

# *Calvary Courier*

## *November 2022*

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

Working at camp, one of our most effective teaching tools was storytelling. Among my favorite stories from those days is still “Barrington Bunny,” by Martin Bell. While the story is too long to share in its entirety (and probably would be a violation of copyright laws), let me share the essence of the story with you.

Barrington is a lop-eared bunny who believes he is alone in the forest on Christmas Eve. He hops from potential friend to potential friend looking for a family to be with for that special night. But the squirrel family and mouse family and beaver family are all at a loss on how to include this furry bunny in their tree or hole or river den homes. Despondent and in tears, Barrington starts home. On the way he encounters the Great Silver Wolf who teaches Barrington two important lessons: being furry, warm and able to hop is a gift unique to bunnies and is given for a reason, and that all the animals of the forest are his family.

Revived by this new insight Barrington returns to the homes of his new families and quietly leaves them special Christmas gifts, each one with a note that says it is free gift with no strings attached from a member of their family.

I will save the end of the story for some time when I can read the whole thing for you. But it is that message that Barrington Bunny learned from the Great Silver Wolf that I thought about as I contemplated my Thanksgiving thoughts for you. While “Barrington Bunny” is a story that takes place on Christmas Eve, the message, I think, is fitting for Thanksgiving.

What Barrington learns from the Great Silver Wolf is a message I hope we can all remember at Thanksgiving. First, we have all been given gifts from God. We may not always recognize those gifts as useful, but they are given to us nonetheless. And those gifts are given to us for a reason. Second, all the animals of the forest are members of our family. We don’t all look alike, or act alike, or think alike. And each of us has been given different abilities. Yet each of us is a part of the same family – children of God. And it is for the benefit of these family members that our gifts are to be used.

So, as you gather around the table at Thanksgiving, remember that you have been blessed by God with the gifts that make you who you are. And know that you are not alone, but that all the animals of the forest are your family.

In Christ,

*Pastor Knowles*





**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)

**CALVARY’S PRAYER LIST**

The following individuals need to be uplifted in prayer:

Teri Griebel, Becki Maxson’s husband, Dick, Ann Lundstrom, Annette Menke, Candice Tennison, Connie Langston, Linda Johansen, Bev Boyle, Bob and Beth Fuller, LaVerne Knipe, Cindy Pham, Allen & Joyce Faust, Kenalene Forbeck, Pete and Sue Lingris & family, Bev & Ken Oller, Karen Moore, Gerda Schmeltzer, Randy Kirkwood

**WELCA – November 1**



WELCA will have a meeting on November 1 at 9:30 am in the Upper Room. All are welcome to attend. We will be filling the shoeboxes for “Operation Christmas Child.” Bring a snack to share and you are invited to bring a friend.




**December Newsletter Deadline  
NO LATER than  
Tuesday, November 15**

Please have ALL articles for the December newsletter either emailed to the church office or placed in my box by **Tuesday, November 15**. The November Newsletter will be mailed or placed in your mailboxes on Wednesday, November 23.


**Thanks, Teri**




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

 Thank you, Calvary family, for the prayers and the cards, texts, emails and phone calls as I was recovering from surgery. Your thoughtfulness was comforting and I am doing well.

Vicki McAlister

 A BIG thank you to Tony VanDamme for sanding and repainting the crosses in front of the church. It looks so much better. Thank you Tony!

 To my Calvary family, thank you for the cards, telephone calls and visits while I have been recuperating from surgery. I would like to thank Debbie Faith for helping in the office and to the volunteers who have helped Debbie on Thursdays. Before I came to Calvary, I had experienced a congregation that truly cared for their members, the way Calvary does. You are truly the Hands and Feet of Christ. May Christ continue to bless each of you. With His love.

God Bless, Teri Griebel

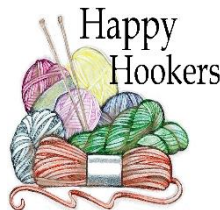
**CALVARY CARETAKER CREW  
NOVEMBER 16**

We will meet November 16 at 9:00. Everyone is invited to come. We will gather to do some cleaning and then gather for some fellowship. This has been a good thing to keep up with the items that our cleaning service doesn’t do.

**THANKFULNESS DINNER  
NOVEMBER 20**

The stewardship committee is inviting everyone to a pulled-pork lunch following the service in Erlander Hall on November 20. We will celebrate the Generosity of Calvary members. The cost of the lunch is being covered by a grant from Thrivent Financial, so just come and enjoy. Feel free to invite a friend for the service and lunch.

