

Calvary Courier

May 2018

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor:

Ascension Day on the church calendar falls on the 40th day after Easter, which follows Luke's timeline of Jesus' history. 40 days after the resurrection Jesus ascended into heaven. Because the fortieth day after Easter is always a Thursday, it is rarely observed in most Christian churches. In fact, in my 30+ years of ministry, I have only preached on the Ascension once, sometime in the late 1980's. Maybe the rarity of celebrating the Ascension in my career is why I remember that sermon – at least the beginning.

I began that Ascension sermon by reciting the poem, *Baseball's Sad Lexicon*.

These are the saddest of possible words:

"Tinker to Evers to Chance."

Trio of bear cubs, and fleeter than birds,
Tinker and Evers and Chance.

Ruthlessly pricking our gonfalon bubble,
Making a Giant hit into a double—

Words that are heavy with nothing but trouble:

"Tinker to Evers to Chance."

That poem, written in 1910 by New York newspaper columnist and fan of the New York Giants Franklin Pierce Adams, describes the formidable double-play combination of the Chicago Cubs (Joe Tinker, Johnny Evers and Frank Chance). The trio of Tinker, Evers and Chance (shortstop, second baseman and first baseman) were each integral parts of the double-play. All three were necessary to complete the double-plays made famous by Adams.

Now one may ask, as some of my colleagues were when I preached this sermon 25 years ago, "What do Tinker, Evers and Chance have to do with the ascension of Jesus?"

The Ascension of Jesus, I think, often gets slighted in conversations about Christianity. When we talk about Jesus the emphasis is typically on his crucifixion and resurrection. How often do we talk about Jesus' suffering, death, and rising on the third

day? However, when was the last time you thought about Jesus' ascension to heaven? I will admit I don't do it very often.

But to ignore the Ascension is to miss a critical element in Christian theology. It is like trying to have a double-play combination of Tinker to Evers. Who's on first to complete the play? The Ascension completes the essential story of what makes Jesus one-of-kind.

Think about it... All humans die. While Jesus' death on the cross was especially horrific, the fact that the man died is not unique. Nor was Jesus being raised from the dead unheard of. Jesus raised Jairus' daughter and Lazarus from the dead. Elijah raised the son of the widow of Zerahath. And there are numerous other stories in scripture of people being raised from the dead. However, it is assumed that all of them subsequently died again. (To my knowledge none of them are still around.)

And that is what makes the Ascension such an important part of the witness about Jesus. Yes, Jesus died. Yes, Jesus was raised. But unlike any others in Christian scripture, Jesus never died again but ascended into heaven. (Elijah, too, ascended to heaven with a chariot of fire, but he had not died first.) The Ascension fulfills the promise that the resurrected Jesus is at God's right hand and will be with us forever. The Ascension forms the completion of God's triple-play combination: crucifixion to resurrection to ascension.

This year the Ascension of Christ is celebrated on Thursday, May 10, the fortieth day after Easter. For reference, the account of the Ascension is in Luke 24:44-53. Perhaps you could take a moment on that day to remember this integral part of the story of Jesus and acknowledge its importance together with the crucifixion and resurrection.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



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

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 – Kirk Ketelsen
- 4 – Arlene Cooke
- 6 – Teri Griebel
- 9 – Ardeth Lindell, David Peterson
- 23 – Dereck Chase
- 27 – Patricia Cornelius
- 28 – LaVerne Knipe



Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 – Robert & Beth Fuller (2005)
 - Robert & Linda Miner (1963)
- 11 – Gene & Betsy Untiedt (1952)
- 24 – Gary & Pam Gross (1980)
- 25 – Jerry & Pat Cornelius (1968)
 - Bruce & Val Daniel (1974)
- 28 – Randy & Ann Bowser (1973)
 - Dale & Joan Winter (1955)



☀ Dorothy Hultgren and her family would like to thank her wonderful church family for the beautiful cards and well wishes at her recent birthday party. Your kindness is greatly appreciated!

☀ Thanks to all for cards & greetings making my 90th birthday fun (considering) especially the rummage sale gang party.

----Blessings all, Dale

☀ Thank you! We appreciate your generous gift to impact at-risk youth. This school year hundreds of kids and teens have participated in our centers and clubs. We have experienced an increase of both kids and teens. With spring here, we are now gearing up for camp and summer programs anticipating our biggest summer ever!

