

# *Calvary Courier*

## *September 2023*

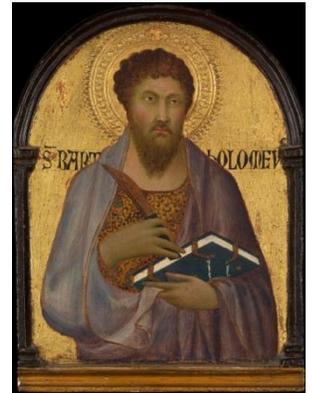
A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

As I work on this letter, we are just a couple days from the Feast Day of Saint Bartholomew.

So, you may now be asking, “So what?” And that, I suppose, is a legitimate question. The only reason I know that August 24 is the day in the church year that we commemorate St. Bartholomew is because the calendar I download every year from Augsburg Fortress includes all the commemorations and I happened to notice the mention of Bartholomew on August 24.

Curious, I decided to educate myself about this Christian saint. Who was he and why do we remember him? Here’s what I learned... Bartholomew is mentioned in the list of Jesus apostles in Matthew (10:3), Mark (3:18), Luke (6:14) and Acts (1:3). That’s it. Now you know everything there is to know about St. Bartholomew. (Well, that’s not entirely true. We can also say with a fair amount of certainty that his father’s name was Tolmai, or some variant spelling of that, because Bartholomew literally means “Son of Tolmai.”)



Beyond being listed in the New Testament as an apostle, there are a few things that various traditions have attributed to Saint Bartholomew. Some suggest that he is the same person that John refers to as Nathanael in his list of apostles. Other traditions suggest that following the resurrection he brought the faith to Ethiopia, Mesopotamia, Parthia (modern Iraq) Lyconia (modern Turkey), and Armenia. He is said to have been martyred by flaying and (according to one source I read) is thus the patron saint of tanners.

Now, with this information in hand, you may very well still be asking, “So what?” Why should we have a day dedicated to someone we know almost nothing about?

If for no other reason, that he was one of Jesus’ closest companions during his ministry makes Bartholomew worthy of recognition.

However, as one meditation I read in reflecting on Bartholomew suggests, perhaps it is noteworthy that we really don’t know anything else for sure about him. We know he was a follower of Jesus, but a relatively anonymous one. And yet it is on the foundation of relatively anonymous people like Bartholomew that the church has been built and the Christian faith has been spread. The vast majority of us have come to faith, not because someone famous taught us, but because someone who will, in the history of Christianity be virtually anonymous, shared the gospel with us.

So, it is right and good that we take a moment and thank St. Bartholomew and all the other relatively anonymous evangelists for their role in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ throughout the generations.

In Christ,

*Pastor Knowles*



**Happy Birthday to:**

- 1 - Christina Ekstrom
- 2 – Fran Freeze
- 4 – Dave Griebel
- 5 – Debbie Faith
- 7 – Linda Nelson
- 8 – Ruth Laabs
- 11 – Mark Jackson

- 12 – Lennon Miller
- 17 – Gary Gross
- 19 – Mary Knowles
- 20 – Randy Bowser
- 27 – Christine Mellgren

**Happy Anniversary to:**

- 14 – Kirk & Renee Ketelsen (1991)
- 17 – Paul & Dawn Levesque (1988)
- 20 – Kurt & Lisa Dicks (1986)

**CALVARY’S PRAYER LIST**

Please keep the following individuals in your prayers:

Roger Thorsvold, John McAlister and family, Gisele Richardson, Cindy Pham.

**CALVARY CARETAKER CREW (CCC)  
September 20**

The Calvary Caretaker Crew will meet Wednesday, September 20 at 9:00 a.m. 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.

**Electronic Donations:** It is now possible to make contributions to Calvary through our website, [www.calvarymoline.org](http://www.calvarymoline.org).

Simply go the homepage and click on the “Donate” link.



**PASTOR ON VACATION**



Pastor will be on vacation from September 5 through September 18. Pastor Dan Witkowski from First Lutheran, Moline will be on call.



We have received the following words of thanks recently...

❖ **From the Northern Illinois Synod:**

The synod staff and I are so grateful for all the ways we are the church together, being in the body of Christ in the world. Mission support is one way that we do this. Your gifts have enabled us as a synod to create new ministries, share resources with congregations, create new partnerships, and share over half of all mission support with the churchwide expression of our church. Thank you for your generosity.

-- Bishop Stacie Fidler

❖ **From LOMC:** Peace to you! Summer has been busy and LOMC is enjoying welcoming guests and we had a great summer camp season! Thank you for your donation to LOMC.

-- Robert Gieraltowski, Executive Director

❖ **For Aid to Kids in Romania:** Thank you to everyone who helped make this year’s drive so successful. Here are the final counts of items donated by Calvary members –

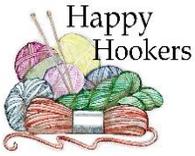
- 74 24-packs of Crayons; 82 bottles of glue; 91 lined notebooks; 25 2-pocket folders; 7 packs of construction paper; five 10-packs of color markers; one 2-pack of glue sticks; one 5-pack of highlighters; 20 multi-packs of kids underwear; and \$255.00 toward shipping costs.

Thank you so much.

-- Greg Johnson.

❖ **From Pastor & Mary Knowles:** Thanks to everyone for your cards, gifts to LOMC and kind words as we celebrated our 40th anniversary. We will always cherish the love and support we have received from the people of Calvary.

❖ **From Teri Griebel:** I would like to thank the Calvary members who have kept me lifted in your prayers. Believe me – I may not have felt them, but my soul did! The first two weeks after the accident, I was pretty depressed. Having come so far in my knee replacement recovery, only to go back to the beginning. It was tough. But, with the phone calls, the cards I received and the visits from Barb Geerts, I pulled through. I cannot thank each of you enough! May God continue to hold each of you in the Palm of His hand – like He did me. (PS – I’m glad to be back in the office!)



## HAPPY HOOKERS September 27

The Happy Hookers will be meeting on Wednesday, September 27 at 9:30 a.m. Along the great fellowship and delicious snacks. The group continues to create quilts and lap robes and other items for people in need throughout the community. Everyone is welcome.

## WELCA

WELCA will meet for lunch on Wednesday, September 6 at 11:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. St. James ladies and First Lutheran, Moline ladies will be invited to join us for lunch and a program. Save the date. Sign up with Sue Knipe or Charlene Lundstrom to bring a salad or fruit. All ladies welcome. More details to come.



## 2023 WELCA FALL CONVENTION

Our Fall convention will be held on **Saturday, October 7** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran church, 2900 Luther Drive, Peru, IL. Our program will be – Be the Body of Hope. If you need more information or would like to attend, please see or call Sue Knipe. A flyer has been posted in the Upper Room.



## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Calvary will be serving a meal for the Habitat builders on Wednesday, August 30th. If you are interested in cooking, baking and, or serving, please see Ruth or Renee. More details to follow.

**DID YOU KNOW:** In 2022 Lutheran Disaster Response was at work in 42 countries around the world and 26 states and territories in the US and Caribbean, responding to hurricanes, tornadoes, conflict and migration, the Russian-Ukraine war and more. Last year Calvary donated over \$700 to the ministries of LDR.

## FAITHFUL FLEXORS

Faithful Flexors meet on Monday and Thursday from 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. downstairs in Erlander Hall. Please wear comfortable clothing. If you would like more information, please see or call Sandy Ohrn at 309-373-8261. Flexors will not meet on Labor Day, September 4.

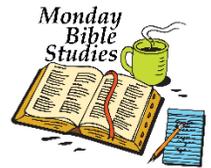


## KNIT – A- BIT

Knit-a-Bit will resume on Wednesday, September 13 at 1:00 p.m. in the Upper Room. Future meeting dates/times are to be determined by the group. Questions? Contact Barb Geerts.

## MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will begin on Monday, September 25 at 10:00 a.m. We will be studying the book of Acts. All are welcome to attend.



## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



**Deadline:  
Wednesday, August 16**

All articles should be emailed to Teri or dropped off in the office by **Wednesday, September 13.**



Always  
give  
yourselves  
fully to  
the work  
of the  
Lord ...

1 Corinthians 15:58



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 SEPTEMBER**

Judi Ingerson & Ann Lundstrom

**LECTORS & COMMUNION ASSTANTS for SEPTEMBER**

September 3 – Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L);  
Renee Ketelsen & Sheila Doering (CA)  
September 10 – Joe Geerts (L & CA);  
Deb Faith (CA)  
September 17 – Barb Geerts (L);  
Connie & Terry Langston (CA)  
September 24 – Gary Gross (L)  
OUTDOOR SERVICE

**BACK DOOR GREETERS for SEPTEMBER**

September 3 – Barb Geerts  
September 10 – Sandy Ohrn  
September 17 – Deb Faith  
September 24– OUTDOOR SERVICE

**COUNTERS for SEPTEMBER**

September 3 – Gary Gross & Greg Johnson  
September 10 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston  
September 17 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase  
September 24– Charlene Lundstrom &  
Vicki McAlister

**USHERS/GREETERS for SEPTEMBER**

September 3 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross  
September 10 – Kirk Ketelsen  
September 17 – David Peterson & Terry Langston  
September 24– Vicki McAlister & Ruth Laaba

**ALTAR GUILD for OCTOBER**

Charlene Lundstrom & Marilyn Mudd

**LECTORS & COMMUNION ASSTANTS for OCTOBER**

October 1 – Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L);  
Renee Ketelsen & Sheila Doering (CA)  
October 8 – Joe Geerts (L & CA); Deb Faith (CA)  
October 15 – Barb Geerts (L);  
Connie & Terry Langston (CA)  
October 22 – Gary Gross (L & CA);  
Sandy Ohrn (CA)  
October 29 – Val Daniel (L & CA);  
Bruce Daniel (CA)

**BACK DOOR GREETERS for OCTOBER**

October 1 – Pam Gross  
October 8 – Renee Ketelsen  
October 15 – Connie Langston  
October 22 – Vicki McAlister  
October 29 – Gary Gross

**COUNTERS for OCTOBER**

October 1 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts  
October 8 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel  
October 15 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston  
October 22 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston  
October 29 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase

**USHERS/GREETERS for OCTOBER**

October 1 – Bruce & Val Daniel  
October 8 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase  
October 15 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross  
October 22 – Kirk Ketelsen  
October 29 – David Peterson & Terry Langston