



December 2018

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*In the enclosure of your heart,
O God,
enfold me,
and give me courage:
to enter the cave
in the season of slumber,
to lie down defenseless
in your gathering dark,
to know your sustaining
as my soul is made ready,
to give myself over
to dreaming of birth.*

This simple poem by Jan Richardson is a prayer for the Advent and Christmas seasons. In the gathering darkness of winter we tell the story of the birth of the one called "the Light of the World" in a cave-like stable. Although we know the story by heart we tell it again to be reminded of its continuing truth for our lives.

We tell it because there is a place within each one of us that is cave-like, waiting, empty, open. We tell it because there is something waiting to be born in us. We tell it because in the empty place we know our need—and our world's need—for healing, hope and new life.

Peace,
Pastor Richard

Blue Christmas/ Longest Night Worship Service

Wednesday, Dec. 19
7:00PM

Christmas Eve Services

December 24
Family Service
5:00PM

Traditional Service
7:30PM

Sunday Worship at Mt. Carmel

Sunday Worship Service
9:30am

Holy Communion is offered at
Sunday worship service.

Education Hour follows the
church service

Join us for coffee on the patio
immediately following the service.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING ACTIVITY

Sunday, December 2, 11:00AM

Mt. Carmel Community Building Team is sponsoring a fun Advent wreath-making activity in Quist Hall following the worship service. (Adult Forum will meet in the Sanctuary and are encouraged to join in at noon.) There will be pizza, popcorn and a movie afterward. Fun for all!

Thanks to Bob Grosse, Jan Uder, Diane Mansell, and Rebecca Keisler for bringing us together.

**CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS**

Orders for poinsettia plants for the Christmas Eve services will be taken until Dec. 19th. Each plant is \$6 and can be taken home after the 7:30PM service. Rebecca Keisler and Maureen Dresp will be on the patio Sunday mornings taking orders or you can mail to/drop by the church office (M-F/9-12)

If you would like to note who you would like to dedicate 'in honor of' or 'in memory of' please make a note of that. Be sure to note POINSETTIA in the memo.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS/LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP**

Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00PM

Mt. Carmel will host a special "Blue Christmas/Longest Night Worship Service. Recognizing that for many people the Christmas season is not simply a time of joy but also one with a deepened sense of loss and grief, we will gather for a worship that both acknowledges this ambiguity and helps us to move forward with hope in the light of the promise of Emmanuel, God with us.

FOOTBALL AND FELLOWSHIP

December 16, 5:00-9:00PM

Are you ready for some FOOTBALL?! LA Rams VS Phil. Eagles on Sunday Night Football. Marshall will be hosting the football party in his home. All are welcome. Please RSVP to Marshall or Dave Parkinson.

**Adult Forum —Advent Sundays**

11:00AM -Quist Hall

You are invited to join us on each Sunday of Advent as our pastors lead adult education on Luke's canticles:

Dec 2: "Benedictus: Song of Zechariah"

(Presented by Pr. John Rollefson) in Sanctuary this week.

Dec 9: "Magnificat: Song of Mary" (Pr. Richard Rollefson)

Dec 16: "Nunc Dimittis: Song of Simeon (Pr. Richard Rollefson)

Dec 23: "Gloria in Excelsis: Song of Angels" (Pr. John Rollefson)

**BROWN BAG LUNCH****ANNUAL SWEDISH MEATBALL EXTRAVAGANZA**

Friday, December 14, Noon

Bring you and a friend and join us, Swedish meatballs, fellowship, and even some Christmas carols...Meatballs and beverages provided, you bring a side dish, ie, vegetables, rolls, appetizer, dessert, whatever.

Please RSVP to Nancy Priddy, 805-459-9249, so there will be enough meatballs. Want to help set up? That would be great too, please let Nancy know.

MCLC BOOK CLUB MEETS AGAIN

Sunday, Dec. 9, 6:00PM

Travels with Charley, by John Steinbeck is our book for December. Copies are available at the SLO Library or download the audible version like some of us that can't sit still long enough to read a book.

Join us at the home of Karen Petersen for lively discussion and tasty treats.



Got something you want to celebrate or commemorate? E-mail the details/pictures to the church office - info@mtcarmelslo.org - for publication in this newsletter and our "Vistas" mid-month announcements! **Deadline for January is Dec. 21, 2018**

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

Pancake Palooza!!!

Monday, Dec. 10 from 10 p.m. to midnight.
All Cuesta and Poly students are invited to take a break from finals studying and come for **FREE pancakes.**

Stop by anytime and bring your friends!

Also, don't forget to join our Methodist neighbors on Sunday nights at 6 p.m. for a free dinner at the Wesley Center adjacent to the Methodist church up the hill.
Questions? Call Jake White (602) 881-0906.

Mount Carmel community members: We need grocery shoppers, set-up crew members, pancake chefs, dish-washers and clean-up crew members to help out with the Pancake Palooza. Call John Keisler to volunteer (805-543-4259). Yes, it's a late night, but it's a total BLAST (dude)!! Grab an afternoon nap and join in!

Our next LCM Team meeting is Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. We will be discussing the possibility of expanding our relationship with the Methodist campus ministry and finalizing plans for the Pancake Palooza. If you have any ideas, we'd love to have your input. Patti Frey (805-235-1938).



ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING DURING CHILDREN'S TIME



- Dec. 2—Lily Hinds
- Dec. 9—Allison Schultze
- Dec. 16—Caleb Holman
- Dec. 23—Andrew Moersdorf

Mt. Carmel Youth

DECEMBER YOUTH SCHEDULE

- Dec. 2—Confirmation students learning to usher; Making of wreaths after the service that we'll take to the homebound on the 16th.
- Dec. 8—(Saturday)-Rehearsal for Youth Service at 10:00AM
- Dec. 9—YOUTH SERVICE, rehearsal at 8:30.
Cookie reception after service.
- Dec. 16—Delivery of wreaths to homebound, after service.
- Dec. 23—NO MEETING due to Christmas
- Dec. 30—NO MEETING due to Christmas
(we'll resume on Jan 6th)

Wreath Deliveries to Homebound

Join us!

On December 16, after the service, our youth and families will be making visits to our homebound members, delivering wreaths and Advent cheer! We welcome any members of the congregation to come with us (we're all of one family, after all), and are always happy to have more drivers! It takes about two hours after the service. Lunch is provided!

Winter Retreats for High School and Middle School

Calling all youth! Come to el Camino Pines for the Lutheran Retreats, Camps & Conferences' Winter Retreats, where we will be given a deeper understanding of the God that has already named and claimed each one of us, with a love too abundant to comprehend

- Feb 1-3 High School
- Feb 8-10 Middle School
- Cost: \$175/person

RSVP and registration fee due to Monica by January 6.



DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COFFEE SERVERS	COMMUNION ASSTS	GREETERS
		COORDINATOR	COORDINATOR	COORDINATOR	COORDINATOR
		John Keisler	Carol Harvey	Office	Office
December 2	9:30 AM	Lily Hinds	Sid & Beryl Bennett, Jan Uder	Karen Petersen, Nancy Priddy, Lisanne Martinelli	JoAnn Bennett
December 9	9:30 AM	Andrew Moersdorf	Jess & Pat Bathke, Carol Harvey	Youth, Betty Johnson	Youth
December 16	9:30 AM	Allison Schultze	Mike & Val Lund	Rebecca Christensen, John & Nancy Cook	Jenice Twomey
December 23	9:30 AM	Lily Hinds	Jack Roberta Moen	Diane Mansell, Claudia Coughran, Jenice Twomey	Pat Forrest
December 24	5:00 PM				
December 24	7:30 PM				
December 30	9:30 AM	Andrew Moersdorf	Ro Cannon-Miller	Maureen Dresp, Mike Dresp, Nancy Priddy	Jenice Twomey