---Mark Drake, Executive Director



WELCA NEWS
All ladies of the church
are welcome to attend

- ❖ **Deborah Circle** meet on Tuesday, May 1 in the Upper Room.
- ❖ **Happy Hookers** will meet on May 30 at 9:30 am. Lots of projects to work on – and good fellowship and “good eats” too! All ladies invited.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

If you or a member of your family will be graduating this spring, please let us know. We would like to acknowledge them for all their hard work in achieving their goals. Please be sure to include relevant information (name, degree/certificate, future plans). You may put the information in the offering plate, send an email secretary@calvarymoline.org, or call the church office (309-762-5423).



LUNCH BUNCH RESUMES
May 15th at 11:00 am

Come join us for a good time in the Upper Room for lunch and invite your friends, too! Please let us know if you need transportation by calling the church office – we'll come and get you. May Lunch Bunch program will be a presentation by Tom & Judy Fox and Jo & Bill Kempf about their recent experiences with Habitat for Humanity.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
is **May 10th**.

NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE

This will be a combined newsletter for **June & July**. The newsletter will be distributed on May 24. Please have your articles to me as soon as you can. Thank You.





TACO LUNCH
Sunday, May 20
11:30 – 12:30 p.m.
Erlander Hall

Mark your calendars and have lunch with us! The Calvary Crusaders will serve a Taco Lunch after worship to benefit Relay for Life. Menu will include tacos with all the fixin's, desserts and drink, all for your donation. Invite your friends to come to church and treat them to lunch! The lunch is open to the public.



Churches United May Friendship
Day Reaching the Homeless
& God's Presence

On Friday, May 4th, Trinity Lutheran Church 1330 13th Street, Moline, will be hosting Churches United May Friendship Day,

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m., brunch will be served at 9:30 a.m. Barb Montgomery will give a presentation on Reaching the Homeless.



Calvary Work Day

Mark Your Calendars! There will be a work day on Saturday, May 19th starting at 9 am till noon. Plan on both clean-up and some indoor cleaning not covered by cleaning service.



RELAY FOR LIFE
CALVARY CRUSADERS
UPCOMING SUNDAY EVENTS:

The Quad-Cities Relay for Life will take place on Saturday, May 5 from 3-10 p.m. at Bettendorf High School. Everyone is invited to participate. The event schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Upper Room. The Calvary Crusaders will have the relay quilt donated by Marilyn's sorority at their site and be selling tickets for the drawing that evening. If you would like a ticket for the drawing, see Marilyn Gross.

The Calvary Crusaders will continue their 4th Sunday coffee hours through the summer and more events are in the planning stages. Thanks to Thrivent Financial for their Action Team grant to help with costs involved with the fund-raising events that the team has.

Our thanks to our sponsor, Culver's, for their continued support for our team. So far, they have contributed \$1100 this year. Please acknowledge them with your patronage.



Calvary Basement
Sale Over for This
Year

A truly BIG Thank You to everyone who helped us to have a wonderful successful basement sale.

We thank everyone who donated so many wonderful items for us to sell and thus creating for us so many customers who know this is the place to shop.

So pleased with all the wonderful workers we had. Hopefully you all had a good time and also making better and closer friendships with fellow members.

Thank you to the Men's Store "garage" for all your extra help.

----- Love & Hugs from Pam Ohrn, Sandy Ohrn,
 and Marilyn Mudd

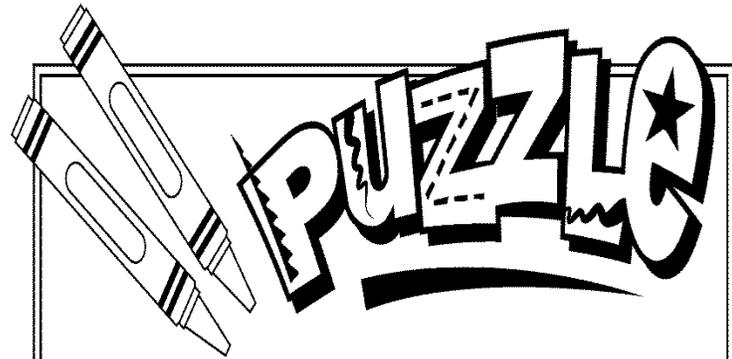
* Our basement sale left overs are being sent out to help several other organizations.



Thanks, Mom!

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. "I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice."

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. "It's really hard to read my mom's handwriting," he said.



WORTHY OF RESPECT

On Mother's Day, we celebrate our moms and everything they do for us. How does God tell us to treat our moms?



Directions: Using the key below, fill in the blanks to complete Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV.

A	C	D	M*	N*	O*
E	F	G	P*	R*	S*
H	I	L	T*	U*	Y*

" _____ your _____
 7 * * * * □ J * 7 □ □

and your _____, _____
 * * * 7 □ * J *

the _____ your _____ has
 7 * * L □ * L

_____ "

_____ 5:16, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you." Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV