

Calvary Courier

March 2018

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

Lent is one of my favorite seasons in the church year, probably second only to the Easter season. That may seem odd to you because the images of Lent tend to be dark and somber. How exciting, after all, is it to think about ashes and repentance and crucifixion?

But for me ashes and repentance and crucifixion provide the way to resurrection and new life. Without Lent I don't think Easter has much meaning.

Our word "lent" comes from a word meaning "spring," and carries with it a sense of renewal. And I believe that is what the ashes and repentance and crucifixion are about in the season of Lent – leading us to new life in the resurrection.

Perhaps this analogy will ring true for some of you. Mary and I have now been in our home in Moline for a little more than eight years. In the course of those eight years both of our children have moved out (taking some of their stuff with them), and moved back in (bringing more of their stuff back), and out again (with the promise that they will come back to take the rest of their stuff). In the meantime, both Mary's mom and my dad moved from their homes to nursing homes, with most of the family keepsakes and various pieces of furniture ending up in our possession. In addition, there are those boxes in the attic and basement that have not been unpacked since the *move two moves ago* that are full of things we are sure we want to keep – we just don't remember what those things are anymore. In all, our home has become the depository of years' and households' worth of clutter. The clutter serves no real purpose and really gets in the way of our ability to take full advantage of our home.

Our lives can become equally cluttered with "stuff." From bad habits to old grudges, from misgivings for past actions to regrets for things we didn't do, from

being so busy that we fail to fully appreciate those around us to being lazy and avoiding the work we ought to do, our lives accumulate a lot clutter.

And all that clutter effects not only our relationships with the people in our lives, but with God as well. The more cluttered our lives, the harder it is to spend quality time with God and our neighbor.

So, Lent, I believe, is that time in the church year when are called to remember what is most important. It is a time to declutter our lives and refocus on what is most important to us – God and our brothers and sisters in Christ. That's what ashes do for us as a reminder that the stuff in our lives will not last forever. That is what repentance is about – a turning to God and away from the clutter. That is what crucifixion is about – a leaving behind of the stuff that is not important.

And so I invite you to *do* Lent this year. Take the time to consider the clutter in your lives and to begin the process of decluttering. Take the time to refocus on God and your brothers and sisters in Christ.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS



On Saturday, March 10, Be sure and Change Your Clocks **AHEAD** one (1) hour before going to bed.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Gisele Richardson
- 2 – Peter Doering
- 9 – Betty Clark
- 11 – Rebecca Richardson
- 13 – Linda Chase
- 15 – Margo Miller
- 17 – Ted Jackson
- 18 – Steve Faith, Dorothy Hultgren
– Cindy Pham
- 25 – Pam Gross
- 27 – Laura Knipe
- 30 – Rosalie Mellgren
- 31 – JoAnn Sullivan



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

♣ Thank you for your Member Church contribution of \$153.08 to Churches United of the Quad City Area. Your gift will help with the general operating expenses to Churches United. With your gift we will be able to continue our mission of serving our community. Thanks again for your gift.

----Blessings, Elizabeth Vanausein, Assoc. Dir.

Happy Anniversary to:

- 6 – Jack & Marilyn Gross (1954)
– Bob & Charlene Lundstrom (1976)
- 19 – Dianna & Terry Kitchen (1983)
– Mike & Alisha Jones (2005)



Calvary Basement Sale–

Thursday, Friday and Saturday –
April 19, 20 and 21st.



Please start cleaning out your closets, garage and basements! Bring the items to church and deposit them in the Youth room, downstairs. Please watch bulletins for more details.

This is a huge undertaking and we will need everyone, including men. If you can help or have a pick-up truck available and would be able to pick up items, please contact the ladies of the committee.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING!

We collected \$202.88 for Souper Bowl Churches United Food Pantry.



100th Anniversary Preparations

Next Meeting on Wednesday, April 11 at 5:30 pm

We had our First meeting on February 6. If anyone would like to be a part of the 100th anniversary committee of Calvary Lutheran Church please contact Debbie Faith.

Mid-Week Lenten SCHEDULE



Lenten Services Continued:

Every Wednesday at Calvary thru March 21:
11:00 am Lenten Lunch
12:00 Noon Service

- Mar. 7** – Service – 6:30 pm at **St. James**
(5:30 pm Soup Supper)
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**
(5:30 pm Soup Supper)
No Choir Practice – Sun. morning at 9:50 am

-----**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**-----

- Mar. 25** – **PALM SUNDAY** – 10:30 am Calvary
Palm Sunday Bruch following worship
- Mar. 29** – **MAUNDY THURSDAY** Service
At 6:30 pm at **St. James**
- Mar. 30** – **GOOD FRIDAY** Service
at 6:30 pm at **Calvary**
- April 1** – **EASTER SUNDAY** Service
8:30 am at **St. James**
10:30 am at **Calvary**

90TH BIRTHDAY “Open House” CELEBRATION FOR BETTY CLARK
Sunday, March 11 from 2-4 pm

Please join in celebrating Betty Clark’s 90th birthday on Sunday, March 11 from 2-4 pm in Erlander Hall.





WELCA NEWS

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

❖ Deborah Circle - will meet on Tuesday, March 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the Upper Room. Hostess is Bev Boyle.

NIS WELCA RETREAT

The Northern IL Women of the ELCA Spring Retreat will be held on Saturday, April 28 from 8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center, Oregon, IL. The program: HERstory—A String of Pearls Registration is \$35.00 due by April 10th. For more information and registration forms, see the bulletin board in the Upper Room.



April Newsletter Deadline is March 8.

Please be sure all information is in to by the deadline. Thank You.

AFTER Coffee Fellowship 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.



We would like to thank Rick Ohrn and Mark Jackson for the repairs and upgrades in the bathrooms downstairs.

RELAY FOR LIFE – QUILT Raffle

The Relay Quilt donated by Laureate Beta Psi will be displayed in the Narthex. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 and are available from Marilyn Gross.



We offer our sympathies and prayers to family and friends of Shirley Lofgren. Shirley passed away on Friday, January 26. We also offer our sympathies and prayers to family and friends of Henry Stromberg. Henry passed away on Friday, February 2nd.

May each of you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Relay for Life PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH Sunday, March 25th

Everyone is invited!!!!

The Calvary Crusaders Relay Team will sponsor a “Palm Sunday Brunch” on Sunday, March 25 in the Upper Room after worship. More details to follow in weekly bulletins.

CAFÉ
Saturday, March 24th at 9:30 a.m.
Moline Public Library Café,
3210 41st Street, Moline, IL
Sponsored by St. James WELCA



Please join us for a cup of coffee, tea, and maybe a pastry, as we gather for Bible Study. All women of St. James Lutheran and Calvary Lutheran Churches are invited.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL

Thrivent Action Team Grants... Do you have a community project you would like to sponsor??? Just give one of the Thrivent Advocates (Dawn Levesque or Marilyn Gross) the information on what you would like to do, and we can help you verify the project and find a Thrivent member willing to apply for a \$250 Action Team Grant.

Choice Dollars... remember that March 31st is the final date you can direct your Choice Dollars for 2016. Please do not let this benefit go unused. Contact Thrivent at www.thrivent.com or call 1-800-847-4836. Thank you to all those members who have helped support our church’s mission by directing their Choice Dollars to Calvary.

Order your Easter Lilies from Calvary!



**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING
Is Tuesday, March 13th**

Please complete this form.

Return it to the Church Office
or place in the offering plate.

You may also email the office at
secretary@calvarymoline.org.

The cost of each plant is \$10.00.

Make checks payable to:
Calvary Lutheran Church

Please complete the appropriate information:

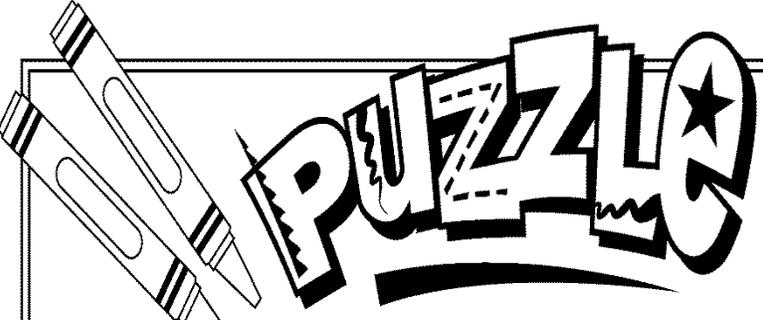
In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Given by:

Easter Service is at 10:00 a.m.

Please take your plant home following the Easter Service



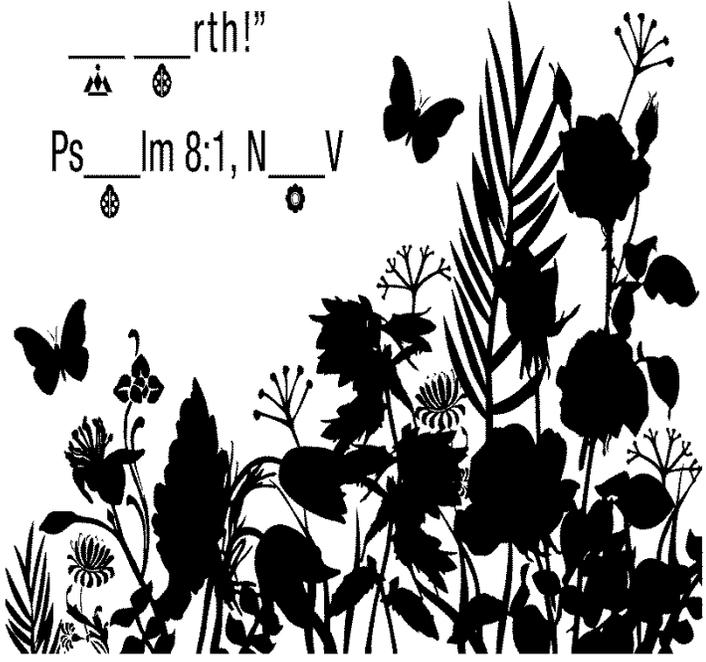
Spring's Beauty

During springtime, the beauty of God's creation emerges in many ways.

Directions: Use the vowel code below to complete Psalm 8:1, NIV.

A= E= I= O= U=

"L__RD, __r L__rd, h__w
 m__j__st__c __s y__r
 n__m__n __ll th__
 __rth!"
 Ps__lm 8:1, N__V



Answer: "LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"
Psalm 8:1, NIV