

Calvary Courier

February 2023

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

Pastor's Report for the 2023 Annual Meeting

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Perhaps, in the simplest of terms, that song, which we all learned as children, is the essence of our call as Christians. Our mission, as individuals and as a congregation, is to shine the light of Christ for all the world to see. Our mission is to shine the light of Christ so that all may come to the light. Our mission is to shine the light of Christ so that all may be a part of the light.

My perspective in this regard has been recently and strongly influenced by a book, *Manna & Mercy*, by Daniel Erlander (who was confirmed here at Calvary in 1953). Erlander contends that it is God's intention, not to destroy a broken creation, but to mend it. God, he says, intends to return the world to "shalom," the harmony of the Garden of Eden.

The job of God's people, then, according to Erlander, is to be the beacon of the light of God that draws all nations to it to restore God's shalom. He describes the people's mission as exhibiting such a life of shalom (a oneness with God, each other, and all of creation) that everyone will want to come and be a part of it.

I think that is a perfect way to describe the mission of the people of God. We are called on to be such a community of light, a shalom community, that everyone will see us and want to be a part of us.

Although we, obviously, have not yet achieved that shalom community, I think Calvary shines the light

of Christ in so many marvelous ways. We heard many of those ways as we shared Calvary's stories of generosity this past fall. Because of your generosity we have been able to shine the light of Christ by:

- Our weekly in-person worship coupled with live-streaming our services on Facebook, enabling many members and friends (old and new) to join us in worship when they have not been able to physically be with us. We have been especially blessed by the light shined by our guitar players and providers of special music who have accompanied our worship services throughout the year.
- Providing for those in need in our community and throughout the world. The shopping cart keeps being filled with non-perishables for local food pantries. The baskets in the hallway outside the Upper Room are full of pop tops, eye glasses, ink cartridges, etc. as we help local institutions.
- Sharing lap robes, quilts, and other handmade goods created by the Happy Hookers and participants in the Knit-a-Bit group with local nursing home residents and shut-ins to warm their laps and hearts as signs of God's love.
- Donating supplies to the orphanage in Romania through Another Child Foundation.
- Providing meals for people suffering from food insecurity through Café on Vine.
- Supporting Habitat for Humanity by providing lunches for the workers.
- Hats, mittens, and scarves were donated to local schools and for local people in need via the Moline Police.
- Providing comfort to our members at the time of the loss of a loved one, especially with meals following funerals.

- Our gracious support of Linda Johansen as health issues led to her needing to resign as our organist after 17 years.
- Your graciousness to me with a surprise celebration of my 35th Anniversary of Ordination. I was literally brought to tears by your kindness.
- And the list of our shining lights goes on.

Our work, however, is not done and will not be done until God’s shalom comes to fruition. We need to continue the work of shining the light of Christ in ways we have been doing and by being open to new ways of letting “this little light of mine” to shine in an ever-changing world.

It is my hope and prayer that we may continue to be open to God’s mission for us, that we may indeed be a beacon of light that draws people to Christ through the darkness that so often pervades our world.

Thank you for your ministry and generosity in 2022 and for the years to come.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles



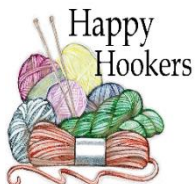
**CPR REFRESHER
FEBRUARY 5TH**

We will be having a CPR Refresher class on Sunday, February 5th after worship service in Erlander Hall. All are welcome.

**SERVICE COMMITTEE
MEETING - February 6.**



The Service Committee will meet Monday, February 6 at 11:15 a.m. to discuss and plan for this year’s activities. We will meet in the Upper Room after Bible Study. Bring your ideas for how Calvary can do God’s work in our community.



**HAPPY HOOKERS
January 25 and February 22**

Happy Hookers will meet at 9:30 a.m. on January 25th weather permitting; and on February 22.



Happy Birthday to:

- 2 – Rick Ohrn
- 6 – Connie Jensen
- 7 – Renee Ketelsen
- 8 – Megan Necessary
- 9 – Beth Fuller
- 10 – Kendall Knowles
- 15 – Elaine Foster
- 17 – Dorothy Harmening
- 20 – Linda Johansen
- 21 – Lisa Dicks, Logan Gross, Sue Knipe

CALVARY’S PRAYER LIST

The following individuals need to be uplifted in prayer:

Ann Lundstrom, Kurt & Lisa Dicks, Betty Clark, 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, Joan Winter

CALVARY CARETAKER CREW –

Calvary Caretaker Crew will NOT meet in February. March 15 will be our next meeting.

