

Calvary Courier

May 2020

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

My intention for this letter had been to speak encouraging words about our connections as members of the body of Christ despite our physical distancing. And then I saw in a TV news report on the protests in various places demanding that governors end restrictions related to the coronavirus, the following words painted on the side of a truck, "Jesus is my vaccine." I decided I couldn't let that go without some kind of response.

I do not believe that our response of suspending in-person worship and activities at our church buildings represents a lack of faith. Since the beginning of human history people have struggled with the relationship between suffering and God. That is what the book of Job is all about. And I think, in the end, Job doesn't answer the question, but rather affirms that suffering happens and that God doesn't cause it but is there with his children in the midst of it. I think to say, "Jesus is my vaccine," is to imply that those who are infected with the virus are somehow less faithful or less good. That's not how our loving God works.

Rather I am reminded of the familiar story about the man trapped by rising flood waters. Three times he refuses the help of rescuers, each time boldly asserting that God will rescue him. He is finally overcome by the flood waters and drowns. Upon arriving at the pearly gates he expresses frustration that God that did come to save him despite his faith. To which God replied, "I sent three people to save you and yet you would not let them."

God, we are certain, works through his people. God calls on us, and enables us, to take care of each other. That is where we know that God is present during the turmoil of this life. In the midst of this current crisis the best way we can take care of each other is to keep our distance. The best way we can care for each other is not spread the virus. The best way we can care for each other is to connect with one another through phone calls or cards or emails or video chats.

Be assured. Our response to the current pandemic – suspending our worship and activities – *is* the faithful response and the best way for us to love our neighbor.

Until we can gather together again, please stay safe and help keep others safe.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles



As the church office is still closed, all articles for the June newsletter should be emailed/mailed to the church office no later May 19. The newsletter will go out on May 20.

MAY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 – Kirk Ketelsen
- 4 – Arlene Cooke
- 6 – Teri Griebel
- 9 – David Peterson
- 18 – Candice Tennison
- 23 – Dereck Chase
- 27 – Patricia Cornelius
- 28 – LaVerne Knipe

Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 – Robert & Beth Fuller (2005)
 - Robert & Linda Miner (1963)
- 11 – Gene & Betsy Untiedt (1952)
- 24 – Gary & Pam Gross (1980)
- 25 – Jerry & Pat Cornelius (1968)
 - Bruce & Val Daniel (1974)
- 28 – Randy & Ann Bowser (1973)



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

We have only one graduate so far that is graduating. If you have a member of family graduating this year, please email me or send me the information and I will highlight in the June newsletter.

- ✎ Chloe Gerrans, daughter of Rachel and Jon Gerrans, will be graduating in June from Mira Costa High School, Manhattan Beach, CA. In the fall, Chloe will be attending the University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon. Proud grandparents are Karen and Roger Thorsvold.



2020 Shoe Drive - Romania

Thanks to everyone who donated in the past for the kids in Romania. This year we will again be collecting shoes. Our shoe drive will be from now through July 26th.

We will be collecting:

- 1) new shoes for kids aged 3 to 14 years old, and
- 2) money to go towards shipping costs.

More information and updates will be provided in upcoming newsletters and Sunday bulletins. I have seen the expressions on their faces as they receive new shoes. They truly appreciate these gifts.



Thanks again, Greg Johnson

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

Dear Friends, I would like to thank my Calvary family for all the cards I have received. A special thank you to Betty Clark for my beautiful flowers that she had sent to me in February. I miss you all very much.

---- Sincerely, Kay Chase



The board, staff and volunteers at Churches United of the Quad City Area gratefully acknowledge and accept your most generous gift to our Christ-centered mission. Your special Super Bowl of Caring contribution of \$200 to our ministry helps us keep the doors open at Winnie's Place and food on the shelves of our 25 neighborhood food pantries on plates at our 2 free hot meal sites.

We would also like to acknowledge your monthly contribution of \$150 to the Moline/East Moline Custer of Churches.

Thank you for your thoughtful and caring commitment to help those among us who are most in need.

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



Your gift to LOMC in the amount of \$213.33 gives us hope and strength to continue to minister despite the invasive threats around us. You may be aware that since mid-March we have been unable to welcome guests to LOMC due to the COVID-19 virus. We regret that groups have been unable to enjoy God, creation and each other.

After much prayer, research and conversation; the LOMC staff and Board of Directors have made the important decision to cancel our eight weeks of summer camp.

----Blessings and peace, Robert Gieraltowski,
Executive Director

NEW ADDRESS FOR KAY CHASE

Kay had some difficulty in March at home and she is currently residing at:

Aspen Rehabilitation and Health Care – Room 9
1409 9th Avenue, Silvis, IL 61282

She can also be reached by calling her cell phone:
(309)317-9700

CALVARY and CHURCH SERVICES....

Calvary is still officially CLOSED. Pastor Don has been coming into the office each day to check for phone messages and the mail. Teri will be coming into the office for one day – May 20 to produce the newsletter.

Regarding Services - For now Pastor Don has been conducting services via video each week. He has been sending out reminders through email or you may check our website or Facebook page. If and when the church does reopen, we will be sending out an email.

Easter Lilies – If you ordered a lily for Easter and would like a refund, please contact the church office.

If you have any questions, you may send an email at secretary@calvarymoline.org or pastor@calvarymoline.org. We do check our emails daily from home. Once church reopens, we suggest you call the church office (309) 762-5423 to check on the status of your event.

