



June 2021

Inside this issue:

Message from Pr. Richard	Cover
Our Worship	2
News & Notes	5
Celebrations & Concerns	7
Reaching Out	8

June Highlights

Meetings are held via Zoom. Please visit our website at mtcarmelslo.org for links to the meetings. Visitors welcome!

Executive Team

Tuesday, June 8 at 6pm

Church Council

Thursday, June 17 at 6pm

Synod Assembly June 4 & 5

MCLC Annual Meeting June 13

Father's Day June 20

Sunday Worship at Mt. Carmel Sunday Worship Service

9:30am—In Person & Online
12:00pm—In person on the patio

In his poem, *The Healing*, Wendell Berry writes: "we clasp the hands of those who go before us, and the hands of those who come after us." As we prepare to resume our in-person worship in our sanctuary the image of hands linked together, reaching back into the past and forward into the future, is an especially appropriate one.

On the one hand, we are reminded that, in the end, the church is about people. Buildings do provide gathering places and centers for service, and we are blessed by the vision, commitment and hard work behind the creation and maintenance of our Mt. Carmel facility. But more than buildings, of course, it is the people—those gathered together and those who are ministered to—that matter most of all.

Just as we are linked to the saints who have gone before us in lives of service to God and neighbor, what we do today as the people of God reaches out to generations yet to come. Handing on the faith does not happen primarily through institutions or doctrines, as important as these are, but through the practices of faith embodied in human lives, person to person.

The image of linked hands can also remind us that we are not alone. Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church is a part of Christ's Church that extends beyond this place and time into the future and around the globe. That's really "our neighborhood." And through it all, we are reminded that we do not rely upon ourselves or our own competencies alone: the Church is God's and God's purposes will be fulfilled.

In his novel, *Jayber Crow*, Wendell Berry writes of a vision of the church as a gathered community reaching backward and forward in time, not perfect, but being perfected by shared compassion and forgiveness and God's sustaining grace:

My vision gathered the community as it never has been and never will be gathered in this world of time . . . And yet I saw them all as somehow perfected, beyond time, by one another's love, compassion, and forgiveness, as it is said we may be perfected by grace.

As we prepare to gather together in person, let us give thanks for the ongoing guidance and empowerment of God's Spirit that even in this past difficult year, has continued to call, gather and enlighten us as a community of faith.

Peace,
Pastor Richard



Enjoy the in-person fellowship you've been craving as we worship together in the sanctuary for the first time in over a year. At this time, masks and social distancing are required indoors. Your invited to stick around on the patio afterwards for coffee and fellowship.

Reminder—if you are not feeling well, please join us on Zoom.



Join us on Sundays at 12 noon for an in-person worship and communion. Please help us to keep everyone safe during our recovery and reopening by observing the following guidelines:

- Sign in with the first and last names of everyone in your family who is attending, including children, 'just in case'...
- And above all, please attend the online worship service if you are not feeling well.

Beginning June 20, this worship service will begin at 11:00am

Special thanks to our musicians and singers each week:
Paul Woodring / Dave Becker / Joan Pedersen
Sue Haas-Clark / Patti Frey / Richard Rollefson

Sunday Readings and Psalm

June 6 (Second Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Chuck Kilstrom

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

God confronts Adam and Eve in the garden

Psalm 130

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Renewed in the inner nature

Gospel Reading: Mark 3:20-35

Doing the work of God as brothers and sisters of Christ

June 13 (Third Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Steve Bennett

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

The sign of the cedar, planted on the mountain of Israel

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

In Christ, a new creation

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:26-34

The parable of the mustard seed

June 20 (Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector:

First Reading: Job 38:1-11

The creator of earth and sea

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Paul's defense of his ministry

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:35-41

Christ calming the sea

June 27 (Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Monica Holman

First Reading: Lamentations 3:22-33

Great is the LORD's faithfulness

Psalm 30

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Excel in generosity, following the Lord Jesus

Gospel Reading: Mark 5:21-43

Christ healing a woman and Jairus's daughter

July 4 (Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector:

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

The call of Ezekiel

Psalm 123

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

God's power made perfect in weakness

Gospel Reading: Mark 6:1-13

Sending of the Twelve to preach and heal

WORSHIP ONLINE

Join us on ZOOM for
worship and bible studies

Please use the links listed here to join any of our worship services. We look forward to seeing you!