90th BIRTHDAY

February 19th



Dorothy Harmening invites everyone to have cake and coffee after worship service in the Upper Room on Sunday, February 19th, in observance of her 90th birthday. (no gifts please)

REMINDER – For those who enjoy a donut during fellowship on Sunday morning: There’s a hole in our finances. So we may continue offering this treat, please remember to drop a donation into the basket to help cover the cost. Thanks!





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

❖ Thank you for the Olive Garden gift card – it will Be used!! Working with the church is a Blessing t me.

---- Sincerely, Becki Maxson

❖ Thank you for the Christmas carols, the greeting card and the beautiful quilt from you, my dear friends.

----Gisele Richardson

❖ A surprise to see so many familiar faces when I opened the door on one of the colder days this year, and hearing the beautiful Christmas carols. Also many thanks to Happy Hookers for remembering me with the beautiful pink lap robe. God’s Blessing for 2023.

---- Ann Donahue

❖ Thanks for all the Christmas, Birthday and Get Well cards I received, I really appreciate them. After being at Calvary for so many years – I miss you; but your thoughtfulness and phone calls really brightens my day.

---- God bless each of you, Joan Winter

❖ Thank you so much for caroling at my condo. I really appreciated the music. Thanks also for the lap robe and candy from the Happy Hookers.

---- Betty Clark

❖ I would like thank those who gave me cards and gifts this year; especially my Secret Santa. Your thoughtfulness is beyond words. May each of you have a very Blessed New Year.

----Thank You – Teri Griebel

❖ We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your recent donation to Christian Care in the amount of \$825.52 on December 22, 2022. Because of your contribution, we will be able to better serve the least, the last, and the lost in the Quad Cities. You are helping make an impact and we appreciate your support in helping us care for a vulnerable community in the midst of challenging times.

---- Sincerely, Franklin D. Roe, Jr., Exec. Dir.

❖ Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United. Your \$563.50 gift helps us keep the doors open at Winnie’s Transitional Housing, the only transitional housing in the Illinois Quad Cities for women and children, who may be survivors of domestic violence. domestic violence.

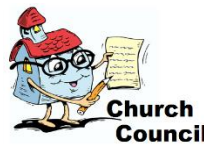
--Blessings, Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes, Exec. Dir.
Betsy Vanausdein, Assoc. Dir.

❖ Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,000.00 to ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through ELCA Good Gifts.

----With gratitude, Rachel Wind, Exec. Of
Development

❖ You are helping shape futures by supporting the kids and teens at YouthHope! Thank you! You give youth a safe place to be loved, encouraged, equipped, and empowered. We have seen prayers answered, amazing responses to families in-need, and abundant kindness throughout this past year. Thank you, Calvary Lutheran Church!! We are grateful for you all, your prayers and partnership in ministry!

----- With deep appreciation, Hannah Carr
Development Director



Church Council News:

Officers were elected at the February 8th council meeting. Those elected were:

- President: Gary Gross
- Vice-President: Barb Geerts
- Secretary: Val Daniel
- Treasurer: Pam Gross.

New Council members are Gary Gross, Kirk Ketelsen, Connie Langston, Paul Levesque and Charlene Lundstrom.

Bruce Daniel volunteered to serve on the Mission Endowment Committee.

Renee Ketelsen and Joe Geerts volunteered to serve on Audit Committee.

Debbie Faith volunteered to serve as a delegate to Churches United.

Renee Ketelsen and Ted Jackson volunteered as Synod voting members for the June meeting,



**ALL CHURCH
VALENTINE
LUNCHEON
FEBRUARY 15TH
11:30 a.m.**

All Church Valentine Luncheon on February 15th at 11:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. You are welcome to invite guests.

Come for lunch, fun and fellowship. Reservations appreciated, but not required. Free will offering.

Please sign up in the Narthex or Upper Room. Call reservations in to Margo Miller (309) 738-1008 or Sue Knipe (309) 738-0415.

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY is
February 12**

The soup pots will be ringing, so be sure to have your change and checks ready. All money collected will go Churches United for food pantries and meal sites.

**Souper
Bowl Sunday**



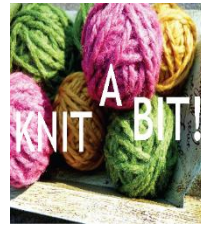
**KIDS AGAINST HUNGER
SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

On Sunday, March 15 everyone is invited for a lite lunch following church in Erlander Hall. After lunch we will bag 4000 meals for Kids Against Hunger. There are jobs for all, either on the line or being a side line cheerleader from your seat. We need to collect \$500 for the meals. The Endowment Committee has also given \$500 towards the event. Please use your regular envelopes and mark your donation with the KIDS. Any extra money raised will go towards shipping the meals. A Thrivent Action Team will pay for lunch.



