

Calvary Courier

April 2023

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

In a recent midweek Lenten service we had the opportunity to learn about St. Patrick. Among other things, one of the biographers suggested that one reason for Patrick's success in converting the people of Ireland to Christianity was his ability to adapt local Celtic customs into Christian rites. The one example that made the biggest impression on me was the incorporation a bonfire, which the Irish used in honoring their gods, into the celebration of Easter. Hearing about the Easter bonfire reminded of the one time I actually experienced a bonfire at an Easter service.

The service, an Easter Vigil service, took place on the campus of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. It was probably my first or second year of seminary, and it was the only Easter Vigil service I have participated in. It was, I must say, a memorable service.

The service began in the grassy yard across the street from the chapel. It was late at night on Holy Saturday. In the darkness the presiding minister welcomed the worshipers with words something like these:

Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

Then, having been reminded of the significance of that night, of Christ's passing from death to life, the bonfire was lit and roared to life, chasing away the darkness of the night. Next the Paschal Candle (many of us refer to it as the Christ Candle) was lit from the bonfire and then was carried at the head of a procession into the chapel. The service progressed through readings and prayers and culminated shortly after midnight (and the beginning of Easter Sunday) with the celebration of Holy Communion in the fully lit sanctuary.

For me, that vigil service was a powerful experience of the significance of Easter. The worship literally moved from deep darkness to brilliant light. What better way could there be to help us relate to the movement from the blackness of sin and death to the radiant light of resurrection and new life.

I regret not thinking about that Easter Vigil service a couple months ago. Even though it is a centuries old tradition in the Christian church, it is still a powerful symbol of God's gift of resurrection and new life. And, so, I think it would have been a good thing for us to do this year. We all live in some level of darkness, be it grief or illness or broken relationships or anxiety or any number of other things. But the great message of Easter is that darkness does not win the day. Instead, the light of Christ breaks through the darkness and reveals a new day of joy and love and hope and resurrection and life.

It is my prayer that you know that whatever darkness shrouds your life will be overcome by the light and joy of the Easter gift that is yours through Christ's resurrection.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles



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:

Gisele Richardson, John McAlister and family, Betty Clark, Bev Boyle, Bob and Beth Fuller, LaVerne Knipe, Cindy Pham, Allen & Joyce Faust, Kenalene Forbeck, Pete and Sue Lingris & family, Bev Oller, Karen Moore, Gerda Schmeltzer, Randy Kirkwood, Joan Winter

CALVARY CARETAKER CREW (CCC)

April 19

The Calvary Caretaker Crew will meet Wednesday April 19 at 9:00 a.m. We hope to start some outdoor work if the weather cooperates but of course we still have our inside jobs to do. All are welcome to come and work for an hour or so and then enjoy some food and fellowship. Many hands make for light work.

MINI CHOIR REHEARSAL

We will continue to meet after worship in the sanctuary each Sunday, including Palm Sunday. On Easter, we will meet at 9:30 a.m.

----Teri Griebel & Renee Ketelsen



We offer our sympathies and prayers

to Charlene Lundstrom and family. Her step-father, Ken Oller passed away on Monday, March 6 in Rockford, IL. May you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



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

❖ Thank you to everyone for remembering my 99th birthday with cards and phone calls. I send my love to you all for remembering me. It made my day very special.

---- With Love, Gisele Richardson

❖ Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United. We have received your \$156.25 donation and your \$323.33 gift to Churches United which helps us keep the doors open at Winnie’s Transitional Housing and also keep the shelves of 22 food pantries filled and food on the tables at our 1 free hot meal site.

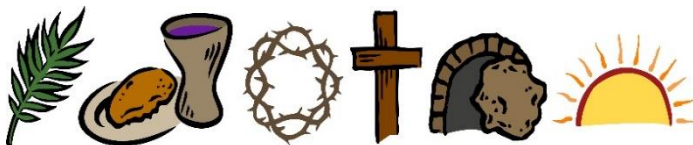
--- Blessings, Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes, Exec. Dir.
Betsy Vanausdeln, Assoc. Dir.