*Reminder:

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

USHERS

Coordinator-Jess Bathke 805-927-9460 or jnpbath@charter.net		
1st Sunday	S/J Bennett	Jess & Pat Bathke
2nd Sunday	N/M Smith	Youth Sunday
3rd Sunday	Glen Priddy	B/K Towle
4th Sunday	Warren Quist	John Merrill
5th Sunday	N/M Smith	Jess & Pat Bathke

Substitute ushers: Bill & Karen Almas, Diane Mansell, John Rebecca Keisler

DID YOU SAY COOKIES?

Calling all cookie bakers! Can you bring a plate or two for the youth reception following the Youth Service on Dec. 9th? You know how we love our cookies.



DATE	LECTORS	ASSISTING	SOUND BOARD	POWERPOINT
	COORDINATOR	COORDINATOR	COORDINATOR	COORDINATOR
			Marshall Pihl	Marshall Pihl
December 2	Carlyn/Lily Hinds		Marshall Pihl	Carol Grosse
December 9	MCLC Youth	Youth	John Perreault	Dave Parkinson
December 16	Monica Holman	Rebecca Christensen	Marshall Pihl	Linda Schultze
December 23	Jess Bathke	Sue Haas Clark	John Perreault	Dale Johnson
December 24				
December 24				
December 30	Mike Dresp		Marshall Pihl	Dave Parkinson

Altar Guild

- December 2 Jeannie Schultz
- December 9 Mollie Smith
- December 16 Dorothy McCoid
- December 23 Pat Ramsay
- December 24 All
- December 30 Vicky Tway

Next Altar Guild Meeting is
December 13, 2:00pm

Parish Administrator: 30 hours/week, 5 days a week, with some flexibility with exact hours. Benefits include sick leave and vacation. Employer contributes towards health benefits. Work close with Pastoral staff and Church Council, the Parish Administrator oversees the daily operations of the church, including facility usage, personnel management, and office support. Receives direct supervision from Senior Pastor.

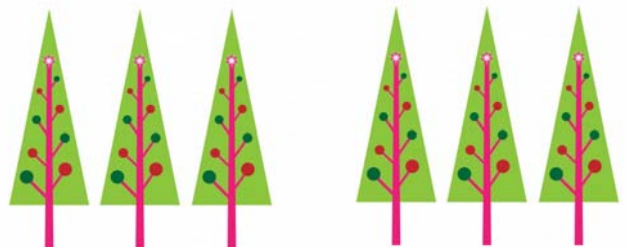
Need an organized self-starter with ability to work in a face paced environment. Require compute skills including Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel and PowerPoint) and social media such as Facebook and website updates. Ability to learn other programs such as Publisher and database type programs. Also need to demonstrate poise, tact and high-level interpersonal skills. Please provide a resume and cover letter to info@mtcarmelslo.org.

FRIDAY MORNING OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

- Nov. 30 Carol Winger
- Dec. 7 Dorothy McCoid
- Dec. 14 Pat Forrest
- Dec. 21 Carol Winger
- Dec. 28 Dorothy McCoid

MOUNT CARMEL COUNCIL MEMBERS

- President Glen Priddy
- Vice President Claudia Coughran
- Treasurer Sherri Parkinson
- Secretary Jenice Twomey
- Members at Large JoAnn Bennett
- Sandy Rowland John Merrill
- Matthew Schultze Val Lund



November 25, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

WOW! The last few weeks are still a blur to many of us with so many things happening. Deb Prieto, our Turning West consultant spent Friday, November 2nd and Saturday, November 3rd, 2018 with many various members of Mt. Carmel's congregation, leading us through vital work of communicating with each other and healing deep wounds. Here's a recap.