[How to join a ZOOM meeting - Instructions](#)

- [Link to SUNDAY morning Zoom worship](#)

Sundays at 9:30 AM
For telephone: +1 669 900 9128
Meeting ID: 849 4786 1947
Passcode: 591300

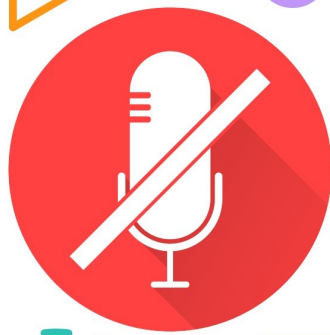
- [Link to WEDNESDAY Evening Zoom Service](#)

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
For telephone: +1 669 900 9128
Meeting ID: 867 5095 6162
Passcode: 695333

- [Mt. Carmel YouTube channel](#)

Please remain muted
during the worship service
so that everyone may
enjoy the experience.

Thank you!



ADULT FORUM

Sundays following worship

Summer Schedule

Beginning June 20, regularly scheduled Adult Forums will take the summer off. Watch the Vistas for information about special gatherings to discuss hot topics such as the Call Process and the Back Lot Construction, among other things.

LISTENING TO GOD: PRAYER AT NIGHT'S APPROACHING

WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00PM

The Wednesday Evening Prayer

Join Pastor Richard Rollefson at this quiet service each Wednesday evening on Zoom.

[Link for Wednesday Evening Service](#)

For telephone: +1 669 900 9128
Meeting ID: 867 5095 6162
Passcode: 695333


Communion at Home



Elements to gather:

Wine or juice
Crackers or bread

As we resume indoor worship services, we will also resume sharing communion each Sunday. If you are joining us online, we ask that you gather your elements prior to the service—a cup with wine or juice, and a plate with crackers or bread. Pastor Richard will lead us through the Great Thanksgiving as though we are all gathered in person. **ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE.**



Men's Breakfast

The Men's Bible Study will meet in-person at Mt. Carmel for breakfast and Bible Study next Saturday, May 15. Those who are fully vaccinated are invited to meet in person. We will also have Zoom available for those who are not able to attend. Breakfast is served at 8:00 AM, but come a little early for coffee and chat.

Bible Study

Fridays at 10:00 AM

[Link to FRIDAY morning Bible study](#)

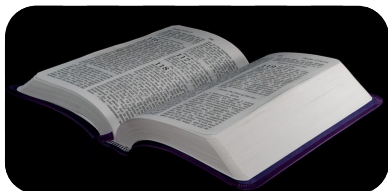
Telephone: 669 900 9128
Meeting ID: 829 5418 7961
Passcode: 229122

Men's Bible Study

Saturdays at 8:30 AM

[Link to SATURDAY morning Bible study](#)

Telephone: 669 900 9128
Meeting ID: 248 770 4658
Passcode: 159759



CHILDREN AND TEEN'S MINISTRY

Join Ingrid on YouTube for children's sermons. Click the link or copy to your browser to watch online.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9Ny-io7V6ObxabcEmoDazBq>

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You're invited

Calling all women!

Music rehearsal  
on June 4<sup>th</sup> at  
10AM to prepare  
for our June 6<sup>th</sup>  
service

## CALLING ALL WOMEN Music Rehearsal Friday, June 4 at 10:00AM

A special Call To Worship is in the works for our first Sunday of indoor worship on June 6. Please join Ruth Rollefson and others at Mt. Carmel on June 4 at 10:00AM to rehearse "Fear Not! I Have Called You By Name and You Are Mine". Some of you will remember this song from the Mt. Carmel Women's Retreat.

*Annual Meeting  
Sunday, June 13*



## MT. CARMEL ANNUAL MEETING June 13, 2021

It's time once again for the Mt. Carmel Annual Business Meeting. We have a date, but the time and method (online or in-person) has not been determined. Please watch the Vistas for more information as the church council considers the available options.



## BACK LOT UPDATE

construction set to  
begin mid-June



Permits are expected to be issued soon with construction beginning by mid-June. The first items on the list for the construction crew will be building the new driveway from Fredericks Street to the upper lot, and adding a perimeter fence for safety. The upper lot will be available for Mt. Carmel parking when needed.

We plan on keeping you fully updated throughout the process, so keep your eyes on the Vistas for news and photos.