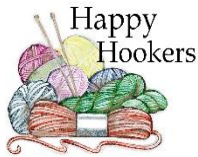
Our Last Mid-Week Lunch and Service:

- March 26** - 11:00 a.m. – Lunch
- Noon – Service
- 7:00 p.m. at St. James, RI

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- April 2 – Palm Sunday Service**
8:30 am at St. James, RI
10:30 am at Calvary
- April 6 – Maundy Thursday Service**
7:00 pm at Calvary
- April 7 – Good Friday Service**
Noon at Calvary
7:00 pm at St. James, RI
- April 9 – Easter Festival Services**
8:30 am at St. James
10:30 am at Calvary





APPY HOOKERS - April 26

We will be meeting on Wednesday, April 26. We have great fellowship and delicious snacks.

WELCA – April 4



Pregnancy Resources will be speaking on April 4 at the WELCA meeting at 930 a.m. in the Upper Room. All ladies welcome. St. James has been invited. Bring a snack to share. Coffee provided. Questions call Sue Knipe 309-738-0415.

At the end of the newsletter is a Pregnancy Resource Wish list. If you would like to donate one or two items from this list, bring it to the meeting.

School requests:

Roosevelt would like gloves or mittens. It is late in the season, but we can have frost as late as May 15th. 5 pairs of gloves already delivered.

Logan would like underwear. and jogging pants sizes 5 to 7.

Place in the Narthex or bring to WELCA. Thank you!

West Conference Spring Assembly will be April 22 at St James.

May Newsletter Deadline Tuesday, April 18



All articles for the April newsletter should be emailed to the church office or placed in my box by **Tuesday, April 18**. The April Newsletter will be mailed or placed in your mailboxes on Thursday, April 27.

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER



A big thank you to all who donated to and/or helped with Kids Against Hunger this past Sunday. Over 30 people enjoyed lunch and then got to work packing the 4000 meals. We had a great time being God's hands here on earth. All our meals were marked for international delivery this time shipping cost. A job well done.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The April Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 11 at 1:00 p.m.

CAFÉ ON VINE - APRIL 28



We will meet at church at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 28 to prepare the food for Saturday lunch. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the narthex to see what food we need donated and to help serve.

Those signed up to serve on Saturday, April 29 will meet at church at 10:30 a.m. to pack up and head over to Café on vine arriving by 11:15 a.m. We are serving inside now, so we need line servers and front room help. Any questions, contact Pam Gross 309-738-2385.

FROM ST. JAMES...

All Saint's has invited Calvary to a Fish Fry on March 31 begins at 5:00 p.m. at St. James in Rock Island. The menu is Fried White Fish, French Fries, Green Beans and Coleslaw. The suggested price is \$7.00/person. Please call (309) 786-0503 to let them know if you are coming; though reservations are not necessary. It is just for an approximate count. You should have received an email from Calvary regarding this.

+++++



St. James was recently contacted by the local Blood Center asking if they would be willing to hold a combined community blood drive, which includes All Saints, St. James, and Calvary. This event would occur sometime in June and would be held at St. James. They are currently investigating whether there is an interest, so if you are willing to participate as a donor, please contact All Saint's Parish Nurse, Carol Eddy, at 309-235-4289.



WELCA BASEMENT SALE April 21 & April 22

WELCA is sponsoring a Spring Basement sale – April 21 and 22. Helpers will be needed starting April 15th at 9:00 a.m. to set up tables and other duties. **PLEASE NOTE – NO CLOTHES!**

50% of the proceeds will go to outreach. Items can be put in the far back Sunday School room on the left to store until the sale.

DONATION OF BAKED GOODS...

A morning coffee and light lunch will be served at the Rummage sale. We will need donations of cake, pies, cookies, coffee cake and pop. If you do not want to bake, you can give a monetary donation to help. Kitchen help will be needed for the sale. If you are willing to donate, please fill out a donation slip. Slips will be available on Sundays or you may use the one below.

RUMMAGE SALE DONATION SIGN UP

Morning coffee and light lunch will be served at the Rummage Sale. Donations of the following are needed:

___ coffee cake ___ cake ___ pies ___ brownies
___ cookies ___ monetary donation ___ pop
___ other

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

BUNCO GAME AFTERNOON

Thursday, April 27 at 1:00 p.m.

