

Calvary Courier

November 2021

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

I've used the following story as a children's sermon from time to time over the course of my career. It is called "A View from the Bottom of a Garbage Can," from the book "Fantasies for Fantastic Christians" by Hubert F. Beck.

There I was at the bottom of this gigantic garbage can! It was terrifying! Either I had been miniaturized (as you can well imagine) or the garbage can was enormously magnified, for I was way underneath trash of all sorts!

"Hey, you down there!" the voice was like thunder... It boomed out again, still louder, "Hey you down there! Look up here."

I looked up and could barely make out daylight through all the junk. "Who's there?" I asked rather shakily.

"Never mind who's here. Just start climbing out!"

Well that kind of got to me. "Is that You, God?"

"It's me, all right"

"This isn't just some joke?"

"Quit arguing and start climbing!"

Then I got angry. "Look, You got me into this. Why don't You get me out? I don't think I can climb through all this stuff to get out."

"Man, I told you to climb, and I mean climb! Now get going!"

That was enough to start me. You'd have started, too, if you would have heard the ringing from that last call. I began to climb – and fast!

Over a milk carton, around an egg carton, and through a meat wrapper I wriggled. I rested a bit on an apple core, crawled up a piece of string we used to tie the legs of our roasting turkey, worked my way through the turkey bones, and finally caught some fresh air as I crinkled through some old writing paper and wrapping paper from some stuff we got at the department store. Out of breath, I finally sat on the edge of the garbage can and said, "All right. Here I am." But I didn't see anybody.

Then the voice again: "Did you learn anything?" It was really eerie!

"Well...um...ah...yes, I did. It's tough to climb out garbage cans. I'm sure glad I'm not an ant! Heh, heh, heh!" (I thought a touch of humor might cause the sternness of the voice to soften a bit. Was I ever wrong!)

"You haven't learned anything," the voice roared.

And suddenly WHO-O-O-O-SH – I found myself back down at the bottom a garbage can again! "Oh, no! Not again," I moaned.

This wasn't the same garbage can. That was plain. I could easily see daylight when I looked up in this one. "Now climb up here again!" But there wasn't anything to hang onto. I tried scaling the sheer sides, but finally gave up. I waited. Surely somebody would throw something in sooner or later. I just hoped it wouldn't clonk me on the head. It was dangerous down here, now that I thought about it! At least I had an excuse to rest a bit.

But day turned into night and night to day and nobody threw anything in! After a couple days of no action I was willing to hear even that stern voice that had aggravated me before. Where was I? What was going on?

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Then it came again! "Learned anything yet?"

I didn't want to try humor again, but on the other hand I was afraid to admit I hadn't caught the point of the whole thing. So I started with some hesitancy, "Well, of course. Ah...er...um..."

Then it happened again. WHO-O-O-O-SH and I was standing out in the bright sunshine once more. I couldn't see anything for the brightness. It was like looking at the "backside of God," as Moses put it.

Again the voice: "You've been in a garbage can on the far side of the world my son. Not much in it, is there? Your garbage can is the envy of the world, and you complain. I thought maybe a few days in the emptiness of a garbage can on the far side of the world might give you something to think about on Thanksgiving Day.

"But I'm not sure if it's worth it all or not. You humans seem to have a hard time getting hold of what I try to tell you.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles

TIME TO FALL BACK....on November 7th



Daylight-Saving Time Ends

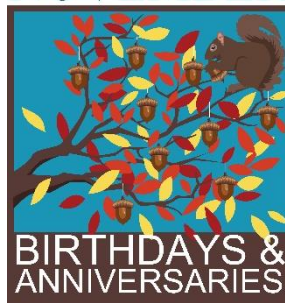
IT's That Time of Year Again to "FALL BACK" on **NOVEMBER 7**. Don't forget to set your clocks back one (1) hour before going to bed.

CALVARY'S PRAYER LIST

The following individuals need to be uplifted in prayer:

Connie Jensen recovering from surgery. LaVerne Knipe, Dave Menke battling cancer, Jeremiah Griebel, Cindy Pham, Kevin Freeze, Allen & Joyce Faust, Kenalene Forbeck, Audrey Laabs, Pete Lingris & family, Bev & Ken Oller, Karen Moore, Gerda Schmeltzer, Dorothy Hultgren, Randy Kirkwood.

NOVEMBER Happy Birthday to:



- 4 – Barb Geerts
- 11 – Allen Noftsker
- 12 – Viola Marie Bowser-Smith
- 13 – Paul Levesque
- 14 – Sandy Strosahl
- 20 – Sharon Hough, Ann Lundstrom, Warren Wren

24 – Annette Menke, Karyn Hurst

27 – Richard Strosahl

Happy Anniversary to:

- 1 – Teri & Dave Griebel (1974)
- 4 – Michael & Kelly Chase (2006)
- 10 – Dick & Connie Jensen
- 15 – Barb & Joe Geerts (1980)

WELCA

WELCA will be meeting on Tuesday, November 2 at 9:30 am in the Upper Room. Bring a snack to share. We will be doing another craft item.