*... preserve my life
according to your word.*

Psalm 119:37, NIV



**KNIT A BIT
February 7 & February 21**

We will meet on February 7 and on February 21 at 1:00 p.m. It was decided to meet on the first and third Tuesday each month.



**MARCH Newsletter
Deadline
Tuesday, February 14**

All articles for the February newsletter should be emailed to the church office or placed in my box by **Tuesday, February 14.**

The February Newsletter will be mailed or placed in your mailboxes on Thursday, February 23.

**ASH WEDNESDAY
SERVICES
FEBRUARY 22**

Services will be held at:

Noon – at Calvary
7:00 pm – at St. James in Rock Island



**HELP NEEDED FOR
LENTEN LUNCHES.....**

This year, as in the past, we would like to serve Lenten Lunches. We are asking for volunteers to pick a Wednesday to serve. There is a sign-up sheet in the Upper Room. The meals do not have to be fancy.

The dates are:

March 8; March 15; March 22; March 29
and April 5



Please read over carefully the two-month schedules. Please note there are now two communion assistants listed for each Sunday. If you are unable to full-fill your commitment, please find a replacement and let Teri know in the office

ALTAR GUILD for FEBRUARY

Renee Ketelsen and Candice Tennison

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for FEBRUARY

- Feb. 5 – Jor Geerts (L);
Dawn & Paul Levesque (CA)
- Feb. 12 – Val Daniel (L & CA);
Renee Ketelsen (CA)
- Feb. 19 – Gary Gross & Bruce Daniel (CA)
- Feb. 26 – Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L);
Greg Johnson & Ruth Laabs (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for FEBRUARY

- Feb. 5 – Ruth Laabs
- Feb. 12 – Joe Geerts
- Feb. 19 – Connie Langston
- Feb. 26 – Vicki McAlister

COUNTERS for FEBRUARY

- Feb. 5 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
- Feb. 12 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
- Feb. 19 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
- Feb. 26 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister

USHERS/GREETERS for FEBRUARY

- Feb. 5 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross
- Feb. 12 – Kirk Ketelsen
- Feb. 19 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
- Feb. 26 – Vicki McAlister & Ruth Laabs

ALTAR GUILD for MARCH

Val & Bruce Daniel

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. MARCH

- Mar. 5 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA);
Sandy Ohrn (CA)
- Mar. 12 – Gary Gross (L & CA);
Terry Langston (CA)
- Mar. 19 – Paul Levesque (L & CA)
Connie Langston (CA)
- Mar. 26 – Vale Daniel (L & CA);
Bruce Daniel (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for MARCH

- Mar. 5 – Terry Langston
- Mar. 12 – Pam Gross
- Mar. 19 – Linda Chase
- Mar. 26 – Debbie Faith

COUNTERS for MARCH


- Mar. 5 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts
- Mar. 12 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
- Mar. 19 – Debbie Faith & Teri Griebel
- Mar. 26 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston

USHERS/GREETERS for MARCH

- Mar. 5 – Bruce & Val Daniel
- Mar. 12 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
- Mar. 19 – Kirk Ketelsen
- Mar. 26 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross

February 2023

January '23							March '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship CPR REFRESHER AFTER WORSHIP ERLANDER HALL	6 10:00 am Bible Study 11:15 am Service Committee Metting	7 9:00 am WELCA Upper Room 1:00 pm Knit-A-Bit	8	9	10	11
12 SOUPER BOWL SUN COLLECTING LOOSE CHANGE 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	13 10:00 am Bible Study	14 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 	15 VALENTINE LUNCHEON 11:30 am - Valentine Luncheon Upper Room	16 7:00 pm Quad City Coin Club - Erlander Hall	17	18
19 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship 90th Birthday Celebration after worship - Upper Rm	20 10:00 am Bible Study	21 1:00 pm Knit-A-Bit	22 ASH WEDNESDAY 9:30 am Happy Hookers 12:00 pm Ash. Wed. Serv. - Calvary 7:00 pm Ash Wed Serv - St. James 6:30 pm Quad City Coin Club - Officer Meeting	23 NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED 6:30 pm Church Council	24	25
26 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	27 10:00 am Bible Study	28	1	2	3	4
5	Notes SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY is February 12th. We will be collecting loose change, bills and checks for Churches United Valentine Luncheon on February 15th at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome, including guests, are invited to attend					