

Dear Beloveds of God,



In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul writes about conflict in the Corinthian

church. He does not say much about the nature of the conflict, but he does name that he is aware of it and offers his direction, as the founder of that church, on resolving the conflict. Paul's approach to church conflict, at least this particular conflict, is to say something along the lines of: "Stop being in conflict, God created you to be in unity." His statement is true and direct, but probably not all that helpful in the end. Truly, one can trace the history of correspondence between Paul and this church and see that this was not the end of it; the conflict continued at least until the next letter we have from Paul to the Corinthians, the New Testament book 2nd Corinthians. In that letter he makes appeals such as, "*We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.*" *But the truth is that humans in conflict are rarely able to let it go and are rarely able to open their hearts and come together in unity without some help.*

I say all of this to provide perspective for the current situation at Mt. Carmel. Whether you are 'involved' or not, whether you are fully aware of it or not, few of you will be surprised to hear that we are, like the Corinthians before us, a church in conflict. As much as we may want to deny it, bury our heads till it passes, or simply work around it, there

is division and conflict among us. In the interests of the continued health and wholeness of the congregation it needs to be addressed.

To that end, the congregation council of Mt Carmel, your elected leadership, has undertaken the difficult task of securing a professional organization in order that they might consult for, and mediate in, this congregation so that we might achieve the same unity that Paul promotes. At the moment the council is in the process of discernment about which one of a couple different organizations will be the best fit for this congregation. They are working diligently and faithfully to find a good fit that will direct this community toward health and wholeness.

Our hope is that this organization will be able to: help us to awareness of whatever underlying anxiety might be contributing to current disagreement, uncover and resolve any systemic issues in this community, and give us skills and resources for the future so that the health and wholeness might be a true and lasting unity and not just temporary peace, calm, or reprieve.

In the coming days and weeks you will be receiving more information about this process and about the steps that will require your participation. When you receive that information we ask that you prayerfully consider it and commit to participating no matter how involved, or not, you feel that you are in any conflict. In the meantime, please hold in prayer those that are dedicating themselves to this difficult process of discernment; they are most assuredly praying for all of you.

Peace,
Pastor Dan

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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



January Financial Report

The current general cash reserve at 1/31/18 (which do not include Temporarily Restricted Funds or Memorial and Trust Funds) was \$170k. This is 44% of the operating budget; comfortably exceeding a good guideline for cash reserves of at least 30% of the operating budget.

Offerings through 1/31/18 are \$161k. This is 55% of the budgeted offerings and we are 58% through the year. In the prior year, the offerings at this point in the year were \$169k. The total revenue through 1/31/18 is \$220k.

We are 58% through the year. Our total expense is at 46% of the full year budget. The largest expense line of Personnel is under budget at 46% 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 41% of the full year budget. This is mostly due to a large project (parking lot resurface) that is not yet completed. Net general fund income for the period ended 1/31/18 is \$24k.

The next **Council Meeting** will be held on **March 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

Lent Soup Suppers and Worship have begun. 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 is in the Narthex** on the Ushers cabinet.

Friday, March 9, the Brown Bag Lunch Group will host a speaker who should not be missed!

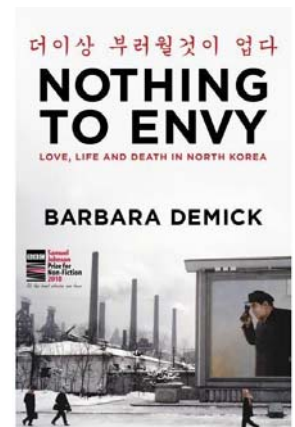
Our very own, Bob Christenson, retired Naval Captain, will be giving a presentation on "The Evacuation of Saigon". Bob is a graduate of the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and earned a Master of Science degree from the Naval Postgraduate school in Monterey.

He served in a destroyer, diesel submarine and amphibious ships.

Captain Christenson was at sea, as an executive officer in the USS Blue Ridge, a command ship, during the evacuation of Saigon, in April 1975. He will tell share these amazing experiences with us, and all the people he met, including the supporting Marine general, and ultimately our ambassador to Vietnam. In his words, "He witnessed it all".

