



Calvary Courier

April 2016

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

I heard a discussion on the radio the other day about collectibles that come into demand and grow in value well in excess of their original price. The conversation included things like baseball cards (apparently cards produced after 1970 don't have much value), or Precious Moments figurines (which were a favorite of my mother's and we couldn't give them away when Dad moved out of the house) and even Hummel figurines (which also have lost most of their value).

The main topic of the conversation, however, centered on Beanie Babies. In the mid-90's these little stuffed animals gained tremendous popularity and in some cases were sold for 1000% profit. At the height of their popularity, McDonald's gave away Teenie Beanies as a promotional. There was such demand for these Beanies that people literally lined up hours before a particular McDonald's opened in order to get one. There were even reports of fights breaking out in these lines among the "adults" over these inexpensive toys. For some folks, the hope was that Beanie Babies would finance their children's college education or their own retirement.

I remember at the height of the Beanie Baby craze commenting in a newsletter article that it amazed me to see such a hubbub over a cheap toy. I couldn't imagine driving an hour to wait in line for a couple of hours just for the chance to get a Teenie Beanie at McDonald's. And yet that is what people did in the hopes of finding some kind of wealth and security. At the same time, those same people would drive right past their church, with a parking lot half full, and plenty of space inside with no waiting, and ignore the true security that was offered there.

Now, 20 years later, people called into the radio show to report that they could not give away their Beanies. (One grandmother, who saved them for her grandchildren, said the grandchildren didn't even want them as toys.) What was going to be the "salvation" for some, has become nothing but a false prophet.

And yet people continue to look for their security and salvation in those things whose value is fleeting. I hear radio ads encouraging us to take retirement savings out of the stock market and put it in silver (apparently they even ship the silver to you). Or, it seems that if I buy one man's book I can make thousands of dollars a week flipping houses. And on and on. There is no shortage of schemes and modern-day Beanie Babies out there that people want you to believe will guarantee your lifetime security.

But in the end, all those promises go the way of the Beanie Baby.

On the other hand, God does offer the one thing that will bring security for a lifetime and beyond – the gift of his Son. As we celebrate this Easter season we are reminded that Jesus offers us something no Beanie Baby or Precious Moments figurine or real estate scheme can offer – the gift of life in God's kingdom. That is true security.

And you don't have to wait in line or buy anything. That's so much better than the other stuff.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Kurt Dicks, Shirley Lofgren
- 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 Ohrn
- 19 – Jimmy Duncan
- 28 – Ann Bowser
- 29 – Scott Mayo



Happy Anniversary to:

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



Congratulations to Steve and Debbie Faith on the birth of their newest grandchildren. The Lord blessed Amy and Dan Krier with a boy and girl on Tuesday, February 23 at 4:59 p.m. Their names are William Robert Trent – 3# 4 oz.; and Elena Faith – 3# 3 oz. Elena is a form of Helen after Amy's grandma, Helen Kiehr. Please continue to keep Amy, Dan, William and Elena in your prayers.

Please Save Your Cancelled Stamps!



We would like your help raising funds for the American Cancer Society. One way to help would be to save your cancelled postage stamps (including post office cancellation). The collected stamps will be delivered to the Discovery Shop in Davenport; and from there to a stamp auction. The proceeds will be divided between Scott and Rock Island Counties American Cancer Society. A container to deposit your cancelled stamps will be located in the hallway along with the other collection containers. Last year \$6400 was collected and split between the two counties.



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

♥ My family and I wish to thank everyone for your prayers and concerns. Also for helping at the funeral and luncheon. I feel that Calvary is my other family.

---- Blessing to all, Dorothy Harmening

- Calvary Lutheran Family, Thank you so very much for the awesome amount of food yesterday (3-8)! You are really helpful in this worthwhile mission.

---- Watertown Food Pantry

- Thank you so much for your continued support. Ecumenical/Christian organizations are slowly seeing a demise in their value and existence. We here at Churches United are blessed to be experiencing just the opposite.

---- Ann Wachal, Executive Director

- Thank you and the faithful givers of Calvary Lutheran for your continued support of LOMC.

----In His love, Russ Senti, Executive Director



WELCA - MEETING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 5:
All Calvary women are invited.

- ❖ **Deborah Circle** – will meet at 9:00 am in the Upper Room
- ❖ **Rachel Circle** will meet at 7:00 pm in the Upper Room.
- ❖ **Unit Meeting** will be on April 19 15 at 7:00 p.m. Program: Deborah Circle; Hostess: Rachel Circle
- ❖ **HAPPY HOOKERS** will meet on April 27 at 9:30 am.

WELCA NEWS

Spring Assembly will be held at Cambridge Lutheran Church in Cambridge, IL on Saturday, April 23. Please remember to bring registration fee of \$5. Calvary is scheduled for coffee. Registration and brunch begins at 9 a.m. The program will be by Paul Morgan of Operation Christmas Child at 10:00 a.m. with a business meeting to follow.

For In-Kind Offering will be to complete personal care kits for LWR: 27x52 bath towel, 2 bars of soap, heavy comb, toothbrush or nail clippers.

Reservations are due by April 18 at (309)-937-5798 or cambluth@theinter.com.



On Monday, March 21st a memorial service was held at Calvary in memory of Hal Markuson, with committal at the National Cemetery, Rock Island Arsenal.

HELP SUPPORT –

Feed the Hungry Team

Meal Site – Mt. Zion, East Moline

We serve on April 6th.



