



The Calvary Lutheran

June 2019

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor:

The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. (1 Peter 4:7-10)

It is graduation season. A few years ago I attended an end-of-the-year ceremony honoring a select group of high school seniors and juniors. The series of student and administration speakers addressed the student honorees and audience with words of wisdom as the school year, and (for the seniors) the high school careers, was drawing to a close. Each of the speakers touched on such things as excitement for the years ahead, the possibilities of all that could be accomplished, and the need for hard work, character, wisdom and continued study – all good advice and appropriate messages for the occasion.

At some point during one of speeches, I started to wonder what, if given the opportunity, I would say to a group of high school students who were on embarking on the next significant journey of their lives. What words of wisdom about “life” would I want to share with those seventeen and eighteen year-olds?

One of the speakers, an invited guest, gave a eulogy of sorts, for a friend who had been active in the school and in a foundation that provided scholarships to students. He spoke of his friend who went out of his way in doing good for the foundation, for students, and for his community. His point, I believe, was to both honor his friend and to encourage the students toward community service throughout their lives. As he concluded his comments, I thought he stopped just short of saying what I think I would say to those students.

What the friend had done, according to the speaker, was make a positive difference in the lives of the individuals he encountered throughout this life. The point I think I would want to make to the students is not just the importance of “service” to community, but of serving the people in your lives. What is perhaps the most important thing those students can do is to make a positive difference in the lives of the people they will meet. What is ultimately most important for any of us is not how much money we make, or what kind of cool toys we accumulate, or even what kind of service we may do for our community. What is ultimately most important is the difference we make in the lives of the people around us.

To use the language of our faith, what is ultimately most important is how we love one another. God has gifted us with character and scholarship and service and leadership for the purpose of making a positive difference in the lives of others.

That, I think, is what I would say to those students as they begin the next phase of their lives. When all is said and done, I would say to them, what will be most important is that you made a positive difference in the lives of your family, friends, co-workers, and even the strangers you meet.

Huh...I wonder if that message would be appropriate for other people as well?

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles



PASTOR ON VACATION...

Pastor Knowles will be on vacation beginning June 20 through July 4. If you would need Pastoral care, please contact Pastor Willers at on his cell phone at 309-292-0881.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Brad Gross
- 2 – Kathryn Beardsley
- 4 – Vinh Pham
- 7 – Nathan Faith
- 8 – Wyatt Bunch
- 9 – David McClanahan, Jerry Cornelius
- 14 – Jenna Ketelsen
- 17 – Jim Johansen, Aaron Ohrn
- 18 – Olivia Bunch
- 23 – Connie Dudgen
- 30 – Michelle Youngworth



Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 – Mark & Marena Jackson (1994)
- 6 – Rudy & Sandy Ohrn (1959)
 - Vinh & Cindy Pham (1976)
- 8 – Dean & Linda Chase (1996)
- 11 – Richard & Sandy Strosahl (1966)
- 15 – Ted & Jan Jackson (1957)
- 26 – Norm & Judy Carbiener (1964)



During the month of May we received the following word of thanks....

✚ To Dad's Family at Calvary Lutheran, Thank you to all of you who shared fond memories of Dad with us at the visitation & funeral. Your kindness meant much to our family along with cards & memorials in his name.

Also, thanks abound for the ladies who served the luncheon after the funeral. Having the luncheon at Calvary was important to Dad & I appreciate all of your hard work.

----Thank you to all & May God Bless!
Carol, Mike & Ian

✚ Dear Partners in ministry at Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline: We gratefully acknowledge and say thank you for your congregation's 2019 Mission Support intent of \$20,220. Thank you for all you do as a congregation and for your partnership in the ministry we share together as a church.

----Walking together in Ministry,
Rev. Gary Erickson, Dir. Of Evangelical
Mission, Assistant to the Bishop

✚ Dear Congregants, Winnie's Place clients and staff wish to thank all of you for the "groceries" that were dropped off for us on April 8. All was appreciated!

---- Winnie's Place

✚ Dear People of Calvary Lutheran Church, The board, staff and volunteers at Churches United of the Quad City Area gratefully acknowledge and accept your \$432.59 contribution to our mission and ministries.

----Best regards, Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes, Exe. Dir.

A NEW GRAND-BABIES:

Congratulations to the following grandparents:

 Charlene Lundstrom on the birth of a grandson, Lawson Maxwell on April 27. Proud parents are Megan & Michael Necessary

 Pam & Gary Gross on the birth of a granddaughter, Rachel Diane on May 16. Proud parents are Beth and Josh Lipka.



