

# Calvary Courier

## July 2019

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor – from Feb. 2010 newsletter:

Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit...To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (I Corinthians 12:4, 7)

Those verses were, appropriately, included in our readings on a recent Sunday. I say “appropriately” because the idea that Paul is expressing to the people of Corinth in that passage is one of the central values for my faith and my ministry.

First, Paul acknowledges that people are not all the same. Each and every one of us is different. No one of us has received an identical gift of the Spirit. There are, indeed, a variety of God-given gifts that make us all unique.

Secondly, Paul reminds the people of Corinth that the gifts of the Spirit given to God’s people have been given for a reason. Simply put in this passage, Paul says that we are gifted by God for the common good. In a different passage Paul talks about God’s gifts being given for the “building up of the body of Christ.” The point that Paul intends to make is that we have been given gifts of the Spirit not for the sake of our own glory, but for the glory of God to be used in proclaiming the gospel in word and deed.

So what does that mean for us as the pastor and people of Calvary Lutheran Church in Moline, Illinois? It means that we are a gifted community. God has shared with each of us a gift of the Spirit, gifts to be used for the common good. Collectively God has given us the gifts we need to do God’s will in this place at this time. But it is work that we must do together. The work of God for Calvary is not the work of the pastor, or the church council, or the committees alone, but it is the work of each and every one of us together.

So my commitment to you is that I will use the gifts that God has given me for the building up of the body of Christ in and through Calvary. And I will strive to recognize the unique God-given gifts in each of you.

And God calls on you to do the same. We need everyone to share their gifts, to be a part of God’s ministry in this place. Together we can and will share the good news of God’s love and forgiveness with the people of Moline and throughout the world.

In Christ,

*Pastor Knowles*

### PASTOR ON VACATION...

Pastor Knowles is still on vacation through July 4. If you would need Pastoral care, please contact Pastor Willers at on his cell phone at 309-292-0881.

### JAZZ SERVICE July 21<sup>st</sup> – 10:30 a.m.



**Mark your calendar** for July 21! Once again, the “Prodigal Sons” Jazz Band will play at our worship service. As many of you know, these musicians have played for us the last several years to everyone’s enjoyment. Our service will be six days before The Bix 7 race on July 27<sup>th</sup>. The Beiderbecke Festival will be on August 1 through August 3<sup>rd</sup> in Davenport, IA.

Please invite your family and friends to this wonderful, upbeat service. Guaranteed you will have a “jazzy” and spirit filled time!

## JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – LeRoy Freeze
- 5 – Dale Armstrong
- 7 – Terry Langston, Cindy Pham
- 12 – Tim Miller
- 15 – Tim L. Miller
- 16 – Mary Ann Behrens
- 18 – Steve Miller
- 23 – Roger Thorsvold
- 24 – Dean Chase
- 26 – Arla Olson
- 27 – Jeremiah Griebel
- 31 – Dianna Kitchen



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

✚ Thank you to the members of Calvary for your prayers, expressions of sympathy, hosting the funeral and serving the lunch at the time of Mary's mother's passing. You are all dear to us and your support was greatly appreciated.

----Pastor Don and Mary Knowles

Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 – Gordon & Linda Nelson (1970)
- 14 – LeRoy & Fran Freeze (1956)
- 17 – Warren & Jeanette Wren (1976)



### WELCA NEWS:

**All ladies of the church are welcome to attend**

(No Meeting during July or August)

- ❖ **Happy Hookers** – will meet at 9:30 on July 31. Plenty of creative projects to work on plus enjoying fellowship and a coffee hour. (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.



### LUNCH BUNCH

July 16 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 **August** is no later than **July 11** for distribution on July 25. Please have your articles to me on time. You may email or put your articles in my box.



### “NEW” Information for Current Members

- ✿ Norm & Judy Carbiner have moved. Their new address is 850 Neptune St., Geneseo, IL 61254.
- ✿ Gerda Schmeltzer has a new phone number: 563-332-9726.
- ✿ Gisele Richardson would like to have visitors, or phone calls. According to her son, she is getting tired of seeing *just* him.



**DATE CHANGE**  
**LADIES NIGHT OUT**  
Tuesday, **JULY 23** at 6:00 pm

Please note **NEW DATE – July 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Due to the conflict of Lunch Bunch, Ladies Night Out has been changed to the following Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will meet at Montana Jack's Restaurant, Moline. Please call Sue Knipe, cell 309-238-0415 for reservations. All ladies invited!



**Vesper Service**  
**July 28th at 7:00 p.m.**

Pastor Donald Knowles will be preaching at Jenny Lind Chapel on July 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Andover, IL.

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Information:

**For July 2019** – we will be collecting **100** boxes of Skillet Meal Helpers



## RELAY FOR LIFE

**Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>** – Coffee Hour – Before and after worship. Stop in the Upper Room to have some refreshments and special treats – your donations are appreciated.

### “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.



## 2019 Shoe Drive - Romania



This year we have been collecting shoes. Our shoe drive will go through July 21st. So far we have 32 pairs of shoes (our goal is 75 new pairs for kids aged 3 to 14 years old) and \$120 towards shipping costs (our goal is \$200). Thanks, Greg Johnson

### **ICE CREAM SOCIAL – Sat. August. 17th**

We would like to offer **Cake, Pie, Brownies or Cookies** to go along with our Ice Cream. If you would be able to donate, please fill out the donation slip below or the Yellow slip in the weekly bulletin.

#### **ICE CREAM SOCIAL DOATION SIGN UP For Saturday, August 17th**

Donations of the following are needed:

\_\_\_ cake \_\_\_ pies \_\_\_ brownies \_\_\_ cookies

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to donate, please mail or call the church office at (309)762-5423.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 17<sup>th</sup> – 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 1980-1989, Decade 7

The 1980's at Calvary were highlighted by some major improvements to the facility, most notably the construction of a new educational wing and the installation of an elevator.

Church member Clarence Bobb was a major catalyst for building the elevator, a smallish lift located in the northwest corner in the former Cry Room. Confined to a wheelchair, Clarence would



roll up to the large entrance doors off the “Avenue” each Sunday morning and wait for some strong volunteers to hoist him and his chair up the steps to the sanctuary level for worship. Of course, Clarence wasn't the only one having difficulty with the steps. Church leaders first looked into putting in a ramp, but that idea was abandoned when they discovered the low-cost option of an “elevette.” The congregation voted to go forward with construction of the elevette, which was dedicated on Nov. 7, 1980. The cost of \$12,500 was paid off in just nine months. In 1981, after Clarence's passing, the elevator was rededicated in his memory.

Unfortunately, the addition of an elevator didn't solve the problem of handicapped accessibility for restrooms, which were on the basement level and down steps. And then there was the “problem” of congregational growth—especially among younger families—putting a strain on existing facilities. Pastor Kenneth Swanberg noted in his reports that an expansion could provide a new entrance to the sanctuary (so folks wouldn't have to go downstairs and then back up to access the narthex); handicapped accessible restrooms; a new fellowship room with a kitchenette, and a new secretarial office. “The flooding problems each spring



will be corrected as well,” Swanberg stated. (That would turn out to be wishful thinking.) The congregation voted at a special meeting on Jan. 8, 1983, to go forward with a capital fund appeal to finance the construction. A Building Committee was established, and it was decided that the Lutheran Laymen's Movement (LLM) would conduct the appeal. Architects Bracke, Hayes and Miller were selected to draw up preliminary plans.

Some were not in favor of building during a time when the Quad-Cities' farm economy had tanked. The high unemployment rate had forced some Calvary members to relocate to better job climates. But with a dearth of local construction projects, builders also were hungry for business. This was the time to get the best deal, according to the Building Committee.

It would take four years of fundraising, however, before the church would be in a position to go forward with construction of the new addition. A special meeting was held May 31, 1987, “when the big step of faith was taken” to accept the construction bid of \$304,436 and begin construction. The congregation had authorized the borrowing of up to \$150,000 (at 9 ½ percent interest) for the project. A Service of Groundbreaking, held June 21, had as special guests Pastor Harold Bolm, assistant to the bishop of the Illinois Synod, and Moline Mayor Robert Anderson. At the outdoor service, even the toddlers of the church participated by



turning dirt with pint-sized shovels presented to them for the occasion. Bishop Ronald K. Hasley would officiate at the service of Cornerstone Laying on Oct. 18.

Although the contractors did what they could to minimize the impact on the church's day-to-day activities during construction, the process was not without its glitches. For instance, the church basement flooded when a back hoe operator accidentally hit a water main (city plans did not

show a water main in that location). And Pastor Ken had to temporarily move his offices into the League room so workers could create new entryways (oh, the dust!).

Calvary members pitched in to help keep the costs down, handling much of the interior painting and decorating themselves. A vote to add air conditioning for the sanctuary as part of the construction project was defeated by a mere two votes, leaving worshippers to sweat their way through summers.



On June 5, 1988, the new wing, built at a total cost of about \$350,000, was at last dedicated; Pastor Ron Ferrell, assistant to

the bishop, officiated. "With joy and thanksgiving we realized the completion of our dream," Building Committee Chairman Don Carlson said in his report.

