



August  
2021

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*O Lord, how lovely it is to be your guest.  
Breeze full of scents, mountains reaching to the skies;  
Waters like a boundless mirror,  
Reflecting the sun's golden rays and the scudding clouds  
All nature murmurs mysteriously, breathing depths of tenderness  
Birds and beasts of the forest bear the imprint of your love.  
Blessed are you, mother earth, in your floating loveliness,  
Which wakens our yearning for happiness that will last forever  
In the land where, amid beauty that grows not old,  
Rings out the cry: Alleluia!*

This beautiful poem/prayer by Gregory Petrov expresses the essence of what it means to say we believe in God, “creator of heaven and earth.” For this affirmation of our Christian faith is not meant as an explanation of the mechanics of how the world came to be, but an expression of gratitude for the overflowing of God’s love in unbounded hospitality. To use the word “creation” is to acknowledge that life is the gift of a gracious creator where “all nature murmurs mysteriously, breathing depths of tenderness” and “bears the imprint” of God’s love.

Just as the poet perceives that nature points beyond itself to its creator, so our experience of the natural world “wakens our yearning for happiness that will last forever,” a land where “beauty grows not old.” This is the paradox within which we live each day, perhaps felt most strongly in the passing days of summer growth and abundance: to give thanks for the present beauty and blessings of life, and yet also to long for a happiness that will know no end.

And yet again, this is where the deepest meaning of our confession of God as the author of life is revealed: to believe in God the creator means to trust in that unbounded love from which nothing—not even death—can separate us.

Peace,  
Pastor Richard

**August Highlights**

Meetings are held via Zoom. Please visit our website at [mtcarmelslo.org](http://mtcarmelslo.org) for links to the meetings. Visitors welcome!

**Executive Team**  
Tuesday, Aug 10 at 6pm

**Church Council**  
Thursday, Aug 19 at 6pm

**Sunday Worship  
at Mt. Carmel**  
Sunday Worship Service

9:30am—In Person & Online



## Indoor Worship

Sundays at  
9:30AM

### INDOOR WORSHIP at MT. CARMEL

Sundays at 9:30 AM

Enjoy the in-person fellowship you've been craving as we worship together in the sanctuary. Masks and social distancing are required indoors. You're invited to stick around on the patio afterwards for coffee and fellowship.

### OUTDOOR WORSHIP at MT. CARMEL

Sundays at 11:00 AM

You're invited to join us on the patio for an open-air worship experience. Music, scripture readings and communion are all included in this service.

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



## Outdoor Worship

Sundays at  
11:00 AM on the patio

Special thanks to our musicians and singers each week:  
Paul Woodring / Dave Becker / Joan Pedersen /  
Richard Rollefson

## Sunday Readings and Psalm

### August 1 (Tenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Steve Bennett

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

*The Lord gives manna in the wilderness*

Psalm 78

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

*Maintain the unity of the faith*

Gospel Reading: John 15:9-12

### August 8 (Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Nancy Cook

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

*Elijah given bread for his journey*

Psalm 34:1-8

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:25—5:2

*Put away evil, live in love*

Gospel Reading: John 6:35-40

### August 15 (Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Diane Mansell

First Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6

*Invited to dine at wisdom's feast*

Psalm 34:9-14

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

*Filled with the Spirit, sing thanks to God*

Gospel Reading: Mark 6:45-52

*Jesus walks on the water*

### August 22 (Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Monica Holman

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

*Joshua calls all Israel to serve the LORD*

Psalm 34:15-22

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

*Put on the armor of God*

Gospel Reading: Mark 6:53-56

### August 29 (Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Chuck Kilstrom

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

*God's law: a sign of a great nation*

Psalm 15

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

*Be doers of the word, not hearers only*

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:1-7, 14, 17-23

### September 5 (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Lector: Steve Bennett

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

*Like streams in the desert, God comes with healing*

Psalm 146

Second Reading: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

*Faith without works is dead*

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:24-37

*Christ healing a little girl and a deaf man*



# WORSHIP ONLINE

Join us on ZOOM for worship and bible studies

Can't join us in person? Please use the links listed here to join any of our worship services online. 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

- [Mt. Carmel YouTube channel](#)



Women's Retreat  
October 9, 2021  
10am to 4pm

Monastery of  
the Risen  
Christ

## SAVE THE DATE October 9, 2021

Calling all women! Join us on October 9, 2021 for our annual Women's Retreat. The retreat this year will be a one day event from 10am to 4pm at the Monastery of the Risen Christ on O'Connor Way in San Luis Obispo. Watch the Vistas for more information!

