



May  
2020

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*A glimpse is not a vision. But to a man on a mountain road by night, a glimpse of the next three feet of road may matter more than a vision of the horizon.*

C.S. Lewis

In his book *Glimpses of God*, Scott Walker tells the story of being lost in a woods at night with some high school friends. The boys were caught in the midst of a violent late winter storm. As darkness descended and a cold rain drenched them, they searched in vain for their car. Suddenly, a blaze of lightning turned night into day and thunder shook the ground. Despite being nearly blinded by the flash of light one of the boys called out to the others that he thought he saw a metallic glint off in the distance. By waiting for the next flash of light, they see the dim outline of the car and eventually find their way safely home. The writer goes on to observe what he learned that night:

*Perhaps, above all, the graphic imagery of the lightning has seared across my memory. As we stood in stormy darkness, only the periodic flashes of lightning gave my friends and me brief glimpses into where we were and where our future steps must go.*

This experience becomes a touchstone for the author as he reflects on other times of darkness and confusion:

*Many times since that night I have again experienced life as one who is lost and in need of insight and guidance. Even in the brilliance of noontday, my internal world has sometimes been shrouded and obscure, and I have found myself fighting panic and confusion. . . In all of these moments of lostness, blindness and insecurity, I have found that God has been faithful to send the lightning again—a flash of something that gave me a momentary glimpse into my future or the meaning of my life.*

In addition to our personal times of lostness and fear, this present time of pandemic is a shared, global experience of insecurity and confusion. But even in this difficult time we are guided by God. The glimpses of insight that we are given may not have the brilliance of a flash of lightning but come instead in simple, everyday occurrences. If we pay attention to our lives we will see that God is faithful in giving to us the guidance we need to take the next small steps in our life. This is—as Walker puts it—the “delightful discovery that we are not so lost after all,” the “unexpected reassurance” that God is with us in all times and places.

God's Peace,  
Pastor Richard

**Meetings in May**  
(meetings will be online)

**CAT Team**  
Tuesday, May 5 at 7pm

**Personnel Team**  
Wednesday, May 6 at 3:30pm

**Executive Team**  
Tuesday, May 12 at 6pm

**Church Council**  
Thursday, May 21 at 6pm

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

9:30am

Join us online!

See page 2 for links to our worship services. All are welcome!

# WORSHIP ONLINE

Join us on ZOOM for  
worship and bible studies

Our worship options have changed with the Shelter at Home order currently in effect. Please use the links listed here to join any of our worship services and Bible studies. 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 6833 (San Jose)  
Meeting ID: 935 001 016

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

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

For telephone: +1 669 900 9128 (San Jose)  
Meeting ID: 867 5095 6162

- [Mt. Carmel YouTube channel](#), in case you missed a service.



## ADULT FORUM

Sundays following worship

### Theology of Hope: A 3 Part Series led by Pastor Richard

Hope is a central concept in Christianity. But hope, in its Christian sense, isn't simply one element of faith; instead hope is the medium of Christian faith as such. As Jurgen Moltmann notes In his Theology of Hope, the God we believe in is the God of hope, a God with "future" as God's essential nature. The God revealed in Christ is a God we cannot 'have' but only await in active hope. Join us for a discussion of this fundamental teaching of our faith.

## 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>

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Confirmation classes and teen group classes are held via Zoom meetings.

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VBS registration is currently on hold. More information will be available soon in the Vistas and on our website.



## Giving from Home

More options at your fingertips



Click here to give online

Thank you for mailing in your offerings! We've been working hard to provide additional ways to give that are both easy and secure. Click the picture above to make a one-time or recurring contribution from your checking or savings account. Of course, it's okay to continue sending your offering by a check. Our mail is picked up everyday.

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church  
1701 Fredericks Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

## BIBLE STUDY

Fridays at 10:00 AM

[Link to FRIDAY morning Bible study](#)

For telephone: +1 669 900  
6833 (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 552 129 433

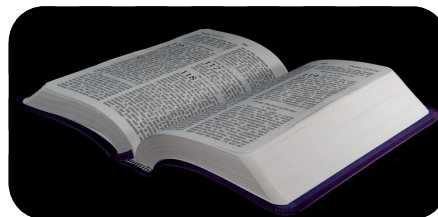
## Men's Bible Study

Saturdays at 8:30 AM

[Link to SATURDAY morning Bible study](#)

For telephone: +1 669 900  
6833 (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 936 479 529





## Prayer Requests

Please contact our church office with your prayer concerns. You may call the church office at 805-544-2133 to speak to MaryAnn, or email your request to [info@mtcarmelslo.org](mailto:info@mtcarmelslo.org).

