bed. That is joy in the morning.

My lesser current trouble with some kind of sciatica is a bit discouraging. But I know there will be a conclusion to it, and have greatly appreciated the consolation and prayers from all of you. Who knew that this is not an uncommon affliction! And I have been greatly helped by several healers.

I'm not trying to tell you that, if you are suffering, then get over it! I am saying that the psalmist's insistence that joy comes in the morning is a promise to hold onto, and one that comes directly from God. And if you're not feeling the joy, then, to paraphrase John Lennon, if you're not joyful yet, then it isn't the morning.

Thank you for your constant support of me as your bridge pastor. May I continue to be able to return in kind, to the best of my God-given abilities!

In faith,
Pastor Brian

More Info from Pastor Brian:

Sermon Feedback and Feedforward

Jean Senter, Rachel Jacoby and Pastor Brian have participated in this new effort to assess a former sermon and speculate on the possibilities for the one upcoming, held on Zoom on Monday or Tuesday morning (depending upon other events). I can say with confidence that the times have been a blessing to me (Pastor Brian) and a real help in formulating early some approaches to preaching the next Sunday.

To participate, you don't need to be a Bible scholar, or even be greatly acquainted with Holy Scripture. All you have to have is an excitement about the Word of God and a willingness to share your own personal perspective. If this concept appeals to you, then let Pastor Brian know, and I'll make sure that you receive the Zoom invitations.

Discussion Group on *The Chosen*

Our Sunday evening Zoom group is now half-way through the second season of *The Chosen*. What a delight to be welcoming persons who are not otherwise involved with Calvary nor living in the area. I LOVE what the Zoom app enables us to do!

There is no requirement that one has seen all of the initial episodes, though I imagine if you join us, you're going to want to binge watch what has preceded to this point. If you are on the fence regarding the matter, please speak with Pastor Brian or anybody else who has cleared most of their Sunday evenings to join in the group.

I said last Sunday that watching *The Chosen* is similar in impact to visiting the Holy Land in person. It brings life and focus and joy (and some sorrow) to enliven our understandings of Jesus the person and Savior.

Men's Group

All men are invited to attend the monthly gathering of men on July 3rd, Monday, at 1:00 to 2:30 pm. This group is free-form, and can include whatever it is that a group of men want to talk about. Let Pastor Brian know if you are planning on attending!

Scriptures for July

July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-14 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Results of Survey

What are YOUR feelings about the possibility of sharing our church facilities?

22 surveys received

1. If another group of people who need a place to worship approached us, would you.....
20 would be open to sharing the facilities
2 prefer NOT to share at all
2. If you are open to considering sharing, would you
11- would like to hear about their beliefs and facilities needs before forming an opinion
10- feel their beliefs and facilities needs would not affect their opinion
3. To make room for another group of worshipers, would you
10 consider altering our current worship schedule to accommodate their needs
10 prefer not to change our current schedule
2 abstained
4. What time do you prefer to worship on Sundays?
13- 10:00
5- 9:00
4- Other- 9:30, 9:15,10:00, 10:30, and one checked "any"
5. To help us understand your feelings, write any other comments here.
 - Will they share in maintenance and cleaning?
 - I fully support spreading God's word in any way we can!! An under-used church is a shame.
 - It would be a great service to others if we opened our facility! I am definitely interested in this possibility.
 - I put 10:00 time for our service, but if we need to change to earlier time, I'm OK with that.
 - Just do not want to feel rushed or hushed after service. Fellowship Time is important!
 - I would like enough time after services for fellowship- 12-12:30.
 - It would be good to know what is involved with their worship...their Christian values should be in line with ours if they are sharing our sanctuary. It would be important to have our schedule to be the most important and to offer the visiting congregation hours that we can easily guarantee them. Calvary is finally moving forward, so maybe another church could meet in the evenings, Saturdays, Friday nights or hours that would still allow us our fellowship while they are worshipping. They should be tied into helping maintain and to respect our physical property, pews, carpeting, painting... there would be double the wear and tear if we shared, which is alright, but we might need financial help to keep it in good working order... the same goes with sharing utilities. Calvary is really thriving and so many good things will come of that!
 - I feel the needs of Calvary should come first. I also feel we would lose some flexibility of scheduling, but that could be worked around. I also think we need to have a plan in place of how we handle the discontinuance of use.



