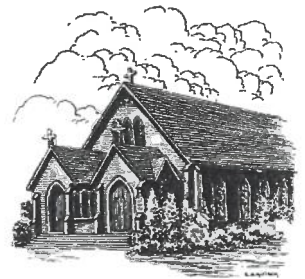


July 2020

CALVARY CROSSROADS



Calvary Episcopal Church

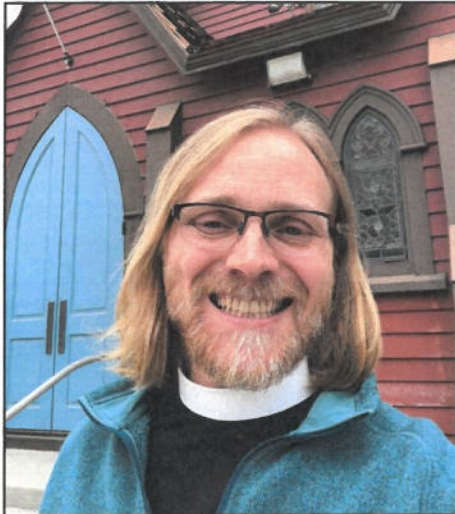
Calvary Episcopal Church
532 Center Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Phone: (831) 423-8787
Fax: (831) 423-8795
Email: calvary@cruzio.com

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES
Website: www.calvarysantacruz.org
Sundays, 10:30 am and Thursdays, 11:30 am

July Message

The Rev. Dr. Austin L. Leininger



Happy July, Calvary Family!

I write to you from vacation as my family and I figure out how to have some adventures while also still staying socially isolated. While we didn't get to go camping, we are going up to Lake Tahoe next week for the final week of vacation. Camp Galilee is booking day adventures for families on the weekends, but is largely empty during the week, so they invited us to come and enjoy a cabin with small kitchen and to enjoy the lake and water trampoline. We did manage to get a socially-distanced visit with my chosen-brother Airon to see the kids, share our puppy with them (he needs socialization so he doesn't grow up overly skittish of strangers), and had the boys' favorite In 'N Out for dinner.

Now in our fourth month of quarantine and nearly a month into summer vacation for the kids, some new patterns of normalcy have begun to routinize—the case for many of us as we adapt and become more adept at navigating this changing and strange new world. Reflecting on God's promise of accompaniment, love, presence, forgiveness, and help in the Holy Spirit, I can't help but be so incredibly thankful for a faith that brings awareness of God's presence in highs, lows, transitions, new beginnings, endings, and everywhere in between.

This is, for many of us, a profoundly formative event in our lives, and we continue to wait and watch for what the world will look like on the other side. Knowledge and assurance of God's presence with us through this time, as well as a community like Calvary that helps to ballast us in these rough seas of change and upheaval, give us (in the words of the gospel from June 21) firm foundation to weather this storm. I am so grateful for you all, for the support that I've seen from you for each other and for my own family, and for the ongoing prayers, phone calls, emails, texts, zoom meetings, and worship that continue to connect us to each other and help us to know that we are not alone.

As we enter into this month by celebrating the 243rd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, we also remember Juneteenth, just two weeks ago, and the ongoing struggle for independence, freedom, and equality that our nation still strives toward in our civil and legal rights for ALL of God's children. Our children include their own prayers of thanks to go along with Pam Steven's homily for the day, and the readings and hymns focus our hearts and prayers on God's grace and the yearning and hope that draws us toward a future where we can truly celebrate God's liberating and sanctifying grace for God's WHOLE family.

May this time of celebration and prayer refresh our spirits and nourish our souls, and may each of you know that you are in my prayers during my vacation!

God bless you, Calvary family!

Austin

Father Austin is on vacation from June 23-July 11. Our services for those weeks will be prerecorded, but will not be posted until the morning of that Sunday's service. Other weekly gatherings will continue at the regularly scheduled times and will be lay led while Austin is away. For pastoral emergencies, please contact The Rev. Tracy Wells-Miller: 831-531-7187.

News from the Pews

Outreach Sunday, July 26. Each month we focus on a Calvary outreach ministry and collect a special offering for that ministry. **Starting July 26 and through August 16,** we support the **Association of Faith Communities of Santa Cruz County/Faith Community Shelter.**

Calvary is a founding member of the Association of Faith Communities of Santa Cruz County and administered the Association programs as a Calvary ministry from 2011 through December 1, 2016. That Association operates the Faith Community Shelter, the Santa Cruz County Winter Emergency Shelter, the (SPIN) sock program, the Veteran's Shared Housing Program, and an online Resource Directory for people in need. As a member church in AFCSC, Calvary also hosts the Faith Community Shelter, housing up to 20 people one night each week. Your donation supports the work of AFCSC/FCS not only here at Calvary but throughout the Santa Cruz community. Make checks payable to Calvary with a note to AFCSC/FCS in the memo line and mail to Calvary at 532 Center Street, Santa Cruz 95060.