Friday, November 2nd - Deb met with our long-term supply pastors, Pr. John Rollefson and Pr. Richard Rollefson, to introduce herself and seek their input. After that, Deb briefly met with your Executive Team to cement the weekend's events and answer any questions.

On Friday night, Nov. 2nd all of the assembled congregation members met with Deb Prieto in the Sanctuary. (All Mt. Carmel congregation members had been invited to this congregational gathering.) Most importantly, Deb created an interactive opportunity for all congregants to give their input into the subsequent work of the 'work teams' that met on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Deb crafted 3 different activities each with the purpose of allowing Mt. Carmel congregation members to provide their input and feedback about values, positive and negative norms, and possible community building activities.

Your Council met with Deb on Saturday, Nov. 3rd for 4 hours to begin working on the Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church strategic plan. The values identified by the members on Friday night were used as the foundation for identifying our collective values. Council discussed, consolidated and refined the top values, which were identified by all of the congregation members who assembled on Friday night Nov. 2nd. Next steps are for these values to be specifically defined and then returned to you, the members for verification. Your Council met again on Nov. 13th, with Deb Prieto via video conferencing to continue our work.

Community Building Team (See attached list) -

Saturday, Nov. 3rd, Deb met with the Community Building Team. This group of fellowship event planners identified 3 opportunities, taken from the charts the assembled congregation members created on Friday night, Nov. 2nd, for us to come together and have some FUN. The first opportunity for this multi-generational fun experience is on the first Sunday of Advent, Dec. 2nd right after church, where we will come together to make Advent wreaths! Pizza, popcorn and a movie are also part of the Dec. 2nd festivities.

Other fun the Community Building Team has in the works, a Sunday football and fellowship party at Marshall Pihl's house on Dec. 16th and a wine tasting event at the Priddy's home, likely in January. More details to come!

Last but not least, the Norms Team (see attached list) met with Deb Prieto for 3 hours on Nov. 3rd and has begun the very challenging work of refining the positive and negative norms that were identified on Nov. 2nd by all of the assembled congregation members. Some very positive and important conversations, critical to this work, began on Friday, Nov. 2nd and were further developed on Saturday, Nov 3rd. The Norms Team met again on November 15th, with Deb via videoconferencing, for another work session. The Norms Team meets again on Saturday, December 8th to continue their work. Much more to come!

The next congregation gathering with Deb Prieto of Turning West is scheduled on Saturday, Jan 12th from 9:00 - 11:30 am in the sanctuary. Please mark the date on your calendars and plan to join us. Your input is very important! Some congregation members gave us their feedback that having all congregation gatherings on Friday night disenfranchises some of our members. In recognizing the need to meet a variety of needs of the congregation members, we will offer the congregation gatherings at a variety of times, to positively impact the most members.

Thank you all for your loving prayers! We are thankful for the many blessings that God shines upon us.

Peace,

Your Church Council -

Glen Priddy Claudia Coughran Sherri Parkinson JoAnn Bennett

Val Lund John Merrill Sandy Rowland Matt Schultze

Jenice Twomey

Norms Team Members


Mt. Carmel - November 2018

Norms Team Members	
Mt. Carmel - November 2018	
Kathy Gremel - Team Leader	Jackie Kinsey
Karen Almas	Joan Pedersen
Claudia Coughran	Kathy Towle
Kevin Dong	Phil Twomey

Community Building Team Members

Mt. Carmel - November 2018

Community Building Team Members	
Mt. Carmel - November 2018	
Nancy Priddy - Team Leader	Diane Mansell
Steve Bennett	Marshall Pihl
Mark Frey	Dave Parkinson
Bob Grosse	Matt Schultze
Carlyn Hinds	Jan Uder
Rebecca Keisler	

