



Calvary Courier

February 2018

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

On the Third Sunday of Advent we heard the story from John’s gospel about John the Baptist. However, I argued in my sermon, in John’s gospel the Baptist is really John the “Witness,” one who points out Christ to others in the wilderness of the world. And, just as John the Witness pointed to the way of Christ for others, so too are we called to point others to Christ as the way, the truth and the life. That is the mission of our congregation.

Over the last 8 years I have seen this congregation work hard at fulfilling that mission.

We continue to welcome visitors to worship regularly. We reach out in the community providing meals at Habitat for Humanity builds, Café on Vine, and the East Moline Meal Site for Churches United. A devoted group of our members have made quilts, lab robes, hats, mittens and scarves for shut-ins and children in our community. We help provide backpacks for underprivileged children in Romania. We generously supported Lutheran Disaster Response with flood buckets and monetary offerings. We provide meaningful weekly worship services through the support of many people like the altar guild, the choir, our organist, ushers, lectors, communion assistants, greeters and worship assistants. Our sick and homebound members are visited. We offer compassionate support to members at the time of a death of a loved one. We offer food and fellowship for our members and others in the community. And I am certain that this list is not exhaustive. There are others who, in many unseen ways, share the love of Christ with those around them. As I annually reflect in this report on all the things that we do, I have no doubt that we are living out our mission of pointing others to the way of Christ.

This year I also celebrate one other extraordinary act in mission we began. When St. James, Rock Island, was struggling and debating their future, the people of Calvary opened their hearts by deciding to share pastoral ministry. It was not something that we had to do to survive, but rather it was something we needed to do because it was the right thing. It was a part of our mission to which God was calling us. In the process we have not only helped our neighbors, but we have gained partners in ministry. As this relationship evolves I am confident that both congregations will be strengthened in our mission to the world.

I have no doubt that Calvary is a vital congregation seeking to fulfill God’s mission for our lives in this place at this time. Together as the people of God we will point the way of Christ for those around us.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE



Notice is hereby given to the Annual Meeting of Calvary Lutheran Church to be held on January 28, 2018 starting at 11:45 am. All voting members are encouraged to come.

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES this month:

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Judy Carbiener
- 2 – Rick Ohrn
- 6 – Connie Jensen
- 7 – Renee Ketelsen
- 8 – Megan Necessary
- 9 – Beth Fuller
- 10 – Kendall Knowles
- 15 – Elaine Foster
- 16 – Henry Stromberg
- 17 – Dorothy Harmening
- 20 – Linda Johansen
- 21 – Lisa Dicks, Logan Gross, Sue Knipe
- 22 – Carol Mayo



We offer our sympathies and prayers to John Henriksen, family and friends on the passing of Doris. Doris passed away on Friday, December 29. Funeral services were held at Calvary on Wednesday, January 3 at 10:00 am. **We also extend our sympathies** to the family and friends of Eulalia Dunn. Eulalia passed away on Friday, January 19. Funeral services were held at Esterdahl Mortuary & Crematory on Thursday, January 25. May each of you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



WELCA - All Calvary women are invited.

- * **Deborah Circle** – will meet on Tuesday, February 6 in the Upper Room. Hostesses will be Jan Jackson & Marilyn Mudd.
- * **HAPPY HOOKERS** - will meet on February 28 in Erlander Hall.



Schedule for LENT

**Every Wednesday at Calvary
Beginning Feb. 21 thru Mar. 21**

11:00 am Lenten Lunch
12:00 Noon Service

- Feb. 14 – ASH WEDNESDAY** Service
12:00 and 6:30 pm at **Calvary**
Choir practice will be after service.
- Feb. 21 – Service** – 6:30 pm at **St. James**
No Choir Practice – Sun. morning at 9:50 am
- Feb. 28 –Service** –6:30 pm at **Calvary**
Choir practice will be after service.
- Mar. 7 – Service** –6:30 pm at **St. James**
No Choir Practice – Sun. morning at 9:50 am
- Mar. 14 –Service** - 6:30 pm at **Calvary**
Choir practice will be after service.
- Mar. 21 – Service** –6:30 pm at **St. James**
No Choir Practice – Sun. morning at 9:50 am
- Mar. 25 - PALM SUNDAY** – 10:30 am Calvary
- Mar. 29 – MAUNDY THURSDAY** Service
6:30 pm at **St. James**
- Mar. 30 – GOOD FRIDAY** Service
6:30 pm at **Calvary**
- April 1 – EASTER SUNDAY** Service
10:30 am at **Calvary**

LUNCH BUNCH



There will be **no lunch bunch gatherings** in February or March. Calvary WELCA will be hosting the weekly Wednesday Lenten Lunches at 11:00 a.m. with services following at 12:00 noon.

MARCH DEADLINE

is **February 8** for distribution on February 22. Please have your articles to me on time. You may email or put your articles in my box.