In February, we came together to enjoy an afternoon of good food and fun hosted by Margo Miller and Sue Knipe to celebrate Valentine’s Day. In March, we came together to enjoy the fellowship of the Wednesday Lenten lunches hosted by volunteers serving delicious meals. In April, volunteers came together for the Basement sale. Let’s keep the “coming together” for fun and fellowship going.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. and join us in the Upper Room for an afternoon of BUNCO. Even if you don’t know how to play, we will teach you! Please bring your favorite snack to share.

2023 Aid Drive for Kids in Romania



This year we will again collect items for the kids in Romania. Our drive will run from May 1 through mid-July. It hasn’t been decided yet what we will collect, but we will know by the end of April. Stay tuned! Thank you.





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 APRIL

Judi Ingerson & Ann Lundstrom

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for APRIL

- April. 2 – Debbie Faith (L & CA);
Sheila Doering (CA)
- April 9 – Barb Geerts (L); Joe Geerts and
Terry Langston (CA)
- April 16 – Sandy Ohrn (L & CA)
Connie Langston (CA)
- April 23 – Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L);
Dawn & Paul Levesque (CA)
- April 30 – Ruth Laabs (L & CA)
Renee Ketelsen (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for APRIL

- April 2 – Barb Geerts
- April 9 – Connie Langston
- April 16 – Gary Gross
- April 23 – Renee Ketelsen
- April 30 – Sandy Ohrn

COUNTERS for APRIL

- April. 2 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
- April 9 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
- April 16 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts
- April 23 – Debbie Faith & Teri Griebel
- April 30 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston

USHERS/GREETERS for APRIL

- April. 2 – David Peterson & Terry Langton
- April 9 – Bruce & Val Daniel
- April 16 – Vicki McAlister & Ruth Laabs
- April 23 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
- April 30 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross

ALTAR GUILD for MAY

Charlene Lundstrom & Marilyn Mudd

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for May

- May 7 – Joe Geerts (L); Joe Geerts and
Terry Langston (CA)
- May 14 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA);
Connie Langston (CA)
- May 21 – Val (L & CA);
Bruce Daniel (CA)
- May 28 – Gary Gross L & CA);
Sandy Ohrn (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for MAY

- May 7 – Linda Chase
- May 14 – Joe Geerts
- May 21 – Vicki McAlister
- May 28 – Terry Langston

COUNTERS for MAY

- May 7 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
- May 14 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
- May 21 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
- May 28 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts

USHERS/GREETERS for MAY

- May 7 – Kirk Ketelsen
- May 14 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
- May 21 – Vicki McAlister & Ruth Laabs
- May 28 – Bruce & Val Daniel

New Baby Bag Inventory List – from Pregnancy Resources

2 Packs of diapers (1 pack NB & 1 Pack size 1)
1 Pacifier
2 Bibs
1 Burp Cloth
4 Onesies (2 NB & 2 Size 0-3)
3 Botties/socks
1 Bottle
1 Receiving Blanket, 1 Crocketed Blanket, 1 Quilt
1 Baby Towel & Wash cloth
1 Box of Wipes (if available)
1 Gown
4 Sleepers (2 NB & 2 size 0-3)
1 Shampoo/Body Wash
Father's Love Letter

BOY

1 Snowsuit – if available
1 Hat & 1 Pair of Mittens
1 Blanket Sleeper – if available
1 Blanket Bag – if available
3 Long Pants Sets

WINTER

SUMMER

3 Short Sets
1 Long Pants Sets
1 Hat

GIRL

1 Snowsuit – if available
1 hat & 1 Pair of Mittens
1 Blanket Sleeper – if available
1 Blanket Bag – if available
3 Long Pants Sets
1 Dress – if available

3 Short Sets
1 Long Pants Sets
1 Dress – if available

1 Stuffed toy, 1 rattle tied to bag handle

Tips for packing:

1. Place diapers, wipes, & shampoo/body wash in bottom, right side up.
 2. *Neatly* layer clothes – *please fold*. Add towels & socks next.
 3. Place blankets on top with toy/rattle.
-

Also – need Girl & Boy Clothing in 18m – 2T and 3T sizes.