

MOUNT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS



FROM THE MOUNT



From the Mount to the World With God's Love

March 2021

Inside this issue:

From the Pastor	1
March Calendar	2
Council Corner	2
Daytrippers	2
From our Boards and Committees	3
Other news	3
Mid Week Bible Studies	4

From the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Anniversaries, much like birthdays, are markers in our lives that can stir up within us quite the gamut of memories, emotions, and feelings. The anniversary of the death of a spouse or loved one can bring about deep feelings of longing, loss, regret, and even resentment. Conversely, a wedding anniversary or the celebration of another year of remission, sobriety, or freedom from other vices are met with celebration.

This Sunday, March 14, marks the one-year anniversary of when we last gathered together during our normal Sunday worship times, prior to the start of COVID. To me this past Sunday seemed like the start of a new year as we once again, albeit 51 weeks later, gathered at our usual service times. We received many comments on how wonderful it was to be back to "normal." An article I read a few weeks ago made the point that while some of the activities that were canceled due to COVID, like sports and church activities, may have seemed rather trite and of little importance, the real underlying loss was the disruption of routine and ritual in our daily lives.

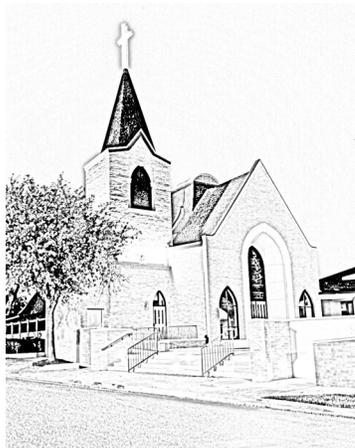
We are given the gift of routine, ritual, and repetition in the rhythm of our Church year and of the Divine Service. As we are all called and gathered each week, the pattern of our worship through the Divine Service serves as bookends to our work week as we live out our lives in daily worship through our vocations.

Anniversaries serve a dual purpose as we look back at the past as well as to the future. We look back at the 99 years in God's faithfulness to the generations of Christians who received the gift of Word and Sacrament here at Mount Calvary. Because of God's faithfulness in the past, we look to future with bold confidence, not in our works, but in the faithfulness in God and His works and wonders, here, in this place, through you, His people.

God's faithfulness has carried our world, our state, and our congregation through a difficult and unforgettable year. He has given us the gift of His Son, present with us in Word and Sacrament to feed, sustain, and nourish us, body and soul. He has given us the gift of each other in the repetition of our worship as we support and encourage one another through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. We have been given the gift of Christian fellowship and a deep care and concern for one another that has been magnified through this pandemic.

Two verses of the New Year's Hymn: "Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year" seems an appropriate way to end this article and begin this new chapter in the life of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church. "His love abundant far exceeds the volume of a whole year's needs. Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace - another year of grace" "With Him as Lord to lead our way, in want and in prosperity, what need we fear in earth or space - In this new year of grace!

God be with you,
Pastor Meissler



Mount Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church

308 Mount Calvary
San Antonio, TX 78209

210-824-8748

www.mtcsa.org

Office Hours:

Mon-Th 8:00am-4:00pm

Friday 8:00am-noon

Sunday Worship Schedule:

8:30 am Singing

11:00 am Singing

7:00 pm Spoken

Sunday School Hour

9:45 am

Bible Classes

Tuesday 10:00 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

March Calendar

COUNCIL CORNER

Sundays: Weekly

- * Divine Service 8:30am
- * Education Hour/Sunday School 9:45am
- * Divine Service 11:00am
- * Youth Group 5:00-7:00pm
- * Spoken Divine Service (Masks Mandatory) 7:00pm

Mondays: 1st & 3rd

- * Mom's Bible Study 6:00pm (Youth Room)

Tuesdays: Weekly

- * Tuesday Morning Bible Class 10:00am (rm 212)

Wednesdays: Weekly

- * Quilters 9:30am
- * Lenten Meal 5:30pm
- * Lent Worship Service 7:00pm

Thursdays: Weekly

- * Handbells 6:00pm
- * Choir 7:00pm
- * Men's Bible Study 6:30pm (Hasch home)

Saturdays: 1st & 3rd

- * Men's Bible Study 8:00am (Parish Hall)

Monday, March 8

- * Board of Elders 7:00pm

Tuesday, March 16

- * Board of Evangelism 7:00pm

Monday, March 22

- * Board of Trustees 7:00pm

Tuesday, March 23

- * Board of Education 6:00pm
- * Church Council 7:00pm

Greetings from your Church Council! We've hit the ground running in the new year and have a lot of exciting initiatives under way to better serve our beloved Mt. Calvary. Work has begun on drafting some policies and procedures as to how we will work with Special Needs children when they are at our campus. More to come on this as we move forward.

We are also in the process of setting up working committees to look at our Constitution & Bylaws - as well as begin planning for our 100th anniversary next year! Members from all of our Boards will lead the charge in these two efforts. We will also be soliciting help from members like you, so let us know if you have an interest in any of these efforts!

The Council would like to thank the Pastors, church staff and Board of Elders for their tireless work in walking the fine line between allowing us to worship in person - while protecting us as much as possible. We are looking forward to the resumption of our regular worship schedule this coming weekend, and pray God's richest blessing and safety be upon us all!

Lastly, you'll notice a monthly Prayer Calendar attached to the newsletter. Thanks to the Council and Pastors for developing this wonderful tool. Every one of our stakeholders, committees, groups, Boards and staff has a specific day that they are prayed for - in addition to those important Lutheran faith tools that we hold near and dear to our hearts - such as the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and selected sections of our Catechism and Creeds. Let us know what you think of this - as we pray that it will be a blessing to our congregation.

