

# *Calvary Courier*

## *October 2016*

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

This past week I had a couple of meetings at the synod office in Rockford led by our new bishop, Bishop Jeff Clements. Bishop Clements, I'm sure for the sake of expediency, used the same devotion at both meetings. (I was the only non-synod staff person to attend both meetings.) I was equally disturbed by the devotion the second time as I was the first time.

The bishop began his devotional with a reading from Mark 8:

<sup>27</sup> Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" <sup>28</sup> And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup> He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." <sup>30</sup> And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Now, it wasn't the passage that I found disturbing. For all kinds of reasons that I would be happy to share with you, I like this passage. Nor was it the question that the bishop asked about this passage that disturbed me. It was a good question. Framing the question in the context of evangelism, he asked us how we might answer that question if someone – a non-Christian – would ask us that question. Imagine, he suggested, if an unchurched neighbor might ask you "Who is Jesus?" How would you answer?

And this is what disturbed me so much. I didn't have a quick answer. Me... a theologically trained professional, was speechless. I was so thankful at that first meeting that the bishop did not ask us to actually respond to the question.

Shouldn't I – shouldn't we – have a ready answer to such a basic question? If we are to take seriously at all our call to be evangelists - to tell the story, then it

is absolutely necessary that we have an answer to such a basic question.

By the time of the second meeting I had had some time to consider an answer. So when the question was raised again (and this time the bishop asked us to actually respond) I was ready – sort of. I said "Jesus is the manifestation of God." However, my pride at this answer quickly waned. It was a good answer – theologically. But when I thought about the scenario of being asked by a neighbor, my response was seemed technical and cold. I don't think such an answer would do anything to encourage someone to hear more.

So, after a few more days to reflect on the question, here's my answer (for now).

Who is Jesus? Jesus is God in the visible. If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. Jesus preached love and justice. Jesus forgave sins and healed the broken. Jesus ate with outcasts and sinners. He sought the poor and the lost, including them in the fellowship of God's family. That's who Jesus is... he is God in the flesh sharing God's love, mercy, forgiveness and justice. That's the God that I believe in - the God mirrored in Jesus, and the God that I invite you to get to know with me.

So that is my answer. It doesn't have to be your answer. But I think it is important for you to have an answer. So, let me echo the bishop's challenge. "Who do you say that Jesus is?"

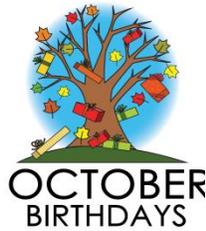
In Christ,

*Pastor Knowles*

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Brett Daniel
- 3 – Dylan James Gross,  
– Robert Fuller
- 6 – Jack Gross
- 7 – Alisha Jones
- 8 – Joyce Armstrong, Matt Mudd, Mike Mudd
- 9 – Jeanette Wren
- 11 – Norman Schmeltzer, Beverly Boyle
- 12 – Preston Fuller
- 14 – Connie Langston
- 17 – Daniel Olson
- 20 – Norm Carbiener
- 22 – Matthew Geerts
- 24 – Rosemary Roberts
- 25 – Bruce Daniel
- 27 – Gloria Fortin
- 28 – Dick Jensen
- 30 – Lorraine Beckingham



Happy Anniversary to:

- 3 – Scott & Carol Mayo (1987)
- 15 – Tim & Margo Miller (1977)
- 19 – Jim & Linda Johansen (1996)
- 27 – Peter & Sheila Doering (1974)
- 28 – Roger & Karen Thorsvold (1967)
- 30 – Steven & Kimmi Miller (2010)



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12** at 11:00 a.m. in the Upper Room. Come for a tempting food, fun and fellowship with your Calvary friends....don't forget to invite a neighbor or friend to join us....we ARE a friendly group!

**Remember**, we have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. We could really use some help in the “cleaning” department. All it takes is a spare hour or two and you can do it any day of the week!



During the month of September we received the following words of thanks....

♥ Thank you to all my Calvary friends for your prayers, visits and telephone calls. I hope to be able to one day make it to church to visit with all of you. Thanks also to Pastor for his phone calls and visits.

---- Eulalia Dunn

• I want to thank you for your kind contribution of \$80 to the E.Moline/Moline CareLINK. We also encourage all of you to begin reading the Churches United Facebook page, participate in the dialogue or simply get informed. You can also find us at [www.cuqca.org](http://www.cuqca.org) as well. For those of you into social media, Twitter will begin as well in the near future. Most importantly though, we appreciate the relationship we have with you and know that your donation is making an impact in the community though the ministries at Churches United.

--- Sincerely, Anne Wachal, Exec. Director

## PRAYERS NEEDED



Dear friends – Please keep me and our Romanian mission group in your prayers as we minister to approximately 300 children in several locations in Romania. We will be reading Bible stories, mainly about Gideon, doing arts and crafts (the paper towel tubes will be using in making torches – read about Gideon’s torches in Judges chapters 6 – 8), playing games and music, handing out backpacks and school supplies, and fitting the children with new shoes. The main town that we will be at in Romania is Târnăveni. We will be gone October 12 – 22. Thanks be to God!

----- Greg Johnson



The Chili Supper will be held Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. The cost is \$6.00.

