

Calvary Courier

November 2017

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

I remember as a child and teenager being pretty annoyed with worship in the month of November. Every year November was “Stewardship Month.” Usually late in the month, in the weeks around Thanksgiving, one or two of the Sundays were devoted to “stewardship.” What annoyed me about those weeks was that “stewardship” seemed to translate exclusively into “money.” The emphasis from the sermons and temple talks was on pledging and giving to the church. The message that I heard was always that church members *should* give, with an implication that it was necessary to meet the needs of the church. To put it bluntly, what I heard was that as a Christian I was obligated to give my money in order for the church to pay the bills and meet the budget. The motivation for giving was to avoid feeling guilty.

And these couple Sundays in November seemed to be the only time “stewardship” was ever mentioned. After the annual pledge drive the topic of stewardship was not raised again until the following November – unless we were falling behind in the budget. Then we might get a stewardship guilt booster in early summer.

Over time I have come to look at stewardship from a very different perspective. For me, the heart of biblical stewardship is in the first chapter of Genesis. In that passage, the writer lays out a very orderly account of creation. Everything in creation is made by God to fit together and it is all good. On the sixth day of creation, God makes human beings:

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over [creation]” (Genesis 1:27-28)

The key to this passage for me is the word dominion. So often the word has been taken to mean that God has granted permission to humanity to do whatever we want with creation. But in reality the word has a sense of taking care of the world that God has made. The point of dominion is to recognize that everything that exists is from God and he has entrusted us with its care. In other words, we are to be stewards of all the things that God has made and shared with us.

From a Christian perspective, then, stewardship first and foremost recognizes that all that I am and all that I have comes from God. (See Luther’s explanation to the first article of the creed in the Small Catechism.) Out of his divine love and mercy God shares creation with us so that we might thrive. We are blessed by God. In return, God calls on us to take care of creation so that all of God’s good creation might likewise survive and thrive.

Our “stewardship,” then grows not from guilt, but out of thankfulness for the providence of a loving God. We give back to God the time, talents and money God has shared with us in order to take care of the good creation which God has entrusted to our care. We give, not for the sake of meeting the budget and keeping the lights on, but because God has called on us to proclaim the gospel, to love our neighbor, and to care for all of God’s creatures.

And that is a stewardship message that needs to be remembered not just in November, but every day of our lives.

In Christ, *Pastor Knowles*



Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study is at 9:15 a.m. downstairs in the Library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 4 – Barb Geerts
- 10 – Minita Heed
- 11 – Jo Connell, Allen Noftsker
- 12 – Viola Bowser-Smith
- 13 – Paul Levesque
- 14 – Kay Chase, Sandy Strosahl
- 20 – Sharon Hough, Ann Lundstrom, Warren Wren
- 21 – Rudy Ohrn
- 24 – Annette Menke, Karyn Hurst
- 26 – Andrew McClanahan
- 27 – Richard Strosahl



Happy Anniversary to:

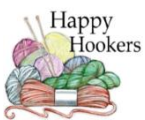
- 1 – Dave & Teri Griebel (1974)
- 4 – Michael & Kelly Chase (2006)
- 10 – Dick & Connie Jensen
- 15 – Joe & Barb Geerts (1980)



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is November 9



Please be sure all items are into the church office by **November 9!** Also, **The Servant Calendar for December** and **January 2018** needs to be finalized. If you know that you will be gone, especially during the month of December, January or February please let me know. Thank You. Teri, Adm. Assistant



HAPPY HOOKERS

The Happy Hookers will meet on Wednesday, November 29, at 9:30 a.m. So many worthwhile projects are being made – you can always find something to do to help – no excuses!!! We meet on the last Wednesday of every month.

LUNCH BUNCH –



Lunch Bunch is Tuesday, November 21 at 11:00 am. Meet in the Upper Room for food and fellowship with your Calvary friends. Guests are always welcome. The visual program will be given by Greg Johnson on their recent trip to Ireland.

We offer our sympathies and prayers to the following families:



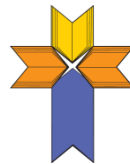
- ✠ Deb McClanahan and family on the death of her mother, Ann Goudschaal on October 15.
 - ✠ to family and friends of Joann Gustafson. She died on October 9.
 - ✠ to Gisele Richard on the death of her daughter Jacki.
- May each of you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



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

♥ My family and I come through this little note to thank you personally for all the support you have given during the time of the construction until the dedication of our home. We lack words to express our gratitude to you and your family. May the Lord Jesus Christ reward you in hundredfold. May God bless your hands that labored to build our home, and may your heart be filled with joy, peace and love. We are enjoying our home thanks to you.

---- Theo & Sofi (habitat humanity homeowner)



Celebrating Shared Ministry

November 19 at 2:00 pm

You are invited to attend a worship service celebrating the shared ministries of Calvary and St. James Lutheran Churches. The service will be held on Sunday, November 19 at 2:00 pm at St. James (3145 31st Ave., Rock Island). Bishop Jeff Clements of the Northern Illinois Synod will preach and the service will include the installation of Pastor Knowles as the pastor at St. James. Please come and help celebrate this exciting new joint ministry.



IT's That Time of Year Again to "FALL BACK" on **NOVEMBER 5**. Don't forget to set your clocks back one (1) hour before going to bed. Also, remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors!



WELCA NEWS

All Calvary women are invited to attend

❖ **Deborah Circle** – Tuesday, November 7 at 9:00 am in the Upper Room. Hostesses are Judy Carbiener and Jan Jackson

REMINDER: WELCA West Conference Assembly will be held Sat., Oct. 28 starting at 9:00 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 4501 7th St., Rock Island. Late reservations can be made by calling Sue Knipe or Marilyn Gross. (information on in-kind offerings is in the October Courier).