Newsletter
DEADLINE

HELP IS NEEDED for LENTEN LUNCHES

We have one circle (Deborah) meeting now and in order to continue serving lunch during Lent we are asking people to take a Wednesday and plan a menu. It does not have to be fancy. It could be pizza or sandwiches, dessert and something to drink. If you need more information, please see Sue Knipe or Marilyn Gross.



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

* I would like to thank everyone for their cards and small gifts this Christmas. Each of you have made being at Calvary a blessing. Your thoughtfulness and caring of others, your sharing of gifts to others and your willingness to serve on Sunday mornings have truly been inspired by God. It brings me joy to serve you as your secretary. May 2018 bring each of you joy and happiness.

---sincerely, Teri Griebel, secretary

* Dear Happy Hookers of Calvary, Thank you so very much for the lovely hand-made lap blanket for my father Clarence DeLoose! He is at Illini Restorative Care and your group gave him for Christmas. Thank you for the loving work of your hands to celebrate God's love to others! May you be blessed always and enjoy a wonderful New year ahead.

---- Clarence's daughter, Jacky Miller

* To all of the Happy Hookers, Thank you so much for the beautiful lap robe. It will be put to good use. Hope that all of you had a Happy Holiday season. Wish all of you a great 2018. Miss seeing all of you.

---- With Love, Gerda Schmeltzer

* Dear Friends, Thank you for the very special gift and the Sound of Christmas carols in my home.

---- Sincerely, Gisele Richardson

* To all members of the congregation, Thank you so much for sending me the Family of Faith booklet. Really enjoy looking at it. Hope all of you had a great Holiday Season. Wishing all of you the best in 2018.

---- With Love, Gerda Schmeltzer

* Ladies, the residents of Illini Restorative Care would like to thank you for the beautiful lap robes you gave them for Christmas. The smiles it brought to their faces were priceless. Thank you for your time and being the hands of God touching lives in a such a special way.

---- Ruth Gowan, Activity Director

* Dear Members of Calvary Lutheran, We'd like to thank you for helping with our flood bucket project. With your donations of supplies as well as your financial contributions, we were able to fill fifty buckets. They were blessed in our church Sunday and will be delivered this week to the Church World Services Distribution Center in Elgin, IL. Your help was greatly appreciated. Please know that the love of Christ will be felt by the recipients of these buckets.

--- Blessings, St. James Mission Team members,
Tom & Judy Fox, Bill & Jo Kempf

* Wow ladies – Thank you for the 15 afgan/hat sets! What beautiful work and moms & babies will be so blessed to receive them.

---- God bless you & Merry Christmas, Susan

* Thank you for your donation of knitted scarves, hats, quilts & gloves. The residents & staff appreciate your thoughtfulness. Blessing to you all.

---- Thank You, Christian Care

* The staff of the Watertown Ecumenical Food Pantry of Churches United of the QCA, and the clients we serve, thank you for generous support throughout the past year. We appreciate the opportunity to share in this ministry with you and look forward to a successful and blessed new year because of people like you.

---- Mike & Pat, Watertown Food Pantry

* Happy New Year and thank you! Your generosity in 2017 has brought so much hope to so many lo-income kids and teens, and we are truly grateful for you and your partnership in 2017.

---- In Appreciation,
The Staff and Board of YouthHope

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE HOUR

We are always looking for volunteers to help with clean-up after coffee hour. Consider staying a few minutes later to rinse the cups or help load the dishwasher. Many hands make quick work.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING!

February 4, 2018

On Sunday, February 5, we will be collecting loose change in our Soup Pots for Souper Bowl of Caring after worship.

LUTHERAN SPIRITUAL RENEWAL MOVEMENT

Living Water Via de Cristo will hold 2 weekends in April. The Men's weekend is April 12-15 followed by a Women's weekend April 19-22. We hold the event in Tiskilwa, IL that is handicap accessible to make it easier for all.

If you would like more information about this 72 hour spiritual retreat, please just ask us.

Gary & Pam Gross and Joe & Barb Geerts



Happy Hookers

The **Happy Hookers** are always looking for "crafty" people to join our group. Each time we meet, there is plenty of laughs and "good eats". We continually look for ideas on

items that we can make to take to our shut-ins and various other groups. So...if you have an idea or would like to come for the fellowship, we meet on the last Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

Knit A Bit during LENT- we will **not** be meeting during Lent. Though you can still work on projects at home! Linda Nelson and Vicki McAlister have taken to the internet and are learning more knitting stitches and techniques. Barb Geerts is loom knitting; while others are crocheting. All we have to offer is our gift to talk while keeping our hands busy. Come join us for fellowship.



Puzzle!

Search in all directions to find these words from the first seven chapters of Proverbs.

WORD LIST: covenant, delight, discipline, evil, father, fool, forsake, fountain, fruit, heart, honest, humble, insight, listen, Lord, love, neighbor, path, pleasant, poverty, protect, rebuke, sleep, son, teaching, tongue, walk, wisdom, youth

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