Mt. Carmel Lutheran  
Church Presents

Rocky Railway  
Vacation Bible School  
July 26 – July 30, 2021  
9 am to 12 noon

Children ages 3 years to entering 6<sup>th</sup>  
grade will enjoy five fun filled days on  
the Rocky Railway learning about  
Jesus through music, crafts, and play.



Sunday, June 20



## SOUTHWEST CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY

June 4-5, 2021

This year, the Southwest California Synod Assembly meeting will be conducted completely virtually. All attendees will join from the comfort of their own home or office to conduct the usual business and voting, including voting for our next Bishop.

Speaking of voting, two delegates—one male, one female—represent Mt. Carmel at the assembly. Marshall Pihl is our male delegate this year.

**We are looking for a female delegate to attend both days of the virtual meeting. Please contact Marshall by May 7th if you are interested in attending online. A delegate must be a member of Mt. Carmel and must attend both days.**

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Food Bank of San Luis Obispo recognized the contributions from Mt. Carmel with a plaque on the wall entering their facility. Your generosity and faithful giving has provided thousands of meals for families and individuals throughout SLO county over the past year. Many thanks to our anonymous donor who recognized the growing need and kickstarted the giving/matching campaign. Keep up the good work!



## REOPENING TASK FORCE UPDATE

The Reopening Task Force (RTF) met weekly during May. Mount Carmel is resuming indoor worship on Sunday, June 6. For now, indoor worship services will require that all attendees be masked and distanced.

In our deliberations on resuming in-person worship and other church activities we have been guided by some fundamental values:

1. **Follow public health regulations** (CDC, California, County and local public health guidelines and Synod recommendations) for all church activities.
2. **Love of neighbor.** Follow practices in our congregation life that prioritize concern for the most vulnerable among us: the elderly, those with immune deficiencies, and children. This value is represented in the recommendation that even those who are fully vaccinated continue to mask and practice social distancing in our indoor worship.
3. **Welcome all people.** We seek to embody the value of inclusivity in our worship by not segregating people based upon their vaccination status. We promote the importance of getting vaccinated for COVID-19 while recognizing that some people cannot be vaccinated and others—including children—may not yet be vaccinated. It is also for this reason that we will continue with our outdoor worship where masking is not required.
4. **Maintain a safe workplace for our employees.** Mount Carmel is a faith community, but it is also an employer. There are issues of workers compensation related to a work-acquired illness. Most importantly, we want our employees to be cared for like we care for our own family members.

When we resume indoor worship on June 6 we will engage in the following practices:

- We will be physically-distanced outdoors and during worship.
- We will remain masked while indoors. The pastor and musicians will not have to mask when speaking or singing, but will be distanced from each other and from congregants.
- Chairs will be arranged in physically-distanced groupings. Please save the larger groupings for families or “social bubble” groups.
- The exterior doors will be propped open and fans on to increase air circulation. You may want to bring a jacket.
- There will be Children’s Church; the details are still being planned.

- Communion will be celebrated using prepackaged communion kits.
- Offering plates will be at the rear of the church.
- The baptismal font will be empty and it may not be at the back of the sanctuary.
- Dismissal will be at the ushers’ directions. Please be patient, use the center aisle and exit promptly to the outside.
- Coffee will be served outside. If there are baked goods, they will be served to you. Parents’ help in directing their children will be especially appreciated.

We are finalizing a recommendation about the use of the Mt. Carmel facility by community groups. Next month we will work on the safety procedures for Vacation Bible School.

With the Governor’s anticipated change in masking requirements, some questions being posed include whether unvaccinated persons will continue to be required to mask? And if the unvaccinated do not mask, either because they are not required to or because they do not follow regulations, what will Mount Carmel’s response be? If unvaccinated persons are still required to mask, what are the implications for families with children who cannot be vaccinated?

These recommendations are trying to hit an ever-moving target and will continue evolving in light of changing conditions. There are a variety of opinions about whether our medium term plan should be to:

- Maintain an indoor, masked service and an outdoor, unmasked service;
- Return to a single service, where all persons are masked until the pandemic is determined to be “over”;
- Return to a single service where only unvaccinated persons are masked;
- Offer an indoor, masked service and an indoor, unmasked service.

For the short term, the outdoor, unmasked service will remain. There are pros and cons to each option. We do plan to continue livestreaming the service on Zoom for those who are unable to attend in-person worship.

