



THE CALVARY CALLING

Dear Calvary folks,

I'm writing this note before Holy Week, but you will see it after Easter Sunday! What a challenge! Here's what I am envisioning:

Those of you who attended Palm/Passion Sunday worship will have thrilled to Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the back of the donkey, only to be thrown into the story of what followed. Jesus will not be the usual kind of conquering hero, but one who is humbled in front of the authorities, repeatedly, and finally subjected to a brutal death on what we call a cross. It would have been some assemblage of wood upon which his hands and feet were nailed up. Death would come, eventually, by suffocation, but Jesus died sooner than Pilate had expected. So, there was some mercy to it all. Just a little. We will have moved after worship to the fellowship hall for our own potluck brunch, a reminder that we do not walk through our Lenten journey alone.

The reason why we told Jesus' sufferings on Palm Sunday was because some of you would not be able to attend the mid-week services, and so would have gone from triumphal entry to the triumph of the resurrection, with nothing in between.

We backtracked on Maundy Thursday to Jesus' supper with his disciples, including Jesus washing the feet of the disciples, and giving them a "new" commandment, to love one another. How important those moments were in Jesus' own mind, as he was preparing his disciples to carry on without him, spreading the gospel all over the known world.

On Good Friday, Tom Anello sang for us a beautiful and touching story of a man and his two sons bringing a lamb to the temple for a sacrifice, and then noticing the other Lamb of God who was being "sacrificed." Thank you, Tom. We also considered for ourselves what Jesus' death has meant for us. Ann Lucas will have blessed us with her accompaniment.

And on Easter Sunday...I can only surmise what will be full of surprises for us. The sanctuary will be bedecked with new decorations, behind the cross and hanging from the rafters. The flower tree on the lawn will be resplendent, contrasted with our friend Christian's tent, a reminder that our own eternal home is not here on earth. Andy Shen will be here again to play the piano, and we will have wonderful hymn singing. People will be in attendance that will be new to us. Some will have come with Calvary families, and others will have been led by the Holy Spirit. I picture that you all will have welcomed them warmly.

This is one of my favorite parts of congregational life, that wonderful things happen that nobody could predict. And funny things happen that are not scripted. And difficult things pop up that we seek to handle together, with the help of the holy angels and the Guiding Spirit.

So, into Easter season, this I know. We will be trying out a new liturgical setting, called Beneath the Tree of Life. The worship planning committee has commented that the music is easy to learn and the words meaningful. I suspect that the liturgy will come to be one of your favorites. And there will be seven Sundays in the Easter season that will give us plenty of time to become accustomed to the new liturgy.

And meanwhile, we will be seeking to follow the "new" commandment of Jesus to love one another. We won't be perfect at it, but the extent to which we practice love for each other, both inside and outside of the church, will be leaven for the world.

In the joy of Christian fellowship,
Pastor Brian

More from Pastor Brian

The Chosen Discussion Group

We will be starting a new phase of our watching and discussing Season 4 of *The Chosen* show. The new episodes have only been shown in movie theaters to date, and when they will become available online is not sure yet. But congregations have been enabled to show the Season 4 episodes to its members and friends, and that includes Calvary.

So, starting on Sunday, April 7, we will be showing these new episodes on Zoom, starting for the following eight Sundays at 5:30 pm with the showing of one episode, followed by a discussion of that episode.

Anybody who wishes may join this group. If you haven't been part of the group so far, let me know if you want to join. And if you've been part of the group and then had to stop attending, you should join us again too! All I need is your email address for the invitation. Hope to see you there, Pastor Brian

Tuesday Bible Study

Starting Tuesday, April 2nd, we will be starting a new study group on the book *The Great Angel* by Margaret Barker, at 9:15 to 10:00 am on Zoom. Please speak with Pastor Brian if you are interested in participating. This study will do some "Biblical archaeology" to uncover beliefs in Israel prior to the Babylonian captivity in the sixth century before Christ.

The Wednesday Bible Study

The weekly Bible study led by myself and Pastor David Ryal, which meets on Wednesdays, 10:00 to 11:00 am, will continue on Wednesday, April 3rd with two more sessions on the New Testament on video. Then we will transition into a multi-pronged study on the Messiah. New members will be welcomed!

