



Calvary Courier

May 2023

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

I realize that sometimes in the church we use language that may not be obvious to some who were not raised in the church. So, I decided to use this space this month to explain the “Church Year” in a little more detail.

Lent/Easter

While the church year technically begins with Advent, it is probably a little more appropriate to begin a discussion of the church year with Easter, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus and the most significant event in the Christian church.

Since Christ’s resurrection occurred around the time of the Jewish festival of the Passover, Easter comes at the same time of year as the Passover. Passover is celebrated on the 14th day of the month of Nisan (the first day of the full moon in the first month of spring). In order to separate the celebration of Easter from the celebration of Passover, the Christian church, in the year 325, set the date for Easter Sunday to the first Sunday after first full moon of spring. As a result, the date for Easter can be anywhere between March 22 and April 25.

Moving backward from Easter is the season of preparation for Easter which is called Lent. Lent, which means “spring,” is a somber season of repentance. In keeping with the Biblical significance of “40” (years of the exodus from Egypt to Israel or Jesus’ 40 days in the wilderness, for example), Lent is 40 days long, not counting Sundays (because Sundays are always a celebration of the resurrection and not penitential). The Sundays that fall within this season are referred to as the Sundays *in* Lent. The color of Lent is purple to suggest somberness and solemnity.

Since Easter is a greater celebration than the penitential season of Lent, Easter is a longer celebration. So, Easter is not one day, or even one week, but seven weeks long. Therefore, we have seven Sundays *of* Easter. The color of the Easter season is white, suggesting gladness, light and joy.

The season of Easter culminates on Pentecost, the 50th day. Notice the connection between the prefix “pente” (as in Pentagon – a five-sided building in Washington – for instance) and the festival on the 50th day. Pentecost celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church from the

risen Christ. The color for the day of Pentecost is red, symbolizing the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Advent/Christmas

The other significant event in the life of Christ is his birth, which the church celebrates at Christmas. Though there is no clear reason why Christ’s birth is celebrated on December 25, much of the Christian church has been using that date since at least the early 4th century. (Parts of the church celebrate the birth of Christ on January 6). There are twelve days of Christmas and with one or two Sundays *of* Christmas. The color of the Christmas season, like Easter, is white.

The Christmas season concludes with festival of Epiphany, which means “revelation of God,” on January 6.

As with Easter, traditions within the early church developed around a season of preparation for Christmas called Advent. There are four Sundays *of* Advent. Advent’s color is blue, suggesting hope as we await the arrival of the savior.

The Other Times

There are two blocks of time not associated with the major festivals of Easter and Christmas. One falls between the Epiphany (January 6) and the beginning of Lent, the other between Pentecost and Advent. The color of both seasons is green, signifying the growth of the church.

The Sundays of the first block of time are referred to as the Sundays *after* the Epiphany. These Sundays typically tell the stories of the call of the first disciples and Jesus being revealed as the messiah.

The second time period includes the Sundays *after* Pentecost. This long season stretches through the summer and fall and the readings tell the story of Jesus and the early church.

Some parts of the Christian church refer to the Sundays after the Epiphany and the Sundays after Pentecost as “Ordinary Time.”

I hope this brief introduction to the church year has been helpful.

In Christ, Pastor Knowles

MAY



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 – Kirk Ketelsen
- 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)

CALVARY'S PRAYER LIST

The following individuals need to be uplifted in prayer:

Juanita Sullivan – Café on Vine, Roger Thorsvold, Bishop Stacie, Ruth Laabs, Jackie Dooley, 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

GRADUATE RECOGNITION



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.

CALVARY CARETAKER CREW (CCC)

May 17

The Calvary Caretaker Crew will meet Wednesday May 17 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.



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

❖ Thank you everyone for coming to my Party. It was a joy.

---- The Harmening Family

❖ Thanks everyone for remembering my 95th birthday with cards and phone calls. It made it special.

--- Betty Clark

❖ Dear Calvary Friends, Thank you for all the great birthday cards, gifts and good wishes for my 90th birthday. Thanks to Pam and Barb for helping serve the refreshments.