FAREWELL for MARYANN BEHRENS

November 14th after worship



Please join us on November 14 after worship, as we hold a Farewell Fellowship for MaryAnn Behrens.

After all these years of being a part of Calvary, MaryAnn has decided it is time to move to Ankeny, Iowa where she will be closer to her family. We will miss her lovely voice in church and her dedication to the Calvary Choir, Worship and Music Committee and as an Assistant Minister. Please join us in wishing her God's Peace in her new journey.

Also, Instead of Farewell wishes or cards, she would like to have people pick out a favorite hymn in her hymnal to sign and date. Her hymnal will be on the back table in the Narthex and will be moved to the Upper Room on November 14. In this way she will always carry her Calvary friends with her when she attends church.



During the month of October, we have received the following words of thanks....

I wanted to thank you for your \$105.00 donation that you made on 8/18/2021 to support the work God has given us to do together. Every act of your generosity helps further God's mission.

---- Humbly, Tim Oloffson, Exec. Dir.
Another Child Foundation

Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United. Your \$455.41 gift helps us keep the doors open at Winnie's Transitional Housing as well as keep the shelves of our 22 food pantries filled and food on the tables at our 2 free hot meal sites. Thank you for your most appreciated continued commitment to enrich the lives of those among us who are most in need.

--- Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes, Exec. Dir
Betsy Vanausdeln, Assoc. Dir.

DECEMBER Newsletter Deadline TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16th

Because of the Holidays coming up all articles for the December newsletter should be emailed to the church office or placed in my box by **Tuesday, November 16th**.

The December Newsletter will be mailed or placed in your mailboxes on Wednesday, November 24, the day before Thanksgiving.



DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS NOVEMBER 21

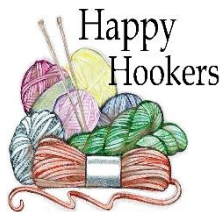
STAY and JOIN US after the **Worship service** on November 21. We will **DECK THE HALLS**, the Sanctuary, the Upper Room and Erlander Hall for the Christmas Season. More people - makes the task go faster.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING No Date has been set



Altar Guild needs volunteers! We are going to have an Altar Guild meeting – No Date has been set – sometime in November or December. If you would like to volunteer, please call Sandy or Pam Ohrn I will be contacting current members. Thanks, Sandy Ohrn

HAPPY HOOKERS November 17



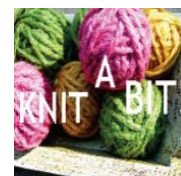
Happy Hookers will be meeting a week earlier on November 17 at 9:30 am. We are in Desperate Need of some men to help with deliveries. We have SO MUCH STUFF to deliver to various sites.

We are still planning on having coffee, goodies to eat plus plenty of laughter to go around. If you have been thinking about joining us – you will not be disappointed. We are a fun group and are always looking for more women to join us.

KNIT-A-BIT

WEDNESDAYS at 6:00 pm

Knit-a-Bit is meeting each Wednesday at 6:00 pm in the Upper Room. If you have finished scarves, hats or gloves please bring them. We are starting to gear up for Christmas distribution.



ORDER POINSETTIAS for CHRISTMAS December 7th



This year, we will once again have Christmas Poinsettias decorating our Chancel area. The order form is on page 4 of the newsletter. Please have your order in by December 7th.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE

If you are alone at home and call 911 or someone calls the police to do a wellness check on you, do you realize they have to break into your door?



To avoid damage to your door, if you have a key hidden or an electronic/keyless garage door lock you can call the non-emergency number for the police (Moline # 797-0401) and give them the location or code and they will file it with your phone number/ house address. Don't hide a key where it's hard to get to in winter (under ice and snow).

You can purchase a hanging lock box (like what realtors use) where you place a key and have a code to get into the box. Amazon has a nice one for \$15. Contact Becki Maxson if you would like to see an example.

Volunteers Needed

Currently there is a need for a **Communion Assistant** for **November 7th**. We still have openings for **November 14** and **November 21**. If you would like to volunteer for either of these two (2) Sundays. Please let Teri know by notifying the church office either by calling the church office at (309) 762-5423 or by email at secretary@calvarymoline.org.

For November 7 – Lector Sue Knipe
Comm. Assist - OPEN

November 14 – OPEN

November 21 – OPEN

November 28 – Renee Ketelsen

To everyone who has responded during the last several months, **Thank You**

For Counters, I have included November, December and January-2022. If you are unable to count, please find a replacement and let Teri know in the church office.

NOVEMBER COUNTER SCHEDULE

November 7 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston

November 14 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase

November 21 – Charlene Lundstrom &
Vicki McAlister

November 28 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts

DECEMBER COUNTER SCHEDULE

December 5 – Debbie Faith & Teri Griebel

December 12 – Gary Gross & Steve Faith

December 19 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston

December 26 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase

JANUARY 2022 SCHEDULE

January 2 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister

January 9 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts

January 16 – Debbie Faith & Teri Griebel

January 23 – Gary Gross & Steve Faith

January 30 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston



ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA

Deadline: December 7

**Now
\$10.00**

**Make checks payable to:
Calvary Lutheran Church**

Please complete the appropriate information:

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