The RTF is prepared to offer a Q&A session, either as a part of the annual meeting or at another time, as the council directs. We thank you for your understanding and look forward to being together soon.

For the RTF,  
Patti Frey



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

|            |                             |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| 06/10/1961 | Treva & Harry Thornton      |
| 06/10/2006 | Desiree & Charles Dellinger |
| 06/12/1976 | Janis & John Sexton         |
| 06/14/1952 | Jeanie & Gary Schultze      |
| 06/14/1969 | Dianne & Michael Drazee     |
| 06/17/1972 | John & Ruth Rollefson       |
| 06/17/2011 | Andy & Ingrid Frokjer       |
| 06/19/2004 | Carlyn & John Hinds         |
| 06/20/1987 | Kevin & Wende Dong          |
| 06/21/1980 | Diane & Ryan Mansell        |

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

|    |                  |    |                    |
|----|------------------|----|--------------------|
| 02 | Ro Cannon-Miller | 28 | Lisanne Martinelli |
| 02 | Reagan Nicol     |    |                    |
| 04 | Aidan Dellinger  |    |                    |
| 04 | Vicky Tway       |    |                    |
| 09 | Ariana Holman    |    |                    |
| 11 | Sally Reck       |    |                    |
| 16 | John Sexton      |    |                    |
| 17 | Lily Hinds       |    |                    |
| 20 | Dennis Amling    |    |                    |
| 21 | Paul Christensen |    |                    |
| 23 | Callie Bobell    |    |                    |
| 24 | Sherri Parkinson |    |                    |

## Prayer Requests

Sid & Beryl Bennett  
 Jeannie Ledford & Family  
 Elsa Brody  
 Betty Witmer  
 Ann Grady  
 Jenni Kinsey  
 Dorothy Cunningham  
 Brenda & Bridget (newborn twins)

Have something you want to celebrate or commemorate?  
 E-mail the details/pictures to the church office -  
[info@mtcarmelslo.org](mailto:info@mtcarmelslo.org) - for publication in this newsletter  
 and our twice-weekly "Vistas" announcements!  
**Deadline for the July Summit is June 20**

## PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY:

**June 6**—Monica, Ariana & Caleb Holman; Sheryl, Tony, Fiona & Lauren Huffaker; Bev Humphrey

**June 13**—Ken & MaryAnn Jakes; Barbara Jauregui; Kay & Russ Jensen

**June 20**—Betty & Dale Johnson; John & Rebecca Keisler; Catherine Kessler-Amling & Dennis Amling

**June 27**—Chuck & Irene Kilstrom; Jackie, Steve, Sarah & Jenni Kinsey; Jerry & Judie Kirkhart

**July 4**—Jeannie Ledford; Suzanne Leedale; Linda Lex





## The People's Kitchen

of San Luis Obispo

**Mt. Carmel serves lunch at the Prado Center on the first Friday of each month.**

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

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

Email Jan Uder at [j.uder@yahoo.com](mailto:j.uder@yahoo.com) if you have any questions about The People's Kitchen program or would like to volunteer.

### Schedule for June 4: Hot Dish (serves 12+)

Marylin & Dennis Brown  
Pat Forrest  
Sherri Parkinson  
Ruth Rollefson  
Janis Sexton  
Kathy Towle  
Jenice Twomey  
Jan Uder

### Salad (serves 12+)

Walt & Judy Bremer  
Karen Colombo  
Kathy Meyer  
Ruth Rollefson

### Canned Fruit

Jennifer Bobell  
Wende Dong

### 3 Gallons Whole Milk

Julie Martin

**Please have your clearly marked items at church by 11:00am, (heated and ready to go)**



### HUNGER HEROES

Mount Carmel continues to contribute to the SLO Food Bank, and the challenger continues to match every dollar. The need for funding at the Food Bank will likely be needed for at least a few more months.

You are all truly HUNGER HEROES!

[Link to Mt. Carmel matching funds page](#)

Thank you for all of your support of this very important ministry. Mount Carmel is truly blessed by your commitment. If you have not yet committed your support, even five dollars will provide thirty-five meals. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to make a difference to those standing in line to get their next meal from the Food Bank.