----- Love you all !!!!! Marilyn Gross

❖ Thank you for donating \$525.00 to LOMC's ministry of helping guests of all ages connect with God and each other. Your gift makes all the difference in helping LOMC thrive.

❖ Thank you for \$200.00 donation in helping keep HOPE in Motion at YouthHope! You give kids and teens the chance to find hope in Christ! Youth take the lessons, experiences and encouragement they receive at YouthHope with them for the rest of their lives!

---- In Appreciation, Mark Drake, Exec. Dir.

HAPPY HOOKERS – May 31

We will be meeting on Wednesday, May 31. We have great fellowship and delicious snacks.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

JUNE\JULY COMBINED NEWSLETTER
Deadline – Tuesday, May 16

Please Note – this will be a combined newsletter for June\July. All articles should be emailed to the church office or placed in my box by **Tuesday, May 16**. The combined Newsletter will be mailed or placed in your mailboxes on Thursday, May 25.

We are combining these months due to Teri being out of the office in June for surgery.



THNAK YOU FOR SINGING

We would thank everyone who joined in our mini choir. You were amazing!

A Big Thank You goes to Mary Knowles for playing for us.

----- Teri Griebel and Renee Ketelsen

VACATION

Pastor Knowles will be on vacation May 15-23.



On Sunday, April 16 we welcomed Christina Ekstrom as a new member into the life and ministry of Calvary.

WELCA – May 2

We will meet in the Upper Room on May 2 at 9:30 a.m. Please bring a snack to share.



We are still collecting for Pregnancy Resources and Jefferson School. Jefferson needs Underwear and pants – size 3 to 7. A donation box has been placed in the Narthex or you may bring to the WELCA meeting. Thank you!

WELCA BASEMENT

We collected a total of \$4,241.83. Erlander Hall was \$3,499.94 and Kitchen was \$741.89.



Thank you to everyone for helping make this year a success! A Big Thank You goes to everyone who helped with set-up, tear down, donated items for the sale, baked, or made a monetary gift, and to those who worked in the kitchen or walked the floor during the sale. We couldn't have done it without you

----Margo Miller and Sue Knipe



KNIT-A-BIT

We will be meeting on May 2 and again on May 16th.



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 July 16. We will be collecting kids underwear, school supplies, and money toward shipping costs.

Please look at the display in the narthex, and take one or more cards printed with the exact items needed. Use the cards as a shopping list at a store and bring the items back to Calvary. Thank you so much. See Greg Johnson with any questions.

ANOTHER CHILD FOUNDATION

Dear Calvary Lutheran Church,

This weekend ACF is hosting a Sports Equipment Extravaganza! You can purchase a piece of sports equipment from our AMAZON WISH LIST right now through Sunday August 16.

Prices start as low as \$6.00

Our teachers in Romania and Guatemala have both said the sports equipment they are using is simply worn out. So ACF is giving you an easy way to purchase some nice sports equipment they need by simply clicking [THIS LINK!](#)

For the Children,

Tim Oloffson- Executive Director





Volunteer Schedule

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 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) – **OUTDOOR SERVICE**

BACK DOOR GREETERS for MAY

May 7 – Linda Chase
May 14 – Joe Geerts
May 21 – Vicki McAlister
May 28 – **OUTDOOR SERVICE**

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 –
OUTDOOR SERVICE

ALTAR GUILD for JUNE

Charlene Lundstrom & Marilyn Mudd

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for JUNE

June 4 – Paul Levesque (L & CA);
Dawn Levesque (CA)
June 11 – Ruth Labbs (L & CA);
Deb Faith (CA)
June 18 – Barb Geerts (L);
Joe Geerts & Gary Gross (CA)
June 25 – Renee Ketelsen – **OUTDOOR SERVICE**

BACK DOOR GREETERS for JUNE

June 4 – Deb Faith
June 11 – Connie Langston
June 18 – Barb Geerts
June 25 – **OUTDOOR SERVICE**

COUNTERS for JUNE

June 4 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
June 11 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
June 18 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
June 25 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase

USHERS/GREETERS for JUNE

June 4 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
June 11 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross
June 18 – Kirk Ketelsen
June 15 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
June 15 – Bruce & Val Daniel