**HAPPY HOOKERS  
November 30**



Happy Hookers will be meeting on November 30 at 9:30 am. We will be getting items ready for distribution. 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.

**ORDER POINSETTIAS  
for CHRISTMAS  
December 4th**

This year, we will once again have Christmas Poinsettias decorating our Chancel area. See order form below. Please have your order in by December 4<sup>th</sup>.



**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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ALTAR GUILD  
NOVEMBER 14**

Alter Guild will be meeting on Monday, November 14 at 11:00 a.m. in the Upper Room. This is the time we look to next year and plan a schedule for duties. We would love to have more members to help out. If you are interested, come or call me. Sandy Ohrn—(309) 764-8920 or (309) 373-8261

**KNIT - A - BIT**



Knit a bit will meet Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. in the Upper Room. Come and join us even if you don't know. We can teach you.

**FAITHFUL FLEXORS**



Faithful Flexors meet on Monday and Thursday at 9:00 am downstairs in Erlander Hall. Please wear comfortable clothing. If you would like more information, please see or call Sandy Ohrn at 309-373-8261

**DECORATING FOR  
CHRISTMAS  
NOVEMBER 27**



**STAY and JOIN US after the Worship service on November 27.** We will **DECK THE HALLS**, the Sanctuary, the Upper Room and Erlander Hall for the Christmas Season. More people - makes the task go faster.

**Office Schedule**

Teri will be back in the church office on Tuesday, November 1 with the following schedule:  
Tuesdays & Thursdays-- 9 a.m. through 1 p.m.  
Wednesdays-- 1 p.m. through 4 p.m.

**TIME TO FALL BACK....on November 5th**



**Daylight-Saving Time Ends**

IT's That Time of Year Again to "FALL BACK" on **NOVEMBER 5**. Don't forget to set your clocks back one (1) hour before going to bed.



Please read over carefully the two month schedules..

If you are unable to full-fill your commitment, please find a replacement and let Teri know in the office.

**ALTAR GUILD for NOVEMBER**

Sandy Ohrn and Pam Ohrn

**LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for NOVEMBER**

- Nov. 6 – Val Daniel (L & CA)
- Nov. 13– Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L) & Dawn Levesque (CA)
- Nov. 20– Renee Ketelsen (L & CA)
- Nov. 27– Ruth Laabs (L & CA)

**BACK DOOR GREETERS for NOVEMBER**

- Nov. 6. – Barb Geerts
- Nov. 13 – Renee Ketelsen
- Nov. 20 – Pam Gross
- Nov. 27 – Joe Geerts

**COUNTERS for NOVEMBER**

- Nov. 6. – Debbie Faith & Paul Levesque
- Nov. 13 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
- Nov. 20 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
- Nov. 27 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase

**USHERS/GREETERS for NOVEMBER**

- Nov. 6. – Bruce & Val Daniel
- Nov. 13 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
- Nov. 20 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross
- Nov. 27 – Kirk Ketelsen

**ALTAR GUILD FOR DECEMBER**

Sandy Ohrn and Pam Ohrn

**LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. FOR DECEMBER**

- Dec. 4 – Paul Levesque (L & CA)
- Dec. 11 - Debbie Faith (L & CA)
- Dec. 18 - Joe Geerts (L & CA)
- Dec. 24 - Sandy Ohrn (L & CA)
- Dec. 25 – Barb Geerts (L) & Joe Geerts (CA)

**BACK DOOR GREETERS FOR DECEMBER**

- Dec. 4 - Vicki McAlister
- Dec. 11 – Sandy Ohrn
- Dec. 18 – Linda Chase
- Dec. 24 – Gary Gross
- Dec. 25 – Barb Geerts

**COUNTERS FOR DECEMBER**

- Dec. 4 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
- Dec. 11 – Barb Geerts & Paul Levesque
- Dec. 18 – Debbie Faith & Teri Griebel
- Dec. 25 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston

**USHERS/GREETERS FOR DECEMBER**

- Dec. 4 – Dave Peterson & Terry Langston
- Dec. 11 – Vicki McAlister & Ruth Laabs
- Dec. 18 – Bruce & Val Daniel
- Dec. 24 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
- Dec. 25 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross