

NOSTALGIA

Next fall Ruth and I will be traveling back to Decorah, Iowa for my 50th college reunion. We anticipate having a great time, seeing lots of old, old friends, and indulging in a bit of nostalgia. I'm on my class' reunion planning committee and one of the things I've suggested we spend a little time doing is some reflecting on the issue that dominated our senior year, the impact of the Vietnam War that was waging its fiercest with the highest death toll in that fateful year of 1968. It, of course, was also a presidential election year (who'll forget that Democratic National Convention in late summer of '68 held in Chicago?), but we remember well how even that was preceded in the spring by three stunning events: LBJ announcing he wouldn't run for another term, ML King Jr.'s assassination in Memphis and Bobby Kennedy's assassination in LA. One might forgive our class for having entered the workaday world is something of an apocalyptic mood.

Maybe it's the hugely successful recent PBS series by Ken Burns and his side-kicks on the Vietnam War that got me thinking that we should find a way as a class to pay some attention to the political and social context into which we commenced that spring of 1968. One of the talking heads who kept reappearing in the Vietnam series and, if I remember rightly, had nearly the last word in the last episode was a writer by the name of Tim O'Brien who had won the National Book Award in 1979 for a book about a platoon of soldiers in Vietnam along with several other novels relating to his own war experience. O'Brien just happens to be a 1968 grad of Macalester, another small, Midwestern liberal arts college of which our elder son Griff is an alum. In one of his novels a character is found discussing the word "nostalgia," a word we often use to describe an oversentimentalized longing for the past—as one's college days, e.g. But O'Brien's character

observes that "nostalgia" is a words that "comes from the Greek" and goes on to say, "I researched it; straight from the Greek. *Algos* means pain. *Nostos* means to return home. Nostalgia: the pain of returning home. And the ache that comes from thinking about it."

I guess I never really thought about "nostalgia" in just those terms, as the pain of returning home. Which probably helps explain why we're likely to find it so difficult to want to talk about Vietnam during our reunion—it hurts to go home to such a painful time in our own personal, much less our national, history. We'd rather just "make America great again," and forget how painful that effort to make ourselves "great" was. And maybe too for us in the church. I'm familiar with lots of congregations where the "glory days" of yore, whenever they are thought to have been, continue to dominate current expectations and future hopes in a not very helpful way. Nostalgia is fine but only when we acknowledge the pain of going home to a past that had its own serious problems as well as unexpected joys.

John Rollefson

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**Sunday Worship
at Mt. Carmel**

8:45 AM—Traditional Service
11:00 AM—Contemporary Service

Holy Communion is offered at all Sunday worship services.

Child care available on Sundays 8:45 am-12:15 pm.

BUDGET REPORT



December Financial Report

The current general cash reserve at 12/31/17 (which do not include Temporarily Restricted Funds or Memorial and Trust Funds) was \$17k. This is 43% of the operating budget; comfortably exceeding a good guideline for cash reserves of at least 30% of the operating budget.

Offerings through 12/31/17 are \$143k. This is just under our planned monthly budget of \$24k per month. The total revenue through 12/31/17 is \$194k.

We are halfway through the year. Our total expense is at 40% of the full year budget. The largest expense line of Personnel is under budget at 40% of the full year budget - this is mostly due to the continuing unfilled CAT Director position. Facilities is also a large budget item that is under budget at 36% of the full year budget. This is mostly due to large projects (parking lot resurface and back lot) that are not yet completed. Net general fund income for the period ended 12/31/17 is \$23k.

The next **Council Meeting** will be held on **February 15th** at 6pm.

Notice from the Financial Secretary:

If you did not receive a statement of giving for 2017, and you made contributions to the church, please contact the Financial Secretary (805) 543-5691 or cgrosse@charter.net. I would need the dates and amount of your contributions to add them to our data base. Some statements were given out after church last week and some have been mailed this week.

Carol Grosse, Financial Secretary

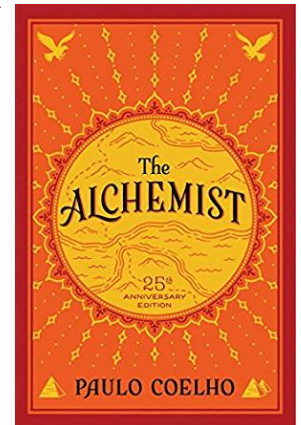
Don't miss our very special guest, at the **Brown Bag Lunch Group, Friday, Feb. 9, at noon.**

Our presenter for the afternoon will be **John Lindsey**, corporate relations representative for **PG&E at Diablo Canyon**. John has been forecasting weather and oceanographic conditions along the Central Coast for 19 years. You can also read his articles in the Tribune. With Diablo Canyon frequently highlighted in the news, and what the future will bring for the power plant, our speaker will present an overview on Diablo Canyon, and possible plans for the future.

Bring your questions, your brown bag and a friend, and join us on Feb. 9. Questions or to RSVP – Nancy Priddy, 459-9249

MCLC Book Club is meeting at the home of Karen Petersen on **Sunday, Feb. 11, 6:00pm**. Our book selection this month is **The Alchemist, by Paulo Coelho**.

Copies are available in the black 'Book Club in a Box' in the church office. Join us!



A major thank you to everyone who helped make the Celebrations of Life for Bob Harvey, Toney Ledford and Vern Brody so beautiful. There are so many of you, who are always will to help, that I can't name you all. But I wanted you to know that you are so appreciated!! And prayers to Bob, Toney and Vern's families. Mt. Carmel definitely feels the loss.

Thank you, thank you,
Nancy Priddy

Lent Soup Suppers and Worship are starting soon. The Council will be sponsoring the first supper on 2/21 and the Saturday Men's group on 2/28. Soup, bread and beverages will be served at 6pm with Lenten service to follow at 7pm. **A sign up sheet for the Congregation Soup Supper on 3/14 will be in the Narthex** on the Ushers cabinet starting this Sunday.

Upcoming Special Service:

Ash Wednesday– Feb 14, to be held at SLO UMC at 7PM.

Here Now—Devotion book for Lent


The devotion book for Lent, *YOU ARE THE WAY*, published by Augsburg-Fortress, and featuring the “I Am” sayings of Jesus each day during Lent are available for purchase in the Narthex. Individual books are \$4.00, Large Print are \$7.00—make checks to Mt Carmel Lutheran Church. The devotion books can be used for individual study, Small Group Cell discussions and will be the basis for Adult Forums. For 2018, Lent begins on February 14, Ash Wednesday, and ends on Easter Sunday, April 1.

Hop aboard the Meal Train!!

Pastors Carlson have their hands full with Cora and baby Thorsten. Let’s help them out by crossing one stress off of their list: dinner. If you can help by making a meal one day (or several), please **email Shannon Babcock at sbabcock1996@yahoo.com** and she will send you the link to sign up to bring a meal. All the information you will need will be on the **Meal Train site**. If you know of someone who’d like to help but **does not have internet access, please have them call Shannon at (805) 602-1759** and she will plug them in!

The Origin of Beer & Pretzels
Fr. Jim Nisbet
Discussion: *No God but God: The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam* by Reza Aslan

FEB 12



OPENING DOORS OF INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING

Mosque of Nasreen
7:30 pm
1136 Walnut Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Mt. Carmel Youth



Sunday, February 4th,
Come and bring your ideas and goals for Mt Carmel’s Sunday School and Teen Programs. All are welcome to join in the discussion from nine to ninety. Led by Shannon Babcock and members of the CAT ministry.
In Quist Hall at 10:00am



Next Sunday, Feb 11-
Transfiguration Sunday forum will be a Do-It-Yourself Bible Study on the Transfiguration, led by...YOU. Bring your Bible and join in.

Volunteer Opportunities!

We are in need of some fresh faces to fill Sunday volunteer positions. If you would like to commit to once a month or as a back-up, please email or call the office at **805-544-2133** or **info@mtcarmelslo.org**. Here are the duties that we need help with:

First Service Greeters
Second Service Greeters
Second Service Communion Assistants

We are also in need of more **coffee servers** for both early and late services. If you are interested, please contact **Carol Harvey: a.g.mom@earthlink.net** or **805-481-2418**.