-**Worship attendance** has averaged 44 for the first three Sundays of the month, which is ten people more than the average in the first part of the year.

- We have learned more of what is needed to repave and improve the **parking lot in front of the church**. It looks like we will only be able to have one legal handicapped spot, since the requirement for any such spots is that the whole part of it, in any direction, cannot have more than a 2% slope. Nevertheless, there will be other spots there close to handicapped requirements which will help our attendees.

- We are a few steps closer to **updating our video and sound**

production, with help from a member of Mt. Carmel in San Luis Obispo and Central Coast Music.

- We raised up **possible new Council members** starting next year.

- We are assessing our needs for **new banners** for special holidays or events, based on what we already have. Unfortunately, the new wall-mounted handicap parking sign will take up some of the space where we hang the banners. A solution will be sought out.

- We also worked out some of the **logistics for special celebrations** for members.

- The **organ** was tuned last week. Thanks to the tuners who travelled from Northern California!

- Pastor Brian shared some of he and Pastor Mary's **travel plans** for the next four months.

Outreach

The new group, "Caring for God's Creation" has nearly completed the display board. First topic will be laundry detergent sheets.

Outreach Committee

Ideas for a fund raiser for our Compassion Child Charite were discussed. There will possibly be a bake sale in September. Some of the items for sale will have been baked by the Sunday School children.

Treasurer's Report

As of May 31, 2023 receipts: \$8,318.00. Expenditure: \$8,469.62. Receipts were at 112.2% of the 2023 Budget for the twelve months ending 05/31/2023.

Expenditures were at 81.8% of the 2023 Budget for the same period.

Potluck

Come join in- everyone is welcome to our end of July Potluck. Mark your calendar for July 30, that's when we will share in the joys of trying a little of this and a little of that- potluck style!



Look for a sign-up sheet coming mid-July.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- Jim Luke and family – in the death of his wife, Linda
- Daryl Sorensen – preparing to move back to Reedley
- Joyce Bauer – recovering from heart issues
- Carly Muff – traveling to Italy
- Ruth Anello – Orthopedic surgery on July 13
- Wes, brother of John Cribb - recovering from kidney surgery
- Byron Nelson - friend of Jacoby's - Cancer
- Mike Johnson - lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter - undiagnosed illness
- The people of Faith Lutheran Church whose entire church building burned
- Donna Cuvelier – thankful she is recovering at home after recent hospitalization
- Family of Ryan Loomis - Cindy Haener's nephew who died in an auto accident in Arizona
- Heidi Carney – Puzzling spots in her lungs
- Kate Anderson
- Ben - Kathie Sperow's grandson recovering from trauma
- Ina Davenport – preparing to move to assisted living
- Linda Hermann - mother-in-law of Katie Edson's daughter, leukemia
- Betty Johnson - recovering from infection and blood clot while undergoing chemotherapy
- Aaron Brochtrup - starting physical therapy to treat lower back
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas - continuing to make progress in recovery
- Becky Padilla- responding well to treatment for cancer
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- ongoing abdominal pain
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting COVID
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them

July Birthdays

Janet Lorenzo	7/8
Victor Hansen	7/20
Fitzgerald, Liz	7/29
Sandy McMillan	7/30
Gail Brochtrup	7/31
Darel Sorensen	7/31



July

Anniversaries

David & Janelle Muff	7/13/2002
Ron & Audrey Forster	7/31/1954

Happy Anniversary!