Family & Youth.

First Sunday July 5, family service, based on the Independence Day service liturgy. Family friendly hymns including Simple Gifts as sung by Lyra. Prayers are based on words from our families.

September 6, we are planning a "back-to-school" day of blessing!

Meanwhile we are planning to spend some time together, via zoom, enjoying our new Bibles. The Bible we chose is the *Children of God, Storybook Bible by Archbishop Desmond Tutu*. As the book jacket states, "Archbishop Desmond Tutu retells more than fifty of his most beloved Bible stories, artfully highlighting God's desire for all people to love one another and to find peace and forgiveness in their hearts." The artwork is provided by artists from around the world so it is considered a "truly global Bible for children". Granted, it is a younger child's Bible but we decided it would be a rich experience to read the stories together with our range of ages. The art will lend itself to much discussion. Older students might compare it with the adult text and discuss why they think Archbishop Tutu retold the story the way he did.

COPA Report. COPA WINS! Big win for our state: COPA and other IAF organizations in California are celebrating the victory for essential workers today after Governor Newsom signed a budget that includes an expansion of the California Earned Income Tax Credit (Cal EITC) to undocumented workers with young children. "Thank you to the California IAF members for continuing to push for this inclusion, which United Way sees as a fundamental tool to move families out of poverty. With your continued advocacy, California will move out of this global pandemic, a more united and inclusive state." - Senator Maria Elena Durazo Santa Cruz win: In hearing the stories from local workers

/residents that are unable to keep up with their rent payments due to the pandemic, we and other COPA leaders met with our city manager Martin Bernal. An agreement was made that the City would continue to work with us in looking for extra funding and in coming up with fair rent repayment plans. We are thankful for Calvary's support of COPA and invite you to join us as we work with our city, county and state in making a difference. The more people, the more wins we will have. Al Reetz

Learn, Pray, Act. That's what The Episcopal Church calls us to do as we confront racism in our society and become beloved community. The Adult Education Committee is organizing a book study group to broaden our understanding of the problems of racism. This summer, we plan to gather a group together via Zoom to discuss **How to Be An Antiracist** by Ibram X. Kendi. We expect to begin our study sometime in mid-July and meet weekly for 4 weeks. If you are interested in participating, please contact Cathy Watson at cjktw845@gmail.com to be included in the email list as this gets organized.

Learn, Pray, Act for Children. The same author who wrote **How to be an Antiracist**, Ibram X Kendi, has written a children's book on the same topic. **Antiracist Baby** provides an opportunity for "parents and children to uproot racism in our society and in ourselves. With bold art and thoughtful yet playful text, this book introduces the youngest readers and the grown-ups in their lives to the concept and power of antiracism." Kendi believes we must be intentional in our acts to end racism. Just as we teach our children manners, respect, and our family values, we must include equity and give children tools to fight racism.

Two of my very favorite books to bring joy and inclusion into your child's library are based on the music of Bob Marley. **One Love** and **Every Little Thing** are by Cedella Marley, as her effort to keep her father's message and memory alive.
Alice Lopez



Favorite books held by Alice's two adorable granddaughters!

Announcements

OFFICE CLOSURE: The staff has been asked to work from home, and committees are asked to meet via Zoom. If you need pastoral care, or to contact any of the staff, please reach out via email or telephone. Father Austin: text or call 831-350-1344 or email aleininger@calvarysantacruz.org. Please text Nicole: 831-325-9390 or email: nmacargel@gmail.com.

Bible Study with Father Austin Tuesdays at 11 am. Please email Father Austin directly (rector@calvarysantacruz.org) to ask to be included in the Zoom email list and to provide an email address for the invitation!

Thursday Service with Father Austin Thursdays at 11:30 am. Please email Father Austin directly (rector@calvarysantacruz.org) to ask to be included in the Zoom email list and to provide an email address for the invitation!

The Calvary Book Club will meet via Zoom on **Friday, July 17 at 3:00 p.m.** to discuss **A Sand County Almanac** by Aldo Leopold -- An environmental classic: "Conjuring up one extraordinary vision after another, Aldo Leopold takes readers with him on the road and through the seasons on a fantastic tour of our priceless natural resources, explaining the destructive effects humankind has had on the land and issuing a bold challenge to protect the world we love." - from the publisher For more information and to get on the club email list, contact Martha Dexter, mmdexter@gmail.com.