The Worship Planning Committee

Various folks from Calvary meet every six weeks on Saturday morning starting at 9:30 am to plan liturgies, hymns and other worship matters for upcoming worship services. It is a lively, interactive process, and new people are welcome to attend. If you'd like a part in what happens on Sunday mornings, this group is for you! The next planning meeting will be on Saturday, April 20th, at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall.

Scriptures for April

April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1--2:2 John 20:19-31	Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48	Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18	Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8



Calvary served up 120 dinners at the Los Osos Community Dinner on Thursday, March 27! Thank you to all the lovely people who cooked meatloaves and pasta salad! It really is a fun and rewarding experience to see how many people enjoy and even rave about our meatloaves!

Calvary also provides dinner for the Morro Bay Community Dinners, every-

other month on Monday afternoon. More cooks are needed to give our regulars a break, and talk to Nancy Padilla or Janet Lorenzo about standing in to serve up the food.



Iglesia Lenten Food Drive 2024



Hooray for generous Calvary Givers! Last year we collected 883.5 pounds of food for our sister church, Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz. Our goal was to beat that total this year, and we were successful! We collected 890 pounds of food to provide much needed assistance to Pastor Esteban and Angie so they can continue feeding the many families in their area. Many, many thanks to those who donated and made this year's food drive a success. BUT we don't have to wait for Lent to donate. The Iglesia food box is always located in the Narthex, and deliveries are made monthly by our Iglesia Team, Sandy McMillan, Katie Edson and Nancy Padilla. Please remember this tremendous and valiant effort by Pastor Esteban and Angie to feed so many in need and pick up a few extra items when you do your grocery shopping.



Treasurer's Report

Receipts \$10,834.00. Expenses - \$7,766.55. Income was at 99.69% of the 2024 Budget for the two (2) months ended 02/29/2024. Expenses were 89.64% of the 2024 Budget for the same period.

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A big thank you to Ken Foran who has created another stunning stained and etched glass window for our Sanctuary. The center panel is a replica of the etched glass that was on our gate for many years. Last year's storms damaged the fence and gate beyond repair and were replaced. Unfortunately, the etched glass could not be saved, so Ken recreated it. A description of the meaning of the colors in the colored glass window is below.



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The three White crosses represent the sacrifice of Calvary.
The Orange circle is God, never ending..no beginning, no end.
The Yellow intertwinning design is the Trinty - Father, Son, Holy Spirit.
Brown represents the Earth and Blue the Sky.
The off White are the 12 Appostles that spread the word of God.
The iridescent White/Blue is the Grace of God raining down on Earth.
Light Green is the color of Hope from the sacrifice of Calvary.
Dark Green represents the people of the church worldwide linked by faith and hope.

Coffee Club

Calvary's Coffee Club is going strong! The group meets every first Monday

and third Friday of the month at 9:00 at various restaurants and coffee houses in Morro Bay and Los Osos (check the calendar for locations). This picture was taken at the Inn at Morro Bay. **Join us** for some lively conversation and really good coffee and/or food!

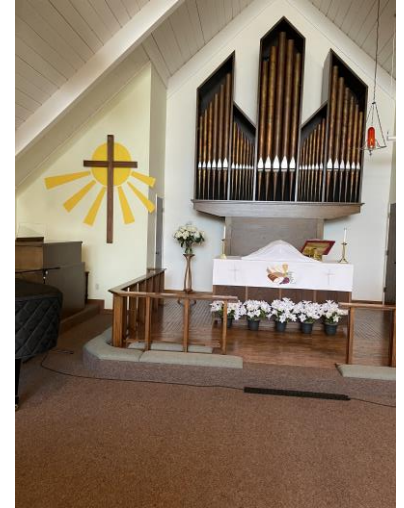


We'd love to see you there!

