



Calvary Courier

April 2018

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor:

As I write this letter at the end of Lent, I admit that I'm working very hard at not taking the easy and obvious path to an Easter sermon. So, to force my own hand, I will write the obvious Easter message here so I can't preach it on Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday 2018 falls on April 1 – April Fool's Day.

Now, I have never been a big fan of April Fool's jokes. Maybe that's because I've never been very good at them and am usually gullible enough to fall for whatever joke someone else may play on me.

This year, however, I will play along and participate in what is the greatest April Fool's joke ever.

The joke actually began about 2000 years ago when a Galilean named Jesus challenged the Roman authorities and the Jewish religious leaders. Neither group was particularly amused. They didn't like being challenged. They were content with their power and comfortable living. Yet this Jesus of Nazareth had raised a ruckus and unsettled the *status quo*. So the Roman government decided to deal with Jesus in their typical fashion. Those who challenged the Roman authority were simply eliminated. Jesus was arrested and sentenced to death on the cross.

And so, on Friday, following a "kangaroo court" trial, Jesus was led to a hill outside Jerusalem where he was nailed to a cross and left to die. And by sundown on Friday Jesus was indeed dead. After verification that he had died, some friends of Jesus were allowed to take him down from the cross and bury him in a nearby tomb. Rome had eradicated another trouble maker – or so they thought.

But God, with a sense of humor, pulled off the greatest April Fool's joke ever. Three days after Jesus had died and was buried, some women friends of Jesus went to the tomb only to discover that Jesus wasn't there. While the Roman governor and the Jewish high priests were celebrating the elimination of the pesky Jesus, God was saying "April Fools!" Jesus was not dead, but had been raised. God had not been defeated, but rather God's opponents were.

I invite you to join me in continuing to celebrate God's great April Fool's joke on Easter Sunday, April 1 and throughout the Easter season. Worship with us as we laugh at the foolishness of evil and celebrate the humor of God.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles



**** Special Congregational Meeting ****

The council is calling a special congregational meeting for Sunday, April 8 immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to take action on a proposal from Economy Roofing of Bettendorf to replace the flat roof over the Upper Room at a cost of \$48,700. Details of the proposal are available from Pastor or Gary Gross.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Kurt Dicks
- 4 – Judy Noftsker
- 6 – John James Gross
- 7 – Greg Johnson
- 9 – Joe Geerts, Gene Untiedt, Dale Winter
- 10 – Marilyn Gross
- 13 – Katlyn Jones, Betsy Untiedt
- 18 – Erik Ohm
- 19 – Jimmy Duncan
- 28 – Ann Bowser
- 29 – Scott Mayo



Happy Anniversary to:

- 13 – Mike & Stephanie Mudd (1991)
- 14 – David & Debra McClanahan (1990)



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

♣ Dorothy Hultgren would love to thank the Happy Hookers for the beautiful crocheted lap robe she received at Christmas. It reminds her of the warmth of her congregation! Thank you!

♣ Calvary Church Family,

Our family would like to extend a special thank you to all those who donated, prepared and served a delicious luncheon for our family and friends following our mother's funeral.

We truly appreciate all the love & support you provided our mother while she attended Calvary. She loved her church home & spoke fondly of the friendships she had made.

Thank you again for all your thoughts & prayers. It means more than you will ever know.

---- God Bless, The Eulalia Dunn Family

♣ A big thank you needs to go to the church women of Calvary who prepared the delicious luncheon for after the funeral of our mother, Henry Stromberg. Everything tasted so good, and your hard work should be acknowledged. We hope to come back to visit soon – after all the snow is gone and it's a little warmer!

---- With much love, D'Ann

♣ Dear friends – Shortly before Christmas, my mother received the most beautiful hand-made afghan. She loved it and spent many hours warmed and comforted by it. She was at Illini restorative at the time and although she was confused about how she got it, she proudly said, "Someone made it just for me". Thank you so much for this thoughtful and loving gesture. It meant more than you know.

---- The Family of Eleanor E. Waeyaert

♣ Thank you for attending my 90th birthday celebration last Sunday and for all the cards, flowers and gifts I received. You all made my day special! God bless each of you.

---- Sincerely, Betty Clark

♣ Thank you Dear Friends for all the good wishes for my 94th birthday. (The green one was a real pleasure!)

----- Gisele Richardson



PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH Sunday, March 25th

Everyone is invited!!!!

The Calvary Crusaders Relay Team will serve a "Palm Sunday Brunch" on Sunday, March 25 in the Upper Room after worship. Plan to stay after church to enjoy a great array of pastries and fruit, coffee and juice.

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK



- March 25** – 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship
Palm Sunday Brunch after Worship
- March 29** – 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship
Service will be at St. James, Rock Island
- March 30** – 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship
Service will be at Calvary
- April 1** – **8:00 am** – Easter Worship at **St. James**
10:30 am – **Easter Worship**



LUNCH BUNCH RESUMES
April 17th at 11:00 am

Lunch Bunch will once again meet on Tuesday, April 17th at 11:00 a.m. It's a time for fellowship and good food shared with Calvary's members – and invited friends, too. Please let us know if you need transportation by calling the church office – we'll come and get you!



WELCA NEWS
All ladies of the church
are welcome to attend

- ❖ Deborah Circle – will meet on Tuesday, April 3rd.

SPRING West Conference Assembly – April 14

Our Spring West Conference Assembly will be on April 14 at **St. James Church**, 3145 31st Avenue, Rock Island. Registration is at 9:00 am. We will have brunch followed by program and business meeting. Our program will be Jan and Tom Dusek from St. James whose daughter Robin has the school in Uganda Search for Education Africa's Children.

In-kind offering will go to local food pantries and offering to Search for Education Africa's Children.

Registration is \$5.00 per church. Please let Sue Knipe know about Calvary by April 9th.

Northern IL Women of the ELCA Spring 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. There will also be a report on Rocky Boy Indian Reservation and Worship will be led by Pastor Diane Dardon.

Registration is \$35.00 due by April 10th. For more information and registration forms, see the bulletin board in the Upper Room.



CALVARY BASEMENT SALE

SAVE THE DATES!
Thursday and Friday
April 19 and 20
from 9 am to 4 pm
Sat. April 21
from 9 am to 1 pm

IMPOPRTANT

Set-up and work day -- Saturday, April 7th from 9:00 am to noon. This year, especially with so many members who have moved out of their homes, we will need **MANY HANDS**, especially **MEN** to help move items out of the garage and into the basement.

If you have items to be picked up and need to make arrangements, please call the church office at (309) 762-5423, Tues thru Thurs from 9 am to 1 pm or you may leave a message.

April 9th through April 14th will be the **FINAL** week you will be able to drop off your donations, due to the high volume of donations we have received so far.

This year, the planning committee is Marilyn Mudd, Sandy Ohrn and Pam Ohrn.

BAKE SALE ITEMS - if you wish to donate items for our Bake Sale, please fill out the donation slip below or the Yellow slip in the weekly bulletin.

RUMMAGE SALE DONATION SIGN UP

Morning coffee and light lunch will be served at the Rummage Sale. Donations of the following are needed:

- ___rolls, coffee bread or cake ___pies ___brownies
- ___cookies ___other
- ___money (for meat & rolls purchase for sandwiches)

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

If you would like to donate, please mail or call the church office at (309)762-5423.