But the joy surrounding the dedication festivities was tempered by the news that Pastor Ken Swanberg would soon be leaving Calvary after more than 16 years of service. Saying he wanted to move into part-time ministry, he tendered his resignation the end of May, effective July 31, 1988.

One of the church's longest-tenured pastors, the Rev. Swanberg did much to promote evangelism efforts at Calvary. He was assisted by the Rev. Charles Beckingham, a son of Calvary who became its volunteer visitation pastor. The help was especially appreciated when Rev. Swanberg was injured in a fall while trimming some trees in 1980.

Calvary's outreach efforts during the decade



of the 80's included the establishment of a van ministry (a 15-passenger van was purchased), and assisting an influx of Southeast Asian refugees. Pastor Swanberg worked closely with the area's population of immigrants from the country of Laos (known

as the "H'Mong people") and sought the Synod's help in establishing a dedicated H'Mong ministry in the Quad Cities so they could worship and study in their own language. But while Calvary was able to help the immigrants with resettlement and some finances—and had purchased Bibles in their language—a local H'Mong congregation never came to be. By 1982, most of the H'Mong that had been attending Calvary had moved to California to find work, although a few remained.

Other highlights during Pastor Swanberg's years of Calvary: The launching of the Moonlighters group for young married couples and a Young Adult Singles Group (the latter being a joint venture with 13 participating churches); Luther League trips to



Rainbow Trail Camp in Colorado (at least one accompanied by Pastor Swanberg); the hosting of the Swedish Youth Choir from Upland, Sweden (1984); and the church's new venture of holding mobile blood drives. The debt for the pipe organ was paid off in 1981.

Property improvements—in addition to the educational wing—included a new sign for the church,

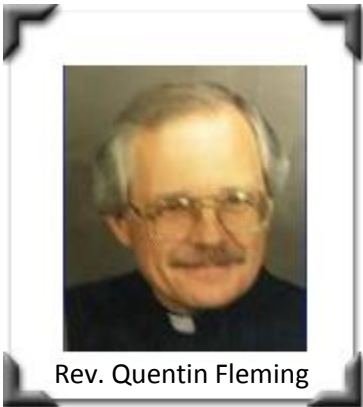


constructed in 1985 by Howard Lofgren and "his crew" (the old sign was later moved to the back of the church), and the

replacement of the steeple that had been battered by a storm (1986).

One of the biggest changes of the decade was "the merger": The Lutheran Church in America (to which Calvary belonged), The American Lutheran Church, and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches came together to create the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). At the time, the ELCA had 5.3 million members, and a mission to embrace a diverse population. "The ELCA recognizes that Lutheranism is no longer a

movement of German and Scandinavian Christians,” Pastor Swanberg said of the merger, which became official on Jan. 1, 1988.



Rev. Quentin Fleming

Now Calvary had a new Synod along with a new facility. And soon it would have a new pastor, as well. On Oct. 23, 1988, the congregation voted to call the Rev. Quentin Fleming. He began his ministry on Dec. 1 of that year. “It

is good to come into a congregation which is alive with warm and wonderful people,” he said in his first annual report.

During Fleming’s first year at Calvary, he jumped right into a series of cottage meetings in order to become acquainted with the members, who quickly embraced their new pastor. When the church held a “Talent and Fun Fair” that year, he brought his 1959 Edsel to be included in the classic car display. There were also some major staff changes, including the resignation of custodian Bob Hertz, whose move to Cedar Rapids marked the end of about 40 years of service by the Hertz family in caring for the church



facility (Bob’s brother, Steeg, and their father, Martin, had all served). And Moline High School senior Karl Bodenbender signed on as organist after the resignation of Anita Holmer. His bold musical stylings brought a certain flair to the pipe organ preludes.



The decade concluded with a 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration that brought some of Calvary’s “sons” back home to preach. “It is one of our proud records that we have sent more than a dozen men into the ministry, and that one woman of Calvary became a foreign missionary,” Rev. Fleming noted. As part of the observance, the downstairs fellowship hall, which

had served as Calvary’s sanctuary for decades, was renamed “Erlander Hall” in honor of a former pastor and his wife. Pastor Emory and Ruth Erlander served Calvary from 1940-54, and had a major impact on its mission to spread the Good News. The Erlanders had hoped to be there for the anniversary, but sadly, Ruth had passed on not long before, and Emory could not attend. In offering his regrets to the congregation, he wrote: “Be watchful for the new thing the Lord is going to do, through the Calvary Lutheran Church in Moline and to the ends of the earth.”

Here are some other photos from the 1980s



Ground breaking service for new addition – 1987  
(names are mentioned above)



Our Youth Group –on one of their trips  
Date unknown