		<h1 style="color: green;">DECEMBER 2018</h1>	<p style="color: purple; font-size: small;">*Save the Date* Saturday, Jan. 12 9:00-11:30AM Turning West Congregational Meeting</p>		<p>1 8:00AM Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>2 9:30AM Worship 11:00AM Ed. Hour 11:00AM Advent Wreath Making</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 7:00PM LCM Team Meeting</p>	<p>5 10:00AM Quilting Group</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 8:00AM Garden Club 10:30AM Bible Study 11:00AM People's Kitchen</p>
<p>9 9:30AM Worship Youth Service Baptism 11:00AM Ed. Hour Cookie Reception</p>	<p>10 10PM Midnight Pancake Palooza LCM</p>	<p>11 5:30PM Exec Council Mtg</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 2:00PM Altar Guild Mtg.</p>	<p>14 8:00AM Garden Club 10:30AM Bible Study 12:00PM Brown Bag Meatball Extravagan- za!</p>
<p>16 9:30AM Worship 11:00AM Ed. Hour</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 7:00PM Blue Christmas/ Long Winter Service</p>	<p>20 6:00PM Church Council Mtg.</p>	<p>21 8:00AM Garden Club 10:30AM Bible Study</p>
<p>23 9:30AM Worship 11:00AM Ed. Hour</p>	<p>24 5:00PM Family Wor- ship 7:30PM Family Worship Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25 Church office closed Dec. 24&25 <i style="color: green;">Merry Christmas</i></p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 8:00AM Garden Club 10:30AM Bible Study</p>
<p>30 9:30AM Worship 11:00AM Ed. Hour</p>	<p>31 Church office closed</p>	<p>1 <i style="color: blue;">Happy New Year</i> Church office closed</p>	<p>2 10:00AM Quilting Group</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>48:00AM Garden Club 10:30AM Bible Study 11:00AM People's Kitchen</p>



The People's Kitchen of San Luis Obispo

Mt. Carmel serves again on December 7th at Prado Day Center.

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

DECEMBER PEOPLE'S KITCHEN SIGN-UPS, Please have your clearly marked items at church by 11:00am, (heated and ready to go)

2 lg cans fruit	Margot Hemmersbach, Dorothy Mccoid
Hot dish-serves 12+	Steve & JoAnn Bennett, Wende & Kevin Dong, Jeanne Eggert, Laura Krueger, Sherri Parkinson, Mollie Smith
2 gal whole milk	Bev Gingg, Carol Grosse
Salad serves 12+	Sue Haas-Clark, Carol Harvey, Rebecca Keisler, Marci Lippold

Please find your own substitutes if you cannot provide this month.

Looking ahead to January sign-ups:

2 lg cans fruit	Betty Johnson, Laurie Musial,
Hot Dish-serves 12+	Dianne Draze, Maureen Dresp, Annette Martin, Karen Petersen, Nancy Priddy, Carol Winger
2 gal whole milk	Claudia Coughran, Nancy Cook
Salad serves 12+	Ingrid Frokjer, Cheryl Garrnsey, Judie Kirkhart, Jennifer Remington

A new schedule will be coming out in February for the 2019-2020 year. If you would like to be added (or removed) or make any changes please email Jan Uder at j.uder@yahoo.com. Each person is signed up for 3X per year.

We also need volunteers to help serve on the first Friday of each month at the Prado Day Center.

Discussion:
"The Cost of Discipleship"
by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
led by Fr. Jim Nisbet
"A Balanced View of the West Bank"
led by Rich Carsel

DEC 10

OPENING DOORS OF INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING

Mission San Luis Obispo
7:30 pm
728 Monterey St.
San Luis Obispo, CA
93401

"Dear friends: A Joyous Thanksgiving to you all!"

Just wanted to update you on all that is happening at Opening Doors For Interfaith Understanding. We had a wonderful gathering at the Mosque in October and want to thank all involved for their help. December's gathering will be at the Mission on December 10 at 7:30 PM. We are looking forward to Fr. Jim Nisbet presenting The Cost of Discipleship by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Rich Carsel from Congregation Ohr Tzafon sharing a Balanced View of the West Bank. Most of all we look forward to spending time with you and getting to know and care for one another. We have an exciting program for February 11 as well when we will meet at Congregation Beth David!