Feel free to call, email or text me anytime with any questions, suggestions or comments you may have!

Peace be with you all!

Mike Klein
mrk1224@yahoo.com
 210.215.1887



Daytrippers in March— will be visiting the USS Lexington Museum in Corpus Christi on Thursday, March 18th. The bus will leave at 8:00am. Cost is \$16.95 for ages 13 and up; \$14.95 for seniors (60+) and retired and active military. A



late lunch (about 1:00pm) at Catfish Charlie's in Corpus Christi. The sign-up sheet, and more information about the self-guided tours, is on the bulletin board outside the Parish Hall. Questions? See Pastor Meissler.

FROM OUR BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Board of Education The Board of Education has taken on a very aggressive schedule this year. Along with our normal duties, we have taken on the library, Church website, and a school. We now have a few volunteers to clean up and maintain the library. Their goal is to make accessible and easy to find, the appropriate books and materials. The board has volunteered to take over the church website. Our goal is to make a pleasing, helpful, easy to navigate website that is optimized for search engines to find. Last but not least is the school. We are very excited to say that we have put together an exploratory committee to look into the feasibility of starting a Lutheran School with a focus on classical education. We have taken on this exciting schedule with the smallest board membership in recent years. If you have interest in these items or in the education of our members please let us know.

The Special Needs Committee has been working to develop policies and procedures that will define exactly what kinds of support our church can provide those who attend Mt. Calvary and also have special needs. The document would outline the process of identifying those who need these services and a protocol for delivering the services. Currently, the scope of this document is limited to services the church is capable of providing current membership as well as someone visiting the church for the first time.



I would like to thank everyone at Mt Calvary for their prayers, cards and calls during my recent illness. Jan and I are blessed to be members of this loving congregation.

~Richard Miyauchi

I would like to thank all my Christian friends for all your prayers, cards, letters during my recent illness. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Blessings!

~Vivian Maxwell



Music Notes

Choir has resumed, All are welcome! We are starting out simple with mostly unison singing. We look forward to building back up to our pre-covid level where we can pick up where we left off last March!

Thursday evenings 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

The Youth Group is meeting weekly on Sundays from 5pm-7pm, and always looking for more members. We engage in God's word, eat, and have a great time with a variety of activities. This July we'll be taking our yearly trip to a Higher Things conference in Grand Rapids Michigan. If you would like to volunteer to help feed the hungry kids, please talk to Sarah Paseur.

The Board of Trustees has had a quiet winter. New controllers have been installed on the steeple cross. We should now be able to choose the color for the lighted cross. The church van is in the paint shop and should be back to us by early April. We have contracted to fix the sheetrock cracks and water damage in the gym entry, narthex, and hallway to the choir loft. As I said in the January congregational meeting, the spring workday is cancelled. The Board of Trustees is looking to add at least one more member. Interested men and women are encouraged to volunteer for the board by contacting a member of the church staff or Russ Miller.

Ushers Needed

Are you willing to serve?

USHERS NEEDED FOR the 8:30am and 11:00am services. If you can usher at the 8:30am service, please contact Kevin Rabenaldt or Don Loomis. If you can usher at the 11:00am service, please contact Pastor Meissler or Pastor Goodman. Ushers are also needed for the Wednesday Lent services, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter services. Thank you.

Mt. Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church
308 Mt. Calvary Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78209
March 2021

Please place
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Wednesday Lent Service

March 3, 10, 17, 24 @ 7:00pm
Meals prior @ 5:30pm

Maundy Thursday w/ Holy Communion

April 1 @ 7:00pm

Good Friday

April 2 @ 7:00pm

Easter Sunday w/ Holy Communion

April 4 @ 7:00, 8:30 & 11:00am
Breakfast 9:30-11:00am

Mt. Calvary Sunday Worship Times:

8:30 am —Regular Worship
9:45 am—Sunday School Hour
11:00 am —Regular Worship
7:00 pm—Spoken Worship

worship
WITH US

The 8:30 & 11:00am services are live-streamed for those of you who wish to join us from home.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday Morning Bible Study | Tue | 10:00-11:30am

Coffee and refreshments served! All are welcome! Just bring your Bible, as study materials are provided. {Room 212}! This class is taught by Pastor Meissler.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study | Wed | 7:00pm

This group is taught by Pastor Goodman and is studying *The Lord's Prayer* {Zoom only}.

Men's Bible Study | 1st & 3rd Saturdays | 8:00-9:30am

This group is led by Lamar Gillian {Parish Hall}.

Mom's Bible Study | 1st & 3rd Mondays | 6:00pm

This group is led by Jessica Elbert {Youth Room}.

Sons of Solomon Bible Study | Thu | 7:00pm

This group has begun the book *The Formula of Concord*. Contact Pastor Goodman for details.

Women's Bible Study | 3rd Mon | 7:30-8:30pm

Talk to Shirley Wille for more information {Meets at members' homes}.

MT. CALVARY STAFF:

Pastor	Craig Meissler
Associate Pastor/Youth Pastor	Harrison Goodman
Pastor Emeritus	James F. Haupt
Lay Minister	Butch Watson
Director of Maintenance	Dave Thompson
Office Manager	Susan Melancon
Office Assistant	Janice Moore
Bookkeeper	Sheryl Jones
Church Office	210-824-8748
Church Fax	210-804-0052
Church email	mtcalvary@mtcsa.org
Website	www.mtcsa.org
Find us on Facebook at:	Mount Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church