## 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-io7V6ObxbcEmoDazBg>



### Women's Bible Study

Fridays at 10:30 AM

In person at Mt. Carmel,  
or join online via Zoom

[Link to FRIDAY morning Bible study](#)

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

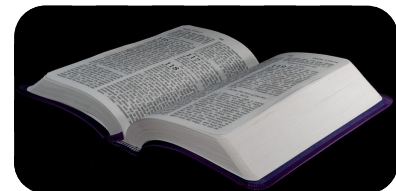
### Men's Bible Study & Breakfast

Saturdays at 8:00 AM

In person at Mt. Carmel,  
or join online via Zoom

[Link to SATURDAY morning Bible study](#)

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



## 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

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW

**Ushers ~ Greeters ~ Lectors ~ Coffee Servers**

New protocols, new duties, and complete instructions! We are looking people interested in serving at our 9:30 Sunday worship service. Sign up as often as you like to accommodate your own schedule. NO EXPERIENCE OR SPECIAL SKILLS REQUIRED!

Please contact the church office at 805-544-2133 for more information, or to sign up.



*From the ELCA...*

## “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday

Scheduled for Sept. 12, 2021, “**God’s work. Our hands.**” Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) — one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor.

Our church — and our world — continue to live through the COVID-19 pandemic. But the good news is that we are beginning to experience a slow return to the daily routines and gatherings as more people become vaccinated. We look forward to gathering with family and friends once again to share God’s love in person.

Amid this ongoing situation we continue to be **church together**. Throughout the ELCA we are witnessing the love and concern God’s people have for one another. During this time, our congregations continue to support ministries that assist vulnerable people in their communities.

These acts of service allow us to explore one of our most basic Lutheran convictions: ***All of life in Jesus Christ — every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.***

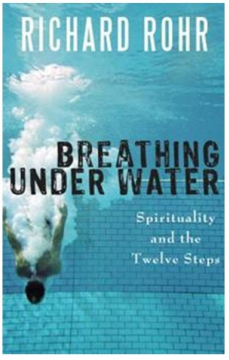
On “**God’s work. Our hands.**” Sunday we come together to restore and reconcile our communities. **You do this kind of work every day** —loving your neighbors and making your community a better place.

Mark your congregation’s calendar for **Sunday, Sept. 12**. If your congregation cannot participate on Sept. 12, please find another time that works best.

**Please contact the church office to speak to Pr. Richard or MaryAnn about your ideas for God’s Work. Our Hands.**

**BACK LOT UPDATE**

construction is  
expected to begin  
soon



Book discussion group  
Mondays at 6:30pm  
Join via Zoom

[Click here for the meeting link](#)

Permits are expected to be issued soon with construction beginning soon after. 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.

**Book Discussion Group  
Mondays at 6:30pm on Zoom  
Beginning August 2**

Our next book is Breathing Under Water by Richard Rohr. The week 1 discussion will cover the introduction and chapters 1-3. Everyone is welcome to join. Books are available through most online retailers in paper or electronic versions.

About the book:  
We are all addicted in some way. When we learn to identify our addiction, embrace our brokenness, and surrender to God, we begin to bring healing to ourselves and our world. In Breathing Under Water, Richard Rohr shows how the gospel principles in the Twelve Steps can free anyone from any addiction--from an obvious dependence on alcohol or drugs to the more common but less visible addiction that we all have to sin.

Zoom Meeting Info:  
Meeting ID: 862 7971 6007  
Passcode: 419787  
Join by phone: 1 669 900 9128



**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

**Church Hours**

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





## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

|            |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|
| 08/05/2006 | Brittany & Chris Nicol       |
| 08/08/1959 | Betty & Dale Johnson         |
| 08/12/1967 | Dean & Kathy Meyer           |
| 08/28/1954 | Beryl & Sid Bennett          |
| 08/28/1977 | Jill Anderson & Steven Jobst |
| 08/29/1969 | Kay & Russ Jensen            |
| 08/31/1974 | Mollie & Norm Smith          |
| 08/31/1991 | Marci & Wayne Lippold        |
| 08/31/1997 | Cyndi & Richard Rollefson    |

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

|    |                   |    |                |
|----|-------------------|----|----------------|
| 03 | Dorothy McCoid    | 29 | Dennis Brown   |
| 06 | Marci Lippold     | 29 | Fiona Huffaker |
| 06 | Linda Schultze    | 30 | Susan Allen    |
| 11 | Tony Huffaker     |    |                |
| 14 | Sarah Pihl        |    |                |
| 17 | Khloe Mansell     |    |                |
| 18 | Patti Frey        |    |                |
| 19 | Erik Brun         |    |                |
| 21 | Wayne Lippold     |    |                |
| 25 | Karen Almas       |    |                |
| 25 | Jenni Kinsey      |    |                |
| 26 | Elisa Garnsey     |    |                |
| 27 | Stephen Parkinson |    |                |