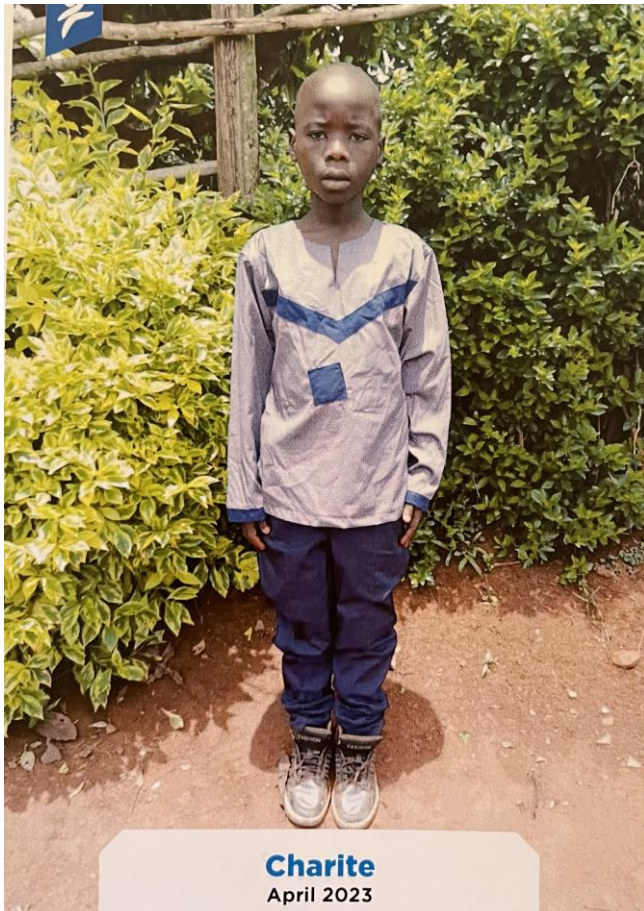




Coffee Club is going strong with many regular attendees! In June we enjoyed a Mexican breakfast at Mi Casa in Morro Bay. Valerie Donohoo demonstrated for us the use of a reusable to-go container that she carries with her. We'll talk more about that idea and some other environmentally friendly ideas in our "Caring for God's Creation" displays starting in July.



A Letter from Our Compassion Child, Charite



Dear friends of Calvary Lutheran Church, your sponsored child, Charite, greets you first in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. How are you doing? She would like to thank you for sponsoring her. Charite is now in Primary 5. She is in second term, and Easter holidays when they celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. How do you celebrate it over there?

They are now experiencing rainfall. She concludes by wishing you a blessing from God. Thank you.

Charite will be 12 years old on her birthday on Aug. 21. She and her family benefit greatly from our monthly contribution of \$43. This pays her education, uniforms for school, nutrition while at school as well as medical care. Most importantly, a Christian education is foremost for Charite and her family.

Anyone who would like to make an additional contribution for Charite's care and education can place your donation in a pew offering envelope titled "Compassion Child".

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>July 2023</p> <p>*Please remember in your prayers.</p> <p>Worship services are live streamed on Facebook and posted to morrobaylutherans.org</p>						<p>1</p> <p>Worship Planning Team 10:00</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Mary S.</p> <p>BRUNCH! 11:00</p> <p>The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 7:00 -8:00 PM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>*Sandy McMillan</p>	<p>4</p> <p>*Tyler Mitchell</p>  <p>HAPPY 4TH OF JULY</p>	<p>5</p> <p>*David & Janelle Muff</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00</p>	<p>6</p> <p>*Gary & Eileen Orback</p>	<p>7</p> <p>*Mark Orback</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Nikki R.</p> <p>The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 7:00 -8:00 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>*Brenda Ouwerkerk</p>	<p>11</p> <p>*Nancy Padilla</p> <p>Finance Committee 5:00</p>	<p>12</p> <p>*Bob Penzel</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00</p>	<p>13</p> <p>*Joe & Angelina Rice</p> <p>Council Meeting 2:00</p>	<p>14</p> <p>*Kevin & Nikki Rocha</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Katie E.</p> <p>The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 7:00 -8:00 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>*Ronnie Smith</p>	<p>18</p> <p>*Darel Sorensen</p>	<p>19</p> <p>*Dan & Kathie Sperow</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00</p>	<p>20</p> <p>*George Tway</p>	<p>21</p> <p>*Georgina Tway</p> <p>Coffee Club 9:00 Hungry Fisherman</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Cindy H.</p> <p>The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 7:00 -8:00 PM</p>	<p>24</p> <p>*Toni Tway</p>	<p>25</p> <p>*Diane Williams</p>	<p>26</p> <p>*Richard Williams</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00</p> <p>Los Osos Community Dinner 4:00</p>	<p>27</p> <p>*Ken Foran</p>	<p>28</p> <p>*Glenna Baker</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: TBA</p> <p>POTLULCK!! 11:00</p>	<p>31</p> <p>*Andy & Judy Cantrell</p>					