Peace and patience,

Marilyn Brown  
Food Bank Coordinator

### Mount Carmel Staff

|                               |                                          |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <i>Rev. Richard Rollefson</i> | Interim Pastor                           |
| <i>Paul Woodring</i>          | Organist                                 |
| <i>Dave Becker</i>            | Director of Contemporary Music           |
| <i>Tony Bloodworth</i>        | Custodian                                |
| <i>MaryAnn Jakes</i>          | Parish Administrator                     |
| <i>Ingrid Frokjer</i>         | Director of Children and Teen Ministries |
| <i>Deanna Schultze</i>        | Nursery Caregiver                        |

### Mount Carmel Church Council

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| President        | Marshall Pihl    |
| Vice President   | Patti Frey       |
| Secretary        | Carol Harvey     |
| Treasurer        | Sherri Parkinson |
| Members-At-Large |                  |
| Erik Brun        | Jen DeClark      |
| Chuck Kilstrom   | Wayne Lippold    |
| Jan Uder         |                  |

### Church Hours

Our office is not open to visitors at this time, but we are always available by phone. Please call or email to schedule a time to visit in person:

**Phone 805-544-2133**

**Email: [info@mtcarmelslo.org](mailto:info@mtcarmelslo.org) [www.mtcarmelslo.org](http://www.mtcarmelslo.org)**

### Our pastoral staff is here for you

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



## Supporting Iglesia Santa Cruz....

June 12, 2021, 11am-3pm

Mt. Carmel holds a Drive-Thru donation on the second Saturday of each month to benefit the families at Iglesia Santa Cruz. Our primary focus is on food donations, with additional items added to the list as needed. All package sizes are acceptable for donation, and most is distributed or delivered to families the same day we deliver to Santa Maria. Maseca is a special corn flour used to make tortillas and is a basic staple in all of the households. ***If you prefer to donate money, we'll gladly do the shopping on your behalf. Please make checks payable to MCLC and note Santa Cruz on the memo line.***

Every bag of rice or beans, every package of Masa or sugar helps families that are struggling to keep food on the table. Donations may also be left in the shopping cart near Quist Hall on Sundays at the in-person worship service.

Benefiting Iglesia Santa Cruz



### Suggested items include:

- ❖ Maseca
- ❖ Cooking Oil
- ❖ Sugar
- ❖ Rice
- ❖ Beans
- ❖ Flour
- ❖ Salt
- ❖ Laundry & Dish Soap
- ❖ Diapers / Baby Wipes
- ❖ \$25 Visa Gift Cards

## DRIVE-THRU DONATIONS BENEFITING IGLESIA SANTA CRUZ

AT MT. CARMEL



Our May food drive once again collected approximately 1,000 pounds of food, and \$275 in gift cards. We are always met by members of the Santa Cruz congregation to unload all the goodies, and Pr. Esteban always says a prayer of thanks for the gifts.

Thrivent grants have been an invaluable addition to this ministry over the past few months, and we currently have grants scheduled for June and July. If you have a Thrivent account and would like to help us out, please contact MaryAnn at 805-544-2133. If you need help with they Thrivent request process Steve Bennett is available to lend a hand. You can reach Steve at 805-566-0359. The money received from the grants is used to purchase fresh veggies, fruits, and meat. Of course, we always look for the best deals to stretch our dollars, but without you, none of this would be possible.

[Click this link for more info about Iglesia Santa Cruz on their facebook page.](#)



# 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Available on our website, or call the office at  
805-544-2133 to request a paper copy

## Constitution Bylaws Continuing Resolutions

Please take time to review the proposed revisions to the Mt. Carmel Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions before the annual meeting on June 13. All documents are available on our website.

Please click the title of the document below to view and/or download a document.

[Proposed Constitution](#)

[Proposed By-laws](#)

[Proposed Continuing Resolutions](#)

Please call the church office at 805-544-2133 to request paper copies of the documents.

## Mt. Carmel LUTHERAN CHURCH

1701 Fredericks St.  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Phone: 805-544-2133  
Email: [info@mtcarmelslo.org](mailto:info@mtcarmelslo.org)

### OUR MISSION

*Celebrating God's grace through  
worship, learning and service.*

### CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!

For updates from  
Mt. Carmel, go to  
[www.facebook.com/  
mtcarmelslo](https://www.facebook.com/mtcarmelslo)

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Southwest California Synod/Mt. Carmel  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.