USHER SCHEDULE

December Schedule

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As Christmas Eve falls on Sunday, I am scheduling for both services – 10:30 and 4:30. If you will be out of town, or would like to volunteer, please let me know.

possible Openings in 2018 - We may have some openings on a few of our Usher Teams within the next year. If you have been asked to sub and would like to be assigned to a team let me know. To those who are already serving as Usher, I will keep you on the same team unless you notify me. These additions/changes should be in the office no later than December 14th. The new schedule will be distributed in early January for the time period of February 2018 through January 2019.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

COME JOIN US on Friday, December 1 at 6:00 pm for pizza. After eating our fill, we will **DECK THE HALLS**, the sanctuary, the Upper Room and Erlander Hall for the Christmas Season. More people makes the task go faster.



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
World Community Day Celebration is
Friday, November 3, 2017.

The theme is "Kindling New Fires for Peace"

On Friday, November 3rd, you are invited to Tabernacle Baptist, 2601 15th Street, Moline. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with a brunch and meeting. Please RSVP to Bernetta Foy at 309-762-9578. Bring World Service kits. There will also be an election of officers.



FLOOD BUCKET TIME AGAIN!

We have all been impacted by the recent weather disasters in the past several weeks. Pastor Michael

Stadie, Program Director for Lutheran Disaster Response, says there is a need for ONE MILLION flood buckets! Together with St. James, our plan is to collect the needed items between now and Thanksgiving. We will then assemble and deliver them to the distribution center.

You may donate any number of the following items. Also if you have access to five-gallon buckets we could have, that would be great. The buckets are the only items that don't need to be new.

If you prefer, **CASH DONATIONS ARE ALSO ACCEPTABLE and we will shop for you.** If you are donating funds, please mark on the memo section of your check, or on the envelope marked Flood Bucket.

5-gallon round bucket with re-sealable lid - Buckets from fast-food restaurants or bakeries can be used if washed and cleaned. Do not use buckets that have stored chemicals such as paint or pool cleaner. Advertisements on the outside are acceptable. **No square buckets** (Only round buckets are used to ensure proper stacking during transportation)

5 dust masks

2 pairs kitchen dishwashing gloves – Should be durable enough for multiple uses. Remove from packaging.

Liquid household cleaner – 12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water. No spray cleaners.

Dish soap – 12-28 oz. bottle any brand

1 insect repellent spray – 6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover

Liquid laundry detergent – One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. bottle(s) only.

18 cleaning wipes – Handi-Wipes or reusable wipes. No terry cleaning towels. Remove from packaging.

7 sponges – No cellulose sponges due to mold issues. Remove from packaging.

5 – scouring pads – No stainless steel, Brillo pads, or SOS pads (nothing with soap built in). Remove from packaging.

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50 clothespins/Clothesline – One 100-ft. or two 50-ft. Lines – Cotton or plastic

24-roll heavy-duty trash bags – 33 to 45 gallon sizes. Remove from the box.

1 pair work gloves – Cotton with leather palm or all leather.

Note: if requested item size is not available, go down to the next available size. All cleaning agents must be liquid and in plastic bottles. No powder! All items included in kits must be NEW items.

There will be a table available in the Narthex area. Remember, if you frequent a restaurant, please ask them if they are saving their buckets and if not, ask if they would save them for you – but they **MUST** be Round (not square) and have lids.

RELAY FOR LIFE:



The date for the 2018 Relay is set for Saturday, May 5, and will be held at Bettendorf High School. More details will be available after the first of the year. Calvary Crusaders (sorority members) will again hve a donated quilt for raffle. Other combined relay fundraising activities are already underway.

Youngers Community Days sales books are available for \$5.00 from Marilyn Gross. (sale is 11/8 through 11/11)

QC Mallards Pink in the Rink Night – February 10

Circa 21 – Church Basement Ladies Show (date??)



"I'm not going to count my blessings on Thanksgiving. I don't do math on holidays."



*Order your
Poinsettia*

Deadline: December 10

Now \$10.00

**Make checks payable to:
Calvary Lutheran Church**

Please complete the appropriate information:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Given by



NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?

HERE ARE 5 FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

1. Open enrollment on the health care marketplace begins on November 1 and lasts until December 15 on HealthCare.gov. Beat the rush and sign up early.
2. No matter if this is your first time getting covered or if you are returning to shop and save, you must take action by December 15.
3. Those who choose to go without health insurance may have to pay a penalty. There is a minimum penalty of \$695 for not having health insurance.
4. Coverage could be more affordable than you think. With financial help, many can find premiums between \$50 and \$100 per month.
5. Free help is available. If you have questions about signing up or want to talk through your options with a trained professional, free help is just a call or click away.
Call 1-800-318-2596 or visit <http://localhelp.healthcare.gov>.

ALSO QC NAVIGATORS CAN HELP YOU TO SIGN UP

1. Unity Point Health -- 309-779-4584
2. Project Now Senior Ctr 309-788-6335 (60 & older or with disabilities)
3. Genesis Health -- Jennifer Busch 563-421-3675 (M-F 7:30AM-4PM)
4. Community Health Care, Inc. (Mateo) 563-336-3202 (M-F 8AM-5PM).

(Many local health insurance agents can also offer assistance.)

(Health Care Reform Forum of Progressive Action for the Common Good pacgqc.org)

(newsletter – continued next page)

