



Calvary Comment

Calvary Lutheran Church
August 2020



Pastor Paul and Phyllis Zwarich

From the Pastor

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Psalm 46:1-2



What a year we are having. At the end of June, the Congregational Council voted to return to in-person worship and then rescinded the approval after the daily infection total spiked after the Fourth of July. The Council will review returning to in-person worship at the end of July when the Council has a better picture of how the virus is present in our community.

By now, most of us realize that we do not know what the future holds. If the last few months have taught us anything, it is that we are not in control of the events in our lives. The things that usually seem permanent and unchangeable are in fact not permanent and not unchangeable. The events and activities that we hold dear can be taken away from us.

Psalm 46 speaks to that reality. In the Psalm the earth and the mountains represent the enduring things of this world. In all appearances, they neither move nor change. Therefore, the image of these durable fixtures collapsing into the sea is one of utter chaos and upheaval of everything that we know and count on in this world.

Thankfully, the Psalm reminds us of where we can find refuge in such times. Notice, the place of refuge is not found in the things of this world. It is not in the comforts that we have come to enjoy. It is not in having the freedom to go anywhere and do anything. It is not in political freedoms or in economic stability. All these things can be taken away from us at a moment's notice.

The Good News is God's promises cannot be taken away. Our place of refuge is located in the Redeeming Activity of Jesus Christ our Lord. What Jesus said on the cross remains true: "It is finished!" Salvation has been purchased for us. Our sins have been forgiven. Jesus has prepared a place for us in his Father's house – an inheritance which cannot be taken away.

My friends, the last few months have not changed that. God's love and grace has not wavered. Even though it may seem that the earth has given way, and the mountains have fallen into the sea, God's promise of grace, mercy, and life everlasting remains true.

The next few months are not going to be easy. No one knows what the future may bring. But God holds the future in the palm of His hand. God alone remains our refuge and strength, and our help in times of trouble. We will get through this crisis, because of the blessings of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor Paul

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Council's Corner

Calvary Lutheran Church Council Meeting
08th of June 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on the 8th day of June 2020 by the Council President Fritz Leifeste. Pastor Paul opened with a prayer. Heavenly Father, grant that we unite by your spirit and have a right judgement in all things as we go over this agenda. As we look to the immediate future of this congregation allow us to discern your activity among us. Help us to always rejoice in your presence. To be leaders of this congregation and rejoice in your word. We pray this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ – Amen.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joyce O'Connell, Chris Kinsey, Fritz Leifeste, Linda Ortegon, Betty Thane, Bee Rose, Barbara Walker, Marie Williams, John Ulrich, and Pastor Paul Zwarich.

MINUTES: Fritz motion to accept the May 2020 Calvary Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes. Joyce motion to accept the minutes and Barbara second the motion. Council Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John Ulrich. The May 2020 Treasurer's Report and was approved as presented. John mentioned the giving for the month was the highest it's been all year and the monthly expenses were very low. He said "We were looking very good for the year so far."

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: Joyce O'Connell. The Financial Report was accepted as reported. The grand average for the year was \$3155.44 and the average for the month May was \$3323.20.

CORE TEAM REPORTS

Education – Marie Williams – Wasn't able to access the Zoom meeting.

Fellowship – Kara Martinez. Wasn't able to access the Zoom meeting. - Nothing to report.

Service and Justice – Betty Thane. The dates for the Family Shelter project will be from July 1st to August 1st. Nothing new to report on the council nominees.

Worship – Bee Rose. Nothing much to report. Getting people for Minister Assistant and Reader has not been a problem. I also took on monitoring the flower chart and that has gone well. I look forward to congregating in person in our church.

Evangelism - Barbara Walker. Women's Bible Study taking off for the summer, but they are planning to meet on June 20th for lunch.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Paul presented the Pastor's Report. Pastor said the office has been very busy the last couple of weeks between hiring a new secretary and a number of things. A check for \$500.00 was given to "Christian's in Action" as our community assistances. He made the comment, "There has been a lot of Zoom meetings."

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OLD BUSINESS

The Semi-annual meeting is scheduled for July 19th. Pastor requested a notice of the meeting needs to go out two weeks in advance to everyone. The pastor said the date of the 19th will give them time to put together the agenda. Joyce motion to accept the semi-annual meeting to be held on the 19th of July and John second the motion. Council accepted. Motion to schedule the "The annual church picnic" will be held on July 19th as well after the Semi-annual meeting. Pastor said Pedro said he would bring the barbeque.

NEW BUSINESS

Fritz said from the Synod received a request from Road to Domestic Ministry for a \$200.00 donation. Joyce motion to accept the request and John second the motion. The council approved. Pastor signed the Miles contract, but they have not picked it up yet. In the contract, the Pastor suggested he be there the second Sunday of each month. Joyce would finish the service on those days. It would be once a month and the contract is valid for twelve months. Miles goal is to get an intern candidate. Barbara motion to approve the pastor entering in to the contract and Joyce second the motion. The council approved. It was recommended that in person church service start Sunday June 21st, plus ZOOM for those that don't feel comfortable coming in to the church. Services open to members only. Every second pew will be blocked off, plus hand sanitizer will be available. No holding hands or shaking hands. The COVID-19 Rules and Guidelines will be reviewed, posted and will be followed. Fritz motion to accept the proposal to have the first in person Sunday Church Service on June 21st, with no singing, but music to be played by Grace and David Cox's would be allowed. Chris second the motion. Council Approved. Other church gatherings. Pastor doesn't want other church gathering allowed back in to the building until after our first in person church service, of June 21st. Pastor will review the COVID-19 guidelines and post them for the other church gathering groups to follow. Joyce motion to accept other church gatherings in to the building after the 21st of June. Chris second the motion. Council Approved. Pastor and Fritz interviewed and the executive committee approved the hiring of the new church secretary, Shelly Salling. Pastor requested the next council meeting be held in person with social distance guidelines being followed. The council approved.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Pray

Respectfully,

Linda Ortegon - Council Secretary



Bee Rose
Worship Committee Leader

Worship

*"Empowering God's people to worship in grace and truth."
John 4:23*

We will continue asking for volunteers for reader and Assisting Minister. Please call me at 360-908-8789 if you are interested in serving as a worship assistant. Thank you!

Education & Evangelism

*"Train children in the right way,
and when old, they will not stray."*

Proverbs 22:6

Parish Education in August

Look to the bulletins and Newsletters for Sunday School information in the future. I hope you are all having a great summer.

Marie Williams
Parish Education Team Leader

ACTIVITIES

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sundays at 10:00 A.M.

August 3rd
Council Meeting



Service and Justice

*“Do justice; love kindness; walk humbly with God.”
Micah 6:8*



*Betty Thane
Service and Justice
Team Leader*

A Special Thank You to all who contributed goods for the Women’s Shelter and Project Dignidad. Since the Corona-virus began the end of February, times have been difficult for lots of people in many different ways. It may not seem like much when we donate a small amount, but those small contributions turn into big contributions when we all participate and help in so many ways. We are all having to adjust to new ways of doing things and who knows what brilliant ideas will grow out of this time of uncertainty and stress. Remember to Thank God for all the blessings we received every day.

NOISY BUCKET: Can you hear those nickels, pennies, quarters, and dimes rattling in those buckets the next time we have a noisy bucket Sunday????? Could we possibly have the buckets running over with the change we have collected even though we haven’t been to church. My can here at home is getting kind of heavy. Businesses are asking for cards or exact change as they say there is a coin shortage. Is it because Calvary Lutheran members are keeping all their change for the noisy bucket? I sure hope so and let’s flood the market with change the first Sunday we have the Noisy Bucket again.

Please continue to pray for those who are hurting, ill, needing jobs, and suffering depression during this stressful time. Continue to support those who need an extra hug or smile over the air ways with a phone call or dropping them a card or note.

**God’s Blessings To All,
Betty Thane
Service and Justice Team Leader**

Fellowship



Kara Martinez
Fellowship Team

"Building Christian community in love and grace." Acts 2:44-47

Faith & Fellowship

Men's Bible Breakfast and Lutheran Lunches are suspended until further notice.

The Women's Bible Study Group summer social for July is postponed due to the increase in the number of positive covid tests. Comments or questions to Barbara Walker, babswalker07@gmail.com are welcome.



- 8/3 Danny McLaughlin
- 8/5 Stephen Kuhlmann
- 8/8 John Ulrich
- 8/14 Arline Zak
- 8/14 Michael Stevens
- 8/14 Teddi Phillips
- 8/14 Janie Kinsey
- 8/16 Nancy Weller
- 8/21 Anastazja Wierzowiecki
- 8/20 David Wamer
- 8/23 Pedro Montanez



- 8/1/1994 Pastor Paul & Phyllis Zwarich
- 8/5/1967 Larry & Diane Ross
- 8/8/2016 William & Sarah Anderson
- 8/19/1961 James & Blossom Parry
- 8/20/1960 Marvin & Doris Wendland
- 8/23/1975 Mark & Renae Heinze



August 2

[Matthew 14:13-21](#)

Christ feeding five thousand



August 9

[Matthew 14:22-33](#)

Jesus walking on the sea



August 16

[Matthew 15:\[10-20\] 21-28](#)

The healing of the Canaanite woman's daughter



August 23

[Matthew 16:13-20](#)

The profession of Peter's faith



August 30

[Matthew 16:21-28](#)

The passion, prediction and rebuke to Peter





Calvary Lutheran Church

We strive to recognize and nurture the Christ in ourselves and each person that we encounter along the way. Our church is a thriving community of believers, and lovers of the word of God. Calvary Lutheran has a long tradition of outreach and service to its members and the community. We hope you will join us for service on Sunday to experience for yourself the fellowship of Christ.



Calvary Lutheran Church
3231 College Hills Boulevard
San Angelo, TX 76904

Phone: 325-944-1116
Website: calvarysa.org
E-mail: calvary.lutheran@wcc.net

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The Season of Pentecost