Bring your brown bag lunch, a friend, and questions and join us at noon, Friday, March 9, in Quist Hall.

MCLC Book Club is meeting at the home of Karen Petersen on **Sunday, Mar. 11, 6:00pm**. Our book selection this month is **Nothing to Envy-Ordinary Lives in North Korea, by Barbara Demick**. Additional books are available in the church office. Please sign-out a copy of the 'Book Club in a Box' if you take one. Join us!



Stephen Ministry can be defined as "Christ caring for people through people." Mt. Carmel has a long history of Stephen Ministers who have walked along side congregation members who are experiencing a life crisis – personal, financial, health, or spiritual. A Stephen Minister meets weekly with the person in crisis to listen, pray, and comfort them with reminders of God's love and Bible promises that pertain to that person's particular needs. Some relationships between a person and a Stephen Minister last for several months, some last a year or two. You do not hear very much about Stephen Ministry because the relationship between a Stephen Minister and a congregation member is confidential. If you are interested in Stephen Ministry, either to seek the help of a Stephen Minister, or to inquire about becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact one of Mt. Carmel's Stephen Leaders: Suzanne Gorter 235-5407 or Sandy Rowland 439-1635.

Upcoming Special Services: Updated!

Maundy Thursday– Mar 29, to be held at Mt. Carmel at 7PM.

Good Friday– Mar 30, to be held at SLO UMC at 7PM

People's Kitchen Schedule CORRECTION

A mistake was made on the dates on the new People's Kitchen Schedules from October to February. Prior year dates were listed for those months instead of current year dates. When marking your calendars, please remember that we always serve on the 1st Friday of the month. Contact Laura Krueger if you have any questions or would like a corrected schedule printed for you (call or text 805-458-6012 or email laurasalar67@gmail.com).



St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Sponsored by:
Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

SHRE!
COOKOFF!

Saturday, March 17
3-6 pm
(At Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church)

Food: Potluck Chili Cookoff! Bring your favorite chili to share. Prizes will be awarded!

Drinks: Lots of Green Beer! *Non-alcoholic Green punch will also be served*

Dessert: Shamrock Green Ice Cream

Activities: For small Children: Bouncy House and Face painting
For Teenagers: Scavenger Hunt for **Gold Coins** and a **POT OF GOLD**

Live music for everyone!
KARAOKE!!

*Wear GREEN so a Leprechaun doesn't pinch you!





Next Sunday, Mar 4- “The Divinity in Action: Past and Present”, led by Jack Senter.
Sunday, Mar 11- “I Am The True Vine” led by Laura Krueger.

Adult Forums are based on the Lenten devotion book, “You Are The Way”. It is not necessary to have read the devotion book to participate in the discussion but you may have some ideas from it. At 10 am in the Quist Hall.

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.**

Mt. Carmel's Social Action Since September

- Mt. Carmel members donated and delivered food, diapers and other needed items to the Santa Maria ELCA congregation of Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz. (Pat Forrest)
- Mt. Carmel hosted and provided volunteers for the homeless overflow shelter for the month of December (Glen Priddy and John Cook)
- Mt. Carmel hosted the families of the Get On The Bus holiday bus after they had visited their Dads at CMC. (Nancy Priddy)
- Mt. Carmel collected and assured distribution of \$15 gifts to 100 children at El Divino Salvador Lutheran Church in Tijuana. (Reck Family)
- Mt. Carmel provided food and served an average of about 70 people on the first Friday of each month for People's Kitchen. (Laura Krueger and Sue Cummings)
- Special thanks** to Solina Lindahl, Laura Krueger, Christy Oltmans and Stephanie Sawyer for organizing and hosting the very informative and well attended series on immigration issues each Sunday throughout January.



