



Calvary Courier

March 2021

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

As I said in my sermon on Transfiguration Sunday, there are moments that change who we are in fundamental ways. Everything from that moment forward is different – the things we do, the way we think, our perspective on what’s important, etc.

The same can be said for societies. There are moments in history when the world will never be the same again. The references are clear and unmistakable: Black Tuesday (October 29, 1929), the “day that will live in infamy” (December 7, 1941), 9/11. Each of those instances were moments in history when “normal” would never be normal again.

The year 2020, the year of Covid-19, while not a “day,” has certainly been a moment when “normal” would never be normal again. A year ago, we sat back and waited for the virus to go away – we thought it would be a few weeks – and then return to our lives. Now we know that hasn’t, and likely will not, happen. The pandemic has forced us to make drastic changes to our lives.

And those changes have obviously affected us as the church as well. It has been nearly a year since we have had a worship service in our sanctuary. Instead of the common cup at communion, we use hermetically sealed individual kits that are safe, but difficult to open. We have worshiped in the parking lot. We have met and studied from our homes over the computer. Worship has been in the form of videos posted on the internet. There has been an alarming lack of coffee and donuts.

Now, as it appears, we are starting to get the virus under control, we are taking some steps to return to normal. However, I want to express a caution. Normal, I firmly believe, has changed. It will not be what it was. And we are beginning to explore what the new “normal” will be.

Part of that new normal has been apparent to me for months. Even when we return to worship in our sanctuary, we will still need to find a way to post our worship on the internet. Those online services have reached many people that were never a part of our in-person worship services. In a way, the virus forced us to be evangelical in ways that we never had before. And, now that we know how, we will continue to make it possible for people to attend meetings and Bible studies virtually. No longer does being out of town and “stuck at home” mean that someone can’t participate. The new normal will include computer and the internet use in our congregational lives for the foreseeable future.

I also believe that the new normal, for some time to come, will involve the existence of this virus. It is not going to just go away. And so our new normal will also include the use of face masks and social distancing to help protect those still vulnerable. Socializing, I’m afraid, will continue to need to be limited. (So still a lack of coffee and donuts.) Singing and congregational responses in worship will be severely curtailed. And there will be other adjustments as we continue to figure out how to be safe and “normal.”

However, I am certain that we will return to “normal.” It’s just that normal will not look like normal used to look. But we will adjust. And we will continue to worship and witness and serve God – and maybe be even better at it.

On March 7 we will take some first steps toward this new normal and return to in-person worship in the sanctuary. It will look different than it did a year ago (see the guidelines below). But it is a start on the journey toward whatever “normal” is going to be.

In Christ, **Pastor Knowles**

We will begin in-person worship in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 7 at our regular worship time (St. James at 8:30 am and Calvary at 10:30 am). Below are the guidelines that need to be followed to participate in worship in the sanctuary:

- Everyone will be required to wear a mask covering the mouth and nose through the entire service. Masks will be available if someone doesn't have one.
- No social gathering in the building. Come in, worship and leave.
- No singing or congregational responses.
- Abbreviated liturgy (maybe 30 minutes total).
- Households will have to sit at least six feet apart. Pews will be marked and/or roped off. People may only sit in designated areas.
- We will use the "communion kits" we are currently using for the parking lot services and "open house style" communion offerings. Worshipers will pick up a kit when entering the sanctuary to be used in the pews at the appropriate time in the service. We will not have people coming to the altar.
- No passing of offering plates. Offering plates will be set at the entrance to the sanctuary.
- Drinking fountains will be turned off.
- No one who has a temperature, Covid-19 symptoms, or been exposed to the virus should attend.

At this point the plan is to use the green LBW hymnals for worship. If you have one, please bring it with you. If you do not, we have copies available. If you will be worshipping regularly, we will ask you to hold on to your copy of the LBW and bring it back each week.

Important: We will continue to worship in the sanctuary as long as it is safe to do so. If the governor reinstates mitigations or if people refuse to follow the safety guideline above, in-person worship in the sanctuary will be suspended.

Please Note: Betty Clark is temporarily residing at:

Overlook Village Senior Living.
The address is: 941 6th St, Moline,
IL 61265



In addition:

Holy Week Schedule:

- Maundy Thursday (April 1)
 - St. James at Noon
 - Calvary at 6:30 pm
- Good Friday (April 2)
 - Calvary at Noon
 - St. James at 6:30 pm

Alternate (open-house style) communion will be offered on

- March 8
 - St. James at 2:00 pm
 - Calvary at 6:30 pm
- March 29
 - Calvary at 2:00 pm
 - St. James at 6:30 pm

Also, Pastor is planning to continue Zoom Bible studies as currently scheduled.



On Wednesday Mornings

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Beginning March 10

Pastor Knowles will offer a new Bible study opportunity beginning Wednesday morning, March 10 at 10:00 am in Erlander Hall. We will begin a study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. Those attending the study must wear a face mask and maintain social distancing while in Erlander Hall. If you want coffee and/or something to munch on, please bring your own.

SPRING FORWARD Time Change

It's that time again! **On March 14**, be sure to set your clocks 1 hour ahead before going to bed.



MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Gisele Richardson
- 2 – Peter Doering
- 9 – Betty Clark
- 11 – Rebecca Richardson
- 13 – Linda Chase
- 15 – Margo Miller
- 17 – Ted Jackson
- 18 – Steve Faith, Dorothy Hultgren, Cindy Pham
- 25 – Pam Gross
- 27 – Laura Knipe

Happy Anniversary to:

- 6 – Jack & Marilyn Gross (1954)
 - Bob & Charlene Lundstrom (1976)
- 19 – Dianna & Terry Kitchen (1983)
 - Mike & Alisha Jones (2005)

CALVARY'S PRAYER LIST

The following individuals need to be uplifted in prayer:

Dave Menke battling cancer. Roger Thorsvold, Cindy Pham, Kevin Freeze, Jane, Margo's friend, Allen & Joyce Faust, Amy Ritchie, Kenalene Forbeck, Kelly Strand, Bernie and Audrey Laabs, Amy, Pete Lingris & family, Bev & Ken Oller, Karen Moore, Gerda Schmeltzer, Dorothy Hultgren, Randy Kirkwood.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The **April** Newsletter will be out on **Wednesday, March 24**. All articles for the newsletter should be emailed/mailed to the church office no later **Tuesday, March 22**.



Thank you to all who donated cookies, helped prepare and serve food for Cafe on Vine February 13. This was done under a Thrivent Action Team with \$250.00 grant to purchase food and supplies. **Mark your calendars** for May 1 which is the next time we serve.

The Service Committee



We offer our sympathies and prayers to friends and family of Arla Olson. Arla passed away on January 30 in Mesa, Arizona. A memorial will be held at a later date. May each of you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

If you would like to send a card to Arla's daughter, Heidi Woeber, 3315 E. Ridge Place, Bettendorf, IA 52722

WELCA - All Calvary women are invited.



Deborah Circle –will meet Tuesday March 2nd at 11: 30 in Erlander Hall. Bring your own lunch and wear a mask.

We will be collecting personal care items for Hope Creek. They especially can use hand cream and chap stick. Other items they can use are body spray, soaps, perfume, lotion, body wash, and pocket kleenex. They miss items with a nice smell. You are welcome to donate, even if you cannot come. Thanks! Sue Knipe 309 738 0415



CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Annual meeting was held on January 24 at 11:30 am. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the meeting was held in the church sanctuary, with limited attendance; social distancing was practiced and face coverings were worn by those present. Other members of the congregation attended the meeting via Zoom.

We would like to thank outgoing Greg Johnson as Council President and Paul Levesque as Secretary for their time serving Calvary.

Ruth Laabs-Wilcox was nominated to fill a vacancy on the board. Pam Gross, Jim Hallstrom, Renee Ketelesen and Terry Langston were nominated for re-election; with Debbie Faith, Barb Geerts and Charlene Lundstrom continuing to serve.

At the council meeting on February 9th, the following were elected: Renee Ketelesen, President, Barb Geerts, Vice-President, Debbie Faith, Secretary and Pam Gross, Treasurer.

During these unprecedented times, please keep our officers, Pastor and staff in your prayers as we continue to move forward in the year ahead.



Knit-A-Bit WILL MEET on Sunday, February 28

On Sunday, February 28th after the Parking Lot service we will meet in the Upper Room for about an hour. Please wear your mask and social distance. You may bring a lunch if you wish.

We would like to know what everyone has been doing during this time and go over a few items that have been brought to our attention. Hope to see everyone.

Ruth Laabs-Wilcox

HUMOR....

- Money talks but it doesn't always talk sense. All mine ever says is "Goodbye."
- The mother woke up her son on Sunday for church. He says "I don't want to go to church." Mom says, "Give me two good reasons." He says, "I don't like the people and they don't like me." Mom says, "I'll give two good reasons you'd better get up. Your 45 years old and you're the Pastor!"
- What did one strawberry say to the other strawberry? You're too sweet to be in that jam.
- This married couple was arguing who should make the coffee in the morning. The wife says the man. It say so in the bible. No way, the husband says. Where does it say that? Wife says, Hebrews.
- My mind not only wanders, sometimes it leaves completely.
- A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like, "We used to skate outside on the pond. I had a swing made from an old tire that hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking all this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I had gotten to know you sooner!"
- Never trust a train. Thy have LOCO motives.
- If a cow doesn't produce milk, is it a milk dud or an udder failure?

Order your Easter Lilies for Calvary!



DEADLINE FOR ORDERING Is Wednesday, March 17

Please complete this form.

Return it to the Church Office or place in the offering plate.

You may also email the office at secretary@calvarymoline.org.

The cost of each plant is \$10.00.

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

Please complete the appropriate information:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Given by:

April 4 - Easter Service is at 10:30 a.m.
Please take your plant home following the Easter Service