A Gift of Music. As Shelter-in Place and Online services continue, Calvary Choir is hoping that we can, in some small way, help to ease the stress of this difficult time. Our video performance of Handel's "Let the bright seraphim" and "Let their celestial concerts," heard on May 24, The Sunday after Ascension Day, was a great hit. Here is a link to the video so you can enjoy it again and again.
<https://calvarysantacruz.org/index.php/music/calvary-choir-recordings/>

A Gift of Health! Check out these free online fitness classes offered by the Los Gatos JCC! Yoga, Pilates, Cardio, Qi Gong! Copy and paste this link in your browser: <https://apjcc.org/virtual-holder-page/virtual-group-fitness/>

SUPPORT: During this time of virtual-church, we have no way to pass the plate other than offering the option to donate online or mail in a check to Calvary. Please feel invited to make an offering by clicking the "Donate" button on our website, or by mailing a check to the Calvary office: 532 Center Street, S.C., CA 95060.

Spread the Word! As Calvary has moved online for the time being, we need help in spreading the word to all those who may be interested in attending—regardless of how far away they may be! We've had viewers from Spain, New York, Colorado, Utah, Montana, and Arizona—and those are just the viewers we know about. If you know of someone who isn't on our calvary email address who might appreciate knowing about our Sunday service and other online (Zoom) gathering .

Calling All Lectors! If you are already a lector, or if you would like to be a lector while we're online, please reach out and let us know if we can put you on a digital rotation for Sunday and Holy Week readings! Lectors will need to be able to record themselves reading their assigned reading (voice only is fine) and email the recording to Father Austin for inclusion in the livestream worship. Most smart-phones have a voice recording ap, which should allow many if not most of you to contribute if you so desire. Please email Father Austin: rector@calvarysantacruz.org,

Treasurer's Report

The May Income Statement is as we expected. We continue to take big hits on 12-Step Income and Facility Rental Income and are currently just over (\$10,000) in combined budget deficits for these two accounts year-to-date. Pledge income slipped a bit in May, coming in at (\$2500) under budget, but we are \$7900 over budget year-to-date, so it's not a worry at this point. Plate is holding steady at just \$100 over budget year-to-date. Our Total Operating Income came in at (\$6,000) under budget for the month of May and (\$4000) under budget year-to-date.

There were no surprises on the expense side of the Income Statement. Total Administrative Expenses are just about at budget: (\$365) under for the month of May and (\$660) year-to-date. Under budget is good when it comes to expenses, so we can be pleased with the expense side of the budget.

Our Net Operating Income for May is (\$3800) and \$698 to the good year-to-date. But remember, we are working on a deficit budget of (\$4531), so being only \$700 over budget year-to-date is cause for concern. However, the Paycheck Protection Program loan we received from the government should go a long ways towards alleviating the deficit. We will be applying to have the loan of \$39,000 forgiven in the next couple of months. According to my understanding of the program, we should have no problem converting the loan into a grant.

On the Balance Sheet, our trust fund continues its recovery from the big crash in March. We are up another \$2744 as of May 31st. We have \$5886 left of Green Initiative funds. The Paycheck Protection Program loan funds are not yet reflected on the Balance Sheet. We received the check but are waiting to deposit it until we have a checking account open solely for those funds. That should be accomplished soon and will show up on our June Balance Sheet.

Submitted by Cathy Watson

Did you know?

The Stewardship Committee meets monthly on the fourth Friday of the month at 11:00 am, via Zoom. We are preparing for our upcoming pledge drive and welcome your ideas and participation. If you would like to join us, please email Alice Lopez at enna.lopez@yahoo.com.

Next Meeting: July 24, 2020 at 11:00.

Thank you for your support!

We are stewards of God's love, grace and mercy.

Vestry Notes

During the Vestry's June business meeting we discussed several items. A few that are of interest to the parish at large are:

- Establishing an annual ministry review, as a way to make sure that ministries are functioning well.
- Adding Calvary's name to a list of local congregations sponsoring a statement by the AFCSC calling for racial justice. The statement will be published as an ad in the *Santa Cruz Sentinel* and the *Good Times*.
- Accepting the re-entry plan proposed by the ad hoc committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Allison Gong, Clerk of the Vestry

Crossroads Articles. If you have an article to submit to the Crossroads please email to enna.lopez@yahoo.com by the 27th day of the month.

Calvary Vestry Members

John Blymyer jporterbl@yahoo.com
Blaine Brokaw b_brokaw@sbcglobal.net
Richard Crane rtc@cruzio.com
Allison Gong Allison.gong@gmail.com
Terry Hall terryehall@comcast.net
Jane Martin landjmartin@comcast.net
Ola Monaghan patola@sbcglobal.net
Sarah Peterson skpete123@gmail.com
John Vesecky vesecky@cse.ucsc.edu
Susan Whalen susanwhln4@gmail.com