## Prayer Requests

Sid & Beryl Bennett  
 Jeannie Ledford & Family  
 Elsa Brody  
 Pat Forrest

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 September Summit is August 20**

## PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY:

**August 1**—John Merrill; Dean & Kathy Meyer; Jeanne Miller

**August 8**—Jack & Roberta Moen; Brittany & Chris Nicol' Margaret O'Neill

**August 15**—Dave & Sherri Parkinson; Joan Pedersen & Ronald Browne; John Perreault & Claudia Coughran

**August 22**—Karen Petersen; Debbie & Joel Peterson; Marshall Phil & Marj Funk-Pihl

**August 29**—Glen & Nancy Priddy; David Quist; Steve & Cynthia Quist

## Supporting Iglesia Santa Cruz....

**August 14, 2021, Noon-2pm**

Announcing exciting and important changes in our support program for Iglesia Santa Cruz!!

The first change—and probably the most exciting—is our new partnership with Whole Foods in San Luis Obispo. Whole Foods donates perishable food to organizations that feed people. Because of our mission support to Santa Cruz, we are able to accept a food donation from Whole Foods each Friday. Whole Foods determines the donated items which include produce, bakery, meat, dairy and grocery. Although the specific items vary from week to week the donations average 300-500 pounds of food. After delivering the food to Santa Cruz, their volunteers sort everything into boxes and bags for pick up or delivery. These donations feed an average of 29 families each week.

The second change is to our drive-thru donation program. August 14 will be our last MONTHLY drive-thru to collect the non-perishable food, etc. We are asking that donations be brought to church on Sunday and placed in the grocery cart. Your donations will be delivered every Friday along with the Whole Foods donation. You may also arrange a time to come by the church during the week to drop off items by calling the office at 805-544-2133.

Every donation of food, and every gift card you share with Iglesia Santa Cruz is appreciated more than can be expressed here. If you're interested in learning more about the congregation at Iglesia Santa Cruz, please call MaryAnn in the church office to arrange a trip on one of the Fridays.

Please watch the Vistas for stories and information from Iglesia Santa Cruz.

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

Benefiting Iglesia Santa Cruz




**DRIVE-THRU DONATIONS**  
**BENEFITING IGLESIA SANTA CRUZ**  
AT MT. CARMEL

**Suggested items include:**

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



|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  | <h3>The People's Kitchen</h3> <p>of San Luis Obispo</p> | <p><b>Mt. Carmel serves lunch at the Prado Center on the first Friday of each month.</b></p> <p>Volunteers: Thank You, and be sure to check the schedule below for what is needed.</p> <p><i>Please find your own substitutes if you cannot provide this month.</i></p> <p>Email Jan Uder at <a href="mailto:j.uder@yahoo.com">j.uder@yahoo.com</a> if you have any questions about The People's Kitchen program or would like to volunteer.</p> |
|--|---|--|

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Schedule for August 6:</b><br/><b>Hot Dish (serves 12+)</b></p> <p>Steve &amp; JoAnn Bennett<br/>Dennis &amp; Marilyn Brown<br/>Sherri Parkinson<br/>Mollie Smith<br/>Cyndi Rollefson<br/>Ruth Rollefson<br/>Jenice Twomey<br/>Rebecca Keisler</p> | <p><b>Salad (serves 12+)</b></p> <p><b>Canned Fruit</b></p> <p><b>3 Gallons Whole Milk</b></p> | <p>Carol Harvey<br/>Wayne Lippold<br/>Ruth Rollefson<br/>Dorothy McCoid<br/>Carol Grosse</p> |
|--|--|--|

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

# Backpack Drive

Please help us  
collect 30  
backpacks for the  
children at Iglesia  
Santa Cruz.



Children everywhere are preparing to return to school! Whether they're beginning their educational journey or continuing on a familiar path, they're all looking forward to renewing old friendships and learning new things. One new thing they will have to contend with is the ongoing concerns of Covid-19. New routines and protocols for face masks, hand sanitizers, and social distancing will likely be part of their learning process.

Most of the children at Iglesia Santa Cruz don't have the funds to purchase new school supplies or clothing for their return to school this month.

We have set a goal at Mt. Carmel to provide 30 backpacks and school supplies to the children at Iglesia Santa Cruz this school year. We are asking for asking for backpacks suitable for children of all ages, Kindergarten through 12th grade.

School supplies may include:

Notebooks            Loose leaf paper (college rule and wide rule)            Pens  
Pencils            Markers            Crayons            Facemasks            Hand sanitizer  
Monetary donations to Iglesia Santa Cruz are also welcome.

Please drop backpacks and supplies in the wicker basket in the narthex, or bring them to the food drive on August 14. THANK YOU!!

*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](http://www.facebook.com/mtcarmelslo)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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

God's work. Our hands.