Easter at Calvary

Our spirits were not dampened by a cold and stormy start to the Easter Season! Holy Week began with a humongous pot luck on Palm Sunday. There was so much food it's a miracle the tables didn't collapse! There was not an empty seat in the Fellowship Hall. The following week there was Maundy Thursday, then Good Friday. Both services were well attended despite the rain and wind. Easter Sunday was as beautiful and joyous as always, and maybe even a little more so as our Calvary Church Family has grown with so many lovely new members and friends, not to mention the old members who share so many memories and help us remember how far we have come. Pastors Brian and Mary are leading us down the brightest path we have seen in years. We feel God's presence with every step!

Janet Lorenzo



Happy Birthday!

Gwen Muff	4/1
Joe Rice	4/2
Janelle Muff	4/3
Bob Clemensson	4/11
Dan Sperow	4/13
Jason Lange	4/16
Hayden Christmen	4/20
Mike Lorenzo	4/23
Carol Schuldt	4/24
Brenda Ouwerkerk	4/30

Anniversaries

Randy & Carol Schuldt	April 8, 1969
Joe & Debbie Hoeflich	April 20, 1991

Happy Anniversary!

Remember in Prayer

- Gary Brochtrup - recovering from surgery to repair torn retina
- Carolyn Wyatt – friend of Nancy Padilla Cancer, chemo/radiation for a year
- Kathie Sperow – new medical condition
- Jean Senter – recovering from knee problems
- Elaine Grawe – adjusting to living situation
- Becky Padilla – dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Christian, Heidi Carney's son – for peace and comfort
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello's sister – cancer
- Byron Nelson, friend of Jacoby's – cancer
- Mike Johnson – lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter – frontotemporal lobe dementia, and starting a medication trial
- Heidi Carney – ongoing health issues
- Kate Anderson
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas – dealing with health issues
- James Hecker- for a permanent solution to his numerous health problems
- Iglesia San Juan Bautista, Pastor Esteban and Angie – support of their ministry
- Those who are contracting COVID
- An end to the war in Ukraine
- The peoples of Israel and Palestine
- Victims of senseless gun violence

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>April 2024</p> <p>*Please remember in your prayers</p>	<p>1 *Tom & Joyce Bauer Coffee Club 9:00 Dorn's</p>	<p>2 *Glenna Baker Bible Study on Zoom 9:15 Sermon Feedback 10:00</p>	<p>3 *Gary & Gail Brochtrup Bible Study 10:00</p>	<p>4 *Ken Brocks</p>	<p>5 *Heidi Carney</p>	<p>6 *Katie Edson</p>
<p>7 Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Cindy H. The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 5:30 – 7:30 PM</p>	<p>8 *Myles & Joanna Crebs Confirmation 6:00</p>	<p>9 *Ina Davenport Bible Study on Zoom 9:15 Sermon Feedback 10:00</p>	<p>10 *Valerie Donohoo Bible Study 10:00 Outreach Committee 1:45</p>	<p>11 *Bob Clemensson</p>	<p>12 *Ron & Audrey Forster</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Dave Muff The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 5:30 – 7:30 PM</p>	<p>15 *Carrie Forster- Osterthaler</p>	<p>16 *Carol Frasier Bible Study on Zoom 9:15 Sermon Feedback 10:00 Finance Committee Zoom 7:00</p>	<p>17 *Elaine Grawe Bible Study 10:00</p>	<p>18 *Bruce & Cindy Haener Council Meeting 5:30</p>	<p>19 *Suzanne Gorter Coffee Club 9:00 Giovani's Morro Bay</p>	<p>20 Music & Worship Committee 9:30 – 11:00</p>
<p>21 Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Andy J. The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 5:30 – 7:30 PM</p>	<p>22 *Judy Kalin Confirmation 6:00</p>	<p>23 *Victor Hansen Bible Study on Zoom 9:15 Sermon Feedback 10:00</p>	<p>24 *Herb & Patti Harsch Bible Study 10:00</p>	<p>25 *Woody & Nancy Koppl</p>	<p>26 *Jennifer Kurrle</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 Worship Assist: Jean S. Brunch! The Chosen Zoom Discussion Group 5:30 – 7:30 PM</p>	<p>29 *Jason & Stacey Lange</p>	<p>30 *Mike & Janet Lorenzo</p>				