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
Mar 4	8:45		Carol Harvey	Mike Dresp	Ro Cannon-Miller
				Lisane Martinelli	
	11:00		Jan Uder	Diane Mansell	Pat Forrest
				Anneke Moersdorf	
Mar 11	8:45		Steve & JoAnn Bennett	Maureen Dresp	JoAnn Bennett
				Mary Christenson	
	11:00		Tony Huffaker	Volunteer Needed	Sue Cummings
				Volunteer Needed	
Mar 18	8:45		Ro Cannon-Miller	Betty Johnson	Carolyn Baker
				Greg Zocher	
	11:00		Mike & Val Lund	Anneke Moersdorf	Sue Cummings
				Diane Mansell	
Mar 25	8:45		Jess & Pat Bathke	Rebecca Christensen	JoAnn Bennett
				Nancy Priddy	
	11:00		Vicky Tway	Sophia Parsons	Erin Parsons
				John Cook	
			Anneke Moersdorf		

	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
		Mar-9	Mar-16	Mar-30	Mar-2
Mar-23	Apr-6	Apr-13	Apr-20	Apr-27	May-4

MARCH

Date	Time	Lector(s)	Assisting Minister	Soundboard	Powerpoint
		COORDINATOR:	COORDINATOR:	COORDINATOR:	COORDINATOR:
		Wayne Lippold	Greg Zocher	Marshall Pihl	Marshall Pihl
			461-3128		
		wayne@pacific-arch.com	gzocher@slocity.org		
Mar 4	8:45	Mike Dresp	Greg Zocher	John Perreault	TBD
	11:00	John Cook		Marshall Pihl	Carol Grosse
Mar 11	8:45	Mary Christenson	Rebecca Christensen	John Perreault	Dale Johnson
	11:00	Bob Grosse		Marshall Pihl	Matthew Babcock
Mar 18	8:45	Kathy Gremel	Dale Johnson	John Perreault	TBD
	11:00	Nancy Cook		Marshall Pihl	Linda Schultze
Mar 25	8:45	Jess Bathke	Greg Zocher	John Perreault	Ben Varni
	11:00	Shannon Babcock		Marshall Pihl	TBD

Altar Guild	
March 4	Maureen Dresp
March 11	Jeanie Schultz
March 18	Vicky Tway
March 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
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
Hemmersbach	Margot	CANNED FRUIT	2 LRG CANS SMART & FINAL	4/6/2018
McCoid	Dorothy	CANNED FRUIT	2 LRG CANS SMART & FINAL	4/6/2018
Bennett	Sid & Beryl	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Dong	Wende & Kevin	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Eggert	Jeanne	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Petersen	Karen	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Almas	Karen	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Smith	Mollie	HOT DISH	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Gingg	Beverly	MILK	2 GALLONS WHOLE	4/6/2018
Grosse	Carol	MILK	2 GALLONS WHOLE	4/6/2018
Haas-Clark	Sue	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Harvey	Carol	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Keisler	Rebecca	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018
Lippold	Marci	SALAD	HEARTY 12 SERVINGS	4/6/2018



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)



3 Bev Humphry	26 Marj Funk-Pihl
5 Brennan Dellinger	26 Kathy Towle
7 Pastor Dan Carlson	28 Kevin Dong
7 Russell D. Anderson	30 Ellen Bockelman
7 Suzanne Leedale	
9 David Hensinger	
12 Makenna Parkinson	
12 Carol Grosse	
13 Russ K. Anderson	
14 Rebecca Christensen	
16 Nancy Cook	
16 Debi Gregory	
20 Paul Jensen	
20 Anneke Moersdorf	
21 Beryl Bennett	
24 Dale Johnson	



3-21-82	Steve & Jackie Kinsey
3-24-73	Glen & Nancy Priddy
3-25-06	Matthew & Deanna Schultze
3-30-69	Jack & Roberta Moen

** 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:

March 4: Darrell Voss, Colin & Alexandra Wenzl (Jackson, Finnbar), Carole Wheeler

March 11: Bebi White, Charlie Williams, Kathryn Winfrey, Donley & Carol Winger

March 18: Doug & Pam Wood, Paul Woodring, Kenji & Dana Yoshino

March 25: Greg Zocher & Ray Ramirez, Dorothy Adams, Susan & Jim Allan

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.



CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!

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 April "Summit" is March 25th