Date	Time	Acolytes	Coffee Servers	Communion Assistants	Greeters
		Greeter/C.A.	COORDINATOR:	COORDINATOR:	COORDINATOR:
		COORDINATOR:	Carol Harvey	Parish Administrator	Parish Administrator
		Parish Administrator	481-2418	544-2133	544-2133
		544-2133		info@MtCarmelSLO.org	info@MtCarmelSLO.org
Feb 4	8:45		Ro Cannon-Miller	Nancy Priddy	Ro Cannon-Miller
				Lisanne Martinelli	
	11:00		Tony Huffaker	Diane Mansell	Pat Forrest
				Anneke Moersdorf	
				Volunteer Needed	
Feb 11	8:45		Bob & Mary Christenson	Maureen Dresp	JoAnn Bennett
				Betty Johnson	
	11:00		Vicky Tway	Volunteer Needed	Sue Cummings
				Volunteer Needed	
				Volunteer Needed	
Feb 18	8:45		Sid & Beryl Bennett	Karen Petersen	Carolyn Baker
				Mary Christenson	
	11:00		Mike & Val Lund	Anneke Moersdorf	Pat Forrest
				Diane Mansell	
				John Cook	
Feb 25	8:45		Jess & Pat Bathke	Mike Dresp	Ro Cannon-Miller
				Greg Zocher	
	11:00		Jeanie Schultz	Sophia Parsons	Erin Parsons
				Volunteer Needed	
				Volunteer Needed	

	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday
8:45	Jess & Pat Bathke	Norm & Mollie Smith	Glen Priddy	Warren Quist
	Steve & JoAnn Bennett	Dale & Betty Johnson	Burke Jr. & Kathy Towle	John Merrill
11:00	Sue Cummings	Bob & Carol Grosse	Alan Estes	Carol & Donley Winger
		Jeanie Schultz	Mike & Val Lund	Pat Forrest
	Bob Babcock	Linda Schultze	Dorothy McCoid	Andy Frokjer

Friday Morning Office Volunteers					
Pat Forrest	Dorothy McCoid	Carol Grosse	Mary Christenson	Carol Winger	Maureen Dresp
				Feb-2	Feb-9
Feb-23	Feb-16	Mar-9	Mar-16	Mar-30	Mar-2
Mar-23	Apr-6	Apr-13	Apr-20	Apr-27	May-4

Date	Time	Lector(s)	Assisting Minister	Soundboard	Powerpoint
		COORDINATOR: Parish Administrator	COORDINATOR: Greg Zocher	COORDINATOR: Marshall Pihl	COORDINATOR: Marshall Pihl
		544-2133	461-3128		
		info@MtCarmelSLO.org	gzocher@slocity.org		
Feb 4	8:45	Mike Dresp	Rebecca Christensen	John Perreault	TBD
	11:00	Bob Grosse		Marshall Pihl	Carol Grosse
Feb 11	8:45	Jess Bathke	Rachel Mann	John Perreault	Dale Johnson
	11:00	Jack Senter		Marshall Pihl	Matthew Babcock
Feb 18	8:45	Mary Christenson	Rebecca Christensen	John Perreault	TBD
	11:00	John Cook		Marshall Pihl	Linda Schultze
Feb 25	8:45	Wayne Lippold	Greg Zocher	John Perreault	Ben Varni
	11:00	Allison Schultze		Marshall Pihl	TBD

Children's Church

Diane Mansell	Jennifer Remington	Val Lund	Kathy Gremel	Deanna Schultze
			Feb 11	

Altar Guild

February 4	Vicky Tway
February 11	Maureen Dresp
February 18	Dorothy McCoid
February 25	Pat Forrest
Next Altar Guild meeting: March 15 @ 2pm	

*Reminder:
If you are unable to serve, please notify your coordinator and the church office of your substitute as soon as possible.





The People's Kitchen of San Luis Obispo

Mt. Carmel serves again on **March 2** at Noon at Prado Day Center.