No Monthly or Serving Calendar will be in this issue. When church services resume, we will be asking those in attendance to help fill in as needed, especially as Greeters, Ushers and Counters. Though both Ushers and Counters do have a schedule which will help, though if you prefer to stay home that is perfectly Okay. We want everyone to be comfortable and be safe.

THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN CANCELLED or POSTPONED for May

WELCA will not have any activities for May. The All Daughter’s Banquet scheduled for May 8 has been postponed to a later date.

Relay for Life all activities have been cancelled.

Lunch Bunch will not meet in May. Hopefully by June we will be able to gather together.



HAPPY HOOKERS and **KNIT a BIT** Happy Hookers and Knit a Bit has been cancelled for MAY.

The Quad City Stamp Club has decided to postpone the “Stamp Out Cancer” charity event scheduled for May 18, 2020. It will be rescheduled when it is safe again to get together for this event.

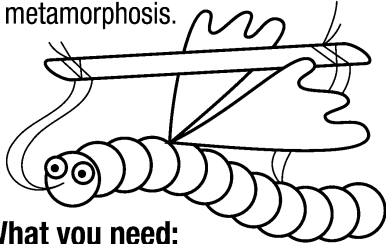


CALVARY would like to recognize our following members who have stepped up when asked to sew face masks. If you would like to have a mask, please contact Pam Gross at home (309) 797-5561, cell (309)738-2385 or Debbie Faith at (309)912-8784. If I have missed anyone, please let me know and you will be recognized in our June newsletter.

Both Pam Gross and Debbie Faith have made over 100 masks which were given to Jenny Henderson (our former Parish Nurse), medical personnel at Unity Point and Medical Arts and for our members. Those who have also contributed to the call are: Marilyn Gross and Charlene Lundstrom. Dorothy Harmening has made and distributed masks to Overlook, Hope Creek and to family members and friends.

CHANGED!

Make this cute puppet to show and tell the amazing story of metamorphosis.

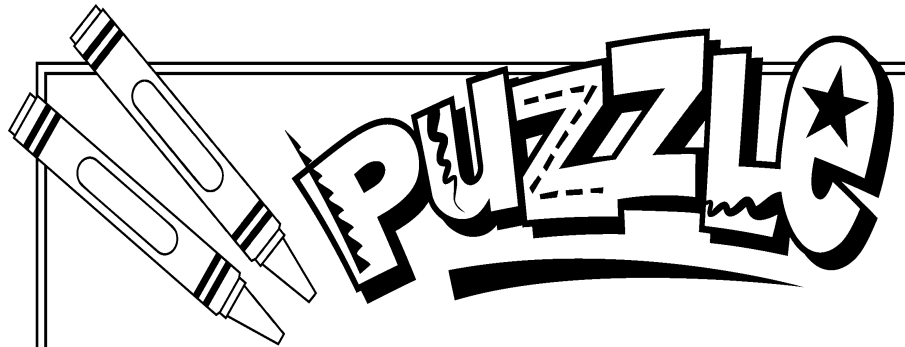


What you need:

- Needle and string
- 12 small pom-poms
- Wooden craft stick
- Scissors
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Coffee filter
- Markers

What you do:

1. Sew pom-poms together to make a caterpillar body. Tie off that string.
2. Thread another string up through the first pom-pom, leaving 12 inches to dangle. Repeat with the ninth pom-pom, leaving two dangling strings.
3. Wrap those strings around opposite ends of the stick, adjusting their length to about 6 inches. Tie in place.
4. Glue on eyes.
5. Flatten the coffee filter and draw a symmetrical design on it. Pleat in the center to create wings.
6. Move the caterpillar puppet by holding the stick. Glue on the wings as you describe the transformation into a butterfly.



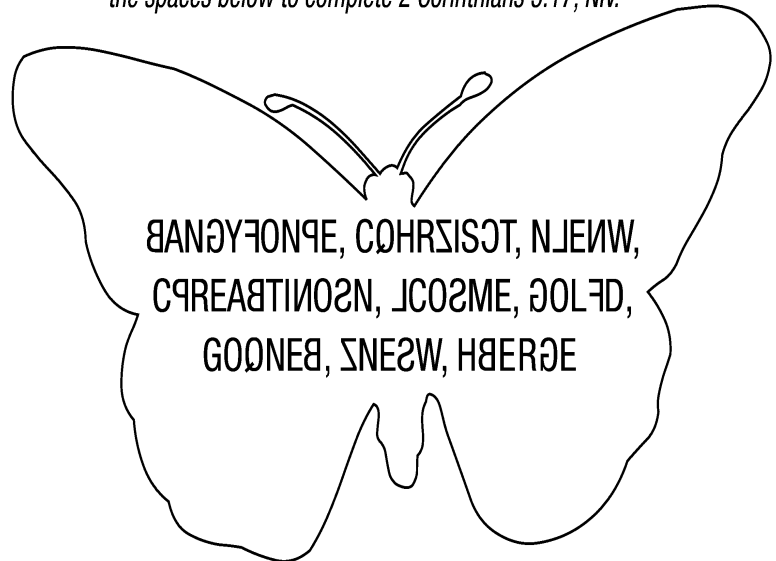
Transformation **POWER**



Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly,
God transforms us from old to new.



Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.



Therefore, if _____ is in _____,
the _____ has _____:

The _____ has _____,
the _____ is _____!

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: anyone, Christ, new, creation, come, old, gone, new, here