Blessings! Rev. Luanne Griguoli"

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 9:00-11:30AM

Important Congregational Gathering with
Deb Prieto of Turning West.

Please plan to be there.



- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 4 Michael Dresp | 25 Paula Jaster |
| 4 Joel Peterson | 26 Jackie Kinsey |
| 5 Bob Christenson | 26 Riley Pihl |
| 5 Megan Forrest | 28 Jenice Twomey |
| 5 Cheryl Garnsey | 28 Casey Lund |
| 5 Sharon Haupt | 28 Treva Thornton |
| 7 Norm Smith | 30 Mary Christenson |
| 8 Judy Bremer | 30 Christopher Cummings |
| 8 Shirley Simmons | 30 Lauren Huffaker |
| 14 Marta Reck | 31 Linda Lex |
| 15 Jean Hohenstein | <i>Please let us know if we missed your birthday</i> |
| 17 Holly Lyle | |
| 17 Dean Meyer | |
| 18 Darrel Voss | |

Happy Anniversary

- 12-16-72 Sue & Greig Cummings
 12-28-60 Ed & Maureen Dresp
 12-29-79 Dennis & Catherine Kessler-Amling

“Blessings the Advent Season”

Dear Mt. Carmel Family,

We have felt the continuing prayers and good wishes from so many of you. Your gracious love has helped us settle into our new home. How we gave thanks for each of you. Blessed be those connections. We are not separated.

We pray with each of you. May Christ’s light shine upon our minds and hearts and upon Mt. Carmel. May Christ come anew for each of us this Christmas.

Goods Blessings and Christmas cheer,
Mary and Bob Christenson



PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY:

Dec. 2 Sandy Rowland; Todd, Rebecca, Jessica, Jason, & Matthew Schnack; Jeanie & Gary Schultz; Karen & Linda Schultze

Dec. 9 Matthew, Deanna Allison, Danial, and Adrian Schultze; Janis & John Sexton; Shirley Simmons; Norm & Mollie Smith

Dec. 16 Janis Stansfield; Jim & Laurie Strampe; David & Cathryn Sullivan; Treva & Harry Thornton.

Dec. 23 Burke Jr. & Kathy Towle; Ken & Vicky Tway; Phil, Jenice & Mark Twomey

Dec 30 Jan Uder; Carolyn Voss; Darrell Voss; Carole Wheeler

Prayers for healing and comfort: Marge O’Neill, Bob Christenson, Carole Wheeler, Sally Eggen, Jeanie Schultz, Claudia Coughran, Ruben Garcia, Patricia Huffaker (Tony’s mother), the family of Gene Lowry, (Sheryl’s step-brother) passed away Nov. 25. Thanksgiving for new granddaughter, *Isabella Margrethe Landeros*. Proud grandparents Janis & John Sexton

A SPECIAL THANKS...

To all the volunteers that have stepped up when they have seen a need. Wonderful people we have in our midst.

Special thanks to Carol Harvey to cover in the office while Karen was out of town in November.

Mount Carmel Staff

John Rollefson
Richard Rollefson

Interim Pastor
Interim Pastor

Paul Woodring
Dave Becker
Tony Bloodworth
Jenice Twomey & Karen Petersen

Organist
Director of Contemporary Music
Custodian
Parish Administrator

Church Office Hours 9:00–noon Monday- Friday
Phone 805-544-2133

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

Our pastoral staff is here for you.

**In time of crisis, please contact the church or
 Pastor Richard Rollefson 858-349-8862**

Mt. Carmel

LUTHERAN CHURCH

1701 Fredericks St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Gather, Grow, Go



www.mtcarmelslo.org



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

God's work. Our hands.



24th Annual San Luis Obispo County Band Concert

Supporting the Prado Day Center and Homeless Shelters in our county.