Volunteers: Thank you, and be sure to check the schedule below for what is needed.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	WHAT TO BRING	HOW MUCH TO BRING	DATE
Bremer	Judy & Walt	CANNED FRUIT	2 LRG CANS SMART & FINAL	2/2/2018
Uder	Jan	CANNED FRUIT	2 LRG CANS SMART & FINAL	2/2/2018
Krueger	Laura	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Forrest	Pat	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Meyer	Kathey	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Rollefson	Ruth	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Senter	Jean & Jack	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Sexton	Janis	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Keisler	John	MILK	2 GALLONS WHOLE	2/2/2018
Martin	Julie	MILK	2 GALLONS WHOLE	2/2/2018
Columbo	Karen	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Muller	Tina	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Bobell	David	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Twomey	Jenice & Phil	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	2/2/2018
Cummings	Sue	CANNED FRUIT	2 LRG CANS SMART & FINAL	3/2/2018
Christensen	Rebecca	CANNED FRUIT	2 LRG CANS SMART & FINAL	3/2/2018
Adams	Dorothy	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Almas	Karen	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Christenson	Mary	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Lex	Linda	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Rolwand	Sandy	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Tieje	Sheilah	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Bathke	Jess & Pat	MILK	2 GALLONS WHOLE	3/2/2018
Cannon-Miller	Ro	MILK	2 GALLONS WHOLE	3/2/2018
Bennett	Sid & Beryl	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Bockelman	Karen	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Rheinisch	Diana	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018
Tewell	Judy	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	3/2/2018



Mt. Carmel volunteers provide a hot meal for People's Kitchen on the first Friday of each month. If you would like to provide a hot dish, salad, milk or canned fruit with 12 hearty servings three times in the next year (and you're not already a volunteer) please contact Laura Krueger at laurasalazar67@gmail.com or [805-458-6012](tel:805-458-6012)



- 1 Deanna Schultze
- 4 Clara Applegarth
- 7 Glenda Anderson
- 13 Dorothy Adams
- 13 Desiree Dellinger
- 14 Matthew Babcock
- 14 Bill Bietsch
- 15 Jeanne Miller
- 17 John Cook
- 19 Val Lund
- 20 Bob Grosse
- 23 Kathy Meyer
- 28 Stephen Quist
- 28 Laurie Strampe



- 2-9-85 Joel & Debbie Peterson
- 2-19-78 William & Karen Almas
- 2-22-86 Ken & Vicky Tway

** Please let us know if we missed
your birthday or anniversary*

*We always thank
GOD for all of you
and continually
mention you in
our prayers.*

I Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY:

February 4: John & Janis Sexton, Shirley Simmons,
Norm & Mollie Smith

February 11: Janis Stansfield, Jim & Laurie
Strampe, Bill Thoma

February 18: Ed & Lori Thoma, Treva & Harry
Thornton, Burke Jr. & Kathy Towle

February 25: Ken & Vicky Tway, Jan Uder, Carolyn
Voss

Mount Carmel Staff

Valerie Carlson	<i>Pastor</i>
Dan Carlson	<i>Pastor</i>
Cora Carlson	<i>Cora</i>
Vacant	<i>Director of Children & Teens Ministry</i>
Paul Woodring	<i>Organist</i>
Vacant	<i>Choir Director</i>
Dave Becker	<i>Director of Contemporary Music</i>
Tony Bloodworth	<i>Custodian</i>
Alex Bell	<i>Parish Administrator</i>

Church Office Hours are 8:30am–3:00pm (Monday-Friday)

Phone 805-544-2133 Fax 544-5356

Email: info@mtcarmelslo.org www.mtcarmelslo.org

To reach Pastor Valerie:

805-776-3377 or pastor.valerie.carlson@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tues. (11am-1pm) & Thurs. (12:30pm-3pm)

To reach Pastor Dan:

805-776-3707 or pastor.dcarlson@gmail.com

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Email: info@lcmslo.org www.lcmslo.org

Our pastoral staff is here for you.
In times of crisis, please contact the church.

Mt. Carmel

LUTHERAN CHURCH

1701 Fredericks St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Phone: 805-544-2133
Fax: 805-544-5356
Email: info@mtcarmelslo.org

Gather, Grow, Go



www.mtcarmelslo.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Southwest California Synod/Mt. Carmel
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



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For updates from Mt. Carmel, go to
<http://www.facebook.com/mtcarmelslo>

lutheran campus ministry

MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH † SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA

For updates from Lutheran Campus Ministries, go to
<http://www.facebook.com/lcmslo>



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE
A SPECIAL EVENT OR SPECIAL SOMEONE,
CONSIDER SPONSORING
FLOWERS FOR OUR CHANCEL.**

Each bouquet is \$27.50 or \$55.00

Contact: Jeanie Schultz, Altar Guild
or the MCLC Office

Have something you want to share, celebrate or commemorate?
E-mail the details/pictures to the church office
(info@mtcarmelslo.org) for publication in this newsletter and/or our
weekly "Vistas" e-mail!

Deadline for March "Summit" is February 25th

