

Calvary Courier

April 2021

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

One of the symbols of Easter is the butterfly. The idea, of course, is that the butterfly transforms from a caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly, free to take wing and fly. And the last stage of this metamorphosis is the pupa stage in which the caterpillar is encased in its chrysalis, a skin-like covering that completely envelopes the caterpillar. The image for Easter, then, is the butterfly breaking free of the bonds of the tomb-like chrysalis to emerge to a new life as a butterfly, just as Jesus emerged from the tomb into a new life as the Christ.

Perhaps this year we can relate to this transformation more than ever before. For the past year we have entombed in social distancing, stay-at-home orders, mask mandates, closed restaurants and suspended in-person worship services. The isolation for many has been difficult. For some it may have felt a little like dying.

Yet now, as Easter approaches, it appears that we have finally gotten ahead of the virus. Our time in this chrysalis encased pandemic may, at long last, be nearing an end. We can get a sense that the tomb is opening, and a new, post-pandemic, life is beginning. There is, honestly, a sense of being able to stretch our wings and fly away in the freedom of a new life.

And that really is what Easter is about. The tomb of death could not hold Jesus. His resurrection to a new life in God is *our* resurrection to a new life in God. Because he lives, we will live also (John 14:19). The old caterpillar in us, the old sinful self, is transformed into a new being ready to fly in the love and forgiveness of God. It is a time to celebrate.

But, let me also offer a word of caution. So often the image of the butterfly emerging from the chrysalis is one of instant flight. The truth, however, is that the time immediately after breaking from the chrysalis is the most dangerous time in the life of the butterfly. At that point its wings are wet and it can't fly. It is most

vulnerable to predators for about its first hour of new life.

I offer that cautionary tale as a reminder to you that while we will be able to worship together on Easter and celebrate our new life in Christ, the new found freedom from the virus is still tenuous. We are still vulnerable. And so to be safe, our Easter celebration will not be like it has been in the past. We still need to be careful, for the sake of others, to guard against spreading the virus. We will still need to maintain safe distances, wear masks, and refrain from singing out loud.

At the same time, though, we will have a foretaste of the new life ahead for us in and through the resurrection of Jesus.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

At 10:00 am

Pastor Knowles is leading a Bible study on Wednesday mornings, at 10:00 am in the Upper Room. We are studying Paul's letter to the Philippians. Those attending the study must wear a face mask and maintain social distancing while in the Upper room. If you want coffee and/or something to munch on, please bring your own.

HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor will offer communion on the following dates:

- March 29 - 2 pm at Calvary; 6:30 pm at St. James
- April 12 - 2 pm at St. James, 6:30 pm at Calvary
- April 26 - 2 pm at Calvary, 6:30 pm at St. James

APRIL

Happy Birthday to:



- 1 – Kurt Dicks, Carolyn Coulter
- 4 – Judy Noftsker
- 6 – John James Gross
- 7 – Greg Johnson
- 9 – Joe Geerts, Gene Untiedt,

- 10 – Marilyn Gross
- 13 – Betsy Untiedt
- 18 – Erik Ohrn
- 19 – Jimmy Duncan
- 28 – Ann Bowser

Happy Anniversary to:

- 13 – Mike & Stephanie Mudd (1991)
- 14 – David & Debra McClanahan (1990)

CALVARY'S PRAYER LIST

The following individuals need to be uplifted in prayer:

Laverne Knipe, Dave Menke battling cancer. Jeremiah Griebel, Cindy Pham, Kevin Freeze, Allen & Joyce Faust, Kenalene Forbeck, Kelly Strand, Bernie and Audrey Laabs, Pete Lingris & family, Bev & Ken Oller, Karen Moore, Gerda Schmeltzer, Dorothy Hultgren, Randy Kirkwood.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The **May** Newsletter will be out on **Wednesday, April 21**. All articles for the newsletter should be emailed/mailed to the church office no later **Tuesday, April 20**.



HOLY WEEK for First Week in April (Services will be FB Live streamed)

- March 28 – 10:30 am – Palm Sunday**
- April 1 --Maundy Thursday service**
Noon at St. James, RI
6:30 pm at Calvary Lutheran, Moline
- April 2 –Good Friday service**
Noon at Calvary Lutheran, Moline
6:30 pm at St. James, RI
- April 4 – Easter Services:**
8:30 am – St. James, RI
10:30 am - Calvary Lutheran, Moline



During the month of March we have received the following words of thanks....



Thank you so much to the Hookers! The lap blanket is not only pretty but very warm. Also a big Thank You to the carolers who came and entertained us – what a nice surprise and it made our day.

----Thanks again – Dave & Annette Menke



Thank you for your donation of snow boots and sweat pants. Our students have been able to play outside! Thank you for your thoughtful gift. We really appreciate it.

---- Sincerely, Jefferson Early childhood Center



Happy Hookers, WOW, WOW, WOW! Thank you so much for the beautiful lap blankets. This was such an amazing gift from you all! Lap blankets are very loved around here, so your will make their Christmas. Thank you again for thinking of us.