---- Charlene Lundstrom & Connie Langston



**We offer our sympathies and prayers** to family and friends of Joan Freese. She passed away on September 19. Funeral services were held at Calvary on September 26. **We would also** like to offer our sympathies and prayers to Diana Kitchen and Family. Her mother, Gloria Heath passed away on September 21. May each of you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



**THANK YOU FROM CALVARY CRUSADERS RELAY TEAM....**

The “Calvary Crusaders” thank everyone from the congregation for the great support you have given us this year in our efforts to raise money for Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society's signature event in the fight against cancer. Listed below is a breakdown of our fund-raising for the year:

Coffee Hours	\$501
Palm Sunday Brunch	115
Taco Lunch	235
Ice Cream Social	357
Thrivent Supplement	500
Luminaria	200
Culver's sponsorship	400
Dinner Party Raffle	150
(approximate)	
Personal Donations	1000
(approximate)	
Relay Raffle	40
(approximate)	



**WELCA** -All Calvary women are invited.

- ❖ **Deborah Circle** – Tuesday, October 4 at 9:00 a.m. in the Upper Room. Joan Winter hostess. (since the Rachel Circle has disbanded, all former Rachel members are invited to attend.)
- ❖ **Unit Meeting** – Tuesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. Hostess: Deborah Circle. Program: (to be decided.)
- ❖ **HAPPY HOOKERS** will meet on October 26 at 9:30 am

**WELCA WEST CONFERENCE**  
**FALL ASSEMBLY**

The West Conference Fall Assembly will be held on Saturday, October 15 at First Lutheran Church, 1230 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Moline. The program will be Pat Herath from “Wells for Wellness.” She is the executive director and founder of this project. Reservations can be made with Sue Knipe.

With other miscellaneous fund-raising/donations, our team total is \$4,119.09 as of Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. The Relay total as of this date is \$55,673 (\$goal \$60,000) with more to be counted until the end of the month.

Congratulations to all of our team members (numbering 22 of which 7 are survivors) as we are recognized at the “SILVER TEAM LEVEL.” We are ranked #3 in the relay team standings.

Again, our sincere thanks to the Calvary congregation for their help and support this year.

**STAND DOWN 2016**



STAND DOWN

Thank you for your generous donations to the 2016 Stand Down. Thank you also to Jack Gross and John Henriksen for delivering the donations. We also received money from Thrivent Financial enabling us to purchase 48 pair of socks, 6 t-shirts, 15 briefs, 4 sweat pants, 4 fleece pants, 18 pair gloves, travel size toiletries and a few snack items. These items will be distributed to the homeless vets the last day of the event.

There will be a one-day Stand Down in February on the Iowa side. At this event only coats will be distributed. If you have coats that you no longer wear, please consider donating them. Bring them to church and we will make one trip to deliver them. Thank you.

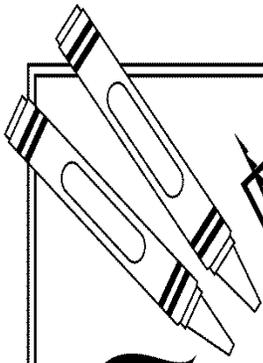
---Sharon Hough



Habitat for Humanity  
Thrivent Worldwide

**HABITAT for HUMANITY/  
THRIVENT WORLDWIDE**

Habitat for Humanity/Thrivent Worldwide is sending its 1,000th team to Romania this fall where they hope to build over 40 homes. The first ever Thrivent Worldwide team went to Romania in 2005 so that's why they chose Romania for the 1,000th team. More than 10,000 members and other volunteers have participated in worldwide builds. They have built in 43 countries and Thrivent has contributed \$8,000,000 on behalf of members for the builds. Local members going on the trip are Mel and Judy Rullman.



# PUZZLE

## Friends in the Lord

Jesus offers a perfect example of friendship.



What does he do for his friends?



Directions: Follow the clues to fill in the blanks. Then write the completed Bible verse below.



1. Better than; rhymes with *crater*: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Opposite of hate: \_\_\_\_\_



3. Opposite of yes: \_\_\_\_



4. Three minus two: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Not \_\_\_\_ but that; rhymes with *hiss*: \_\_\_\_\_

6. To place something down; rhymes with *say*: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Opposite of up: \_\_\_\_\_



8. Opposite of death: \_\_\_\_\_



9. Best buds: \_\_\_\_\_

" \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_

1

2

3

\_\_\_\_\_ than \_\_\_\_\_ : to \_\_\_\_\_

4

5

6

7

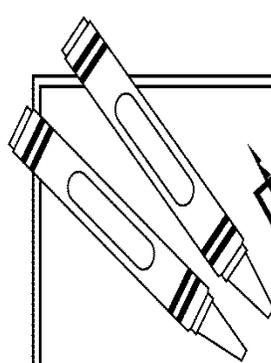
one's \_\_\_\_\_ for one's \_\_\_\_\_."

8

9

JOHN 15:13, NIV

Answer: "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13, NIV



# PUZZLE

## NEVER FEAR!

The Psalms are full of inspiring prayers to God, who always looks after you.

Directions: Use the clues to fill in each missing letter. Then use those letters to complete Psalm 13:5, NIV.

What plants grow in ..... DIR \_\_\_\_\_

1

The opposite of play ..... WO \_\_\_\_\_ K

2

One-of-a-kind ..... \_\_\_\_\_ NIQUE

3

A hug and a ..... KI \_\_\_\_\_ S

4

Sour ..... TAR \_\_\_\_\_

5

To speak very loudly ..... YE \_\_\_\_\_ L

6

Immediately ..... N \_\_\_\_\_ W

7

Bees live in a ..... HI \_\_\_\_\_ E

8

A dandelion is this ..... W \_\_\_\_\_ ED

9

I \_\_\_\_\_ in your unfailing \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm 13:5, NIV

Answers: dirt, work, unique, kiss, tart, yell, now, hive, weed; I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm 13:5, NIV