On Sunday, April 3rd, please bring your bag(s) of fresh fruit for the **Feed the Hungry** team and place in the kitchen. We serve on April 6th. If you could fill out the form on the bulletin board by the Upper Room, letting us know you will be bringing fruit and how many bags, it does help us in our planning. If you are not busy on Wednesday, April 6, we would love to have you help with the cooking or come with us to help serve. What better way to be a servant of Christ, then to help serve those who are hungry.

We are also looking for monetary donations to help get us through this year. If you would like to donate, please indicate on the envelope it is for Feed the Hungry.

---- Thank you. Carol Mayo & Ted Jackson

Calvary's All Daughters Banquet

Friday, April 29 at 6:00 p.m.

The **All Daughters Banquet** will be held on Friday evening April 29th at 6 pm. The price is the same as last year \$10.00 per person for everyone with catering by Jeff's Market.



Our menu will be Turkey & Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Bean Casserole, Fresh Fruit, Pasta Salad and Chocolate Cake.

Contact Connie Langston or Teri Griebel for reservations.



We offer our sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Laura Dickerson. Laura passed away on Friday, March 4. Funeral services were held at Wendt

Funeral Home, Moline with a luncheon following at Calvary. May you find comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Girl's Day Away

“GIRL’S DAY AWAY”

Attention: All Calvary Women – you are invited to attend “A Day Away” on Thursday, May 12, when plans have been made to travel to Amana Colonies for the Old Creamery Theater performance of the Southern Gospel comedy, “Steeple People” featuring the men’s quartet of “Stinking Creek, Tennessee”. The plan is to leave Calvary at 9:00 a.m. so there will be time to do a little shopping. We will pick a place to have lunch together and then see the play. Tickets for the play are \$26. **ONLY 20 TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE.**

Calvary is looking at renting a 15 passenger van for this outing at an additional cost of approximately \$10 per person; with one extra vehicle to take everyone to Amana. Reservations and payment are due to the church office no later than **April 21.**

CALVARY LUTHERAN BASEMENT and BAKE SALE!

On Friday and Saturday – April 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please come and look around at all the nifty stuff people have donated



to our annual basement sale. As the saying goes – “Another person’s stuff is another person’s treasure!” We will also be serving a light lunch, which has gone over very well. People from all around have come for lunch and our bake sale items.

If you would like to donate to our bake sale, please fill out the form on page 4 and return to church. You may also email the church at secretary@calvarymoline.org.

We are also in need of volunteers to help set-up, mark items and help on the day of the sale. If you need further information, please contact Sharon Hough at (309) 755-8650 or email: shough@mchsi.com.



Lunch Bunch will resume on Tuesday, April 26 at 11:00 am. Hope to see everyone there!



**COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS
for March:**

• The slate of council officers was presented and approved. They are:

President: Gary Gross

Vice President: Kirk Ketelsen

Treasurer: Pam Gross

Secretary: Mary Ann Behrens

• It was noted that during the Annual Meeting there had been a motion to “revisit” the Parish Nurse program. Pastor noted that at the time we had considered hiring a new parish nurse, a poll showed that the program did not have the necessary financial support to sustain it.

• The council also discussed hiring a cleaning service rather than putting a janitor on the payroll. It was suggested that we ask Carol to contact some cleaning services to inquire about costs. We will get input from the “Thursday cleaning crew” as to the cleaning needs of the church.

• At the February meeting of the ILLOWA Lutheran Coalition, held at Calvary, a vote was taken to disband the organization. The money Calvary had budgeted for ILLOWA may now be diverted to CareLink or another similar benevolent organization.

• Pastor Don asked if there had been reaction to the “round-robin” series of Lenten services. There haven’t been many comments, but some have said they like the variety and the new songs that were used.

• Pastor also talked about the five Moline ELCA congregations working together on a project for “God’s Work-Our Hands” Sunday on Sept. 11. It was suggested that we do something for the area’s First Responders. We will need a representative from Calvary on a task force being formed to plan the program.

• Pastor noted that there were seven children in church on Sunday. He has approached the children’s parents about offering First Communion classes. He is awaiting answers. There could be five children involved if they accept the invitation.

• Gary reported that several light bulbs were replaced. Also, the new handrail at the top of the back steps was installed by the Mayo’s.

• We are currently accepting bids to replace three gas furnaces which were installed in 1987 when the addition was built. Rick Ohrn has been making repairs, but they need replacement. There are also three AC units that are the same age and one is not working at this time.

• The Service committee will meet next month. The eye glass collection is going so well that the container is overflowing. The glasses may be taken to the Lions Club if there is no plan for another mission trip to Haiti. WELCA will start another collection bin for cancelled postage stamps to benefit the American Cancer Society organizations in Scott and Rock Island counties.

• Barb Geerts mentioned that she has checked into the candelabra and found that most use oil-filled candles rather than the spring-loaded wax type that our current candelabra have. The oil should last about three weeks with one service per week, she was told. The cost is \$49 per candle.

• The WELCA Basement Sale will be April 15-16. First Baptist Church across the street may have a sale at the same time and two churches might go together on an ad.

• The All-Daughters Banquet will be April 29, with the program yet to be determined.

• John Henriksen mentioned that he took the food donations to the Christian Care Center, where 36 men are currently living. Donations of large-sized canned goods or cash would be more beneficial. Also, he reported that the Domestic Abuse Shelter for women has closed. John said he took the food to the Watertown meal site instead. Christian Care Center also takes prepared food such as what’s left over from a funeral luncheon. New Life Fellowship also has a food pantry. John asked about other pantries we could support.

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 or email secretary@calvarymoline.org