----Happy Holidays, Centennial Rehab & Health



On behalf of our Veterans at the Iowa City Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care System we extend our sincere appreciation for your gift. Your donation will be used to bring cheer and comfort to Veterans during their visit. We strive to provide the best in care and treatment for our Veterans and your gifts help us to add a personal, caring touch to our services. Thank you for showing this interest in our patients and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

----Sincerely, Judith L Johnson-Mekota, FACHE
Director, Iowa City VA Health Care System

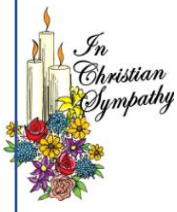


Thank you for helping make YouthHope thrive in 2020! Early in March 2020, we felt God telling us to not try and survive 2020 during Covid-19 but He intended for us to thrive! Because of you we did!

We started many new social media outreaches, brought food and hope to hundreds of kids at home, expended our Camp buildings, had Camp in July and saw many kids and teens come to Christ. Thanks to you, we did all this while making our budget. As tough as the year 2020 was, YouthHope thrived!! Thank you for being a key player in our fantastic year at bringing youth Hope.

----Thankful and excited for 2021!

The Staff and Board of YouthHope



We offer our sympathies and prayers to Linda Johansen, family and friends. Jim passed away suddenly on March 13th. A private family funeral was held at Calvary on March 18th. May you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**WORK DAY SCHEDULED
Saturday April 24 - 9:00 am.**



Saturday April 24 -9:00 am. Workday at Calvary. There are outdoor jobs cleaning around bushes and trimming to do. Indoor jobs will be cleaning some windows, organizing in the kitchen and some closet areas, and dusting. If you can bring your own tools. All are welcome and needed!

WELCA - All Calvary women are invited.



Deborah Circle –will meet Tuesday April 6 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 for everyone. For the men – shaving cream, razors, men’s cologne or body spray. They miss items with a nice smell. You are welcome to donate, even if you cannot come. Thanks! Sue Knipe 309 738 0415



Serving at Cafe on Vine May 1

Volunteers needed to prepare food Friday April 30 at church at 2:00

Need people to make cookies which we will bag at church and cabbage salad (ask Pam for recipe). Should take about 1 1/2 hours. If you can help serve on Saturday we take food over at 10:30.

Contact Pam 309-738-2385

We will be serving again October 9.

**WELCA FOR CHRISTIAN
FRIENDLINESS FOOD PANTRY**

WELCA has received a wish list from Christian Friendliness Food Pantry.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Peanut Butter | Pancake Mic (Water) |
| Syrup | Flour |
| Sugar | Oil |
| Brownie Mix | Cake Mix |
| Cans of Rivoli | Prego Spaghetti Sauce |
| Cans of Tuna | |

Please place your items in the shopping cart.



**HAPPY HOOKERS
APRIL 28TH at 9:30 am**

Happy Hookers will begin meeting on Wednesday, April 28th at 9:30 am in Erlander Hall. Come and enjoy our social time with coffee and goodies. We will begin working on projects.

Note: There will be NO Bible Study that day!



HUMOR

- Male Reindeers lose their antlers in the Winter. Female Reindeer lose their antlers in the Spring. So that means all of Santa's reindeer were female. No Wonder! Only a female could drive a Fat old man thru the sky and Not get lost. And be on time!
- I don't know what to get my wife for her birthday? How about flowers. What's her favorite flower? Pillsbury
- I'm a Cowboys fan. When I die I want 6 team players to be my Pallbearers. I want them to let me down one more time.
- I'm not Clumsy. It's just that the floor hates me, the tables and chairs are bullies, and the wall gets in the way.
- God told a man he would grant him one wish. The man said, "he didn't like to fly. So could you build me a bridge to Hawaii, so he could drive there." God said, "are you kidding? Do you know how much that would cost? How much material that would take?" The man said, "Well then, could you explain Women to me?" God thought for a minute and said, "Do you want one or two lanes?"
- Three Catholic Ladies were bragging on their sons. One said, "My son is a Bishop. When he walks in a room, they call him, Your Grace." Second lady says, "My son is a Priest. When he walks into a room, they call him, Father." Third lady says, "My son is tall dark and handsome. When he walks into a room All the women say, Oh My God!!!"
- Wife says to her Retired husband. "What are you going to do today?" He said, "Nothing." She said, "But you did that yesterday." He said, "I know – But I'm not done yet."
- Mom was teaching her small child how to tell time. She was explaining the hands on the face of the clock. The child said, "I don't see a face or hands. Just Arrows!"
- This couple moved to a New town. The wife went to town for groceries. When she went to go home, she was lost. What way to go? She called her husband, but did not explain she was lost. S he just said, "Honey, can you tell me how to get back to 150?" He thought for a minute and said, "Why don't you try eating more salads?"
- An army recruit was assigned guard duty at 2 a.m., but could help nodding off. He awakened to find the officer of the day standing before him. Remembering the penalty for sleeping on duty, he kept his head bowed for another moment, then look up reverently and said, "Amen."
- Wife: Did I get fat during quarantine? Husband: You weren't really skinny to begin with! Time of Death: 11:00 pm. Cause: Covid
- What does Winnie the Pooh and Smokey the Bear have in common? They have the same middle name!

INSPIRATIONS:

- Good, better, best...never let it rest until the good is better and the better is best.
- The best reason for doing what is right today is tomorrow.
- God owes us nothing, but He gives us everything.
- A whisper of encouragement gains greater attention and offers stronger possibilities for change than a shout of criticism.
- Laughter is the jam on the toast of life. It adds flavor, keeps it from becoming too dry, and makes it easier to swallow.

MAY EACH OF YOU HAVE A HAPPY EASTER!!