LUNCH BUNCH RESUMES June 18 at 11:00 am Upper Room

Come and bring your friends – always a sociable time and good food too! Please let us know if you need transportation by calling the church office – we'll come and get you.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

for **July** is no later than **June 13** for distribution on June 27. Please have your articles to me on time. You may email or put your articles in my box.



DEDICATION SERVICE – MAY 26

As part of our observance of our 100th anniversary, Calvary Lutheran Church in Moline will dedicate a plaque in honor of four members who were killed in action during World War II and the Korean War.

The plaque will be dedicated during the church's Sunday service on Memorial Day weekend. The service begins at 10:30 a.m. on May 26.



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

The following is a list of graduates and their plans for the future:

★ **Andrew Levesque**, son of Paul & Dawn Levesque graduated in May with a Bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa.

★ **Sydney Kelly**, granddaughter of Candice Tennison, will be graduating from Cedar Falls High School on May 26th. She plans on going to college to study Marine Biology.

★ **Barrett Winter**, son of Jennifer & Matt Winter, will graduate from Hanna High in Anderson, SC. He will attend Erskine College in SC on a baseball scholarship hoping to become a lawyer.

★ **Andrew Winter**, son of Mark Winter in Griffin, GA will graduate from Georgia State in Milledgeville, GA in Business. Barret & Andrew are the grandsons of Joan & Dale Winter.

★ **Jacqueline Menke**, granddaughter of Dave and Annette Menke, graduated from the University of Georgia in Athens, GA with a Masters degree in Landscape Architecture. She currently works for Streamline Architects in Davenport, IA as a landscape architect.

★ **Cory DeCola**, grandson of Karen & Roger Thorsvold, graduated May 18th from Dublin Scioto High School Dublin, OH. Corey graduated Valedictorian of his class. He has been accepted into the college of engineering at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH.

★ **Andrea May Buckley**, great granddaughter of Betty Clark, will graduate from Moline High School. She is currently playing Bass with the Quad City Symphony. In the fall, Andrea will be going into the Navy with their music program.



CAFÉ

Saturday, June 22 at 9:30 a.m.
Moline Public Library Café,
3210 41st Street, Moline, IL
Sponsored by St. James WELCA

Please join us for a cup of coffee, tea, and maybe a pastry, as we gather for Bible Study. All women of St. James Lutheran and Calvary Lutheran Churches are invited.

100th Anniversary Information:
For June 2019 – we will be collecting **100** cans of canned Tuna or Chicken.



WELCA NEWS:

All ladies of the church are welcome to attend
(No Meeting during July or August)

- ❖ **Deborah Circle** – **Tuesday, June 4 at 9:00 am** at **Welcome Inn** in Milan for breakfast. Meet at church at 8:30 am for rides. At our May meeting, we approved a \$100 donation from WELCA to the local Salvation Army for flood relief.
- ❖ **Happy Hookers** – will meet at 9:30 on June 26. Activities include quilting, crocheting, knitting, and handicrafts. (Bring a treat to share at “coffee time.”)
- ❖ **Northern Illinois Synod Women’s Convention** Saturday, September 14, 2019 to be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline. Calvary WELCA will be asked to help – no specifics yet.



THANK YOU...to all who helped host the West Conference WELCA Assembly on Sat., May 4th. The brunch was prepared by Pam Gross, Marilyn Gross and Charlene Lundstrom with St.

James ladies providing the coffee cakes and breads. We had 32 ladies in attendance including our five guests from “The Farm” and their pastor, Rev. Jackie Green. They presented a very informative program and witness with their testimony and songs. They received a gift of \$100 from the offering taken at the assembly as well as in-kind gifts brought by attendees. (A thank you note from the farm in on the bulletin board.)

LADIES NIGHT OUT!

Tuesday, July 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendar for July 16, at 6:00 pm when we will meet at Montana Jack’s Restaurant, Moline. Please call Sue Knipe, cell 309-238-0415 for reservations. All ladies invited!



NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Calvary and St. James will be serving as host congregations for the 2019 Synod Assembly at Augustana on June 14-15. Volunteers are needed to help with registration on Friday morning, drive golf cart shuttles throughout the assembly, assist in the display area and serve as ushers for the Saturday afternoon worship service. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the upper room for specific times.



RELAY FOR LIFE

Fourth Sunday Coffee Hours will continue through the summer.

“LET YOUR STAR LIGHT THE WAY”

Sales of this Isabel Bloom sculpture will continue with orders going in monthly until supply is depleted. Their cost is \$21.00 with \$5.00 benefiting our Calvary Crusaders team. See the sign-up sheet in the upstairs hallway to order.

RELAY FOR LIFE – Quilt Raffle –

The members of Laureate Beta Psi are providing a quilt to be raffled which will be displayed occasionally in the Narthex during the next few months. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 and will be available from Marilyn Gross.



A Special THANK YOU

The Laureate Beta Psi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority wishes to express “sincere thanks” to Calvary Church for letting them use Erlander Hall and kitchen for their “Paddles for Paws” Quarter Auction for the Rock Island Animal Welfare Center (Milan) on Friday, April 26. \$750.00 was raised and donated to the shelter. A Thrivent Action Team grant was used to defray expenses.

2019 Shoe Drive - Romania



Thanks to everyone who donated in the past for the kids in Romania. Last year, we collected underwear and volleyballs. This year we will be collecting shoes. Our shoe drive will be from now through July 21st.

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

SAVE THE DATE

100th Anniversary Celebration
will be November 3rd, 2019.

Worship will be held at 10:30 am with Bishop Clements as our guest preacher. After worship, our catered banquet will be held downstairs in Erlander Hall. If you still have contact with past Calvary members please invite them to this event.

Prior to the big celebration,
several more events have been planned:

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Saturday, August 17th – 4 to 6 pm

We will be holding the Ice Cream Social outside under a tent. There will be plenty of Whitey’s Ice Cream, cakes and pies, along with games and entertainment, with a free-will offering, which will go towards our Love Gift.

CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, September 15th at 10:30 am

Our church picnic with service before will be held on Rock Island Arsenal. You will need your ID at the Moline Gate and it will be the first picnic area on the left (where it was held before). More information will be upcoming newsletters and bulletins.

THROWBACK SUNDAY

Sunday, October 20th at 10:30 am

Everyone is encouraged to dress in any decade period costume from 1919 to present day on that Sunday. The committee picked a fall date as the earlier decades were usually long dresses/skirts and long sleeve blouses and October would be much cooler.



Calvary History - 1970-79, Decade 6

It was April 16, 1972—Confirmation Sunday—and 16 Calvary confirmands were prepared to make public confession of their faith in front of family and friends. But the pastor who had helped bring them to this point in their faith walk would not complete this portion of the journey with them. No one knew then, but the Rev. Marvin Reichert was “going home.”



On that Spring morning, after the minister was admitted to Lutheran Hospital for treatment of an esophageal, hemorrhage,

numerous calls were going out to clergy around the area, asking if they might be able to conduct Confirmation rites just hours later. The Rev. J. Walton Kempe, a visitation pastor at Salem Lutheran Church, stepped in to lead the service. Confirmation Sunday would go on.

The next day, worried congregational members were heartened by news about their beloved pastor: Doctors had been able to stem the bleeding, and Rev. Reichert was “resting nicely.” But complications arose, and the pastor—who had endured more than one lengthy hospitalization during his time at Calvary—was transferred to what is now University Hospitals in Iowa City. It was there that he entered Life Eternal on May 1. Calvary members were devastated by the news. “We have not only lost a minister and a teacher—we have lost a friend,” one person noted.

Pastor Reichert’s wife, Jan, sent a heartfelt letter to the congregation after her husband’s passing. The letter concluded: “Our six years at Calvary will always be remembered for our wonderful friends, lovely home, beautiful church, (and) many cooperative, faithful Christian workers.”



The Rev. Leland Jackson was appointed vice pastor of Calvary while members searched for Pastor Reichert’s successor. The congregation would call the Rev. Kenneth H. Swanberg, who joined Calvary in January of 1973.

The new pastor seemed to hit the ground running. A

proposal to allow youth to begin receiving Holy Communion in fifth grade, rather than waiting until the Rite of Confirmation, was studied and approved. A “Tape Ministry” was launched, with the worship service recorded and delivered to the church’s shut-ins. The balcony was finally completed, and the narthex and stairway were carpeted. What’s more, Calvary met its pledge to the Illinois Synod benevolence, after having retired its mortgage the previous year. Other successful programs included a Visitor Open House Service, a balloon launch to spread God’s message of love, and a prayer vigil. Meeting with less success was Pastor Swanberg’s attempt to get worshipers to sit closer to the pulpit by roping off the back pews: Folks sat there anyway.

The following year saw more changes, with new carpeting in the chancel and nave areas, and replacement of the church’s 20-year-old sound system.



A Young Adults group for those 18 and over was formed. And there was a recommendation to add a coffee hour between services for “informal fellowship”—the start of what would become a Sunday morning staple.

During his tenure, Rev. Swanberg placed a heavy emphasis on evangelism, noting that *all* were responsible for the effort—not just the clergy. This was at a time when 70 members were dropped from the roles due to inactivity or by their own request (an effort to give a more accurate picture of congregational size). The pastor encouraged members to “speak positively” about their church. “Consider the many assets that Calvary has and don’t be afraid to tell others about them.”

One way Calvary reached out was by sponsoring a South Vietnamese family who had escaped on a U.S. Navy ship following the fall of Saigon to the Communists in 1975. “After a series of



delays through New York and Fort Chaffee, our family finally arrived in late summer, and were greeted warmly by friends of

Calvary at Moline Airport,” wrote Jean Hallstrom, who helped spearhead the effort along with Don Carlson. Vinh Pham, who arrived first, initially stayed with the Hallstrom family. Later, Vinh’s brother, Quy, Quy’s wife, La, and their 3-year-old daughter, Dung, arrived, along with a family friend, Huy. Calvary members secured housing for the refugees and pitched in with donations of furniture and household goods. They also helped them find jobs and provided transportation until they could become self-sufficient. Later in the decade, the congregation would “adopt” a family from Laos, also aiding them in their resettlement.

Other major events in the church in 1975 included the renovation of the narthex, the installation of a commercial dishwasher, and a facelift for the church nursery. For the latter, member Arla Olson would use her artistic talents to add paintings of Noah’s Ark.



The large oil painting of Christ in the garden was moved from the downstairs fellowship hall to the east entrance at this time.

The nation’s Bicentennial year (1976) proved to be an eventful one for the church, too. The Altar Guild was formed (those duties had been previously handled by the women’s groups). The church was burglarized not once, but *twice*. But the big news was the planned purchase of a Wicks Pipe Organ, and related improvements to the acoustics in the sanctuary. The “horsehair” material that had long deadened the sound in the soaring ceiling was covered over with panels that would reflect it, instead. Worship was held downstairs during the renovations, as pews had to be removed to accommodate the scaffolding. The custom-built organ was installed in the balcony after the paneling process was completed. The pipe organ—with a hefty price tag

of \$28,630—was expected to deliver superior sound quality and last a hundred years. It was dedicated on



April 3, 1977, with a special recital given by Marilyn Volquardsen of Davenport. The old electronic organ that had been located in the choir alcove was sold.

Also in 1977, Calvary sold its parsonage, with a plan to invest the proceeds to help pay the pastor’s housing allowance. Church improvements that year included updates to the kitchen and the church office, and the raising of the floor of the ladies’ restroom to make it more accessible. One piece of real estate that didn’t need any fixing was “Little Calvary,” an impressive cardboard structure that for many years was a prominent feature in the Sunday School opening room (now the library). The kid-sized church even had its own dedication service that year!

The following year, the custodian who had so faithfully tended the church property for 21 years, Martin Hertz, retired. His sons, Steeg and Bob, would take over his duties.

Congregational life remained active during this decade, especially among the youth. After creating “Chrismon” (Christian symbols) to decorate the sanctuary Christmas tree in 1971, members of the Luther League took a Christmas Break trip to Bark River, Michigan, where they were hosted by the Rev. Charles and Lorraine Beckingham, former members of Calvary. The League later would venture to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in Colorado and go backpacking in Canada’s Boundary Waters, financing their trips through fundraisers such as car washes and newspaper drives.

Also notable during this decade was the adoption in 1979 of a new worship hymnal to replace the “red hymnal” (the congregation reportedly had a little difficulty mastering the new music); the addition of a Saturday night joint service at First Lutheran, with Calvary, Faith, First and Salem taking turns conducting the worship; the establishment of the Calvary Blood Assurance Program (to replace pints used by members); and a move to increase member participation by having lay people read the scripture lessons, as had been the practice in the early church.

The 1970’s concluded with a grand 60th anniversary celebration for Calvary and the creation of a new pictorial directory. But 1979 might be best remembered in these parts for its brutal winter temperatures and record snowfall (nearly 53 inches), which had its effect on area churches. “Perhaps the first time Sunday worship services were cancelled in Calvary’s history was on Jan. 14,” Pastor Swanberg wrote in his annual report. “The inclement weather caused us a drop in attendance for January and February, but also buried us in a financial snowdrift until later in the year.” Calvary members were happy to welcome Spring—until the church basement flooded with the snowmelt!