## Blood Drive Postponed

### Date to be determined

The local blood bank has had such a positive response to their call for donors that we've been asked to move our drive to later in the summer. We'll keep you posted on a new date as soon as we have one.

## The Bus is Coming!....



Well, not right now, but at some point. I am pretty sure you all realized that the bus full of happy faces, heading to visit their dads at CMC will not be arriving on the planned date of May 16. But the bus is not cancelled, just postponed...

Mt. Carmel has been so supportive of Get on the Bus, with your donations and volunteer time, I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all. When this crisis is over and we have returned to whatever "normal" will be, there will be plans to bring the bus full of beautiful children and their chaperones, to see their dads at CMC. Until that date, please keep these families in your prayers, until they can be together again. Include in your prayers also, the staff at CMC. May they stay safe and healthy.

Thank you for all you are and do,

Nancy Priddy  
Bus Coordinator  
Get on the Bus

**Church Office Hours 9:00am—3:00pm Monday-Friday**  
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



*Click the picture to donate*

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

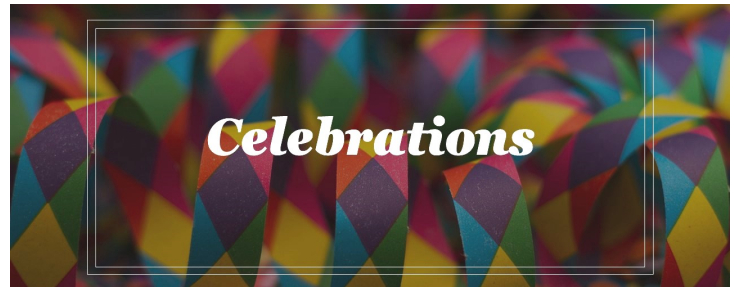
Every act of generosity counts and everyone has something to give.

We can still show social connection and come together on behalf of our communities even while practicing physical distancing. Here are a few ideas to inspire you:

- 1) Give money, goods, PPE supplies—anything you can to organizations on the front lines of this pandemic. Remember to also show your support for local nonprofits, who despite COVID-19 are continuing to provide much needed services to the community.
- 2) Clap for your healthcare workers, thank your post officer, delivery driver, and other essential workers. Write thank you cards, post on social media, and share your appreciation for the people and organizations who are helping your community.
- 3) Safely volunteer virtually from your home. Give your voice to help raise awareness, lend your talents to give pro bono hours to a nonprofit who needs your expertise, or take an hour to call a senior who may be alone. [Browse Opportunities](#)
- 4) Support your local community by buying from small businesses and raising awareness for organizations that are getting hit the hardest by this pandemic. Celebrate members of your community who are giving back.
- 5) Kindness is contagious. Buy flowers or groceries for a neighbor, offer to walk a neighbor's pets, call a friend, hang a heart or sign in your window, host a concert from your balcony.
- 6) Help with response efforts by bringing groceries to at-risk individuals, sewing masks for nurses and doctors, donating excess food items to shelters and food banks, or giving blood.

### Share Your Generosity!

Share how you've been giving back on social media with hashtag #GivingTuesdayNow and inspire others to give together even when we're apart.



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

03 Andrew Moersdorf	20 Sarah Kinsey
03 Olivia DeClark	27 Sue Cummings
06 Maureen Dresp	28 Steven Jobst
06 Rebecca Keisler	
09 Mark Twomey	
11 Ann Quist	
13 Carol Winger	
16 John Keisler	
17 Helen Rehm	
18 Jill Anderson	



**PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY:**

**May 3**—Richard & Cyndi Rollefson; Sandy, Ava & Lucas Rolwand; Todd, Rebecca, Jessica, Jason & Matthew Schnack

**May 10**—Karen Schultze; Linda Schultze; Matt, Deanna, Allie, Daniel & Adrian Schultze

**May 17**—Jeanie & Gary Schultz; John & Janis Sexton; Norm & Mollie Smith

**May 24**—Jim & Laurie Strampe; Bill Thoma; Ed Thoma

**May 31**—Treva & Harry Thornton; Burke & Kathy Towle; Keith & Julie Tracy

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

05/02/2009	Steve & JoAnn Bennett
05/16/1992	Paul & Rebecca Christensen
05/23/1997	Dave & Sherri Parkinson
05/26/1984	Sheryl & Tony Huffaker
05/27/1996	John Perreault & Claudia Coughran

# Mt. Carmel

LUTHERAN CHURCH

1701 Fredericks St.  
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93405  
 Phone: 805-544-2133  
 Email: info@mtcarmelslo.org

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**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)



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